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## San Rafael Ranch Records and Addenda

Finding aid prepared by Katrina Denman.

Manuscripts Department

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**Overview of the Collection**

**Title:** San Rafael Ranch Company Records and Addenda

**Dates:** Approximately 1871-1968

**Collection Number:** mssSan Rafael Ranch

**Creator:** San Rafael Ranch Company.

**Extent:** 115 items in 5 boxes

**Repository:** The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens Manuscripts Department

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**Abstract:** The collection consists of papers related chiefly to the business affairs of Conway S. Campbell-Johnston and A. Campbell-Johnston and the San Rafael Ranch Company in the Garvanza neighborhood near Pasadena, California, from the 1880s to the early 1900s. The papers include Ranch correspondence, business and real estate papers, Campbell-Johnson estate papers, account books, as well as maps, ephemera, and photographs related to the history of Southern California, and in particular the San Rafael Heights/Garvanza region.

**Language:** English.

**Access**

Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.

**Publication Rights**

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**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item]. San Rafael Ranch Company Records and Addenda, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

**Provenance**

The collection was a gift of: Marguerite Bock on February 8, 1954; Lawrence Cook on February 8, 1955; and Nicholas Brandt on June 21, 1972.

The addenda was a gift of Steve Brandt on July 1, 2000.

**Historical Note**

The San Rafael Ranch was created in 1883, when Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Robert Campbell-Johnston visited the small town of Garvanza, California (near present-day Pasadena), and purchased 2,000 acres of the former Rancho San Rafael from Victor Beaudry. They left the ranch in the hands of their sons and went back to England, but they returned in 1888. The ranch was used for cattle grazing and many buildings were constructed, including the Church of the Angels. The sons ran the ranch until about 1920, when the land was subdivided.

**Scope and Content**

The collection consists of letters, documents, and maps, including 14 bound volumes, related to the business affairs (1898-1923) of Conway S. Campbell-Johnson and A. Campbell-Johnson, the sons of Alexander Robert Campbell-Johnson. The collection includes property titles, cattle records, property annexation agreements with the city of Pasadena, right-of-way agreements with the Pacific Electric Railway Company, and records of the Church of the Angels in Highland Park, Calif.

The addenda consists of estate papers related to the Campbell-Johnston family, including Conway Seymour Campbell-Johnston, R.A. Campbell-Johnston, A.R. Campbell-Johnston (through Louis Johnston), and Ida Campbell-Johnston; 2 maps of the San Rafael Heights area; programs, printed ephemera, and magazine clippings primarily related to the San Rafael area of Pasadena; miscellaneous newspapers and magazines on Southern California history; and 3 published books, including *Progress and Economy* by J. Platt (1882) and *The dairy of the farm* by James Long and J.C. Morton (1885). The addenda also includes 29 photographs of Southern California, including Eagle Rock, the Garvanza Hotel and miscellaneous images of Garvanza, the Mt. Lowe Railroad, the Webster's Hotel dining room in Pasadena, the beach of Hotel Arcadia in

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Santa Monica, the Sierra Madre Villa Hotel, and the Sierra Madre Mountains.

**Arrangement**

The collection is arranged in the following series:

- Business and Property Papers (Box 1)
- Abstracts of Title and Maps (Box 2)
- Account Books (Box 3)
- Addenda
  - Manuscripts, Printed Items, and Ephemera (Box 4)
  - Photographs (Box 5)

The collection is arranged alphabetically and chronologically, as appropriate.

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the [Huntington Library's Online Catalog.](#)

**Corporate Names**

Church of the Angels (Highland Park, Calif.).

Mount Lowe Railway.

Pacific Electric Railway Company.

San Rafael Ranch Company--Archives.

**Subjects**

Cattle--California, Southern.

Land titles--California, Southern.

Ranches--California--Los Angeles County.

Ranching--California--Los Angeles County.

Real property--California, Southern.

**Geographic Areas**

Garvanza (Calif.)--History--Sources.

Highland Park (Los Angeles, Calif.)--History--Sources.

Pasadena (Calif.)--History--Sources.

**Form/Genres**

Business records--California.

Corporation records--California.

Letters (correspondence)--California.

Maps--California.

Photographs--California.

**Alternate Authors**

Campbell-Johnston, A.

Campbell-Johnston, Conway.

Long, James J., 1846-1931. Dairy of the farm.

Norton, T. G., 1858-1885, photographer.

Platt, James, 1831- Progress.

Platt, James, 1831- Economy.

Jarvis (Firm : Pasadena, Calif.), photographer.

J.B. Blanchard & Co., photographer.

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**Records**

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Box 1	<p><b>Business and Property Papers</b></p> <p><b>Note</b></p> <p>In the original numbering, it appears Folder 5 was either skipped or missing. Folder 6 has not been relabeled as Folder 5.</p>
Folder 1	<p><b>San Rafael Ranch Co. Correspondence and business papers. 1898-1923</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 22 items.</p>
Folder 2	<p><b>San Rafael Ranch Co. Cattle book. 1887-1891.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 3	<p><b>San Rafael Ranch Co. Book of buildings. 1888-1889; 1909.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 4	<p><b>San Rafael Ranch Co. Agreement made with Charles R. Foot re: a portion of the property... 1904, Aug.19.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 5	<p><b>Highland Park, Calif. Church of the Angels choir book. 1899-1904.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>

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Box 2	<p><b>Abstracts of Title and Maps</b></p>
Folder 1	<p><b>Gillette, Gibson, and Wood (firm). Abstract of title to tract of land in Rancho San Rafael. 1871, Nov.29.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 2	<p><b>Gillette, Gibson, and Wood (firm). Abstract of title to tract of land in Rancho San Rafael. 1883, Aug.31.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 3	<p><b>Gillette, Gibson, and Wood (firm). Abstract of title to property in Rancho San Pascual. 1886, July 14.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 4	<p><b>Gillette, Gibson, and Wood (firm). Abstract of title to property in Rancho San Rafael, containing copy of plat map of Rancho San Rafael (1869) and Annandale Tract (1884). 1886, July 14.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 5	<p><b>Johnston, Griffin. Abstract of title showing all conveyances by and to A.R. or R.A. Campbell-Johnston and the estate of said Campbell-Johnston, deceased... 1889-1895.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 6	<p><b>Eden, Lisenby, and Eden (firm). Abstract of title to Section 30, Township 11, Fresno Co., Calif. [belonging to Robert Alexander Campbell-Johnston]. 1889-1902.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 7	<p><b>Purcell, Gervaise. Map of Rockdale Addition [in Rancho San Rafael]. 1887, Aug.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>

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|-----------|---|
| Folder 8  | <b>Purcell, Gervaise. Map of Campbell-Johnston tract in Rancho San Rafael (Rockdale and Annandale Subdivisions. c.1887.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item. |
| Folder 9  | <b>Map of ... tract owned by Hodgkins and Wright, from Los Angeles City...[in Rancho San Rafael]. c.1887.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.               |
| Folder 10 | <b>[Map of property of A. Campbell-Johnston in Rancho San Rafael]. c.1887.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.  |
| Folder 11 | <b>Printed map showing subdivision from Rancho Los Felis to San Rafael. c.1890.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.   |
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Box 3                   **Account Books**

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| Folder 1 | <b>San Rafael Ranch Co. Pasturage record book. 1890-1910.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.              |
| Folder 2 | <b>San Rafael Ranch Co. Account book. 1904, Aug.19.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.                    |
| Folder 3 | <b>San Rafael Ranch Co. Account book 1907-1909.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.                        |
| Folder 4 | <b>Highland Park, Calif. Church of the Angels account book. 1904-1920.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item. |

**Addenda**

**Physical Description:** 74 pieces

Box 4                   **Manuscripts, Printed Items, and Ephemera**

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| Folder 1 | <b>Ida Amelia Campbell-Johnston estate papers. 1916.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 4 items.  |
| Folder 2 | <b>Certificate of title to Por Lot 4, A.R. Campbell-Johnston estate, for Louis Campbell-Johnston. 1905, Jan. 27.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.         |
| Folder 3 | <b>Memorandum of lands in Los Angeles County allotted to English heirs of R.A. Campbell-Johnston.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.                        |
| Folder 4 | <b>Summary of estate of Conway Campbell-Johnston. c. 1916.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.   |
| Folder 5 | <b>Miscellaneous estate papers. 2 items.</b>   |
| Folder 6 | <b>Maps of San Rafael Heights. 2 items.</b>  |
| Folder 7 | <b>Long, James and J.C. Morton. <i>The Dairy of the Farm</i> (London: Bradbury, Agnew &amp; Co.) [published book]. 1885.</b><br><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item. |
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Folder 8	<p><b>Platt, James. <i>Progress</i> (London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., 1882) and <i>Economy</i> (London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., 1882) [published books]. 1882.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 2 items.</p>
Folder 9	<p><b>Printed programs, booklets, and ephemera. 1885-1955</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 8 items.</p> <p>Consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Annual Report: Church Home for Children</i>, 1917</li> <li>• Citrus Fair of San Gabriel Valley [program], 1885</li> <li>• "Enjoy the Advantages of the Pasadena Savings &amp; Loan Association" [booklet], undated</li> <li>• <i>Guide to San Rafael Area, Pasadena</i> (San Rafael P.T.A.) 1955</li> <li>• "Horace Dobbins and the One-Week Tollway" [historical booklet, undated]</li> <li>• <i>Pasadena Pioneer Pictorial: An Album of Early Day Pasadena and Environs</i> (Mountain View Mausoleum Association), 1954</li> <li>• Queen Victoria Memorial Service Address ... Rt. Rev. J. Horsfall Johnson ... Church of the Angels, February 3, 1901 [program]</li> <li>• Valley of Hahamog-na: Pasadena Through Two Centuries (Pasadena Savings and Loan Association), 1952</li> <li>• Vista del Arroyo Hotel and Bungalows [promotional booklet], 1939</li> </ul>
Folder 10	<p><b>Postcards and ephemera.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 12 items.</p> <p>Chiefly miscellaneous clippings related to the history of the San Rafael area.</p>
Folder 11	<p><b>Periodicals.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 2 items.</p> <p>Two single issues: <i>California Illustrated Magazine</i> (August 1892) and <i>Pacific Monthly</i> (February 1906).</p>
Folder 12	<p><b>Newspapers with articles about history of the area. 1955-1968</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 7 items.</p>
Box 5	<p><b>Photographs.</b></p>
Folder 1	<p><b>[Reproduction of photograph of men in uniform climbing Eagle Rock.]</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 2	<p><b>[Reproduction of photograph of the Garvanza Hotel.] Approximately 1880s</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 3	<p><b>Miscellaneous photographs - [Garvanza].</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 6 items.</p> <p>Includes two photographs of floral parade carriages; two photographs of a street, including one with men digging; and two photographs of the Church of the Angels.</p>
Folder 4	<p><b>Photograph of the Mt. Lowe Railway Car, Echo Mountain [card photograph]. [Approximately 1900?].</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>
Folder 5	<p><b>[Photographs of the Great Cable Incline, Mt. Lowe Railway and Golden Gate and Fort Point.] 1898.</b></p> <p><b>Physical Description:</b> 1 item.</p>

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- Folder 6                    **[Photographs of unidentified one-story house, on Arroyo Seco hillside, Pasadena, by C. J. Crandall & Co].**  
   **Physical Description:** 2 items.
- Folder 7                    **Webster's Hotel Dining Room, Pasadena. Christmas 1883. Interior of Websters Hotel Dining Room. [card photograph by T.G. Norton & Co.] 1883.**  
   **Physical Description:** 1 item.
- Folder 8                    **Santa Monica, Beach of Hotel Arcadia [card photograph by J.B. Blanchard]. [Approximately 1890].**  
   **Physical Description:** 1 item.
- Folder 9                    **Photograph of Sierra Madre Villa Hotel [card photograph]. [Late 1880s].**  
   **Physical Description:** 1 item.
- Folder 10                   **Snow Scene on the Sierra Madre's [card photograph by Jarvis]. [Approximately 1890s?].**  
   **Physical Description:** 1 item.
- Folder 11                   **Miscellaneous photographs: chiefly copy prints of historic views of Downtown Los Angeles.**  
   **Physical Description:** 11 items.
- Folder 12                   **Photograph of landscape with bridge over the Arroyo Seco, windmill, Pasadena hills and San Gabriel Mountains in background, in frame. [Approximately early 1900s?].**  
   **Physical Description:** 1 item.
- Folder 13                   **Damaged card photograph of house. [Approximately early 1900s?].**  
   **Physical Description:** 1 item.