
Inventory to the field notes of Frank C. Clarke at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at University of California, Berkeley. MVZA.MSS.0063

Finding aid prepared by Chris Gordon

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Museum of Vertebrate Zoology Archives

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Frank C. Clarke field notes

Identifier/Call Number: MVZA.MSS.0063

Contributing Institution: Museum of Vertebrate Zoology Archives

Language of Material: English

Storage Unit: 1

Storage Unit: 2

Physical Description: 2.0 Volumes

Date (inclusive): 1912-1913

Abstract: The Frank C. Clarke Field Notes collection consists of field notes, specimen records, investigations, and some experiments completed in California between 1912-1913.

Creator: Clarke, Frank C., 1887-1958

Conditions Governing Access note

The collection is open for research.

Preferred Citation

Frank C. Clarke Field Notes, MVZA.MSS.0063, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology Archives, University of California, Berkeley.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical/Historical note

Frank C. Clarke was born in 1887 on the Clarke family ranch near Laytonville, Mendocino County, California. He graduated cum laude from UC Berkeley in 1911 and earned his Master's degree in 1912 with a major in Entomology and Parasitology before returning to the family ranch. For a short time Clarke accepted employment with the California Fish and Game Commission establishing the skeletal differences between male and female deer. This information was later used to convict hunters who attempted to pass off killed does as bucks.

Clarke worked to compile data on the working of his ranch, making him one of the leading authorities on brush clearance, wildlife management, and range improvement. Working with his sheep flock, Clarke initiated breeding programs to improve their quality. In addition, he developed a method of preparing a roll of fleece that became known among buyers as the best in California. His fleeces also took championships in Chicago, Denver, Portland, and Texas wool shows of which Clarke was an early participant. His dedication to the sheep industry eventually earned Clarke an election to the president of the California Wool Growers Association.

Clarke began working with the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology (MVZ) at the University of California at Berkeley during his time at the University as a graduate student. During Clarke's decades long relationship with the MVZ, he contributed 225 animal samples and two volumes of field notes from wildlife surveys conducted within California.

Scope and Contents note

The Frank C. Clarke Field Notes collection consists of 2 bound volumes spanning the years 1912-1913. The notes include interviews, mostly informal, of residents and visitors surrounding survey sites and species accounts from localities within California. Consists primarily of investigations into deer populations and behavior with some attention to hunting and conservation. Some of the field notes contain investigations and experiments on sick ducks in the Kings County area of Southern California. Investigations and experiments include records of duck species numbers, dissections and post mortem examinations of sick ducks, as well as experiments to determine the cause of sickness.

Arrangement note

The arrangement of the collection is chronological and in its original form. The sections are bound in the order presented in this guide.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Anas carolinensis

Biology--Fieldwork

Birds Research

Blue-winged teal

Cataloging--Specimens.

Deer
Deer hunting
Deer--Ecology
Ducks
Ecology--California
Elk Behavior
Field notes
Interview collection
Mallard
Mule deer Behavior
Platalea
Research reports and papers
Scientific expeditions--California
University of California (1868-1952). Museum of Vertebrate Zoology
White-tailed deer Behavior
Zoology Experiments

Volume 1 v565 1912

Physical Description: 197.0 Pages

Volume 1,
Section 1

Journal, Fresno County, Calif. v565_s1 1912

Physical Description: 64.0 Pages

Scope and Contents note

Interviews with S.L.N. Ellis (pg 1-3/4-8), Mr. Wells (pg 3-4), T. A. Chatten and Deputy Hoen (pg 31-33). Included are informal interviews with residents and visitors surrounding Bear Creek Canyon, Dunlap, Three Rivers, Hockett Meadows, Crabtree Creek, Trout Meadows, and Springville.

Related Archival Materials note

Specimens collected in this section include accessions [#8](#) , [#10](#) , [#11](#) , [#12](#) . These specimens can be found in the Museum of vertebrate Zoology's specimen database.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

North America, United States, California, Fresno County
North America, United States, California, Mariposa County
North America, United States, California, Tulare County

View digitized field notes. 

Volume 1/Section
2

Monterey, Santa Cruz & Santa Clara Counties, Calif. v565_s2 1912

Physical Description: 17.0 Pages

Scope and Contents note

Included informal interviews with residents and visitors surrounding Salinas and San Jose.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

North America, United States, California, Monterey County
North America, United States, California, Santa Clara County
North America, United States, California, Santa Cruz County

View digitized field notes. 

Volume 1/Section
3

Napa and Lake Counties, Calif. v565_s3 1912

Physical Description: 29.0 Pages

Scope and Contents note

Included informal interviews with residents surrounding Napa, Calistoga, Middletown, and Wildcat camp.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

North America, United States, California, Lake County
North America, United States, California, Marin County
North America, United States, California, Napa County

View digitized field notes. 

Volume 1/ Section
4

Los Angeles, San Diego, Orange, Imperial, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Cos., Calif. v565_s4 1912

Physical Description: 84.0 Pages

Scope and Contents note

Includes informal interviews with residents and visitors surrounding Los Angeles, East Lake Park, San Juan Capistrano, San Diego, Noble Mine, Mason's Valley, Oceanside, San Mateo Valley, Imperial, and Calexico.

Related Archival Materials note

Specimens collected in this section include accessions [#14](#) . These specimens can be found in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology's specimen database.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

North America, Mexico
North America, United States, California, Imperial County
North America, United States, California, Los Angeles County
North America, United States, California, Orange County
North America, United States, California, San Bernardino County
North America, United States, California, San Diego County
North America, United States, California, San Luis Obispo County
North America, United States, California, San Mateo County
North America, United States, California, Santa Barbara County

View digitized field notes. 

Volume 2 v566 1912-1913

Physical Description: 154.0 Pages

Volume 2,
Section 1

Mendocino Co. Calif. v566_s1 1912

Physical Description: 2.0 Pages

Scope and Contents note

Included is an informal interview with A. F. Lea of Cloverdale.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

North America, United States, California, Mendocino County

View digitized field notes. 

Volume 2,
Section 2

Butte, Plumas, Tehama, Shasta, Trinity and Siskiyou Cos., Calif. v566_s2 1912

Physical Description: 104.0 Pages

Scope and Contents note

Included are informal interviews with residents and visitors in the surroundings of Oroville, Brush Creek, Quincy, Portola, Red Bluff, Redding, Sisson, Bray, Glenburn, Bartle, Junction City, Big Bar, Trinity Canyon, and Burnt Ranch.

Related Archival Materials note

Specimens collected in this section include accessions [#18](#) , [#19](#) , and [#20](#) . These specimens can be found the in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology's specimen database.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

North America, United States, California, Butte County
North America, United States, California, Los Angeles County
North America, United States, California, Plumas County
North America, United States, California, Shasta County
North America, United States, California, Siskiyou County
North America, United States, California, Tehama County
North America, United States, California, Trinity County

Volume 2,
Section 3

View digitized field notes. 
Miscellaneous Notes - Game v566_s3 1912

Physical Description: 5.0 Pages

Scope and Contents note

Contains informal interviews with visitors surrounding Cloverdale, Laytonville, Monterey Forest, and Palm Springs.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

North America, United States, California, Humboldt County
North America, United States, California, Mendocino County
North America, United States, California, Monterey County
North America, United States, California, Napa County
North America, United States, California, Riverside County
North America, United States, California, San Bernardino County
North America, United States, California, Santa Barbara County
North America, United States, California, Sonoma County
North America, United States, California, Tulare County

Volume 2,
Section 4

View digitized field notes. 
Tulare Lake, Kings Co., Calif. v566_s4 1913

Physical Description: 42.0 Pages

Scope and Contents note

Contains informal interviews with residents and visitors surrounding Tulare Lake and Hanford. Included experiments done on birds at Tulare Lake.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

North America, United States, California, Kern County
North America, United States, California, Kings County
North America, United States, California, Los Angeles County

View digitized field notes. 