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## Inventory of the Pioneer Reduction Company Records

Sara Gunasekara

Processing of this collection was funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and administered by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR), Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives program.

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**Creator:** Pioneer Reduction Company

**Title:** Pioneer Reduction Company Records

**Date (inclusive):** 1892-1935

**Extent:** 0.8 linear feet

**Abstract:** The Pioneer Reduction Company processed gold ore in Nevada City, California. The collection contains organizational records (by-laws, check stubs, bullion book, and stock certificate register) as well as correspondence regarding the plant's operation.

**Physical location:** Researchers should contact Special Collections to request collections, as many are stored offsite.

**Repository:** University of California, Davis. General Library. Dept. of Special Collections.

Davis, California 95616-5292

**Collection number:** D-559

**Language of Material:** Collection materials in English.

#### **History**

Benjamin Hall was born near Manchester, England on May 28, 1867 to Robert and Rachel (Sykes) Hall. He arrived in Nevada City, California in April 1880. He began his career as a mechanical engineer in a quartz mill in Calaveras County. In 1892, with Joe Northey, Northey's son, and William Black, he purchased the Maltman Reduction Works, a plant established in 1858 in Nevada City. In 1893, they incorporated it as the Pioneer Reduction Company. Hall served as President.

Hall also owned a reduction plant in Unionville, Nevada.

He passed away on March 31, 1956.

Source:

Lardner, W. B. (William B.) *History of Placer and Nevada Counties California: with biographical sketches of the leading men and women of the counties who have been identified with their growth and development from the early days to the present*. Los Angeles: Historic Record Co., 1924.

#### **Scope and Content**

The collection contains organizational records (by-laws, check stubs, bullion book, and stock certificate register) as well as correspondence regarding the plant's operation.

#### **Arrangement of the Collection**

The collection is arranged in two series: Organizational Records and Correspondence.

#### **Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Pioneer Reduction Company--Archives

Hall, Benjamin--Correspondence

Mines and mineral resources--California--Nevada County

Mineralogy--California--Nevada County

Gold mines and mining--California--Nevada County

Nevada County (Calif.)--History

Uncovering California's Environmental Collections Project

#### **Access**

Collection is open for research.

#### **Processing Information**

Processing of the Pioneer Reduction Company Records was generously funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and administered by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR). UC Davis Special Collections was awarded a Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives grant from 2010-2012, "Uncovering California's Environmental Collections," in collaboration with eight additional special collections and archival repositories throughout the state and the California Digital Library (CDL). Grant objectives included processing hidden collections related to the state's environment and environmental history. The collections document an array of important sub-topics such as irrigation, mining, forestry, agriculture, industry, land use, activism, and research. Together they form a multifaceted picture of the natural world and the way it was probed, altered, exploited and protected in California over the twentieth century. Finding aids are made available through the Online Archive of California (OAC).

Sara Gunasekara processed this collection with assistance from student employee Michelle Xie.

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**Acquisition Information**

Extracted from D-016, Mining Records Collection in 2013.

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Pioneer Reduction Company Records, D-559, Department of Special Collections, General Library, University of California, Davis.

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**Series 1. Organizational Records 1892-1935**

**Physical Description:** 8 folders

**Scope and Content Note**

Arranged chronologically.

Box 1:1  
Box D Folio 2  
Box 1:2  
Box 1:3  
Box 2:1  
Box 1:4  
Box 2:2  
Box 2:3-4

**Clean Up and Bullion Book 1892-1904****Certificate from the California Secretary of State 1893 June 13****By-Laws 1893 July 10****Stock certificate register 1893-1935****Receipts 1898-1925****Check stubs 1912 September 10-1913 August 4****Letterhead undated****Notes and ephemera undated****Series 2. Correspondence 1898-1930**

**Physical Description:** 111 letters

**Scope and Content Note**

Arranged in three subseries: Outgoing, Incoming, and Third Party.

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**Subseries 2.1 Outgoing 1916-1926**

**Physical Description:** 8 letters

**Scope and Content Note**

Contains letters written by Benjamin Hall on behalf of Pioneer Reduction Company.  
Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

Box 2:5  
Box 2:6  
Box 2:7  
Box 2:8  
Box 2:9  
Box 2:10  
Box 2:11  
Box 2:12

**Ballue, Albert 1924 September 19****B.K.H Company 1917 September 3****Griffith, N.H. 1917 August 16****Leonard, M.A. 1926 July 6****Navajo Copper Mining Co. 1916 October 25****Red Ledge 1920 September 20****Universal Silver undated****Unidentified undated**

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Subseries 2.2 **Incoming 1898-1930**

**Physical Description:** 100 letters

**Scope and Content Note**

Arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

A number of the letters from Albert Ballue discuss the operations of Hall's plant in Unionville, Nevada.

Box 2:13	<b>Edward P. Allis Company 1898 March 29</b>
Box 2:14	<b>Alpha Hardware and Supply Co. 1917 February 6</b>
Box 2:15	<b>Amador County Lime Kiln 1913 December 28</b>
Box 2:16	<b>American Concrete Filler Co. 1916 October</b>
Box 2:17	<b>American Spiral Pipe Works 1906 October 31</b>
Box 2:18	<b>Atkins, Kroll and Co. 1917 February 2</b>
Box 2:19	<b>Bagdad-Chase Gold Mining Company undated</b>
Box 2:20	<b>Baker Iron Works 1906 April 24</b>
Box 2:21	<b>Ballue, Albert 1923 June 7</b>
Box 2:22	<b>Ballue, Albert 1923 June 17</b>
Box 2:23	<b>Ballue, Albert 1923 August 23</b>
Box 2:24	<b>Ballue, Albert 1923 September 11</b>
Box 2:25	<b>Ballue, Albert 1923 September 24</b>
Box 2:26	<b>Ballue, Albert 1924 January 12</b>
Box 2:27	<b>Ballue, Albert 1924 April 25</b>
Box 2:28	<b>Ballue, Albert 1924 June 1</b>
Box 2:29	<b>Ballue, Albert 1924 July 23</b>
Box 2:30	<b>Ballue, Albert 1924 August 4</b>
Box 2:31	<b>Ballue, Albert 1924 October 15</b>
Box 2:32	<b>Ballue, Albert 1925 January 24</b>
Box 2:33	<b>Ballue, Albert 1925 February 24</b>
Box 2:34	<b>Ballue, Albert 1925 April 23</b>
Box 2:35	<b>Ballue, Albert 1925 May 7</b>
Box 2:36	<b>Ballue, Albert 1925 May 16</b>
Box 2:37	<b>Ballue, Albert 1925 May 31</b>
Box 2:38	<b>Ballue, Albert 1925 June 21</b>
Box 2:39	<b>Ballue, Albert 1925 October 23</b>
Box 2:40	<b>Ballue, Albert 1926 February 21</b>
Box 2:41	<b>Ballue, Albert 1926 April 9</b>
Box 2:42	<b>Ballue, Albert undated</b>
Box 2:43	<b>Black, J.A. 1905 August 22</b>
Box 2:44	<b>Braun-Knecht-Heimann Co. 1914 September 7</b>
Box 2:45	<b>Braun-Knecht-Heimann Co. 1917 January 26</b>
Box 2:46	<b>Braun-Knecht-Heimann Co. 1917 February 5</b>
Box 2:47	<b>Broderick, W.H. 1917 January 15</b>
Box 2:48	<b>Bruman, A. 1899 July 21</b>
Box 2:49	<b>Cahill and Hall Elevator Co. 1899 January 2</b>
Box 2:50	<b>California Jewell Filter Co. 1917 February 3</b>
Box 2:51	<b>California Slimes Concentrating Co. 1924 August 25</b>
Box 2:52	<b>Coalinga Oil Company 1899 June 17</b>
Box 2:53	<b>Coalinga Oil Company 1899 July 4</b>
Box 2:54	<b>Connolly, T.E. 1926 July 23</b>
Box 2:55	<b>Darrow, Frank M. 1923 October 17</b>
Box 2:56	<b>Davis, E. 1923 August 1</b>
Box 2:57	<b>Joseph Dixon Crucible Company 1917 July 24</b>
Box 2:58	<b>Eagle Salt Works 1904 August 15</b>
Box 2:59	<b>Empire Mines 1911 January 14</b>
Box 2:60	<b>F.W. Braun Co. 1904 February 24</b>
Box 2:61	<b>Flotation Oil and Chemical Co. 1917 October 25</b>
Box 2:62	<b>Griffith, H.H. 1917 July 27</b>

Box 2:63	<b>Hug Water Wheel Co. 1906 October 30</b>
Box 2:64	<b>Jackson, Francis Gordon 1907 December 23</b>
Box 2:65	<b>Jardine Machinery Company 1914 April 18</b>
Box 2:66	<b>Justinian Caire Company 1909 November 12</b>
Box 2:67	<b>Kinney Coal Company 1924 July 28</b>
Box 2:68	<b>W. Stokes Kirk 1905 March 8</b>
Box 2:69	<b>A. Klipstein and Company 1918 August 21</b>
Box 2:70	<b>Lane, T.M. 1920 August 28</b>
Box 2:71	<b>Leonard, M.A. 1926 July 1</b>
Box 2:72	<b>Leonard, M.A. 1926 July 12</b>
Box 2:73	<b>Leonard, M.A. 1926 July 12</b>
Box 2:74	<b>Leonard, M.A. 1926 July 22</b>
Box 2:75	<b>Leonard, M.A. 1927 April 5</b>
Box 2:76	<b>Leonard, M.A. 1927 April 15</b>
Box 2:77	<b>Leonard, M.A. 1928 February 14</b>
Box 2:78	<b>Leonard, M.A. 1928 March 17</b>
Box 2:79	<b>Linde Air Products Company 1915 December 14</b>
Box 2:80	<b>McFarland, W.K. 1925 June 29</b>
Box 2:81	<b>McNeel's Financial Service 1923 November 10</b>
Box 2:82	<b>Monarch Engineering and Manufacturing Co. 1910 January 10</b>
Box 2:83	<b>Navajo Copper Mining Co. 1916 October 16</b>
Box 2:84	<b>Neville and Co. 1905 May 4</b>
Box 2:85	<b>Pacific Gas and Electric Company 1921 April 15</b>
Box 2:86	<b>Penn Mining Co. 1900 March 5</b>
Box 2:87	<b>Platt Iron Works Co. 1906 August 3</b>
Box 2:88	<b>Power and Mining Machinery Company 1905 December 29</b>
Box 2:89	<b>Prinz and Rau Manufacturing Co. 1904 January 11</b>
Box 2:90	<b>Red Ledge 1920 September 23</b>
Box 2:91	<b>Richmond Chemical Company 1917 February 13</b>
Box 2:92	<b>Ross, John 1921 September 22</b>
Box 2:93	<b>Southwest Turquoise Co. 1914 August 27</b>
Box 2:94	<b>Squaw Creek Mining Co. 1906 March 15</b>
Box 2:95	<b>State Compensation Insurance Fund, State of California 1914 February 9</b>
Box 2:96	<b>State Compensation Insurance Fund, State of California 1917 August 11</b>
Box 2:97	<b>State Compensation Insurance Fund, State of California 1917 November 9</b>
Box 2:98	<b>State Compensation Insurance Fund, State of California 1917</b>
Box 2:99	<b>Syracuse Smelting Works 1914 August 13</b>
Box 2:100	<b>Talcott, F. 1927 January 12</b>
Box 2:101	<b>Tenabo Mill and Mining Co. 1914 July 27</b>
Box 2:102	<b>W.S. Tyler Company 1913 August 30</b>
Box 2:103	<b>Universal Silvers Company 1923 February 22</b>
Box 2:104	<b>Victor Steel Company 1914 July 8</b>
Box 2:105	<b>Western Masons' Mutual Life Association 1900 August 29</b>
Box 2:106	<b>Unidentified 1922 August 31</b>
Box 2:107	<b>Unidentified 1922 October 5</b>
Box 2:108	<b>Unidentified 1922 October 21</b>
Box 2:109	<b>Unidentified 1923 March 8</b>
Box 2:110	<b>Unidentified 1923 June 9</b>
Box 2:111	<b>Unidentified 1930 January 20</b>
Box 2:112	<b>Unidentified undated</b>

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Subseries 2.3 **Third Party 1924-1926**

**Physical Description:** 3 letters

**Scope and Content Note**

Three letters that are written to Albert Ballue regarding Hall's plant in Unionville, Nevada.  
Arranged alphabetically by author.

Box 2:113

**B.M. Machinery Manufacturing Co. to Albert Ballue 1926 March 9**

Box 2:114

**Curtis Machinery Company to Albert Ballue 1925 June 2**

Box 2:115

**Gillett, George to Albert Ballue 1924 October 8**