



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the George McCutchen McBride papers, 1900-1965

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National Anthropological Archives
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Biographical Note.....	1
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	3
Series 1: Correspondence and personal.....	3
Series 2: Writings.....	4
Series 3: Photographs.....	6

Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	George McCutchen McBride papers
Date:	1900-1965
Identifier:	NAA.1978-24
Creator:	McBride, George McCutchen, 1876-1971
Extent:	6.5 Linear feet
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated to the National Anthropological Archives by Jonathan Sauer in 1978.

Related Materials

The Charles E. Young Research Library at the University of California, Los Angeles holds the George McCutchen McBride Papers relating to his work as Technical Advisor to the Ecuador-Peru Mixed Boundary Demarcation Commission (Collection 2240).

Processing Information

The collection came to the archives largely unarranged. The archivist therefore imposed a general order to enable better access to the materials but maintained the order of groupings within the collection.

Preferred Citation

George McCutchen McBride papers, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

The George McCutchen McBride papers are open for research.

Access to the George McCutchen McBride papers requires an appointment.

Nitrate negatives are in cold storage and are not available for viewing without approval of the photo archivist. One photo album is extremely fragile so researchers must consult digital copies.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Biographical Note

George McCutchen McBride (1876-1971) was born in Benton, Kansas. Following college at Park College in Missouri, he attended Auburn Theological Seminary and received his D.D in 1901. Later that year he went to Chile and worked as a missionary teacher at the Presbyterian Instituto Inglés in Santiago. In 1907 McBride married Harriet Fields, and left Chile for La Paz, Bolivia, where he worked as a teacher until 1915.

McBride's interest in the economic, social, and political aspects of the areas in which he worked and travelled led him to pursue graduate work in geography at Yale. He received his PhD in 1921 with a dissertation on the "Land systems of Mexico." In 1922, McBride joined the faculty of UCLA (then University of California, Southern Branch). There, he was instrumental in the department's expansion and went on to serve as chair from 1923 until 1942, when he was called to serve as Technical Advisor to the Ecuador-Peru Mixed Boundary Demarcation Commission. He served on the Commission until 1949, producing reports and supervising the aerial photography of the borderline by the US Army Air Force.

McBride died in Claremont, California.

Sources consulted:

Spencer, J.E. "Obituary: George McCutchen McBride," in *Geographical Review* Vol. 62, No. 3 (July 1972)

Erzinger, Mitchell. Finding aid to the George McCutchen McBride papers, UCLA Library Special Collections, 2014.

Scope and Contents

The George McCutchen McBride papers primarily document McBride's work and travels in South America. The bulk of the papers consist of McBride's writings and notes, with a small amount of correspondence and personal papers. Also included are travel diaries of McBride's wife Harriet, as well as their friend Edna Grover.

Photographs comprise about half of the collection and are mainly of people and landscapes in South America, but also include photographs of family and personal subjects.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or National Anthropological Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Arrangement

The collection is organized into three series: 1. Correspondence and personal, 2. Writings, and 3. Photographs.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Places:

- Argentina
- Bolivia
- Central America
- Chile
- Ecuador
- Guatemala
- Mexico
- Peru
- South America

Container Listing

Series 1: Correspondence and personal

Scope and Contents: Series 1: Correspondence and personal contains a miscellany of material including one file of correspondence, a copy of McBride's will, a bibliography of his publications, various ephemera, and three small watercolor paintings of village scenes.

Box 1, Folder 1	correspondence, 1937-1963
Box 1, Folder 2	Bibliography of George McBride's publications, 1945, undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Will of George McBride, 1964
Box 1, Folder 4	News clippings, 1936-1939
Box 1, Folder 5	List of contacts and business cards, undated
Box 1, Folder 6	Ephemera, undated
Box 1, Folder 7	Watercolor paintings of village scenes, undated

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Writings

Scope and Contents: Series 2: Writings contains manuscripts, notes, diaries, and other material by George McBride as well as by others, to a smaller degree. Subseries: Writings and notes by George McBride primarily contains manuscript drafts by McBride, although there is one folder of published works. Additionally, there are noteslips containing bibliographic information but also what appear to be field notes or diary entries. Included in this subseries are a few maps and climatic charts for Guatemala. Subseries: Writings by others contains a few papers but of significance is the 1905 diary of Harriet L. Fields, who later married McBride, documenting her travels to South America, as well as a scrapbook diary of Edna M. Grover, a friend of the McBrides, also documenting her life and travels in South America.

Writings and notes by George McBride

Box 2, Folder 1	Publications by George M. McBride, 1920-1942 Notes: Mostly reprints. Includes "The Agrarian Indian Communities of Highland Bolivia," flyer for <i>Chile: Land and Society</i> , "Cotton Growing in South America," "The Evacuation of Mexico City," and "Inquilinos cileni."
Box 2, Folder 2	Agricultural Indian Communities of Highland Guatemala , undated
Box 2, Folder 3	An Unsolved Phase of the Tacna-Arica Problem, undated
Box 2, Folder 4	Cold Lands to Hot Lands in Tropical Bolivia, undated
Box 2, Folder 5-6	Ecuador-Peru Boundary Settlement: Report to the Secretary of State, 1949
Box 2, Folder 7	Flight Over the Cordillera Del Condor, undated
Box 2, Folder 8	Hacia Una Federación Mundial, 1938
Box 2, Folder 9	Highland Guatemala and its Maya Communities, 1942
Box 2, Folder 10-11	The Maya Communities of Highland Guatemala, undated
Box 2, Folder 12	The Highland Indian of the Andean Republic, 1919
Box 2, Folder 13	Horseback Over the Hump, undated
Box 2, Folder 14	The Indians of Guatemala, undated
Box 3, Folder 1	Latin America: Problems and Possibilities of Economic Development Part VII - Mexico and Chile, 1955
Box 3, Folder 2	Mexico's Immigration Problem, circa 1935
Box 3, Folder 3	The Political Geography of the Colorado River, undated

Box 3, Folder 4	Possible Central American Zones for Settlement of Refugees, 1939
Box 3, Folder 5	The Problem of the Colorado River, undated
Box 3, Folder 6	The Straits, undated
Box 3, Folder 7-11	The Tropical Highlands of America, undated
Box 3, Folder 12	The Valley of Antigua, undated
Box 4, Folder 1	Diary from trip to Panama, Costa Rica, and other locales, 1938
Box 4, Folder 2	School papers, 1898-1900
Box 4, Folder 3-4	Drafts of papers, 1945, undated
Box 4, Folder 5	Notes relating to Guatemala, undated
Box 4, Folder 6	Draft manuscript regarding Peru (partial), undated
Box 4, Folder 7	Notes and news clippings regarding Peru, undated
Box 4, Folder 8	Notes, bibliographies, news clippings regarding Yucatan, circa 1930s
Box 4, Folder 9	Miscellaneous notes, undated
Box 7	Noteslips, undated
Box 4, Folder 10-11	Bibliographies, undated
Box 4, Folder 12	Climatic charts for Guatemala, undated
Box 4, Folder 13-14	Maps, undated

Writings by others

Box 5, Folder 1	Diary of Harriet L. Fields (McBride), 1905
Box 5, Folder 2	Decree regarding studies of Harriet L. Fields (McBride), 1902
Box 5, Folder 3	Notes on Guatemala by Harriet McBride (nee Fields), 1938
Box 5, Folder 4	Writings by others, 1931, undated
Box 6, Folder 1-5	Diary of Edna M. Grover, 1905-1915

Return to Table of Contents

Series 3: Photographs

Scope and Contents: Series 3: Photographs primarily document life and landscapes throughout South America, and include two photograph albums as well as many prints and negatives. Also included are photographs relating to McBride's family and other personal subjects.

Box 8, Folder 1	Photography notebook, undated
Box 8, Folder 2	Argentina, undated Notes: Includes provinces of Buenos Aires, Cordoba, Mendoza, and Neuguen.
Box 8, Folder 3	Argentina, undated Notes: Includes provinces of Santiago del Estero and Tucman. Also includes unidentified Argentina photographs.
Box 8, Folder 4	Brazil, undated Notes: Photos showing agricultural lands and activities.
Box 8, Folder 5	Bolivia, undated
Box 8, Folder 6	Chile, undated Notes: Includes photographs from Chiloé, and central and southern Chile.
Box 8, Folder 7	Chile, undated Notes: Includes Santiago and vicinity, Puerto Montt and vicinity, Los Alpes, El Vergel, and San Lorenzo. Also includes photographs of people gathered for an "Indian Congress."
Box 8, Folder 8	Chile, undated Notes: Includes Volcan Tronador, Aconcaqua Valley, Constitucion, Puerto Varas, Volcan Osorno, and Tiltil Valley.
Box 8, Folder 9	Chile, undated Notes: Includes general and unidentified views.
Box 8, Folder 10	Colombia, undated Notes: Includes Puerto Colombia, Daqua River, and Buenaventura.
Box 8, Folder 11	Ecuador, undated
Box 9, Folder 1	Guatemala, undated Notes: Includes Antigua, Quiché, Rio Quixcop, Utatlan, San Jorge, Sololá, San Pedro Socatepequez, San Pedro Volcano, Rio Negro, Rio Dulce, San Marcos de los Altos, Santa Catarina Ixtohuacan, Guatemala City, San Francisco El Alto, Lumil bridge, Tsanjuyu, San Antonio Palopó, Ciudad Vieja, San Cucas, Managua, and Santa Catarina Palopó.
Box 9, Folder 2	Guatemala, undated

Notes: Includes Atitlan, Toliman Volcano, Atitlan Volcano, Fuego Volcano, Acatenango Volcano, Panchoz Valley, San Lucas Toliman, Rio Polchic Valley, San Jose, San Pedro La Laguna, Santa Cruz La Laguna, Guajxaquip Bots, Momostenango, Esperanza, San Jose Chayaca, Iximache ruins, Laculeo ruins, Puerto de San Jose, Santiago Atitlan, Aguacatan ruins, Coban, Rio Coban, and Rio Blanca.

Box 9, Folder 3-4	Guatemala, undated Notes: Comprises general and unidentified Guatemala photographs.
Box 9, Folder 5	Mexico, undated Notes: Includes El Arco, Baja California, Calmalli, Coronado Islands, Cuernavaca, Ensenada, Rio Santiago, Juarez village, Laguna Hansen, Mesquital, and Monterrey.
Box 9, Folder 6	Mexico, undated Notes: Includes Mexico City, Neji, Nevada de Toluca, Punta Prieta, Redondo, Rosario Valley, Santo Tomas Valley, Tecate, Teotihuacan Pyramid of the Sun, Tiajuana, and Celaya. Also includes some general and unidentified views.
Box 9, Folder 7	Mexico, indated Notes: Includes views of Guadalupe and vicinity.
Box 9, Folder 8	Mexico, undated Notes: Includes general and unidentified views.
Box 10, Folder 1	Panama, undated
Box 10, Folder 2-4	Peru, undated Notes: Includes general and unidentified views.
Box 10, Folder 5	Peru, 1942 Notes: Comprises aerial photographs.
Box 10, Folder 6	Peru, undated Notes: Includes postcards and printed material.
Box 10, Folder 7	Puerto Rico, undated Notes: Includes general and unidentified views.
Box 10, Folder 8	Uruguay, undated
Box 10, Folder 9	Various locales in South America, undated
Box 11, Folder 1-2	Miscellaneous and unidentified, undated
Box 11, Folder 3	unidentified negatives, undated

Box 11, Folder 4	Photographs of George McBride, undated
Box 11, Folder 5-6	Personal/family, undated
Box 12	Photograph album relating to travels in South America, undated
Box 13	Photograph album relating to life and travels in Chile, undated Notes: Album is extremely fragile. Digital copies are available.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)