



Smithsonian

Institution Archives

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

Finding aid prepared by Smithsonian Institution Archives

Smithsonian Institution Archives
Washington, D.C.
Contact us at osiaref@si.edu

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Historical Note.....	1
Descriptive Entry.....	1
Names and Subjects	1
Container Listing	3
Series 1: Correspondence, Arranged Alphabetically, 1858-1886.....	3
Series 2: Books, Contracts, and List of Paintings.....	4

Collection Overview

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

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

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

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.

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.

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

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

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

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

[Return to Table of Contents](#)