



Guide to the William Simons Mills Papers

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Persistent URL for this finding aid: <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1hj55>

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Mills, William Simons
Title:	William Simons Mills Papers
ID:	MS-01233
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1880 to 1890
Physical Description:	0.38 Cubic Feet (1 box and 1 oversized box)
Physical Description:	1.17 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The William Simons Mills Papers (approximately 1880-1890) consist of correspondence written by mine executive William Simons Mills to his wife and daughter, albumen photographic prints, and postal envelopes with cancellation stamps. Mills was the superintendent of the Southwestern Mining Company in Eldorado Canyon, Clark County, Nevada, and his letters and photographs document life and experiences in the mining camp. The envelopes document postal history in a remote mining camp in the late 19th century.

Preferred Citation

William Simons Mills Papers, approximately 1880-1890. MS-01233. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Mining executive William Simons Mills was born in Vermont on October 29, 1820. He was a superintendent for the Southwestern Mining Company in Eldorado Canyon, Nevada, which included the Techatticup and Savage Mines. Mills arrived in Eldorado Canyon in 1880 and worked for the Southwestern Mining Company until shortly before his death at age 75 on September 3, 1896.

Sources:

Collection material. William Simons Mills Papers, approximately 1880-1890. MS-01233. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

"William Simons Mills." The Blakes and Beyond, GenoPro, accessed April 28, 2026, <https://familytrees.genopro.com/chrisblake/default.htm>

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Scope and Contents Note

The William Simons Mills Papers (approximately 1880-1890) consist of correspondence written by mine executive William Simons Mills to his wife and daughter, albumen photographic prints, and postal envelopes with cancellation stamps. Mills was the superintendent of the Southwestern Mining Company in Eldorado Canyon, Clark County, Nevada, and his letters and photographs document life and experiences in the mining camp. The envelopes document postal history in a remote mining camp in the late 19th century.

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Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

This material is made available to facilitate private study, scholarship, or research. Material in this collection may be protected by copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity rights, or other interests not owned by UNLV. Users are responsible for determining whether permissions are necessary from rights owners for any intended use and for obtaining all required permissions.

Please contact UNLV Special Collections and Archives (special.collections@unlv.edu) for additional information.

Acquisition Note

Materials were purchased by Sarah Quigley from Vigilante Rare Documents (Greg Bock) in 2026; accession number 2026-034.

Appraisal Note

Purchased from Vigilante Rare Documents (Greg Bock) in 2026 by Sarah Quigley, Director, as part of UNLV Special Collections and Archives holdings on the history of mining in southern Nevada.

Processing Note

In 2026, Landon Paljusaj accessioned the collection, rehoused the materials, and wrote the finding aid in ArchivesSpace.

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Related Materials

Related Collections

The following resources may provide additional information on the materials in this collection:

UNLV University Libraries Collection on Nevada Mining, 1842-1966. MS-00011. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f16k5q>

UNLV University Libraries Collection on Techatticup Mine, 1914-1923. MS-00734. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f10x9t>

Nevada Mining Photograph Collection, 1868-1937. PH-00361. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada. <http://n2t.net/ark:/62930/f1331f>

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Names and Subjects

- Mining camps

- Correspondence
- photographs
- Techatticup Mine
- Southwestern Mining Company

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Letters from William Simons Mills to his wife and daughter describing life in the El Dorado Canyon mining camps, approximately 1880 to 1890 Physical Description: 4 Files	box 01
Southwestern Mining Company stock certificate, 1880 March 17	box 01
Postal envelopes with cancellation stamps, approximately 1880 to 1890	box 01
Mining crew and executives; mining equipment and operations; U. S. Mail steamboat; Native American laborers; portrait of William Simons Mills; photographic prints, approximately 1880 to 1890	box 01 oversized box 02