

## MS-189

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

### **Title**

Samuel W. Woodhouse collection

### **Dates**

1844-1932

### **Extent**

.25 cm textual material, 4 photographic images (4 prints)

### **Biographical History**

Samuel Washington Woodhouse (27 June 1821 - 23 October 1904) was born in Philadelphia to a commodore in the American navy. He was educated at classical and military institutions before going into farming with his brother. His interests eventually changed and he decided to study medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, graduating in 1847. While in school he became fascinated with the natural world; he joined the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (ANSP) and became acquainted with many well-known naturalists. He was specifically interested in ornithology and became a skilled taxidermist.

Woodhouse worked for awhile at various hospitals around Pennsylvania and was eventually appointed naturalist and surgeon of the U.S. Topographical Engineers and was asked to join the 1851 expedition led by Captain Lorenzo Sitgreaves down the Zuni and Colorado rivers. He was the first naturalist to visit Northern Arizona. Woodhouse collected many specimens, including new species of mice and toads, which were later named after him.

Woodhouse's next position was surgeon on the Inter-ocean Canal, Railroad and Mining Company Expedition to Nicaragua and Honduras but was unable to collect ornithological specimens.

Woodhouse spent the rest of his career working as a physician for the Washington Grays regiment and the Eastern Penitentiary of Philadelphia. He continued to be actively involved in ornithological associations until his death.

He married Sarah A. Peck in 1872 and had two children, Samuel W. Woodhouse, Jr., M.D., and Matilda Roberts Woodhouse.

Woodhouse died on 23 October 1904 in Philadelphia.

## MS-189

### Scope and Content

Collection includes 4 photographic prints (copies) of Samuel W. Woodhouse (1844-1854), as well as 2 short biographies from publications, and 2 lithographic plates from publications of expeditions Woodhouse was involved in.

### Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

The collection was given to Harold S. Colton in 1931 by Samuel W. Woodhouse's son, Samuel W. Woodhouse, Jr. (Accession #MS-181/1479).

### Existence and Location of Originals

The original daguerreotype of Woodhouse holding a bird specimen is a part of the Daguerreotype collection at the Library of Congress (DAG no. 1320).

### Related Archival Materials

The National Archives and the Library of Congress both have archival materials relating to Woodhouse; and the Pennsylvania Historical Society has a Samuel W. Woodhouse collection.

### Publication Note

The "Mojave Indians" image by German artist Heinrich Balduin Möllhausen (lithograph by T. Sinclair) appeared in:

Whipple, Amiel Weeks, Thomas Ewbank, and William Wadden Turner. 1855. "Report upon the Indian tribes." (*Route near the thirty-fifth parallel, under the Command of Lieut. A. W. Whipple, Topographical Engineers, in 1853 and 1854.-War Department.-Explorations and surveys for a railroad route from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean.*).

And the "Hesperomys Texana" lithograph appeared in:

Sitgreaves, L. 1853. *Report of an expedition down the Zuni and Colorado rivers.*

### Description Control

Finding aid written by Eileen Hogan using DACS, 27 July 2010

| Samuel W. Woodhouse collection |                  |           |                |               |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|
| File #                         | File Description | Date(s)   | Extent         | Box/Folder    |
| MS-189-1                       | Biography        | 1853-1932 | .25 cm textual | Asst. Box 9.8 |
| MS-189-2                       | Photographs      | 1844-1854 | 4 prints       | Asst. Box 9.9 |

### LCSH Access Points

**MS-189**

Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia  
Ornithology  
Sitgreaves Expedition (1851)  
Woodhouse, S. W. (Samuel Washington), 1821-1904