Walter Millsap papers

Descriptive Summary

Title: Walter Millsap papers

Date (inclusive): circa 1860-1997, undated
Date (bulk): 1915-1980

Collection Number: MS 157

Creator: Millsap, Walter, 1886-1971

Extent: 9.67 Linear Feet (17 boxes)

Repository: Rivera Library. Special Collections Department.

Riverside, CA 92517-5900

Abstract: The Walter Millsap papers contains professional and personal correspondence, contracts, financial documents, publications by Millsap, audiovisual materials, newspaper clippings, and other material regarding Walter Millsap and the Llano Del Rio colony, a utopian society created by Job Harriman that was utilized from 1916-1919. Materials also document the community activism and inventions of Millsap. Topics covered by the collection include philosophical thoughts and theories, patent forms and daily activities in the Llano community.

Languages: The collection is in English.

Access

This collection is unprocessed. Please contact Special Collections & University Archives regarding the availability of materials for research use.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

[identification of item], [date if possible]. Walter Millsap papers (MS 157). Special Collections & University Archives, University of California, Riverside.

Acquisition Information

The Walter Millap papers were acquired as a gift in 2015.

Biographical Note

Walter Millsap was an active member of the Llano Del Rio colony from 1916 to 1919. This cooperative settlement was formed in 1914 by Job Harriman, a lawyer and politician from Los Angeles to provide an economic foundation to the ideas of socialism. Harriman appointed Walter Millsap as head of the Llano Co-Operative Association in 1916. In 1917, the colony experienced a major shortage in water; small rainfall, an insufficient reservoir, and limited rights to water from Big Rock Creek forced the colony to abandon the site and find a different location elsewhere. The colony relocated to Stables, Louisiana in 1917 and renamed the colony “New Llano”. When Job Harriman died in 1925 in California, George Pickett stepped in to lead Newlano until it declared bankruptcy in 1936 and fell apart completely by 1938.

Collection Scope and Contents

This collection contains correspondence, documents, writings, and other material pertaining to American Socialist Walter Millsap. Materials document Millsap's professional life and personal interests covering a wide range of topics that include philosophical thoughts and theories, inventions, and expansion of the Llano colony. A substantial amount of both professional and personal correspondence is present in the collection between Millsap and governmental entities, professional colleagues, business industries, and friends. Of additional significance are numerous publications and articles pertaining to cooperative colonies, Millsap's personal life, photographs documenting the Llano colony, and various audiovisual materials relating to the Llano Del Rio colony and Walter Millsap. Lastly, there is select material documenting Millsaps inventions through contracts and financial documents, pamphlets and booklets regarding utopian colonies, books owned by Millsap, and maps of California.

Indexing Terms

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

Subjects
Llano Colony (Secular community)
Socialism

**Genres and Forms of Materials**
Audiovisual materials
Clippings (information artifacts)
Correspondence
Publications