
Finding Aid to the Joseph Bryant Crockett Papers, 1848-1879

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University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, California, 94720-6000

Phone: (510) 642-6481

Fax: (510) 642-7589

Email: bancref@library.berkeley.edu

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Note

History --History, California --History, Bay AreaSocial Sciences --Law

Note

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Finding Aid to the Joseph Bryant Crockett Papers, 1848-1879

Collection number: BANC MSS C-B 896

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Processed by:

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Encoded by:

Gabriela A. Montoya

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Collection Summary

Collection Title: Joseph Bryant Crockett papers,

Date (inclusive): 1848-1879

Collection Number: BANC MSS C-B 896

Origination: Crockett, J. B. (Joseph Bryant), 1808-1884

Extent: Number of containers: 1 box and 1 oversize folder

Repository: The Bancroft Library

Berkeley, California 94720-6000

Physical Location: For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Abstract: Correspondence; miscellaneous legal papers; deeds for lands in San Francisco, Contra Costa and Santa Clara Counties.

Letters to his wife from San Francisco, 1852-1858, relate to his law practice and to land claims, his association with Page and Bacon, the assassination of James King of William and the Vigilance Committee of 1856.

Also included are papers of the Grimwood family, 1863-1915, pertaining mainly to property in Fruitvale, California.

Languages Represented: English

Access

Collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Joseph Bryant Crockett papers, BANC MSS C-B 896, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

Acquisition Information

This group of papers was given to the Bancroft Library by R. C. Eckart, Oct. 15, 1963, and by Miss Emma P. Grimwood and Mrs. A. W. Weeks, Jan. 31, 1965.

Biography

Joseph Bryant Crockett came to San Francisco in 1852 and soon became an established lawyer active in land claims, and a speculator in San Francisco real estate. He was the organizer and spokesman for a committee of citizens attempting to reconcile Governor J. Neely Johnson and William T. Sherman with the 1856 Vigilance Committee. He was appointed to serve out the term of Oscar L. Shafter who resigned his position as Judge of the Supreme Court of California in December 1867. Judge Crockett retained the office until 1881.

Scope and Content

The collection includes letters from Crockett to his wife from 1852 to 1869, telling of the establishment of his practice in San Francisco, reporting on the crash of Page and Bacon in 1855, and on the assassination of James King of William with the subsequent activities of the Vigilance Committee of 1856; legal papers in suits against Swan and Clifford, and in cases instituted by Matilda and Franklina Gray; miscellaneous accounts and printed items. Papers relating to lands in San Francisco, Santa Clara, and Contra Costa Counties and elsewhere have been placed in an oversize portfolio.

Box 1

Crockett, Joseph Bryant

Outgoing letters, 1852-1879

Physical Description: (2 folders)

Incoming letters, A-Z

Physical Description: (1 folder)

Legal cases

(1.) Suits brought against Lyman Swan, 1855-1856

Physical Description: (1 folder)

(2.) Valentine vs. Samuel Webb, original papers, 1850;

Suits vs. Steamship Cortes, 1856;

Suits vs. Steamship Uncle Sam, 1856;

Gray vs. Brignardello et al., 1861-1865;

Misc., 1848-1869

Physical Description: (1 folder)

Miscellaneous papers

Pages from family Bible (phot);

Misc. accounts, 1850-1869;

Payroll receipts for schooner Jupiter, 1854;

Clippings, etc.

Physical Description: (1 folder)

Miscellaneous printed items

Physical Description: (1 folder)

Box 1

Grimwood family papers

Physical Description: (1 folder)

- (1.) **Adolphus Grimwood's citizenship papers, Dec. 10, 1863 - Certified copy**
- (2.) **Deeds, etc., re. Fruitvale property, 1887-1915**
- (3.) **Bills etc. re. building of house on Mesa St. in Piedmont, 1913-1914**

Oversize Volume
1

Deeds for property in Contra Costa Co., 1863-1867

Deeds, etc., for Lot 274 in San Francisco, 1849-1854

Deeds etc., for property in San Francisco, 1854-1869

Papers re. land in Santa Clara Co., 1848-1866

Miscellaneous

Oil portrait of Joseph B. Crockett, Jr.

Brown, Ezekiel

Apr. 26, 1867, to E. D. Sawyer

Carroll, William Thomas, d. 1863

Nov. 21, 1862

Clark, H. T.

Jan. 18, 1853

Coleman, William Tell, 1824-1893

2 letters, 1872

Crittenden, Alexander Parker, 1816-1870

Oct. 31, 1856

Galpin, Philip Gleason, 1830-

2 letters, 1861

Garrison, Cornelius Kingsland, 1809-1885

May 26, 1855

Stevenson, Jonathan Drake, 1800-1894

Dec. 26, 1865