

## **MS-147**

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

### **Title**

Natural Bridges National Monument collection

### **Dates**

1908

### **Extent**

0.1 cm textual material

### **Biographical History**

On April 16<sup>th</sup> 1908 President Theodore Roosevelt established an area of Southern Utah's White Canyon as Natural Bridges National Monument. The three natural bridges have been known by a number of names. In 1883 Cass Hite a prospector and presumably one of the first white men to see them, dubbed the bridges "President," "Senator," and "Congressmen." In 1903 the bridges were renamed "Caroline," after a local cattleman's mother, "Augusta," after a mining engineers wife, and "Edwin" after Colonel Edwin F. Holmes. However, after the area became a National Monument, these names were changed again. The U.S. Geographic Board forbade the naming of geographic features after living persons, so it was hoped that the original "Indian" names could be found for the features. The General Land Office even sent out an examiner, William Boone Douglas, to try and seek out any such names. However, after having no luck in this endeavor, the Hopi names "Sipapu," "Kachina," and "Owachomo," were invented for them. These names remain today.

### **Scope and Content**

Collection contains a letter, dated September 2, 1908 to Professor William Henry Holmes, Chief of the Bureau of American Ethnology, from Frank Bond, Chief Clerk and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the United States Geographic Board, regarding the adoption of Hopi names for the three bridges Natural Bridges National Monument.

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### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Collection donated in 1969 by Neil M. Judd

### **Description Control**

Finding aid written by Lauren Johnson using *DACS*, 10 March 2010

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<b>Natural Bridges National Monument collection</b>				
<b>File #</b>	<b>File Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Extent</b>	<b>Box/Folder</b>
MS-147-1	Correspondence	1908	0.1 cm textual	Asst Box 4.3

**LCSH Access Points**

Natural Bridges National Monument (Utah)