The Finding Aid of the Ed and Mary Shafer Digital Photographs 0163

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The Shafer family owned and operated the Cloverleaf Ranch in the Santa Monica Mountains from 1946 to 1964, raising cattle and stocking man-made lakes with trout for public fishing. The Shafer land is now part of Malibu Creek State Park. The digital collection contains photographs of the Shafers' ranch, home, and Trout Lakes, as well as two articles about the Shafers' cattle and Trout Lakes, respectively. Materials date from 1948-1961.

Conditions Governing Access
This is a digital collection of photographs. The original photographs are still held by the donors. Access copies of digital images are available as JPG files. Please contact Pepperdine Special Collections for access.

Arrangement
The original structure, naming and contents of the material have been maintained. This digital collection is arranged according to the index compiled by Gary Liss. The images each contain an identifying badge with an individual number, and the numerical order of these badges has been maintained.

Biographical / Historical
The Shafer family owned and lived on Cloverleaf Ranch in the Santa Monica Mountains from 1946 to 1964. The property now forms part of Malibu Creek State Park. Edgar Shafer and his wife, Mary Jane, purchased their 60-acre ranch to run horses and cattle, including the first registered herd of Brangus beef cattle in California. The Shafers leased additional land from their neighbor and friend, Ronald Reagan. When the price of beef fell in the early 1950s, the family found an ingenious new use for their land. Ed, Mary Jane, and their sons Mike, Dave, and Steve all worked to dredge up two large lakes on the ranch, close to the intersection of Mulholland Highway and Las Virgenes Road. The Shafers purchased trout and other fish from local fisheries to fill their new lakes, and opened them to the public. The Trout Lakes proved immediately popular among Angelenos looking for an escape from the city, as well as with commuters passing through the canyon on their way to the beach. The Shafers lived in the historic Sepulveda Adobe house for ten years before building a new home on their property in the late 1950s. In 1964, the family sold their ranch to Fox Realty Corp.

Adapted from information provided by Gary Liss.

Preferred Citation
[Box/folder# or item name], Ed and Mary Shafer Digital Photographs, Collection no. 0163, Malibu Historical Collection, Special Collections and University Archives, University Libraries, Pepperdine University.

Processing Information
This collection was a donation from Mike Shafer, with the assistance of Gary Liss. Liss digitized the photographs and articles, and compiled an index of the images using Shafer's notes and the notes written on the back of each photograph. The information from this index has been transcribed in the corresponding item's Scope and Contents note. Liss also named each digital image file according to the index. Although the file names have been changed to comply with the institution's file naming conventions, Liss' original names are kept as "File" titles.

This collection was arranged and described by Reilly Saint Amand, July 2019.

Scope and Contents
This collection contains digitized photographs of the Shafer family and Cloverleaf Ranch, part of what is today Malibu Creek State Park. The photographs largely showcase the Shafers' home near Mulholland Highway, and the popular Trout Lakes located near the intersection of Mulholland and Las Virgenes Road. Also included are two contemporary articles, one concerning the Shafer's herd of Brangus beef cattle, and the other about the family's successful Trout Lakes.

Conditions Governing Use
Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Malibu (Calif.) -- History -- 20th century
Santa Monica Mountains (Calif.)
Malibu Creek State Park (Calif.)
Trout fishing
Dave and Mike Shafer in Corral 1950
Physical Description: Shafer00001.jpg, Shafer00001b.jpg
Scope and Contents
Dave and Mike Shafer on horses in corral behind adobe, in front of blacksmith shop, c.1950.

Malibu Canyon Fire 1958 December
Physical Description: Shafer00002.jpg, Shafer00002b.jpg
Scope and Contents
Malibu Canyon fire, 2 Dec 1958, looking west toward Fox Ranch from Shafer property.

Bob Forgie 1948
Physical Description: Shafer00003.jpg, Shafer00003b.jpg
Scope and Contents
Bob Forgie, 1948 in front of adobe. Bob worked for Ed Shafer, built the barbeque for him, as well as the spillways at the Cloverleaf Ranch Trout Lakes.

Shafer Family in Fish Shack 1950s
Physical Description: Shafer00004.jpg, Shafer00004b.jpg
Scope and Contents
Shafer family in fish shack at Cloverleaf Ranch Trout Lakes.

Shafer Family at Shafer House 1957
Physical Description: Shafer00005.jpg, Shafer00005b.jpg

Mike and Dave Shafer in Lower Trout Lake 1950s
Physical Description: Shafer00006.jpg, Shafer00006b.jpg

Shafers' Brangus Herd 1961 August
Physical Description: Shafer00007.tif, Shafer00007b.tif
Scope and Contents
This photo depicts Ed Shafer's Cloverleaf Cafe in the 1950s. It was located at the southwest corner of Las Virgenes Road and Mulholland Highway.

Shafers' Cloverleaf Cafe 1950s
Physical Description: Shafer00008.tif, Shafer00008b.tif
Scope and Contents
This photo depicts Ed Shafer's Cloverleaf Cafe in the 1950s. It was located at the southwest corner of Las Virgenes Road and Mulholland Highway.

Shafer Pool
Physical Description: Shafer00009.tif, Shafer00009b.tif
Scope and Contents
Swimming pool at Shafer house.

Mike and Dave Shafer 1948 May
Physical Description: Shafer00010.tif, Shafer00010b.tif
Scope and Contents
Mike and Dave Shafer by the adobe, showing cistern in background, May 1948.
Shafer Boys in front of Cistern 1951 August
Physical Description: Shafer00011.tif, Shafer00011b.tif
Scope and Contents
Shafer boys (Steve, Mike, Dave) in front of the cistern, Aug 1951.

Mike Shafer’s Birthday Party
Physical Description: Shafer00012.tif, Shafer00012b.tif

Building Trout Pond with Larry Varin and Ed Shafer 1953 September
Physical Description: Shafer00013.tif, Shafer00013b.tif

Building Trout Ponds with Billie Reid and Janie 1953 September
Physical Description: Shafer00014.tif, Shafer00014b.tif

Building Trout Ponds with Billie, Janie, and the Shafer dog, Chigger 1953 September
Physical Description: Shafer00015.tif, Shafer00015b.tif

Building Lower Lake 1953 September
Physical Description: Shafer00016.tif, Shafer00016b.tif

Shafer House 1958
Physical Description: Shafer00017.tif, Shafer00017b.tif

Inside Shafer House 1958-1959
Physical Description: Shafer00018.tif, Shafer00018b.tif
Scope and Contents
Inside Shafer House, 1958/59, showing Mary Jane, Dave, Mike, and Ed.

Dave and Mike Shafer in Shafer House 1959
Physical Description: Shafer00019.tif, Shafer00019b.tif

Shafer Family in Shafer House 1958-1959
Physical Description: Shafer00020.tif, Shafer00020b.tif

Shafer House 1958-1959
Physical Description: Shafer00021.tif, Shafer00021b.tif

Ed & Mary Jane Shafer 1957
Physical Description: Shafer00022.tif, Shafer00022b.tif
Scope and Contents
Ed and Mary Jane Shafer at their Trout Lakes in 1957, with people fishing in the background.

Shafer Family at Home on Hill
Physical Description: Shafer00023.tif, Shafer00023b.tif
Scope and Contents
Shafer family at home on hill (L-R: Mike, Mary Jane, Ed, Dave).

Brangus Article Shafer Ranch 1950s
Physical Description: Shafer00024.tif, Shafer00024b.tif
Scope and Contents
Ed Shafer and Brangus Article, 1950s, 2 Pages


**Harvester World Article 1957 January**

Physical Description: Shafer00025.tif, Shafer00025b.tif, Shafer00025c.tif, Shafer00025d.tif, Shafer00025e.tif

Scope and Contents
Cloverleaf Ranch Trout Lakes Article, Harvester World, Jan 1957, 5 Pages.

**3 Shafer Brothers on Fence by Cistern 1951**

Physical Description: Shafer00026.tif, Shafer00026b.tif

Scope and Contents
Shafer sons on fence in front of the cistern, 1951 (L-R: Mike, Dave, Steve).