
Guide to the W. C. Crandall Collection, 1911-1930

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Contributing Institution: California Institute of Technology Archives and Special Collections

Title: W. C. Crandall Collection

Creator: Crandall, W. C. (Wesley Clarence), 1878-1947

Identifier/Call Number: CrandallWC

Physical Description: 2.63 linear feet(1 archival box, 1 half size archival box, 2 oversize boxes)

Date (inclusive): 1911-1930

Language of Material: English .

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research. Researchers must apply for access in writing and by creating an [Aeon](#) account. Contact the archives for more information.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The W. C. Crandall Collection was acquired through the donation of the Wheeler J. North Papers. The collection was removed and processed separately from the North papers. According to [North's oral history](#) , the papers were given to him by Ken Norris, curator at Marineland of the Pacific.

Processing Information

This collection was separated from the Wheeler J. North papers. The collection was processed by Penelope Neder-Muro and Andy Gaston. The papers were removed from acidic folders and replaced with acid-free folders. Most rusted metal fasteners were removed, though some have remained in order to protect the fragile paper. Acid-free bond paper has been placed in between some pages to help prevent further staining. The oversize kelp bed maps were carefully removed from their original box, which they were originally bound to, and placed into oversize archival boxes.

Physical Condition

The majority of the papers in this collection are in poor condition. The paper is highly acidic and has become brittle. There are also multiple pages that have unidentified stains, possibly from previous vermin contamination.

Existence and Location of Copies

Digitized copies of the maps from Potash from Kelp by Frank K. Cameron can be accessed through the [University of Chicago Library](#).

Scope and Contents/Arrangement

This collection consists of correspondence written to and from W. C. Crandall regarding his government sponsored work along the Pacific coast, specifically the Southern California kelp beds and kelp harvesting for potash. Also includes the maps from Potash from Kelp Beds by Frank K. Cameron. The correspondence are arranged in chronological order.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Kelps

Potash

Scripps Institution of Oceanography

box 1, folder 1

Correspondence 1911

Scope and Contents

Correspondence written to Crandall from Frank K. Cameron (United State Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Soils). Re: his work to be conducted off the shore of San Diego, studying sea algae, kelps, and their use as a source of potash. Also Pacific Kelp Mulch Co.

box 1, folder 2

Correspondence 1912

Scope and Contents

Correspondence to and from Frank K Cameron of USDA, Pacific Coast Beef & Provision Co., memo from James Wilson, Secretary of USDA, Pacific Kelp Mulch Co.

box 1, folder 3

Correspondence 1913

Scope and Contents

Correspondence to and from Frank K. Cameron (USDA), Pacific Kelp Mulch Co., Pacific Products Company, The Harbor Sales Company, Representative William Kettner

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- box 1, folder 4 **Correspondence 1914**
 Scope and Contents
 Correspondence written by Crandall to and from Frank K. Cameron (USDA), Representative William Kettner, Pacific Products Company, Brunswick Drug Company
- box 1, folder 5 **Correspondence 1915**
 Scope and Contents
 Purchase orders (laboratory certificates) from Wrana, King, & Company, Frank K. Cameron (USDA), William Kettner correspondence
- box 1, folder 6 **Correspondence 1916**
 Scope and Contents
 Correspondence with Frederick W. Brown (USDA) Chief Bureau of Soils, Fred R. Francher, Board of Trustee of City of Redondo Beach, Hercules Powder Co.
- box 1, folder 7-8 **Correspondence 1917**
 Scope and Contents
 Correspondence to and from State of California Fish and Game Commission, Hercules Powder Company, The Lorned Manufacturing Company, William E. Brown of California Legislature
- box 2, folder 1 **Correspondence 1918**
 Scope and Contents
 J. W. Turrentine (USDA), Kelp Trip personal note (itinerary), Hercules Powder Co.
- box 2, folder 2 **Correspondence 1919**
 Scope and Contents
 J. W. Turrentine (USDA), correspondence re: kelp supply
- box 2, folder 3 **Correspondence 1920**
 Scope and Contents
 Correspondence with William Kettner, personal notes (itineraries), J. W. Turrentine, William Whitney (USDA)
- box 2, folder 4 **Correspondence 1921**
 Scope and Contents
 Correspondence with J. W. Turrentine, kelp bed condition updates
- box 2, folder 5 **Correspondence 1921-1923 1930**
 Scope and Contents
 Correspondence with J. W. Turrentine, kelp notes, Frank K. Cameron
- box 2, folder 6 **Kelp graphs and manuscripts 1917 1919**
 Scope and Contents
 Kelp growth graphs, sketches of kelp, manuscript drafts with note Possibly in Fisherman 1-22-1919, kelp harvest data of various companies for 1918 including Hercules, Swift.

Potash from Kelp: Kelp Groves of the Pacific Coast and Islands of the U.S. and Lower California 1914

Scope and Contents

Oversize maps from the Frank K. Cameron report of the same title. The maps were documented by Crandall in 1912 and were originally bound into two volumes. The pages were removed from the binding and were kept in original order. Each book is stored in its own box. Part one includes 28 pages, and part two includes 30 pages. (The archives does not hold a copy of the accompanying report.)