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Guide to the Joshua E. Clayton Papers

WA MSS S-1355

by Susie R. Bock

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview 3
Requesting Instructions 3
Administrative Information 3
  Immediate Source of Acquisition 3
  Conditions Governing Access 4
  Conditions Governing Use 4
  Preferred Citation 4
Scope and Contents 4
Collection Contents 6
  Clayton's Reports on Mining Properties, 1864 Sep 10 6
  Other Documents Regarding Mining, 1853 8
  Correspondence, 1867-68 9
  Oversize, 1870 10
  Restricted Fragile Papers 11
Selected Search Terms 12

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
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CALL NUMBER: WA MSS S-1355

CREATOR: Clayton, J. E. (Joshua Elliot)

TITLE: Joshua E. Clayton papers

DATES: 1864–1892

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection consists primarily of Clayton's reports on mines and mining districts in California, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, and Utah. There are also a variety of papers, including correspondence, documenting mining in Montana, Nevada, and Utah.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.clayton

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.clayton.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Most of the Joshua E. Clayton Papers were donated by Charles and Lindley E. Eberstadt in 1959 and 1963. Charles Eberstadt donated the report on the Granite Mountain Lode and Stephens Mining Property (Box 1, folder 39) in 1959 and Lindley donated the other mining reports and the correspondence in 1963. The origin of the other material (primarily the section "Other Documents Regarding Mining") is unknown, except for the 1853 agreement which was donated by Charles and Lindley Eberstadt in 1969.

Conditions Governing Access

Box 4: Restricted fragile material. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Use

The Joshua E. Clayton Papers are the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Joshua E. Clayton Papers. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Scope and Contents

The Joshua E. Clayton Papers document the career of a mining engineer working primarily in the western United States. The collection spans the period 1864-1892, but the bulk of the collection covers Clayton's mining interests during the 1860s and 1870s.

The papers are arranged in three sections. *Clayton's Reports on Mining Properties* contains statements he prepared on various mines and mining districts in California, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, and Utah. *Other Documents Regarding Mining* consists of various agreements, assay certificates, and other papers which Clayton collected. *Correspondence* contains letters written both to and by Clayton as well as other documents directly related to the correspondents.

Clayton's Reports on Mining Properties is arranged chronologically. An attempt has been made to identify the mining district, county, and state for the mine or area described (brackets [] were used in folder titles to identify supplied information). Most of the reports are in the form of letters written in pencil and may represent drafts or copies Clayton made for his files. Generally the reports include the following data: a description of the property's location using geographic features and often naming the district and county; a geological description of the area; a detailed report on the location and direction of the vein, surrounding rock, and any development work (tunnels, etc.); and estimates on the value of the property as well as recommendations for development. The majority of the reports are for mines and districts in Utah.

Other Documents Regarding Mining, arranged chronologically, contains a variety of papers documenting mining in Montana, Nevada, and Utah. All the items for 1865 concern claims in the Union Mining District, Nye County, Nevada. The 1866 file consists of assay certificates issued by Theall & Co., of Austin, Nevada, for samples deposited by Clayton. The 1869 file contains a draft agreement for development work on a mine in the Gold Mountain Mining District, Nye County, and 1872 contains an agreement for the transfer of mining property in White Pine County, Nevada. In 1883 Clayton drafted a prospectus for the Bannack Mining & Reduction Co. Ltd. to mine for a variety of ores in Beaverhead County, Montana. Along with this description of the proposed company and the mineral wealth of the area, there is a contract to sell property in the area to Bannack. The 1883 file also contains Clayton's appointment to the National Mining and Industrial Exposition Association and an article from Salt Lake City's *Daily Tribune* reporting Clayton's idea for a state mining association. In 1884 this idea came to fruition and the Salt Lake Mining Institute was founded with Clayton as its first president and general manager. The collection contains two drafts of his address to the people of Utah describing the purpose of the Institute. Clayton wanted the Institute to establish a museum and library on Utah's mineral resources.

Correspondence, arranged alphabetically by correspondent, also focuses on Clayton's mining career. The collection includes copies of his letters to Samuel B. Martin concerning a mining operation in Silver Peak, Nevada. Clayton, who appears to be the supervisor or manager, describes the hauling and mill machinery and there is a receipt for supplies purchased by Martin for "S.P.& R.M.G.& S.M. Co." Letters from W. B.

Odgen also concern the Silver Peak mine. The collection contains Clayton's correspondence with the secretary of the Original Hidden Treasure Mining Company while he was superintendent in 1870. John R. Park, president of the University of Deseret, exchanged letters with Clayton, as president of the Salt Lake Mining Institute, concerning museum management. Alexander Wakefield's letters and legal papers document his involvement with Clayton in the business side of mining. Other correspondence has been filed in folder 61. Most of the letters refer to mining properties and reports. An 1882 letter from Clayton to Governor Murray reports on his work as Utah's commissioner to the National Mining and Industrial Exhibition.

Oversize material has been filed in Box 3.

Collection Contents
Clayton's Reports on Mining Properties, 1864 Sep 10

b. 1, f. 1	Manning Claim, Bobby Burns Claim (El Dorado County, California)	1864 Sep 10
b. 1, f. 2	Milwaukee Lode, Vanderbilt Lode (Reese River Mining District, Lander County, Nevada)	1865 Jan 20
b. 1, f. 3	North Star Hill Consolidation and Tunneling Company properties (Reese River Mining District, Lander County, Nevada)	1865 Jan 20
b. 1, f. 4	San Francisco Tunnel (Reese River Mining District, Lander County, Nevada)	1865 Feb 10
b. 1, f. 5	Mines of the district (Union Mining District, Nye County, Nevada)	1865 Apr 12
b. 1, f. 6	Amador Mine (Amador Mining District, Lander County, Nevada)	1865 Sep 16
b. 1, f. 7	Northern Star and other lodes (Union Mining District, Nye County, Nevada)	1865 Sep 17
b. 1, f. 8	Virginia Lode (Mariposa County, California)	1865 Sep 28
b. 1, f. 9	Covington Lode, Pullman and Thomas Ground (Reese River Mining District, Lander County, Nevada)	[1865]
b. 1, f. 10	Silver Peak Mining District (Esmeralda County, Nevada)	1866 Jan 14
b. 1, f. 11	Pocotillo Mine (White Pine Mining District, [White Pine County], Nevada)	1871 Dec 20
b. 1, f. 12	Chicago Mine (Ophir Mining District, [Toole County], Utah)	1872 Feb
b. 1, f. 13	North Star Mining District ([Beaver County], Utah)	1872 Mar 8
b. 1, f. 14	Rush Valley Mining District ([Toole County], Utah)	1872 Oct 27
b. 1, f. 15	Alpha Mine (Little Cottonwood Mining District, [Salt Lake County], Utah)	1872 Oct 30
b. 1, f. 16	Ontario Mine (Uintah Mining District, [Wasatch County], Utah)	1872 Nov 11
b. 1, f. 17	Eureka Hill mining locations ([Tintic Mining District, Juba County], Utah)	1873 Apr 18
b. 1, f. 18	Chicago Silver Mining Company smelting works ([Ophir Mining District, Toole County], Utah)	1873 Aug 11
b. 1, f. 19	Last Chance Mine ([West Mountain Mining District, Salt Lake County], Utah)	1873 Sep 7
b. 1, f. 20	Davenport Mine ([Little Cottonwood Mining District, Salt Lake County], Utah)	1874 Feb 21
b. 1, f. 21	Ophir Hill Mines ([Ophir Mining District ?, Toole County, Utah)	1874 Mar 10
b. 1, f. 22	Neptune Mine (West Mountain Mining District, Salt Lake County, Utah)	1874 Mar 19
b. 1, f. 23	Whatcheer Lode ([Salt Lake County ?], Utah)	1874 Mar 19
b. 1, f. 24	Flagstaff Mine (Uintah Mining District, Summit County, Utah)	1874 Apr 25
b. 1, f. 25	Chicago Mine ([Ophir Mining District, Toole County], Utah)	1874 Jun 6
b. 1, f. 26	Balsam Mine (Ophir Mining District, [Toole County], Utah)	1874 Sep 15

b. 1, f. 27	Queen of the West Lode ([Utah County ?], Utah)	1874 Sep 21
b. 1, f. 28	Neptune and Kempton Mine ([West Mountain Mining District, Salt Lake County], Utah)	1874 Nov 27
b. 1, f. 29	Neptune and Kempton Mine (West Mountain Mining District, Salt Lake County, Utah)	1874 Dec 18
b. 1, f. 30	Emma Hill Consolidated Mining Company claims ([Utah])	1875 Oct 15
b. 1, f. 31	Yosemite Mine ([Utah County ?], Utah)	1875 Nov 15
b. 1, f. 32	Superior Mine (Little Cottonwood Mining District, [Salt Lake County], Utah)	1875 Dec 8
b. 1, f. 33	Great Basin Lode, Queen Lode (Rush Valley Mining District, Toole County, Utah)	1879 Jan 26
b. 1, f. 34	Jordan Mine ([West Mountain Mining District, Salt Lake County], Utah)	1880 Jun 16
b. 1, f. 35	Hudson Mining Claim ([Salt Lake County], Utah)	1880 Aug 1
b. 1, f. 36	Morning Star Claim, Victoria Mine (Lander County, Nevada)	1880 Aug 20, n.d.
b. 1, f. 37	Red Elephant Mountain Mines (Colorado)	1880 Sep 10
b. 1, f. 38	Stephens Mining Property (Montana)	1881 May 6
b. 1, f. 38	Granite Mountain Lode (Montana)	1881 Apr 29
b. 2, f. 39	Cave Mine, Carbonate Mine (Beaver County, Utah)	1882 Jun 1
b. 2, f. 40	Rebellion Mine ([Summit County], Utah)	1882 Jun 30
b. 2, f. 41	Lowell Mine (Unitah Mining District, [Wasatch County], Utah)	1883 Dec 31
b. 2, f. 42	Eureka Hill ore deposits ([Tintic Mining District, Juba County], Utah)	1885 Jun 29
b. 2, f. 43	Ontario Mine([Unitah Mining District, Wasatch County], Utah)	1888 Mar
	Mining properties near New Henley (Siskiyou County, California) See: Notebook, Box 1, folder 38.	[1892?]
b. 2, f. 44	Elgin Mine (Big Cottonwood Mining District, [Piute County] Utah)	n.d.

Other Documents Regarding Mining, 1853

b. 2, f. 45	Agreement	1853
b. 2, f. 46	Abstract of title to mining claims, agreements	1865
b. 2, f. 47	Assay certificates	1866
b. 2, f. 48	Agreement	1869
	Assay certificate See: Oversize, Box 3, folder 63	1870
b. 2, f. 49	Agreement, report by W. L. Faber See also: Oversize, Box 3, folder 64	1872
b. 2, f. 50	Assay certificate	1880
b. 2, f. 51	Proposal for mining company, newspaper article, agreement, Clayton's appointment to National Mining and Industrial Exposition Association	1883
b. 2, f. 52	Clayton's address to the People of Utah as president and general manager of Salt Lake Mining Institute	1884
b. 2, f. 53	Assay certificate, envelope	n.d.

Correspondence, 1867-68

b. 2, f. 54	Martin, Samuel B.: letters from Clayton	1867-68
b. 2, f. 55	Martin, Samuel B.: account for S.P.& R.M.G.& S.M. Co.	1867 Aug 31
b. 2, f. 56	Ogden, W. B.: letters to Clayton	1868
b. 2, f. 57	Original Hidden Treasure Mining Company: correspondence with Clayton (superintendent)	1870
b. 2, f. 58	Park, John R.: correspondence with Clayton	1885
b. 2, f. 59	Warfield, Alexander: letters to Clayton	1864-65
b. 2, f. 60	Warfield, Alexander: legal documents	1864
b. 2, f. 61	Other correspondence	1866-82

Oversize, 1870

b. 3, f. 62	Assay certificate	1870
b. 3, f. 63	Report by W. L. Faber	1872

Restricted Fragile Papers

Box 4, *Restricted Fragile Papers*, contains fragile originals. The material is arranged in folder order and may only be seen with the permission of the appropriate curator.

Restricted fragile material. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

b. 4, f. 64	Box 1, folder 30
b. 4, f. 65	Box 2, folder 52

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Mines and mineral resources -- California
Mines and mineral resources -- Colorado
Mines and mineral resources -- Nevada
Mines and mineral resources -- Utah

Geographic Names

Lander County (Nev.)
Salt Lake County (Utah)
Tooele County (Utah)

Occupations

Mining engineers -- Nevada
Mining engineers -- Utah

Names

Clayton, Joshua E. (Joshua Elliot)
Martin, Samuel B.
Ogden, W. B.
Park, John R.
Wakefield, Alexander

Corporate Bodies

National Mining and Industrial Exposition Association
Original Hidden Treasure Mining Company
Salt Lake Mining Institute