



Smithsonian Institution Archives

**John Mix Stanley Collection, 1852-1865, 1883-1886**

Finding aid prepared by Smithsonian Institution Archives

Smithsonian Institution Archives  
Washington, D.C.  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Smithsonian Institution Archives, Washington, D.C., <a href="mailto:osiaref@si.edu">osiaref@si.edu</a>
<b>Title:</b>	John Mix Stanley Collection
<b>Identifier:</b>	Record Unit 7066
<b>Date:</b>	1852-1865, 1883-1886
<b>Extent:</b>	0.25 cu. ft. (1 half document box)
<b>Creator::</b>	Stanley, John Mix, 1814-1872
<b>Language:</b>	Language of Materials: English

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 7066, John Mix Stanley Collection

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## Historical Note

John Mix Stanley (1814-1872), a famous painter of Indians and Indian scenes, deposited 152 paintings with the Smithsonian Institution in 1852 with the intention of selling his collection to the government. Most of the paintings were destroyed in the Smithsonian Institution fire of 1865. A list of the collection can be found in the Smithsonian catalog, *Portraits of North American Indians with Sketches of Scenery, etc.*, 1852.

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## Descriptive Entry

This collection includes typewritten copies and original correspondence of Joseph Henry, Mary A. Henry, John Mix Stanley, and his family concerning the collection deposited with the Smithsonian; contract and correspondence concerning a loan made by Henry to Stanley; Henry's description of the attempts to save the paintings during the fire; contract between John R. Bartlett and Stanley concerning Bartlett's purchasing one-fourth interest in the collection; a list of the five surviving paintings; and three books printed for the Smithsonian Institution, including the catalog mentioned above, a Guide to the Smithsonian Institution, 1865, and a biography of John Mix Stanley by David I. Bushnell, Jr.

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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:

Anthropology  
Art  
Artists  
Indians of North America

Types of Materials:

Books  
Manuscripts

Names:

Bartlett, John Russell, 1805-1886  
Bushnell, David I. (David Ives), 1875-1941  
Henry, Joseph, 1797-1878  
Henry, Mary A., 1834-1903  
Stanley, John Mix, 1814-1872

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Correspondence, Arranged Alphabetically, 1858-1886.

#### Box 1

Box 1 of 1	Folder 1 Joseph Henry, 1858
Box 1 of 1	Folder 2 Mary A. Henry, 1884-1886
Box 1 of 1	Folder 3 John Mix Stanley, 1864-1865
Box 1 of 1	Folder 4 Mrs. John Mix Stanley, 1883

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## Series 2: Books, Contracts, and List of Paintings.

### Box 1

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 5 Contracts  |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 6 Extracts from the <i>Smithsonian Reports</i> , 1854-1868, and the <i>Proceedings of the Board of Regents</i> , 1857-1858                               |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 7 <i>Guide to the Smithsonian Institution and National Museum</i> , 1865   |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 8 <i>John Mix Stanley, Artist-Explorer</i> , by David J. Bushnell, Jr., 1925   |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 9 <i>John Mix Stanley and his Indian Paintings</i> , by W. Vernon Kinietz, 1942  |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 10 <i>Portraits of North American Indians with Sketches of Scenery, etc. Painted by J. M. Stanley. Deposited with the Smithsonian Institution</i> , 1852 |
| Box 1 of 1 | Folder 11 List and description of five of Stanley's paintings   |

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