
Finding Aid to the Joseph Fish Manuscript and Letters MS.616

Finding aid prepared by James Foster, Anna Liza Posas

Autry National Center, Braun Research Library

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Title: Joseph Fish Manuscript and Letters

Identifier/Call Number: MS.616

Contributing Institution: Autry National Center, Braun Research Library

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.25 Linear feet(8 folders)

Date (inclusive): 1897-1905

Abstract: Joseph Fish (1840-1926) lived in northern Arizona at Snowflake and was an official of the Mormon Church. He was among the early settlers of Iron County, Utah, Snowflake Arizona, and the Mormon Colonies in Mexico. The collection contains manuscript material created by Fish and correspondence from 1897 to 1905. Fish's manuscript covers topics such as the Indian wars; the Capital questions; colonization and land grants; Indian raids; military posts; the founding of Phoenix; the Camp Grant massacre; General George H. Crook campaigns; Mormon colonization on the Little Colorado River; and the development of early industries, agricultural, mining, and railroads. The collection also includes correspondence from Marion Clark, W.W. Damron and Chas Trumbull Hayden.

creator: Clark, Marion

creator: Damron, W. W.

creator: Fish, Joseph, 1840-1926

creator: Hayden, Charles Trumbull, 1825-1900

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. An item-level inventory is available from library staff.

Preferred citation

Joseph Fish Manuscript and Letters, 1897-1905, Braun Research Library, Autry National Center, Los Angeles; MS.616; [folder number] [folder title][date].

Scope and contents

The collection contains manuscript material created by Fish. His unpublished material covers topics such as the Indian wars; the Capital questions; colonization and land grants; Indian raids; military posts; the founding of Phoenix; the Camp Grant massacre; General George H. Crook campaigns; Mormon colonization on the Little Colorado River; and the development of early industries, agricultural, mining, and railroads.

Also included in the collection are correspondence from Marion Clark, W.W. Damron and Chas Trumbull Hayden.

Letters from Marion Clark, dated 1897 April 1, are concerning a trip taken by William Milligan with a bull train of corn and the settling of farms in Round Valley and a second letter concerning William Milligan and Round Valley. Another letter from W.W. Damron concerns the organization in 1881 of Graham County by John Charles Frémont.

The letter from Chas Trumbull Hayden briefly describes Hayden's life including two trips as a merchant to Santa Fe and Tucson. It also mentions his first overland mail coach to Tucson, his position as first probate judge of Tucson, and a meeting with Henry Clay. The letter from Trumbull is undated.

Biographical/Historical note

Joseph Fish (1840-1926) lived in northern Arizona at Snowflake and was an official of the Mormon Church. He was among the early settlers of Iron County, Utah, Snowflake Arizona, and the Mormon Colonies in Mexico. He was mostly self-educated. He was a storekeeper, newspaper editor, school teacher, attorney, justice of the peace, sawyer, surveyor, territorial legislator, and historian. His writings have long been valuable resources for later historians and genealogists in researching life in the early days of white settlement of the American West. Fish's manuscript was never published due to financial constraints.

Acquisition

Donation for the Munk Library of Arizoniana, between 1910-1931.

Processing history

Initial processing conducted by Glenna Schroeder, circa 1977-1981. Biographical note drafted by James Foster, 2008.

Finding aid completed by Anna Liza Posas, 2013. Final processing of collection and publication of finding aid made possible by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Use

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Subjects and Indexing Terms

Cochise, Apache Chief, d. 1874

Crook, George, General, 1829-1890

Frémont, John Charles, 1813-1890

Geronimo, Apache Chief, 1829-1909

Apache Indians

Arizona -- History

Holbrook (Ariz.)

Indians of North America -- Wars

Manuscripts

Mormons -- Arizona

Phoenix (Ariz.)

Tucson (Ariz.)
