Preliminary Guide to the Wilbur R. Jacobs Papers

Preliminary arrangement and description by Special Collections staff; latest revision J. Mundy, Jan. 5, 2008, and D. Tambo, Jan. 12, 2009.

Department of Special Collections
Davidson Library
University of California, Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
Phone: (805) 893-3062
Fax: (805) 893-5749
Email: special@library.ucsb.edu
URL: http://www.library.ucsb.edu/special-collections/
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Wilbur R. Jacobs Papers
Dates: 1919-1998
Collection number: UArch FacP 16
Creator: Jacobs, Wilbur R.
Collection Size: 14 linear feet (3 records cartons, 26 document boxes, and 1 audiotape).
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Dept. of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
Abstract: The collection includes newspapers, writings, monographs, articles, book reviews, foreign language works, lectures, and letters to editors.
Physical location: SRLF (Boxes 1-29); Annex 2 (audiotape).
Languages: English
Access Restrictions
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Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
Wilbur R. Jacobs Papers. UArch FacP 16. Department of Special Collections, Davidson Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.
Acquisition Information
Multiple donations by Wilbur Jacobs and his widow, Priscilla Jacobs, ca. 1960s-2004.
Biography
Wilbur R. Jacobs was born on June 30, 1918, in Chicago, Illinois. He graduated from UCLA in 1940 then received a MA in history with honors from UCLA in 1942. In 1941, he entered the Army Air Forces, and was discharged from the service in late 1945. Jacobs returned to UCLA for a PhD in history in 1947. He was a member of the history department faculty at Stanford University, 1947-1949, during which time he also taught at Indian University, in the summer of 1948. In 1949, Jacobs accepted a teaching position at University of California, Santa Barbara College. He was a founding member of the faculty of the History Department at UCSB and an internationally recognized scholar in the fields of American Indian [Native American] history, environmental history, U.S. colonial history, and the West/westward expansion, including examination of the work of Francis Parkman and Frederick Jackson Turner. He was the recipient of numerous awards, including the Western History Association's Award of Merit. He was also the president of several scholarly organizations: the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association (1977), the American Society for Environmental History (1979-1980), and the...

For more information, see the Office of Public Information Biographical Files (UArch 11).

Scope and Content of Collection

Acronyms:
WRJ = Wilbur R. Jacobs

Arrangement

The collection primarily contains material relating to Wilbur R. Jacobs' research, teaching, and writing. It is divided into the following series:

**Bio / Personal.** Includes bio-bib submissions for several years, vitae, Who's Who in America entries, college papers and diplomas, and trip files. Boxes 1-2.

**Correspondence - Notable.** Includes letters from historians such as John Higham and Samuel Eliot Morison. Box 3.

**Correspondence - General.** Incoming/outgoing, with colleagues, publishers, and former students and acquaintances seeking letters of support for various projects and positions. Arranged by year. 1937-1998. Boxes 3-11.

**Isla Vista Disturbances, 1970.** Mainly issues of newspapers such as *El Gaucho*, *Isla Vista Viewpoint*, and *UCSB Daily Nexus*. Box 12.


**Research/Subject Files.** Major areas include American Indians, environmental issues, Francis Parkman, Frederick Jackson Turner, and the West/Westward Movement. Boxes 13-20.


**UCSB.** Includes files relating to Academic Senate, History Department, teaching, and PhD students. Box 22.

**Writings**


Shorter Works. Mainly typescript drafts and print copies, including offprints. Boxes 27-29: Articles [also chapters in larger works, essays, talks, and papers presented at conferences]; Book Reviews; Lectures; Letters to Editors

**Photographs** (mostly used as illustrations in writings). Box 29.

Negatives

Slides


Indexing Terms

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

Jacobs, Wilbur R.

University of California, Santa Barbara. Dept. of History

Turner, Frederick Jackson, 1861-1932.

Native Americans

United States -- Territorial expansion.

Related Material

Items donated by WRJ but separate from this collection:

**Hockett [Homer C.] Papers, ca. 1902-1903.** Includes course notes for Frederick Jackson Turner's "History of the West" course, when Hockett was an assistant to Turner. Wyles Mss 73.

**Parkman [Francis] Collection, ca. 1857-1894.** 13 ALS by Parkman, historian and author of *The Oregon Trail*, to various addressees, one genealogy of Parkman, two pamphlets on Parkman and two miscellaneous pamphlets. Wyles SC 166.

**Soper Family Papers, ca. 1862-1942.** Correspondence, clippings, notebook, photographs, and picture postcards pertaining to the Soper family, who settled in Alhambra, California during the early 1880s. Also includes Civil War letters from Charles H. Soper, and essays and stories by Catharine, his daughter, about the area, its scenery and gardens, animal rights, and vegetarianism. Also, research notes about the Soper family, compiled by the donor Wilbur R. Jacobs (UCSB History professor) in the early 1940s. The subject matter mainly concerns
emigration to and life in southern California in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Wyles Mss 13.

Bio / Personal

Box 1 General Biographical info, incl. vitae, Who's Who in America entries, clippings
Box 1 Bio-bib submissions
Box 1 College Paper – “Indian Presents and the Westward Movement during the Period of the French and Indian War,” History 199, UCLA, 1940
Box 1 Diplomas – BA, UCLA, 1940; MA in history, UCLA, 1942
Box 2 Grant Applications
Box 2 PhD dissertation – “Presents to Indians Along the Ohio and Northwest Frontiers, 1748-1765,” UCLA, 1947
Box 2 Santa Barbara College – appointment as Acting Dean of Men, 1952
Trips
Box 2 Yugoslavia, 1965
Box 2 Trip around the World [incl. Australia] - travel diary and notebook, ca. 1968-1969

Correspondence – Notable

Box 3 Caughey, John, 1965
Box 3 Gates, Paul W., 1965
Box 3 Groebner, Norman, 1965
Box 3 Higham, John, 1965
Box 3 Morison, Samuel Eliot, 1964
Box 3 Pomeroy, Earl, 1965
Box 3 Tolles, Frederick B., 1965
Box 3 Winther, Oscar O., 1965

Correspondence – General

Scope and Content Note
Incoming/Outgoing. Includes correspondence (and related materials) with colleagues, publishers, and former students and acquaintances seeking letters of support for various projects and positions.

Box 3 1937, 1942-1943 (incoming only)
Box 4 1947-1958, 1960-1964
Box 5 1965-1981
Box 6 1982-1988
Box 7 1989-1991
Box 8 1991-1992
Box 9 1992-1993
Box 10 1993-1995
Box 11 1995-1998

Isla Vista Disturbances 1970

Box 12 Mainly issues of newspapers such as El Gaucho, Isla Vista Viewpoint, and UCSB Daily Nexus

Professional Organizations

Box 13 Mississippi Valley Historical Association – Report of the Committee to Study the Relationship between the Association and the Secondary Schools, 1958
Box 13 Western History Association - includes files relating to Council meetings, American West Publishing Company (America West a publication of the WHA), and session proposals, 1963-1966, 1992
### Research/Subject Files

Scope and Content Note
Includes notes, bibliographies, copies of articles, copies and excerpts from writings by WRJ, some correspondence, and other related research materials

| Box 13  | American Indians |
| Box 14  | Animal Rights   |
| Box 14  | Australia - Aborigine |
| Box 14  | Billington, Ray A. |
| Box 14  | Environmental Issues |
| Box 14  | Muir, John      |
| Box 14  | Nevins, Allan   |
| Box 15  | Oregon Trail    |
| Box 15  | Parkman, Francis |
| Box 15  | Population      |
| Box 15  | Sauer, Carl     |
| Box 16-19 | Turner, Frederick Jackson |
| Box 20  | West / Westward Movement |
| Box 20-21 | University of California - Academic Assistant, ca. 1964-1965 |
| UCSB    |                    |
| Box 22  | Academic Senate, ca. 1954-1958 |
| Box 22  | History Classes  |
| Box 22  | History Department |
| Box 22  | Ph.D. Students   |
| Box 23  | Writings        |

### Monographs

Scope and Content Note
Mainly typescript drafts, some reviews

| Box 23  | The American Past and Present, a 'New History' |
| Box 23  | America's Great Frontiers and Sections: Frederick Jackson Turner's Unpublished Essays - edited, with introduction, by WRJ |
| Box 23  | Benjamin Franklin: Statesman - Philosopher or Materialist? - edited by WRJ |
| Box 23  | [Colonial America] - Textbook |
| Box 23  | Environmental Themes in American Frontier History |
| Box 23-24 | The Fatal Confrontation: Historical Studies of American Indians, Environment, and Historians |
| Box 24-25 | Francis Parkman, Historian as Hero: The Formative Years |
| Box 25  | The Garden in Jeopardy |
| Box 25-26 | The Historical World of Frederick Jackson Turner |
| Box 26  | The Impact of Frederick Jackson Turner: Changing Views and Interpretations |
| Box 26  | Indians of the Southern Colonial Frontier: The Edmund Atkin Report and Plan of 1755 - edited and intro by WRJ |
| Box 26  | Memories of Historians |
| Box 26  | On the Trail of Debris: Environmental Themes in American Frontier History |
| Box 26  | On Turner's Trail: 100 Years of Writing Western History |
| Box 26  | One Person's Planet: Overpopulation and Its Environmental Impact on Indians, the American Frontier and Global Peoples |
| Box 26  | Reflections on Columbus and Indian History |
| Box 27  | Too Many People: Environmental Perspectives on American Indians, Frontiers, and Population |
| Box 27  | Trails toward Teaching and Telling Indian History |
Shorter Works

Scope and Content Note
Incl. articles, book reviews, contributions to larger works, forewords, letters to editors, etc.

Articles

Scope and Content Note
Also chapters in larger works, essays, talks, papers presented at conferences; includes typescript drafts (some edited), print copies, and offprints.

Box 27
"After the Revolution: The Politics and Anti-Politics of the New Western History"
"American Indian and Environmental History," CSLA, June 29, 1994
"American Indian Legacy of Freedom and Liberty"
"British-Colonial Attitudes and Policies Toward the Indian in the American Colonies"
"British Indian Policies to 1785"
"Cadwallader Colden’s Noble Iroquois Savages"
"Centuries of Resistance: Viewpoints on Indian History, Columbus, and Ghosts of the Black Legend"
"Clark Wissler, Sept. 18, 1870-Aug. 25, 1947"
"Colonial Origins of the American Spirit of Freedom"
"Colonial Origins of the United States: The Turnerean View"
"Comment on J. A. Hijiy's 'Why the West Was Lost'"
"Comment upon Mining Impact Papers: Colorado Mining and Dredge Mining"
"Commentary on the West in the Twenty-First Century"
"The Crucible of Experience: The Office of Governor in California"
"Descanosora: A Note on Cadwallader Colden's Concept of the Iroquois"
"The Destructive Impact of the Fur Trade in American History"
"Dictionary of American Biography" - biographies for several historians
"The Displacement of Indian People from Their Environmental Homelands"

Box 27
[Documents] - lists of suggested documents for unknown work
"Ecology and the American Indians"
Encyclopaedia Britannica - articles on several individuals and subjects
"Francis Parkman and Frederick Jackson Turner Remembered"
"Francis Parkman - As an Undercover Environmentalist"
"Francis Parkman, Hero as Historian" - speech
"Francis Parkman - Naturalist-Environmentalist"
"Francis Parkman's Oration 'Romance in America'"
"Frederick Jackson Turner"
"The Frederick Jackson Turner Papers in the Huntington Library"
"Frederick Jackson Turner Remembered"
"Frederick Jackson Turner's Frontier Theory in History and Politics, or How to Explain American History with a Theory"
"Frederick Jackson Turner's Notes on the Westward Movement, California, and the Far West"
"Frederick Jackson Turner's Views on International Politics"
"The Frontier in Retrospect"
"Frontiersmen, Fur Traders, and Other Varmints: An Ecological Appraisal of the Frontier in American History"
"The Great Despoliation: Environmental Themes in American Frontier History"
Handbook of North American Indians - contributor
HEH [Huntington Library] talk, Jan. 22, 1992
"Henry Chatillon"
"Highlights of Parkman's Formative Period"
"A Historian's View of Writing and Researching Peace History"
"Historical Themes and Museum Exhibits"
Writings
Shorter Works

Box 28
"Historiography as Intellectual History: The Case of Frederick Jackson Turner"

Box 28
"History and Propaganda: Soviet Image of the American Past"

Box 28
"If Nixon Goes, What Happens in Foreign Affairs?"

Box 28
"In Memory of Allan Nevins"

Box 28
"The Indian and the Frontier in American History - A Need for Revision"

Box 28
"The Indian Frontier of 1763"

Box 28
"Indian Warrior Strength along the Anglo-French Frontiers in the Old Northwest, 1748-1763"

Box 28
"Indian-White Relations"

Box 28
"Indians as Ecologists and Other Environmental Themes in American Frontier History"

Box 28
"Indians, Whites and Conspiracies in Early American History"

Box 28
"Institutions, Economies, Access, and Tourism: Transforming a Part of the Western Navajo Reservation"

Box 28
"Introduction for Donald Worster"

Box 28
"The Intrusion of White Frontiers into Indian Homelands and the Beginnings of Modern American Environmental History"

Box 28
"John Francis Adams and His Doctor"

Box 28
"Lessons from the Master - Francis Parkman - Historian as Hero of the Early American West"

Box 28
"Looking Back and Forth in Indian History: On the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the UCLA Indian Center"

Box 28
"Looking Backward: A Half-century of Learning about Western History"

Box 28
"Looking Backward on the Trail of Frontier-Western History"

Box 28
"Louis Knott Koontz: Mentor Teacher on the Early West"

Box 28
"Major Historians of America"

Box 28
"Major Problems of the Multi-University: The Faculty View of Twenty-Five Years Progress at the University of California"

Box 28
"Major Writings in American History"

Box 28
"The Many-Sided Frederick Jackson Turner"

Box 28
"A Message to Fort William Henry: An Incident in the French and Indian War"

Box 28
"A More Jealous Mistress: The Scholar as Reviewer"

Box 28
"National Frontiers and Great World Frontiers - And the Shadow of Frederick Jackson Turner"

Box 28
"New Nation in a New World"

Box 28
"The Office of Governor in California"

Box 28
"Parkman, Francis" - Encyclopaedia Britannica

Box 28
"Parkman, Frontier Historian: The Apprenticeship"

Box 28
"Parkman: the Historian as Self-Proclaimed Hero"

Box 28
"Parkman's Secret: Pretend You Are the Heroic Character Battling and Surviving in the Narrative"

Box 28
"The Paxton Riots and the Frontier Theory," edited by WRJ

Box 28
"Peace Research - What Is to be Done? What Is It?"

Box 28
"Perspectives on Scarcity, Population, Ecology, and the American West"

Box 28
"Philip Wayne Powell"

Box 28
"Ponce de Leon: Epic Bio" - motion picture

Box 28
"Population History and Environmental History: Some Unavoidable Encounters"

Box 28
"Prescott, William Hickling" - Encyclopaedia Britannica

Box 28
"Presents to Indians along the French Frontiers in the Old Northwest, 1748-1763"

Box 28
"Profiles on Environmental Stress: Overpopulation's Impact on World Frontiers"

Box 28
"Research in Agricultural History: Frederick Jackson Turner's View in 1922"

Box 28
"Revisiting Revisions on the Indian and the Frontier in American History"

Box 28
"Robert Beverley: Colonial Ecologist and Indian Lover"

Box 28
"Roger Williams and the Historians"

Box 28
"The Role of Military Conflict in American History"

Box 28
"Sherburne F. Cook, Rebel-Revisionist"
| Box 28 | "Should the College Curriculum Include a Great Books or a World Civilization Course?" |
| Box 28 | "Some Characteristics of Modern Democracy" |
| Box 28 | "Some Larger Themes in American History" |
| Box 28 | "Some of Parkman’s Literary Devices" |
| Box 28 | "Some Reflections on Father Junipero Serra’s Indian Policy" |
| Box 28 | "Suggestions for a ‘New Look’ in Frontier History" |
| Box 28 | "The Tip of an Iceberg: Pre-Columbian Indian Demography and Some Implications for Revisionism" |
| Box 28 | "‘Turner, as I Remember Him,’ by Herbert Eugene Bolton" |
| Box 28 | "Turner, Merk, and Billington, and the Real Western History" |
| Box 28 | "Turner’s Frontier in American History" |
| Box 28 | "Turner’s Methodology: Multiple Working Hypotheses or Ruling Theory?" |
| Box 28 | "Two Stories of the American Revolution: The Dividends of Peace Are Neverending" |
| Box 28 | "U.C. versus Academic Freedom and Animal Rights" |
| Box 28 | "Unsavory Sidelights on the Colonial Fur Trade" |
| Box 28 | "Was the Pontiac Uprising a Conspiracy?" |
| Box 28 | "What Are We Going to Do with All of Us: Some Perspectives on Population and Environmental History" |
| Box 28 | "Wider Frontiers – Questions of War and Conflict in American History: The Strange Solution by Frederick Jackson Turner" |
| Box 29 | "Willa Center and Francis Parkman: Novelistic Portrayals of Colonial New France" |
| Box 29 | "Wilson’s First Battle at Princeton: The Chair for Turner" |
| Box 29 | Book Reviews, 1950s-1990s – arranged chronologically |
| Box 29 | Lectures - unknown venues |

**Photographs**

Scope and Content Note

Mainly used as illustrations in writings

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**B/W Negatives**

Box 29

[R.? J Jenkins Indian Pictures Santa Barbara [?] - 8 4x5 negs.

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**B/W Prints**

Box 29

Glen, James - Governor of South Carolina, 1743-1756 [photo of a miniature]

Box 29

Indians - also incl. some related negs.

Box 29

Jacobs, Wilbur R.

Box 29

Turner, Frederick Jackson

**Audio**

Tape No.

A15207/R7

Audiotape - Interview of WRJ on "Dispossessing the American Indian," CBS News, Mar. 6, 1973