Finding Aid to the Southwest Society Institutional Archives, 1903-1917 MS.2

Finding aid prepared by Holly Rose Larson
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2011
**Title:** Southwest Society Institutional Archives  
**Identifier/Call Number:** MS.2  
**Contributing Institution:** Autry National Center, Braun Research Library  
**Language of Material:** English  
**Physical Description:** 12.0 Linear feet  
**Date (inclusive):** 1903-1917  
**Abstract:** The Southwest Society was an active branch of the Archaeological Institute of America from 1903-1917. The Society was founded by Charles F. Lummis with the intent of eventually opening a museum of artifacts of the Southwest. Southwest Society Institutional Archives includes administrative records, materials related to Southwest Society expeditions, and documentation regarding the dispute between Frank M. Palmer and Charles Fletcher Lummis. This collection also includes all Southwest Society bulletins, publication drafts, scrapbooks, correspondence, and ephemera. The dates of the material range from 1903-1917.  
**Language:** The collection materials are in English.  
**creator:** Archaeological Institute of America. Southwest Society  
  MS.2.1 Administrative records, 1903-1917  
  MS.2.2 Bulletins, 1904-1911  
  MS.2.3 Scrapbooks, 1903-1910  

**Administrative History note**  
The Southwest Society was an active branch of the Archaeological Institute of America from 1903-1917. The Society was founded by Charles F. Lummis with the intent of eventually opening a museum of artifacts of the Southwest. The Society succeeded in this goal in 1907, when the Southwest Museum was founded. At that point, the mission of the Southwest Society was entirely geared towards supporting the museum. The Society separated from the Archaeological Institute of America in 1914. Once the Southwest Museum established a staff of its own, the Southwest Society was dissolved in 1917. Lummis was still adamant that some sort of society needed to exist separate from the Museum, so he founded the Institute of the West in 1917, which then dissolved in 1918.  

**Acquisition**  
Materials in this collection were deposited to the Southwest Museum Library, presently known as the Braun Research Library, as institutional records. Deposit was made circa 1907.  

**Access**  
Collection is open for research. Appointments to view materials are required. To make an appointment please visit http://theautry.org/research/research-rules-and-application or contact library staff at rroom@theautry.org Box-level inventory is available from library staff.  

**Preferred Citation**  
Southwest Society Institutional Archives, 1903-1917, Braun Research Library Collection, Autry National Center, Los Angeles, CA; MS.2,[folder number][folder title][date].  

**Related Archival Materials**  
Archaeological Institute of America Records, The Archaeological Institute of America, Boston University, Boston, MA.  
Charles Fletcher Lummis Manuscript Collection, 1888-1928, Braun Research Library, Autry National Center, Los Angeles, CA; MS.1  
Hector and Laurena Alliot Manuscript Collection, 1901-1925, Braun Research Library, Autry National Center, Los Angeles, CA; MS.216.  
School for Advanced Research Archival Collections, Catherine McElvain Library, School for Advanced Research, Santa Fe, NM; AC32  
Southwest Museum Institutional Archives, 1901-2007, Braun Research Library, Autry National Center, Los Angeles, CA; MS.3  

**Scope and Contents**  
This collection consists of material from 1903-1917, which also reflect the active years of the Southwest Society. Included are all administrative records, which contain financial records, reports, meeting minutes, constitution, form letters, correspondence, membership records, documentation of the merger into the Southwest Museum, two Southwest Society expeditions, and documentation regarding the dispute between Frank M. Palmer and Charles Fletcher Lummis. This
collection also includes all Southwest Society bulletins, publication drafts, scrapbooks, correspondence, and ephemera.

**Use**

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**Processing history**

Rehousing by Betty Burnham and William Thrall. Finding aid completed by Holly Rose Larson, NHPRC Processing Archivist, 2011, made possible through grant funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commissions (NHPRC).

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Lummis, Charles Fletcher, 1859-1928.
Palmer, Frank M.
Archaeological expeditions -- Arizona.
Archaeological Institute of America. Southwest Society.
California, Southern -- History.
Clippings.
Correspondence
Indians of North America -- Southwest, New.
Maps.
Receipts (financial records)
Scrapbooks.
Southwest Museum (Los Angeles, Calif.)

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**Box 1-22, 28, 29**  
**Administrative Records, MS.2.1 1903-1917**

**Physical Description:** 10.0 linear ft.

**Scope and Contents note**

This series includes all business papers regarding the Southwest Society, including financial records, reports, meeting minutes, constitution, form letters, correspondence, membership records, documentation of the merger into the Southwest Museum, notebooks and maps of Southwest Society expeditions to Arizona in 1905 and 1906, and documentation regarding the dispute between Frank M. Palmer and Charles Fletcher Lummis (boxes 21 and 22). The ledger in this series includes financial data from the Archaeological Institute of America, Landmarks Club, Institute of the West, and several different accounts dealing with the Southwest Museum.

**Box 23-26**  
**Bulletins, MS.2.2 1904-1911**

**Physical Description:** 1.6 linear ft.

**Scope and Contents note**

This series contains all published bulletins and drafts, as well as correspondence regarding the bulletins. Two volumes in this series include Southwest Society bulletins bound together with issues of Out West, Landmarks Club bulletins, and Sequoya League bulletins. The two bound volumes have obsolete call numbers on their spines, which should be disregarded in citation. The Southwest Society published eight bulletins and was drafting a ninth when it was dissolved.
Scrapbooks, MS.2.31903-1910

Box 27

Scrapbooks, MS.2.3 1903-1910

Physical Description: 1.0 linear ft.

Scope and Contents note

This series includes scrapbooks compiled by Lummis. Two are cloth-bound volumes filled with clippings, correspondence, and other ephemera pasted in. One is a leather-bound volume titled The Winning of the Southwest, containing correspondence and documentation of the Society's success in securing permission to perform research in the American Indian reservations of the Southwest.