**Harris Manufacturing Company**

**Collection number: MSS 312**

Holt-Atherton Department of Special Collections  
University of the Pacific Library  
Stockton, California

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**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Harris Manufacturing Company  
**Dates:** 1890-1995  
**Bulk Dates:** 1902-1941  
**Collection number:** MSS 312  
**Creator:** Harris, George H.  
**Collection Size:** .5 feet  
**Repository:** University of the Pacific. Library. Holt-Atherton Dept. of Special Collections  
Stockton, California 95211

**Abstract:** The collection is comprised of business papers (with equipment specifications and blueprints), newspaper and journal articles, and photographs.

**Physical location:** For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library’s online catalog.

**Languages:** Languages represented in the collection: English

**Access**
Collection open for research.

**Publication Rights**
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**Preferred Citation**
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**Biography / Administrative History**
George H. Harris (1871-1934) lived in Stockton, California and worked for Matteson and Williamson farm equipment company in the 1890s. By 1902 he was superintendent and manager; that same year he started his own company, and in 1904 it was incorporated under the title Harris Manufacturing Company. George Harris was president of the company until 1928, after which he remained major stockholder until his death in 1934.

Harris Manufacturing Company began as a repair shop for harvesting equipment. Repairing, rebuilding, and experimenting with gas engines were the activities of the first few years. Harvesters and combines were produced, and by 1912 plans were made for a new factory because of the increased demand for gas harvesters. The business closed in 1956.

**Scope and Content of Collection**
In the early 20th century, the Central Valley was a leading producer of grain. The Harris collection shows the progression of agricultural harvesting, from horse-drawn machinery to the gas combine harvester. Of special significance are the photos and blueprint of the Side Hill Harvester, a Harris original.

The collection is comprised of business papers, including patents, Articles of Incorporation, Transfer of Ownership, as well as some items on equipment specifications and ledger notes. There are newspaper and journal articles ranging from 1929 to 1995. The more than 50 photographs include views of machinery, buildings, Mr. Harris, staff, and workers.
Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.
Grain - Harvesting machines
Harvesting - California - San Joaquin County

Box 1

Series 1: History

1.1 Journal and newspaper articles (1929 to 1995).

Series 2: Business Papers

1.2 Includes articles of incorporation and Side Hill Harvester patent.

Series 3: Equipment Specifications

1.3 Includes a blueprint of the Side Hill Harvester.

Series 4: Photographs

1.4.1-6: Horse-drawn harvesters
1.5.7-22: Powered harvesters
1.6.23-26: Side Hill harvesters
1.7.27-33: Harris Manufacturing Company staff and factory
1.8.34-45: Harris Manufacturing Company machinery
1.9.46-49: Matteson & Williamson
1.10.50-51: George Harris