



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

Guide to MS 4950 Mary Wright Gill  
painting of a Hopi altar, circa 1901

National Anthropological Archives  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	MS 4950 Mary Wright Gill painting of a Hopi altar
<b>Date:</b>	circa 1901
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.MS4950
<b>Creator:</b>	Gill, Mary W.
<b>Extent:</b>	1 Paintings (visual works) (watercolor; 8.25 x 10.5 inches)
<b>Language:</b>	No linguistic content; Not applicable .
<b>Container:</b>	Box 4946/4948/4949/4950, Folder 7; Box 4946/4948/4949/4950, Folder 7

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## Administrative Information

### Related Materials

The National Anthropological Archives holds the photograph from which this drawing was made. Please see negative # 1820-b from the Bureau of American Ethnology negative collection (Photo Lot 176).

The National Anthropological Archives holds additional drawings and illustrations by Mary Wright Gill in MS 4108, MS 4949, MS 7531 and Photo Lot 133.

### Preferred Citation

MS 4950 Mary Wright Gill painting of a Hopi altar, National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Access to the collection requires an appointment.

### Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

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## Biographical Note

Mary Wright Gill (1867-1929) was a scientific illustrator who worked as a contract artist for the Bureau of American Ethnology (BAE) and other government agencies. She worked primarily in pen and ink, graphite, and watercolor. Her illustrations were sometimes composites based on series of photographs. She also used the names Mary Irwin Wright and Mary Irwin Gill, and was briefly married to BAE illustrator and photographer De Lancey Walker Gill.

## Scope and Contents

This collection is comprised of one (1) watercolor drawing by Mary Wright Gill depicting a Hopi altar. A caption reading "Owakülti Sitchomovi" has been added to the drawing in J. Walter Fewkes' handwriting. The drawing was done from a Bureau of American Ethnology photograph.

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 As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today.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.

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## Local Numbers

NAA MS 4950  
INV 11018100

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## Publication Note

Reproduced in J. Walter Fewkes, "The Owakülti Altar at Sichomovi Pueblo," *American Anthropologist*, 3:2, 1901. Plate IV with the caption "Owakülti Altar at Sichomovi."

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## Names and Subject Terms

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

### Subjects:

Hopi Pueblo  
Hopi [Sichomovi]

### Cultures:

Hopi Pueblo  
Hopi [Sichomovi]

### Types of Materials:

Paintings  
Works of art

### Places:

North America