

MS-118

The Museum of Northern Arizona
Harold S. Colton Memorial Library
3101 N. Fort Valley Road
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(928)774-5213 ext. 256

Title

Leslie Spier collection

Dates

1886-1936, predominant 1916-1933

Extent

26 notebooks, 99 photographic images (99 prints, 62 nitrate negatives), 20.8 cm textual material, 1 tobacco sample

Biographical History

Leslie Spier (1893-1961) was an American anthropologist who specialized in the area of ethnography. Spier was born and raised in New York where he received his Bachelor of Science from College of the City of New York in 1915. As an undergraduate student he worked as an Assistant Anthropologist for the New Jersey Archaeological and Geographical Survey. For his graduate work, Spier studied at Columbia University. During this time he worked at the American Museum of Natural History as an Assistant Anthropologist. He received his doctorate in Anthropology in 1920.

Spier spent a large portion of his career engaged in field work with a many diverse American Indian tribes including the Zuni, Havasupai, Kiowa, Wichita, Caddo, Diegueno, Salish, Wishram, Klammath, Maricopa, Okanagon, Mohave and Modoc. His publications based on this field work, including "*Havasupai Ethnography*," are held as the gold standard for thoroughness in the field, and represented advances in anthropological thought and methodology of the time.

Spier is also recognized for his contribution to the area of anthropological publication. He strongly advocated the recording of research for the use of other scholars. This led him to engage in a large amount of editorial work for a number of journals, monograph series and special volumes. Further, Spier himself initiated a number of anthropology publications including: *The Southwestern Journal of Anthropology*, *The University of New Mexico Publications in Anthropology* and *The University of Washington Publications in Anthropology*.

Scope and Content

The collection is comprised mostly of field notes, photographs and publications produced during Spier's work with the Havasupai, Maricopa-Halchidoma, Southern Diegueno and Zuni tribes. Additionally, there are a number of photographs from various other tribes, as well as a series of maps.

System of Arrangement

The material is arranged in the following series:

- Series 1: Havasupai
- Series 2: Maricopa - Halchidoma
- Series 3: Yuman Comparative Study
- Series 4: Southern Diegueno
- Series 5: Zuni
- Series 6: Miscellaneous Tribes
- Series 7: Maps

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection was donated in 1967 by Ana Gayton Spier. Additional material was donated by Dr. Robert Spier in 1978.

Related Archival Material

Spier (Leslie) Papers, 1924-1961, UC Berkley Bancroft Library
Leslie Spier papers, 1920-1939, UC Berkley Bancroft Library

Publication Note

Spier, Leslie (1928). *Havasupai Ethnography*. New York: The American Museum of Natural History.

Description Control

Finding aid written by Lauren Johnson using *DACS*, 15 February 2010

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Title

Series 1: Havasupai

Dates

1918-1932

Extent

17 notebooks, 14.5 cm textual material, 16 photographic images (16 prints)

Scope and Content

Series is comprised of 17 field notebooks from 1918 to 1921, 16 photographic images, Spier's personnel copy of *Havasupai Ethnography* in which he has affixed photos and added notes. Also included are notes, abstracts, and an index of cultural items used in the writing of *Havasupai Tales*, as well as a manuscript of this document. Lastly there are a number of newspaper clippings about the Havasupai Indians.

Series 1: Havasupai				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-118-1-1	Havasupai Field Notebooks	1918-1921	17 notebooks	Box 1.1 to 1.3
MS-118-1-2	Havasupai Photographs	1918	16 prints	Box 1.4
MS-118-1-3	Havasupai Ethnography	1928	4 cm textual	Box 1.5
MS-118-1-4	Havasupai Tales	1928-1932	10 cm textual	Box 2.1 to 2.5
MS-118-1-5	Havasupai Newspaper Clippings	1918-1919	0.5 cm textual	Box 2.6

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Series 2: Maricopa – Halchidoma

Dates

1929-1931

Extent

6 notebooks, 63 photographic images (63 prints, 62 nitrate negatives)

Scope and Content

Series contains 6 field notebooks from 1929 to 1931, and 63 photographic images. Images are of Maricopa and Halchidoma people, houses, sweathouses, pottery, weaving, cradle boards, artifacts, Tonto and Casa Grande ruins, and saguaro cacti.

Series 2: Maricopa-Halchidoma				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-118-2-1	Maricopa-Halchidoma Field Notebooks	1929-1931	6 notebooks	Box 2.7
MS-118-2-2	Maricopa-Halchidoma photographs	1929-1930	63 prints, 62 nitrate negatives	Box 3.1, Nitrate Freezer

Title

Series 3: Yuman Comparative Study

Dates

circa 1934-1936

Extent

6 cm textual material

Scope and Content

Series contains notes and source materials for *Yuman Comparative Studies* as well as a manuscript of this document.

Series 3: Yuman Comparative Study				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-118-3-1	Yuman Comparative Study	circa 1934-1936	6 cm textual	3.2 to 3.4

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Title

Series 4: Southern Diegueno

Dates

1920

Extent

2 notebooks, 4 photographic images (4 prints), 0.3 cm textual, 1 tobacco sample

Scope and Content

This series is comprised of 2 field notebooks 4 photos and a number of hand-drawn maps and a small sample of tobacco which were found inside one of the notebooks.

Series 4: Southern Diegueno				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-118-4-1	Southern Diegueno Field Notebooks	1920	2 notebooks, 0.3 cm textual, 1 tobacco sample	Box 3.5
MS-118-4-2	Southern Diegueno Photographs	1920	4 prints	Box 3.6

Title

Series 5: Zuni

Dates

1916

Extent

1 notebook

Scope and Content

Series is one field notebook from 1916.

Series 5: Zuni				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-118-5-1	Zuni Field Notebook	1916	1 notebook	Box 3.7

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Title

Series 6: Miscellaneous Tribes

Dates

undated, 1918

Extent

16 photographic images (16 prints)

Scope and Content

This series contains 16 photographs of Native Americans from the Papago, Yuma, White Mountain Apache, and Cherokee tribes.

Series 6: Miscellaneous Tribes				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-118-6-1	Miscellaneous Tribes Photographs	1918	16 prints	Box 3.8

Title

Series 7: Maps

Dates

1886-1933

Extent

21 maps

Scope and Content

This series contains 21 maps. Two are hand copied maps: one of Papago Rancherias Past and Present and one of Southern Paiute Country. The remainder are topographic maps including: Camp Mohave (1892); Chino, Arizona; Diamond Creek, Arizona (1892); Echo Cliffs, Arizona (1892); Fort Defiance, Arizona-NM (1892); Holbrook, Arizona (1893); Kaibab, Arizona (1886); Maricopa, Arizona (1915); Mt. Trumball, Arizona (1892); Prescott, Arizona (1887); St Johns, Arizona (1892); Tusayan, Arizona (1886); San Francisco Mt., Arizona (1894); Verde, Arizona (1892); St. Thomas, Nevada (1893); Chaco, New Mexico (1893); Largo, New Mexico (1895); Wingate, New Mexico (1892); Mt. Taylor, New Mexico (1899). Maps include Spier's own notes.

Series 7: Maps				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-118-7-1	Maps	1886-1933	21 maps	MF 1-5

LCSH Access Points

Cherokee Indians

Diegueño Indians
Halchidhoma Indians
Havasupai Indians
Maricopa Indians
Papago Indians
Saguaro
Spier, Leslie, 1893-1961
Theodore Roosevelt Dam (Ariz.)
White Mountain Apache Indians
Yuma Indians
Yuman Indians
Zuni Indians