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

Title

W. W. (Willard Williams) "Nibs" Hill collection

Dates

1898-1909

Extent

.1 in. textual material

Name of Creator(s)

United States, 59th Congress, 1st session, 1905-1906
United States. Office of Indian Affairs

Biographical History

Willard Williams "Nibs" Hill (6 April 1902-21 January 1974) was born in San Francisco, California. Hill was married in 1928 to his wife Dorothy and they had one daughter, Martha.

Hill received his BA in anthropology from the University of California, Berkeley in 1929, gaining archaeological field experience as an undergraduate student at many Californian sites. He also gained experience working with museum collections at the university museum at Berkeley and as Associate Curator at the University of Washington Museum. Hill then received a fellowship at Yale University, ultimately leading to broader ethnographic research interests and his PhD from Yale in 1934 with a dissertation entitled *The Agricultural and Hunting Methods of the Navaho Indians*.

In 1937, Hill joined the Department of Anthropology faculty at the University of New Mexico as Assistant Professor and remained there until his retirement, being promoted to Associate Professor in 1940 and Professor in 1945. He undertook three visiting appointments during his career at UNM: Associate Curator of Ethnology at the U.S. National Museum in 1939, then as Visiting Professor at the University of Washington and Visiting Lecturer in the Department of Social Relations at Harvard University after World War II. During the war, Hill served as the Academic Director of the Navy's V-12 College Training Program at UNM. Hill became the Chair of the UNM Department of Anthropology in 1947, remaining in that capacity until 1968. He retired from the University in 1971.

Throughout his career, Hill published numerous articles and books about his ethnographic research among the Navajo. He was a member and held various officer positions within the American Anthropological Association, as well as other professional organizations. He was a Trustee of the Laboratory of Anthropology in Santa Fe from 1947-1960 and served on the Board of Regents for the Museum of New Mexico from 1959-1971. He was also an Associate Editor

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and contributor to the *New Mexico Anthropologist* until it was discontinued in 1944. Hill then supported its transformation into the *Southwestern Journal of Anthropology* in 1945 and served as an Associate Editor from 1950-1966.

Hill passed away nearly two years after he had suffered a debilitating stroke, which had halted his work on a publication based on extensive ethnographic notes on Santa Clara Pueblo and ended his anthropological career.

Scope and Content

Collection consists of correspondence and printed material concerning the looting of archaeological and cultural sites within Native American territory by relic hunters and non-scientific explorers. Six letters between the Office of Indian Affairs and government agents on the Navajo reservation are included, as well as a printed copy of both the American Antiquities Act of 1906 and the Uniform Rules and Regulations for its enforcement.

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Unpublished and published manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Languages and Scripts of the Materials

English

Custodial History

The materials in this collection were directly given by Dr. W. W. Hill to Dr. Robert C. Euler with other Navaho ethnographic materials that were not donated to the Museum of Northern Arizona.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection materials were donated by Dr. Robert C. Euler in 1975, accession #MS-271.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Related Archival Materials

Museum of Northern Arizona MS-32 Robert C. Euler collection

Researchers may also be able to locate related archival materials through the University of New Mexico University Archives and the National Archives and Records Administration.

Description Control

Finding aid written by Melissa VanOtterloo using *DACS*, 3 October 2012.

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Inventory

Willard Williams "Nibs" Hill collection				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-271-1-1	Correspondence re: looting on Native American reservations and the American Antiquities Act	1898-1909	.1 in. textual material	

LCSH Access Points

Archaeology – Law and legislation
Antiquities, Prehistoric – America
Hill, W. W. (Willard Williams), 1902-1974
Navajo Indian Reservation
United States, 59th Congress, 1st session, 1905-1906
United States. Act for Preservation of American Antiquities
United States. Antiquities Act of 1906
United States. Office of Indian Affairs