Title: J.W. Simmons Papers

Identifier/Call Number: MS.776

Contributing Institution: Autry National Center, Braun Research Library

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.2 linear feet(1 folder)

Date (inclusive): 1934-1935

Abstract: This is a collection of correspondence, papers, and hand-drawn maps made by J. W. Simmons between 1934 and 1935 regarding archaeological sites in Arizona. Much of the correspondence is between Simmons and Southwest Museum Secretary Charles Avery Amsden. This collection also includes photographs.

creator: Amsden, Charles Avery, 1899-1941

creator: Simmons, James W., fl. 1930s

Related Archival Materials
James Simmons collection, MS-6. The Museum of Northern Arizona; Correspondence, site reports, and catalogue of archaeological collections by J. W. Simmons, A-0020, Arizona State Museum;

Biographical note
James W. Simmons, amateur archaeologist, became known during the 1930s for discovering Black Mesa and Perry Mesa on either side of the Agua Fria River. Both sites would later become important archaeological sites. Simmons documented a great deal of his archaeological work, particularly related to pueblos and petroglyphs, through reports funded by the Federal Writer’s Project. He worked as a building laborer when he was not engaged in some type of archaeological endeavor. He was the first person to attempt to describe the prehistoric culture of the Yavapai County, Ariz., area.

Scope and Contents
This is a collection of correspondence, papers, and hand-drawn maps made by J. W. Simmons between 1934 and 1935 regarding archaeological sites in Arizona. Much of the correspondence is between Simmons and Southwest Museum Secretary Charles Avery Amsden. This collection also includes photographs.

Preferred citation

Processing history
Processed by Library staff before 1981. Finding aid completed by Holly Rose Larson, NHPRC Processing Archivist, 2012 December 5, made possible through grant funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commissions (NHPRC).

Acquisition
Donated by Charles Avery Amsden between 1934 and 1935.

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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.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Arizona -- Antiquities
Correspondence
Excavations (Archaeology) -- Arizona
Flagstaff (Ariz.)
Indians of North America -- Arizona
Maps
Mound-builders
Oak Creek Canyon (Ariz.)
Photographs
Prescott (Ariz.)
Pueblo Grande Cultural Park (Phoenix, Ariz.)
Tuzigoot National Monument (Ariz.)
Verde River (Ariz.)
Yavapai County (Ariz.)
Yavapai Indians -- Antiquities