Descriptive Summary

Title: W. H. Hutchinson Papers, 1947 - 1977

Dates: 1947-1977

Collection Number: MSS 047

Creator/Collector: W. H. Hutchinson

Extent: Items: 2 boxes Linear Feet: 1.5

Repository: California State University, Chico

Chico, California 95929-0295

Abstract: The collection consists of research materials on Chico and local history, material for history class taught at California State University, Chico, and material on pheasant farms.

Language of Material: English

Access

Collection is open for research without restriction.

Publication Rights

The library can only claim physical ownership of the collection. Users are responsible for satisfying any claimants of literary property.

Preferred Citation

W. H. Hutchinson Papers, 1947 - 1977. California State University, Chico

Acquisition Information

J. Walter Rogers Jr

Biography/Administrative History

William Henry (“Old Hutch”) Hutchinson was born on August 13, 1911, in Denver, Colorado. He attended school in Oxford, Mississippi; Newark, New Jersey; Denver, Colorado, and Redondo Beach, California. He earned his master’s degree from Chico State College in 1961. He worked at various times as a horse wrangler, a cowboy, a boiler fireman, and a mucker in mines. During the Depression, Hutchinson worked as Chief Purser on passenger vessels. During World War II, he served as a Lieutenant Commander in the United States Maritime Service where he saw duty in the South Pacific, North Atlantic, and Mediterranean. After the war, Hutchinson moved to Butte County and became a freelance writer. He sold more than 150 fact and fiction articles to a variety of popular magazines. He also wrote, narrated, and produced several historical pageants on California, and had his own weekly radio and television shows. Hutchinson authored 15 books, one of which, Oil, Land and Politics: The California Career of Thomas R. Bard, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize. He also worked as a columnist for the San Francisco Chronicle and frequently contributed to the Chico Enterprise-Record. Hutchinson taught part-time at Chico State College, Sonoma State College, and San Francisco State between 1953 and 1964. Hutchinson served as a full-time faculty member at Chico from fall 1964 until his retirement in 1978. Hutchinson died of a heart attack in Chico on March 11, 1990.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection consists of research on Chico and local history, material for a history class taught at California State University, Chico, and material on pheasant farms. Types of items include: correspondence, research notes and drafts for articles on California history, book reviews, published articles, photographs, periodicals, and newspaper clippings.

Indexing Terms

Pheasants
California, Northern
Chico (Calif.)
Research Materials

W. H. Hutchinson Papers