

MS-204

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

Title

George H. Billingsley collection

Dates

1956-1997

Extent

80 cm (2.6 linear feet) textual material, 26 photographic images (26 negatives, 22 prints)

Biographical History

George H. Billingsley (23 November 1945 -) was born in central Arizona. His parents were ranchers and encouraged him to further his education. At Northern Arizona University (NAU), Billingsley earned his Bachelor of Science (1968) and Masters (1970) in geology.

Billingsley spent the next decade working as a National Park ranger at the Grand Canyon and also as a professional Colorado River guide. His wife, Susan, whom he met at NAU, was also a river guide. During that time, the Museum of Northern Arizona and the University of Wyoming received grants that allowed them to ask Billingsley to begin his geologic mapping of the Grand Canyon.

In 1980, Billingsley began working for the United States Geologic Survey (USGS) out of Flagstaff. Since that time, Billingsley has created 70 geologic maps, nearly 20,000 square miles of the southwestern United States, mostly in the Colorado Plateau in northern Arizona and southern Utah. He has also continued to work together with the Grand Canyon Association and the National Park to publish maps and books, and to train interpreters. He is considered a great authority on the Grand Canyon and even had the honor of naming a formation he discovered there in the 1970s—Surprise Canyon. He has published many geologic papers and books over the years, filling in a 15-million-year gap in the Grand Canyon's history.

In 2004, Billingsley was awarded the Dibblee Medal for his exceptional contributions in geologic mapping.

Billingsley has remained with the USGS to this day and currently (July 2010) resides in Flagstaff, AZ.

Scope and Content

This collection contains personal journals from Billingsley's numerous trips to the Grand Canyon prior to his professional career as a geologic cartographer. Also included are Billingsley's Masters thesis on the geology of Tuckup Canyon, photographs and

MS-204

negatives of Tuckup Canyon, and correspondence with Harvey Butchart and O. Dock Marston.

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Unpublished and published manuscripts are protected by copyright.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.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated by Billingsley in 1975 and 1997 (Accession # MS-204).

Description Control

Finding aid written by Eileen Hogan using *DACS*, 29 July 2010

MS-204

Title

Series 1: Grand Canyon Journals

Dates

1964-1997

Extent

77 cm (2.5 linear feet) textual material

Scope and Content

Series consists of a record of every trip he took to the Grand Canyon and journals filled with text, images, correspondence, and ephemera.

Series 1: Grand Canyon Journals				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-204-1-1	Hiking and Camping Record – Grand Canyon	1997	1 cm textual	1.1
MS-204-1-2	G.C. Journal 1964, 1965, 1966	1964-1966	4 cm textual	1.2
MS-204-1-3	G.C. Journal 1967	1967	8 cm textual	1.3
MS-204-1-4	G.C. Journal 1968, Vol. 1	1968	8 cm textual	1.4
MS-204-1-5	G.C. Journal 1968, Vol. 2	1968	9 cm textual	1.5
MS-204-1-6	G.C. Journal 1969, Vol. 1	1969	8 cm textual	1.6
MS-204-1-7	G.C. Journal 1969, Vol. 2	1969	4 cm textual	1.7
MS-204-1-8	G.C. Journal 1970	1970	8 cm textual	2.1
MS-204-1-9	G.C. Journal 1971	1971	3 cm textual	2.2
MS-204-1-10	G.C. Journal 1972	1972	4 cm textual	2.3
MS-204-1-11	G.C. Journal 1973	1973	4 cm textual	2.4
MS-204-1-12	G.C. Journal 1974	1974	2 cm textual	2.5
MS-204-1-13	G.C. Journal 1975	1975	3 cm textual	2.6
MS-204-1-14	G.C. Journal 1976	1976	2 cm textual	2.7
MS-204-1-15	G.C. Journal 1977	1977	1 cm textual	2.8
MS-204-1-16	G.C. Journal 1978	1978	1 cm textual	2.9
MS-204-1-17	G.C. Journal 1977, 1978, 1979	1977-1979	1 cm textual	2.10
MS-204-1-18	G.C. Journal 1980, 1981, 1982	1980-1982	1 cm textual	2.11
MS-204-1-19	G.C. Journal 1983, 1984	1983-1984	1 cm textual	2.12
MS-204-1-20	G.C. Journal 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988	1985-1988	2 cm textual	2.13
MS-204-1-21	G.C. Journal 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997	1989-1997	2 cm textual	2.14

MS-204

Title

Series 2: Photographs

Dates

1970

Extent

26 photographic images (26 negatives, 22 prints)

Scope and Content

Series consists of mounted prints and negatives for Billingsley's Masters thesis.

Series 2: Photographs				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-204-2-1	"Mounted Prints: General Geology of Tuckup Canyon" and negatives	1970	22 prints, 26 negatives	2.17

Title

Series 3: Correspondence

Dates

1973-1988

Extent

3 cm textual material

Scope and Content

Series consists of 2 binders of letters written to Billingsley from Harvey Butchart and O. Dock Marston, with one letter from Edwin D. McKee of the Department of the Interior.

Series 3: Correspondence				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-204-3-1	Butchart Letters	1976-1988	1 cm textual	2.15
MS-204-3-2	Marston Letters	1973-1979	2 cm textual	2.16

LCSH Access Points

Billingsley, George H.

Butchart, Harvey, 1907-

Geology

Geology -- Arizona

Grand Canyon (Ariz.)

Grand Canyon (Ariz.) -- Description and travel

Grand Canyon National Park (Ariz.)

Marston, Otis R.

McKee, Edwin D. (Edwin Dinwiddie), 1906-1984

Northern Arizona University. Dept. of Geology