



# Smithsonian

*National Museum of Natural History*

Timothy O'Sullivan photographs from  
the "Geographical Surveys West  
of the 100th Meridian," 1871-1874

Sarah Ganderup

2014 May 20

National Anthropological Archives  
Museum Support Center  
4210 Silver Hill Road  
Suitland, Maryland 20746  
naa@si.edu  
<http://www.anthropology.si.edu/naa/>

# Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	1
Administrative Information .....	1
Local Call Number(s).....	2
Scope and Contents note.....	2
Biographical/Historical note.....	2
Names and Subjects .....	2
Container Listing .....	

## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Anthropological Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Timothy O'Sullivan photographs from the "Geographical Surveys West of the 100th Meridian"
<b>Identifier:</b>	NAA.PhotoLot.167
<b>Date:</b>	1871-1874
<b>Creator:</b>	O'Sullivan, Timothy H., 1840-1882 (Photographer)
<b>Extent:</b>	33 Contact prints 7 Enlarged prints 8 Negatives (collodion wet-plate)
<b>Language:</b>	English .

---

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The negatives may have come to Smithsonian through the War Department shortly after the surveys were completed. The prints were probably made circa 1937 by the Bureau of American Ethnology.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

This collection has been relocated from Photo Lot 78.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Contact prints and enlargements, previously filed in MS 4498, have been relocated and merged with Photo Lot 167.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Published stereographs and associated papers relating to the surveys are held in National Anthropological Archives Photo Lot 4501.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Additional O'Sullivan and Bell photographs are held in National Anthropological Archives Photo lot 40, Photo Lot 37, Photo Lot 90-1, Photo Lot 24, and Photo Lot 97.

### Location of Other Archival Materials

Some survey negatives were transferred to the National Archives, circa 1948. They are held there in Record Group 106.

### Available Formats

Digital surrogates of glass negatives are available.

### Preferred Citation

Photo Lot 167, Timothy O'Sullivan photographs from the "Geographical Surveys West of the 100th Meridian," 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.

---

## Biographical Note

The geographical surveys west of the 100th meridian were operated under the United States Army Corps of Engineers and supervised by First Lieutenant (later Captain) George Montague Wheeler from 1869 through 1879. They were intended to document the geography in order to make accurate maps, record locations of Native American tribes in the region, select possible sites for military installations and rail or common roads, and note resources in the area. In total, the surveys analyzed the region now covered by Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho, and Oregon, and the expeditions produced 164 maps, 41 publications, and a series of stereoviews. Timothy H. O'Sullivan began photographing geographical surveys in 1867-1869 when he was the official photographer for Clarence King's United States Geological Exploration of the 40th Parallel. He served as the official photographer for the Wheeler surveys in 1871, 1872, and 1874, with William Bell taking over in 1873. O'Sullivan later became the United States Geological Survey's first photographer in Washington, D.C.

---

## Scope and Contents

Stereographic photographs made on the geographical explorations and surveys west of the 100th meridian, under Lieutenant George M. Wheeler, War Department, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A. 1871-74. The bulk of the photographs were made by Timothy H. Sullivan during the years 1871-1872 and 1874, but there are also some taken by William Bell in 1873. The photos include images of expedition party members, camps, and transportation, as well as pueblos, (including Zuni, Navajo, Apache, Coyotero Apache, Jicarilla Apache, Ute, and Mohave), puebloan people, and scenic views in canyons of the Colorado River, Canyon de Chelly, Apache Lake, and the Cerro Blanco Mountains.

---

## Local Call Number(s)

NAA Photo Lot 167

---

## Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- A:shiwi (Zuni)
- Apache
- Diné (Navajo)
- Indians of North America -- Great Basin
- Indians of North America -- Southwest, New
- Mojave (Mohave)
- Ute

Cultures:

A:shiwi (Zuni)  
Apache  
Diné (Navajo)  
Indians of North America -- Great Basin  
Indians of North America -- Southwest, New  
Mojave (Mohave)  
Ute

Types of Materials:

Photographs

Names:

Bell, William, 1830-1910  
Geographical Surveys West of the 100th Meridian (U.S.)  
Wheeler, George M. (George Montague), 1842-1905

Places:

Chelly, Canyon de (Ariz.)  
Colorado River  
Grand Canyon (Ariz.)

---

Addl. KW Subj

Coyotero  
Jlcarilla