William Rich Hutton Papers: Finding Aid

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Overview of the Collection
Title: William Rich Hutton Papers
Dates (inclusive): 1840-1861
Collection Number: mssHM 43213-43227, mssFAC 807-845, mssFAC 1010
Extent: 149 pieces in 2 boxes
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
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Abstract: This collection contains 96 drawings, 14 original letters, and 39 facsimiles of letters and manuscripts of California surveyor, topographer, and engineer William Rich Hutton (1826-1901). Includes both watercolor and pencil drawings of California (including Los Angeles, Monterey, San Francisco, the New Almaden Quicksilver Mine, and the California Missions), Baja California, Mexico, and Peru.
Language: English.
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Preferred Citation
Provenance
Gift and purchase from Mary A. Hutton, 1939-1946; photostat (FAC 817) from John J. Lynch, City Clerk, San Jose, CA, December 26, 1939; and photostat (FAC 1010) from California Historical Society, San Francisco.
Alternative Form of Materials Available
Visit the Huntington Digital Library to view the digitized drawings from this collection.
Biographical Note
William Rich Hutton (1826-1901), surveyor, topographer, and engineer, came to California in 1847 as a clerk with his uncle, Major William Rich, paymaster for U.S. volunteer troops. For the next six years, Hutton was employed as a surveyor and draftsman. During this time he made watercolor and pencil drawings of California scenes. In 1853 he returned to the East and worked as an engineer on various projects including the Washington Bridge and Hudson River Tunnel in New York City. Hutton’s younger brother, James D. Hutton, was also a topographer and artist.
Scope and Content
The collection contains 96 drawings, 14 original letters, and 39 facsimiles of letters and manuscripts.
The illustrative material includes both watercolor and pencil drawings of California (including Los Angeles, Monterey, San Francisco, the New Almaden Quicksilver Mine, and the California Missions), Baja California, Mexico, and Peru. The ones in color are noted below in the container list. One of the drawings is a facsimile (FAC 1010). The majority of letters by William Rich Hutton are written to his uncle William Rich and his mother Salome Rich Hutton. There is also some correspondence between William Rich Hutton and his brother James D. Hutton. There are also letters by author María Amparo Ruiz de Burton (these letters are in Spanish), California Governor Persifor Frazer Smith, and Henry Wager Haleck. Some subjects of the correspondence include: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Benjamin Davis Wilson, Edward Otho Cresap Ord, William Goodwin Dana and his Nipomo Ranch (Dana Adobe), the New Almaden Mine, geologist Louis Agassiz, Henry H. Burton, Jessie Benton Frémont, and the Civil War in Washington DC and Baltimore. There are several facsimiles of manuscripts by William Rich Hutton, mostly anecdotes about his time in California.
Note: FAC 1010 is physically located after drawing #32.
Arrangement
Letters and manuscripts are arranged chronologically in one box. Hutton's drawings (96) are arranged in numerical order in the oversize box. Cards are filed in both the alphabetical and chronological sections of the Manuscripts catalog.

Indexing: Subjects
Agassiz, Louis, 1807-1873.

- Subject in Persifor Frazer Smith, 1798-1858, letter (1849, June 9) to William Rich. HM 43227.

Burton, Henry H.

- Subject in William Rich letter (1849, July 30) to Salome Rich Hutton. HM 43226.

Dana, William Goodwin, 1797-1858.


Dana Adobe.


Frémont, Jessie Benton, 1824-1902.

- Subject in William Rich letter (1849, July 30) to Salome Rich Hutton. HM 43226.

New Almaden Quicksilver Mine (Calif.).


Ord, Edward Otho Cresap, 1818-1883.


Ruiz de Burton, María Amparo, 1832-1895.

- Subject in William Rich letter (1849, July 30) to Salome Rich Hutton. HM 43226.

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Baltimore (Md.).

- Subject in James D. Hutton letters (1861) to Wm. R. (William Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43221-43224.

Wilson, Benjamin Davis, 1811-1878.


Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library's Online Catalog.

Subjects
Agassiz, Louis, 1807-1873.

Burton, Henry H.

Dana, William Goodwin, 1797-1858.

Frémont, Jessie Benton, 1824-1902.


Ord, Edward Otho Cresap, 1818-1883.

Wilson, Benjamin Davis, 1811-1878.

New Almaden Quicksilver Mines (Calif.) -- Pictorial works.

Drafters -- California -- Archives.

Missions -- California -- Pictorial works.

Surveyors -- California -- Archives.

Baja California (Mexico : Peninsula) -- Pictorial works.

California -- Description and travel.

California -- Pictorial works.

California -- History -- 19th century -- Sources.

California -- Social life and customs -- 19th century.

Los Angeles (Calif.) -- Description and travel.

Los Angeles (Calif.) -- History -- 19th century -- Sources.

Los Angeles (Calif.) -- Pictorial works.

Mexico -- Pictorial works.
Monterey (Calif.) -- Description and travel.
Monterey (Calif.) -- History -- 19th century -- Sources.
Monterey (Calif.) -- Social life and customs -- 19th century.
Monterey (Calif.) -- Pictorial works.
Peru -- Pictorial works.
San Francisco (Calif.) -- Description and travel.
San Francisco (Calif.) -- History -- 19th century -- Sources.
San Francisco (Calif.) -- Pictorial works.
Santa Barbara (Calif.) -- Pictorial works.
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Anecdotes.

**Forms/Genres**
Drawings -- California -- 19th century.
Drawings Mexico Baja -- California -- 19th century.
Letters (correspondence) -- California -- 19th century.
Letters (correspondence) Mexico Baja -- California -- 19th century.
Watercolors -- California -- 19th century.
Watercolors Mexico Baja -- California -- 19th century.

**Additional Contributors**
Hutton, James D.
Ruiz de Burton, María Amparo, 1832-1895.
Smith, Persifor Frazer, 1798-1858.

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<th>Oversize Box</th>
<th>Drawings HM 43214 (1-95), FAC 1010</th>
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<td>Item 1</td>
<td>&quot;U.S.S. Ohio&quot; and storeship &quot;Southhampton,&quot; 1847, probably at La Paz or Mazatlan</td>
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<td>Item 2</td>
<td>Fort San Lorenzo, Chagres, January 1847</td>
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<td>La Paz, Lower California, 1847-1848</td>
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<td>Item 12</td>
<td>Old Cuartel, La Paz, Lower California, [December 8, 1847?]</td>
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<td>American fortifications, La Paz, Lower California, 1847</td>
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<td>Nevada de Toluca [Mexico], May 23, 1853 color</td>
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<td>California scene</td>
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<td>Mission San Luis Rey, 1848</td>
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<td>Item 19</td>
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<td>Item 20</td>
<td>Mission San Luis Rey, March 17, 1848</td>
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<td>Item 21</td>
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<td>Item 22</td>
<td>Fort San Bernardino or Mormon Camp, October 1852</td>
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<td>Item 23</td>
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Note  
Followed by FAC 1010 – see end of drawing list.

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San Francisco, view from City Hotel (south side of Plaza), September 27, 1847

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San Francisco Bay (looking north from Telegraph Hill), 1851

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Redwoods, near Corte Madera, San Francisco Bay, October 1, 1847

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Benecia City from the Anchorage, July 4, 1848

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“Camp,” 1850 color

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Pine tree at Sutter’s Mill, 1849

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Sutter’s Fort, Sacramento, 1849

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Sutter’s Fort, April 1849

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Angel’s Camp Diggings, April 25, 1849

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Dry creek near Mokelumne River, April 22, 1849

Item 94  
Mormon Island, April 15, 1849

Item 95  
Mormon Island, April 1849

Mission of San Gabriel [ca. 1850]: facsimile. On verso: Scenes in Calif. [Located after drawing #32]. FAC 1010

Box 1  
Letter and Manuscripts (original and facsimile)

Hutton, James D.  1 letter (1847, Feb. 22) to Salome Rich Hutton: facsimile. FAC 816
Hutton, James D. Obligation of James D. Hutton to survey The Pueblo Lands of San Jose, California (1847, July 19): facsimile. FAC 817
[Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901]. The Battle of La Paz - From the Journal of an Officer: facsimile (1847, Nov. 16-Dec. 1). FAC 845
In the handwriting of William Rich Hutton.

[Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901]. Extracts from diary (1847-1849: facsimile. FAC 809
Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1848, May 19) to Salome Rich Hutton: facsimile. FAC 820
Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. Trial and attempted execution of a horse thief at Monterey [1849, Feb.]. FAC 812
Smith, Persifor Frazer, 1798-1858. 1 letter (1849, June 9) to William Rich. HM 43227
Rich, William. 1 letter (1849, July 30) to Salome Rich Hutton. HM 43226
Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1849, July 14) to William Rich: facsimile. FAC 834
Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1849, Aug. 5) to William Rich: facsimile. FAC 837
Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1850, Mar. 30) to Salome Rich Hutton. HM 43225
Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1850, Apr. 15) to Ellen S. Hutton: facsimile. FAC 818
Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1850, Apr. 18) to Nathaniel Henry Hutton: facsimile. FAC 819
FAC 813

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1850, Sep. 30) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 823

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. Narrative of a horseback ride from San
Luis Obispo to Monterey, a supposed ride of Victor Linares from Los Angeles to
Monterey, and incidents at Francis Ziba Branch's Rancho including the pursuit of
Indian raiders (1850, Sep.): facsimile. FAC 810

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1850, Oct. 9) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 824

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1850, Dec. 23) to William Rich:
facsimile. FAC 841

Two copies.

alcalde of Monterey, 1846-1848 [c.1850]: facsimile. FAC 807

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. Description and characterization of the
Spanish Californians, especially the women [ca.1850]. facsimile. FAC 808

Ruiz de Burton, María Amparo, 1832-1895. 1 letter (1851, Feb. 17) to Wm. R. (William
Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43219

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1851, Feb. 24) to William Rich:
facsimile. FAC 842

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1851, May 18) to William Rich:
facsimile. FAC 843

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1851, Dec. 11) to William Rich:
facsimile. FAC 844

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1851, May 24) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 825

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1852, Feb. 29) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 826

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1852, May 31) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 827

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1852, June 25) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 828

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1852, Oct. 8) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 829

Ruiz de Burton, María Amparo, 1832-1895. 1 letter (1852, Nov. 15) to Wm. R.
(William Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43215

Following the above: letters from Henry Stanton Burton to Wm. R. (William Rich) Hutton,
1826-1901, 1852, Nov. 27.

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1852, Nov. 26) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 830

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1852, Dec. 15) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 831

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. Story of an alleged attempt to sell the city
of San Francisco, a document purporting to be a grant to the city of two square
leagues of pueblo lands (1852): facsimile. FAC 811

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1853, Jan. 31) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 832

Hutton, Wm. R. (William Rich), 1826-1901. 1 letter (1853, Feb. 15) to Salome Rich
Hutton: facsimile. FAC 833

Ruiz de Burton, María Amparo, 1832-1895. 1 letter (1853, Nov. 20) to Wm. R.
(William Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43216

Halleck, H. W. (Henry Wager), 1815-1872. 1 letter (1855, May 31) to Wm. R. (William
Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901: facsimile. FAC 814

Ruiz de Burton, María Amparo, 1832-1895. 1 letter ([1855], July 30) to Wm. R.
(William Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43217

Ruiz de Burton, María Amparo, 1832-1895. 1 letter ([1855], July 30) to Wm. R. (William Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43217

Ruiz de Burton, María Amparo, 1832-1895. 1 letter (1855, Nov. 3) to Wm. R. (William Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43218

Hutton, James D. 1 letter (1860, Jan. 13) to Mary Augusta Clopper Hutton. HM 43220

Hutton, James D. 1 letter (1861, Apr. 19) to Wm. R. (William Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43221

Hutton, James D. 1 letter (1861, Apr. 19) to Wm. R. (William Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43222

Hutton, James D. 1 letter (1861, Apr. 22) to Wm. R. (William Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43223

Hutton, James D. 1 letter (1861, Apr. 25) to Wm. R. (William Rich) Hutton, 1826-1901. HM 43224