

MS-162

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

Title

Peshlakai Etsetti collection

Dates

1937-1991

Extent

1 cm textual material

Biographical History

Peshlakai Etsetti (185?-1939) - sometimes spelled Peshlacai Etsedi, Peshlakai Atsidi, or any variation on these three – was a Navajo leader that was subject to displacement and experienced the loss of his land to the *Pelakana* (colonists) in his later years. In his lengthy battle to reclaim his land, he was befriended by W.R. Johnston, a missionary who felt compelled to defend traditional Navajo land claims in Washington. Deals were made over several years, but most were never acted upon. Days before he passed away, Etsetti urged his friends to continue the battle to have his lands returned to his people.

Scope and Content

Collection contains correspondence, documents, and two magazine articles referring to Peshlakai Etsetti's land claim case. Involved in the matter were H.S. Colton, Director of the Museum of Northern Arizona, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Johnston, Mr. William T. Beaver, and various members of the National Park Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs. The land in question was included in an addition to the Wupatki National Monument on July 9, 1937.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

The bulk of the collection was donated by Harold S. Colton in 1970 (Accession #MS-162). Subsequent accruals were made by Barton Wright in 1972 and Sallie Harris in 1981 and 1991.

Description Control

Finding aid written by Jonathan Pringle using *DACS*, 19 April 2010

Peshlakai Etsetti collection				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-162-1	Land Claim Research Material	1937-1991	1 cm textual	Asst. Box 4.6

LCSH Access Points

Etsetti, Peshlakai

Navajo Indians -- Land tenure

Wupatki National Monument (Ariz.)