Descriptive Summary

Title: Caroline Crane Briggs papers
Dates: 1878-1890
Collection Number: mssHM 66250-66299
Creator OR Collector: Briggs, Caroline Crane
Extent: 58 items
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens Manuscripts Department
The Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2203
Fax: (626) 449-5720
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org

Abstract: Correspondence by Caroline Crane Briggs, chiefly to her children Sophia Crane Ristine and Benjamin Crane, from her home in La Crescenta, California.

Language of Material: The records are in English.

Access
Collection is open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, please go to following web site .

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Caroline Crane Briggs papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Acquisition Information
Gift of Anna Caroline Crane, August 1963.

Biographical Note
Caroline Crane Briggs and her second husband Dr. Benjamin B. Briggs moved to California from Indiana in 1878 (she had previously lived in Crawfordsville, Indiana, with her first husband Abiathar Crane). She and Dr. Briggs moved to southern California where they bought land and helped establish the city of La Crescenta. Dr. Briggs chose the name La Crescenta after three crescents or mountain peaks he observed from his home; however, it is not Spanish for crescent.

Scope and Content
Caroline Crane Briggs wrote the majority of the 47 letters to her children, Sophia Crane Ristine and Benjamin Crane. The first few letters (1878) give a detailed description of the Briggs' journey to California through New Mexico and Arizona; these letters include comments upon the New Mexico and Arizona deserts and the Pima Indians. Her other letters are chiefly about her life in the new-founded city of La Crescenta. She talks about her personal activities and her travels through the Los Angeles area including Pasadena and Long Beach. She also talks about her friends and neighbors as well as her husband's business and property dealings. There is one letter by Caroline Crane Briggs to her husband and one letter by him to her. Also included in the collection are two poems by Caroline Crane Briggs about life in southern California, an essay she wrote entitled “Thanksgiving Day 1888,” and eight pieces of ephemera including an obituary for Dr. Benjamin B. Briggs.

Personal Names
Briggs, Caroline Crane
Briggs, Benjamin, active 1873-1879

Subjects
Overland journeys to the Pacific
Pima Indians
Real property -- California, Southern
Women -- California -- Archives

Geographic Areas
Arizona -- Description and travel
California -- Description and travel
California, Southern -- History -- 19th century -- Sources
La Crescenta (Calif) -- Description and travel
Long Beach (Calif) -- Description and travel
Los Angeles (Calif) -- Description and travel
New Mexico -- Description and travel
Pasadena (Calif) -- Description and travel

Genre
Letters (correspondence) -- West (U.S.) -- 19th century
Personal papers -- California -- 19th century

Box 1 1878-1890 (HM 66250-66299)

HM 66250  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1878, [before Apr. 15])
Deming, N.M.

HM 66251  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1878, Apr. 15)
Benson, Ariz. Subject: Pima Indians.

HM 66252  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1878, Apr. 15)
Tucson, Ariz.

HM 66253  Briggs, Benjamin, active 1873-1879. Letter to Caroline Crane Briggs (1880, June 7-8)
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66254  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to [Sophia Crane Ristine] [1880]
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66255  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane (1881, May 2)
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66256  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to [Sophia Crane Ristine] [1881]
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66257  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1882, Mar. 4)
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66258  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane (1883, May 2)
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66259  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine ([1883], June 30)
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66260  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane ([1883], July 4)
La Crescenta, Calif.
HM 66261 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane [1883]
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66262 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1884, Apr. 19-20)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66263 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1884, Apr. 21)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66264 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine ([1884], May 3)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66265 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1884, May 3)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66266 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane (1884, May 12)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66267 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1884, June 9)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66268 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1884, June 15)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66269 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine [1884]
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66270 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1885, Jan. 7)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66271 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1885, Apr.)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66272 W----, A. B. Letter to Caroline Crane Briggs (1885, Mar. 20)

HM 66273 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane (1885, June 22)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66274 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1885, July 8)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66275 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1885, Aug. 20)
    Long Beach, Calif.

HM 66276 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1886, July 22)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66277 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1886, Aug. 10)
    La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66278 Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1886, Sep. 8)
    La Crescenta, Calif.
HM 66279  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1886, Sep. 19)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66280  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1886, Oct. 22-29)**
Los Angeles, Calif.

HM 66281  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1886, Nov. 9)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66282  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine ([1886], Dec. 6-7)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66283  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane (1886, Dec. 11)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66284  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine and Benjamin Crane (1886, Dec. 28)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66285  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1887, Jan. 1)**
La Crescenta, Calif. Subjects: Pasadena, Calif. and Real property -- California, Southern.

HM 66286  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane (1887, Apr. 3)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66287  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1887, May)**
Los Angeles, Calif.

HM 66288  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane (1887, June 2)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66289  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine (1887, July 27)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66290  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane (1887, Aug. 29)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66291  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Crane (1887, Aug. 30)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66292  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Sophia Crane Ristine [1887]**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66293  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Thanksgiving Day 1888: essay (1888, Nov.)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66294  **Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to "Dear Jenney" (1889, Jan. 10)**
La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66295  **Ballagh, I. C. Letter to Caroline Crane Briggs (1889, July 18)**
Brownsburg, Va.
HM 66296  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to Benjamin Briggs, active 1873-1879 (1890, Sep. 22)  
        Boston, Mass.

HM 66297  [Briggs, Caroline Crane.] The Doctor's Home: The Terrace: poem (1890, Sep.)  
        La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66298  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Letter to [unknown addressee] [undated]  
        La Crescenta, Calif.

HM 66299  Briggs, Caroline Crane. Welcome Home: poem [undated]  
        La Crescenta, Calif.

Folder  Ephemera (1887-1896)  
        8 items