

Guide to the California Letters

WA MSS S-1337



Beinecke Staff

October 2023

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: WA MSS S-1337

TITLE: California Letters

DATES: 1849-1885

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.42 linear feet (2 boxes)

LANGUAGE: In English.

SUMMARY: Letters written to friends and family by people in California. Most of the letters are written from mining camps, but some are from San Francisco. The letters describe mining, business enterprises, sea voyages, and trips across the plains.

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

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.californialetters>.

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

Collection of documents acquired by gift and purchase from various sources. Source information is recorded in the finding aid or on the folders. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Access

Boxes 2: Restricted fragile material. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Use

The California Letters is 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

California Letters. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

Finding aid created from previously unpublished list housed with the collection.

Scope and Contents

Letters written to friends and family by people in California. Most of the letters are written from mining camps, but some are from San Francisco. The letters describe mining, business enterprises, sea voyages, and trips across the plains.

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically.

Collection Contents

| | | |
|----------------|---|------|
| b. 1, f. 1 | San Francisco, Brooklyn County, North Fork Upper California | 1849 |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Volcano Bar, Sonora Letter from Joseph R. Anderson purchased from Edward Eberstadt & Sons, 1963. Letter from George Wordsworth gift of Samuel R. Morrill, 1975. | 1850 |
| b. 1, f. 3 | San Francisco, Salmon Falls, Sonora Letter from Isaac Bullock purchased from Craig Rose, 1977. | 1851 |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Coon Hollow, Woods Diggins | 1852 |
| b. 1, f. 5 | Fosters Bar, Morris Ravine, Poor Man's Creek, Napa | 1853 |
| b. 1, f. 6 | Forbestown, Alta California, Whiskey Slide, New York Ranch, Rattlesnake | 1854 |
| b. 1, f. 7 | Don Pedros Bar | 1855 |
| b. 1, f. 8 | Chips Flat | 1856 |
| b. 1, f. 9 | Hopkins Creek, Murphy Gulch | 1857 |
| b. 1, f. 10 | McCabe Creek (Butte County), Brandy City | 1858 |
| b. 1, f. 11 | American Bar, Nevada City | 1859 |
| b. 1, f. 12 | Long Bar | 1861 |
| b. 1, f. 13 | Grass Valley, Cache Creek | 1865 |
| b. 1, f. 14 | San Francisco | 1866 |
| b. 1, f. 15 | Pine Grove | 1867 |
| b. 1, f. 16 | Mountain House | 1868 |
| b. 1, f. 17 | Port Wine | 1869 |
| b. 1, f. 18 | San Francisco | 1885 |
| b. 2, f. 19-20 | Restricted Fragile The Restricted Fragile Papers in Box 2 may only be seen with the permission of the appropriate curator. Preservation photocopies have been substituted for the originals. | |

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

Gold miners -- California
Gold mines and mining -- California
Overland journeys to the Pacific
Overland journeys to the Pacific -- 1849
Voyages to the Pacific coast

Geographic Names

California -- Social life and customs -- 19th century
San Francisco (Calif.)

Occupations

Gold miners -- California -- 19th century