
John W. Hudson papers

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2021

Descriptive Summary

Title: John W. Hudson papers

Dates: 1848-1977

Collection Number: Consult repository.

Creator/Collector: Hudson, John W., 1857-1936.

Extent: 11 boxes

Repository: Sonoma State University Library

Rohnert Park, California 94928

Abstract: This collection is comprised primarily of reproductive copies of correspondence, memorandums, field notes, catalogues, and annotations of Dr. John Wiz Napier Hudson, Ethnology Researcher. The original documents for much of this collection are found in the Grace Hudson Museum in Ukiah, California. Related research performed by students in the Sonoma State University Department of Anthropology complement this collection.

Language of Material: English

Access

Collection is open for research by appointment.

Publication Rights

The library can only claim physical ownership of the collection. Users are responsible for satisfying any claimants of literary property.

Preferred Citation

John W. Hudson papers. Sonoma State University Library

Biography/Administrative History

John W. Hudson was born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee. After attending medical school, he practiced medicine for a few years and developed an interest in archaeology. In 1889, Dr. Hudson moved to California where he studied native people of Mendocino County, giving up his medical practice. After marrying Grace Carpenter Hudson, a painter, Hudson spent the remainder of his life working as an ethnographer and collector, conducting extensive research among the Potter Valley Pomo Indians for the Columbian Field Museum of Chicago from 1890 to the 1920's. Hudson explored other tribes, such as the Yokeya, Yokaia, Mono, Kawia, Mariposa, Hupa, Nicinan Maidu, Wintun, and Waco. Items collected by Hudson, including baskets and other artifacts, reside in the Smithsonian Institution, the Field Museum in Chicago, and the Grace Hudson Museum in Ukiah, California.

Scope and Content of Collection

This collection contains copies of correspondence, memorandums, field notes, catalogues, general notes. The notes are primarily ethnobotanical and linguistic on regional indigenous tribes regarding their basketry, fishing, tools, childbirth, ceremonies, plants and animals, etc. The materials are organized in a total of 11 boxes.

Indexing Terms

Pomo Indians -- California -- Mendocino County -- Ethnobotany.

Ethnobotany -- California -- Mendocino County.

Pomo baskets.

Pomo food.

Pomo Indians -- History.

Potter Valley (Calif.) -- History.

Hudson, John Wilz Napier, 1857-1936.

Hudson, Grace Carpenter, 1865-1937.

Potter Valley (Calif.)

Mendocino County (Calif.)

Ethnographer.

[John W. Hudson Inventory](#)
