
Guide to the Gerald L. French Photograph Collection

SJSU Library Special Collections & Archives

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library

San José State University

One Washington Square

San José, CA 95192-0028

Phone: (408) 808-2062

Fax: (408) 808-2063

Email: special.collections@sjsu.edu

URL: <http://library.sjsu.edu/sjsu-special-collections/sjsu-special-collections-and-archives>

© 2010

Trustees of the California State University. All rights reserved.

Guide to the Gerald L. French Photograph Collection

Collection number: MSS-2010-09-20



**SAN JOSÉ STATE
UNIVERSITY**

SJSU Special Collections & Archives

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library

San José State University

One Washington Square

San José, CA 95192-0028

Phone: (408) 808-2062

Fax: (408) 808-2063

Email: special.collections@sjsu.edu

URL: <http://library.sjsu.edu/sjsu-special-collections/sjsu-special-collections-and-archives>

Finding aid funded by the generous support of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).

Processed by:

R. Schuyler Selden

Date Completed:

2010

Encoded by:

R. Schuyler Selden

Reviewed by:

Danelle Moon

© 2010 Trustees of the California State University. All rights reserved.

Descriptive Summary

Title: Gerald L. French Photograph Collection

Dates: 1958

Collection number: MSS-2010-09-20

Creator: French, Gerald L.

Collection Size: 1 box, 1.04 linear feet

Repository: San José State University. Library.

San José, California 95192-0028

Abstract: The Gerald L. French Photograph Collection documents the San Jose State College West Coast Nature School held in Death Valley in 1958. The early field school took place in Big Basin in 1931. Several San Jose State College natural science professors lead the program, which became known as the Field Studies in Natural History program. The program is focused on the study of geology, history, and the flora and fauna of the region. The Field Studies in Natural History program remains an active and popular study program today at SJSU. Gerald L. French, a San Jose State College student, attended the program in 1958. He documented the activities, events, and the participants. The collection consists of 42 black and white ink jet contact prints, 4x5 negatives, and 27 color slides. Images of note include views of Titus Canyon, the Borax Works, Scotty's Castle, and Ubehebe crater.

Physical location: Vault 2, Range 1B

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

Copyright has been assigned to the San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Director of Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Special Collections & Archives as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the reader. Copyright restrictions also apply to digital reproductions of the original materials. Use of digital files is restricted to research and educational purposes.

Preferred Citation

Gerald L. French Photograph Collection, MSS-2010-09-20 , San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

Processing History

Collection processed and finding aid EAD encoded by R. Schuyler Selden.

Biography / Administrative History

The West Coast Nature School Nature Study began in 1931 and was created by two science department professors, Dr. Hazeltine, instructor of Nature Studies and Dr. Pickwell, professor of Natural Science. The first study site took place at Big Basin State Park in 1931, followed by program sites in Asilomar State Park, Sequoia National Park, Death Valley National Park, and other sites throughout California. This program is currently offered at San Jose State University during the summer session and is called the Field Studies in Natural History. Gerald L. French, a San Jose State College student (BS 1960) photographed the 1958 field trip to Death Valley and in 2008 he donated his collection of contact prints, negative, and slides.

Scope and Content

The Gerald L. French Photograph Collection documents the San Jose State College West Coast Nature School held in Death Valley in 1958. The early field school took place in Big Basin in 1931. Several San Jose State College natural science professors lead the program, which became known as the Field Studies in Natural History. The program is focused on the study of geology, history, and the flora and fauna of the region. The Field Studies in Natural History program remains an active and popular study program today at SJSU.

Gerald L. French, a San Jose State College student (B.S. 1960), attended the program in 1958. He documented the activities, events, and the participants. The collection consists of 42 black and white ink jet contact prints, 4x5 negatives, and 27 color slides. Images of note include views of Titus Canyon, the Borax Works, Scotty's Castle, and Ubehebe crater.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by item type.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog. French, Gerald L.

San Jose State College -- History

California State University, San José -- History

San José State University -- History

Education, Higher -- California -- San José

San José State University. About SJSU. http://www.sjsu.edu/about_sjsu/

San José State University. Special Session Programs. <http://special.sjsu.edu/programs.html>

Related Material

San José State University Archives Publications Collection, MSS-2010-01-01, San José State University Special Collections and Archives.

San José State University Student Publications Collection, MSS-2009-08-02, San José State University Special Collections and Archives.

Series I : **The Gerald L. French Photograph Collection 1958**

Physical Description: 1 box

Series Scope and Content Summary

This series consists of the photographic collection of Gerald L. French (B.S. 1960), which document the West Coast Nature School Nature Study studies field trip to Death Valley National Park in the summer of 1958. This small collection of prints, negatives and slides provides a snap-shot view of the activities, events, and the participants as they explored the geology, history, flora and fauna of Death Valley.

The materials in this series consist of 42 black and white ink jet contact prints, 4x5 negatives, and 27 color slides. Images of note include Titus Canyon, the Borax Works, Scotty's Castle, and Ubehebe crater.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by item type.