
Guide to the Titus Hale Papers

Collection number: MS 121

The University Library
Special Collections and Archives
University of California, Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz, California

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Titus Hale papers

Dates: ca. 1868-1878

Collection number: MS 121

Creator: Hale, Titus

Collection Size: 1 flat
4 books

Repository: University of California, Santa Cruz. University Library. Special Collections and Archives
Santa Cruz, California 95064

Abstract: This collection contains four books of research done by Hale on the titles to property of Rancho San Andreas for his partition suit entitled Briody vs. Hale, 1877.

Physical location: Stored offsite at NRLF: Advance notice is required for access to the papers.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

Collection open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation

Titus Hale papers. MS 121. Special Collections and Archives, University Library, University of California, Santa Cruz.

Acquisition Information

Gift of the Younger Family

Biography

Titus Hale was born on February 2, 1834 in Missouri and arrived with his father and others in California on September 1, 1849. A month later they arrived at Lawson where his company separated. Titus and his father, Israel Foote Hale went onto Sacramento where Titus sold nuts and eventually pies, cakes as well. It was during this time he met F.A. Hihn of Santa Cruz who was peddling candy. Sacramento flooded

during the winter of 1849-50 and the Hales took refuge on the brig "Toronto". But the flood used up their capital and he and his father moved onto Georgetown, eventually settling in Oregon Canyon. There Titus established a claim and was able to send \$600 home to Missouri. After digging out that claim they worked their way around Gold Country, ending up in San Francisco for a few days in 1851 before returning to Missouri.

Three years later, Titus moved back to California, settling in Santa Cruz in 1855 where he lived for the next twenty five years. During that time he owned some interest in the Rancho San Andreas located between Watsonville and Santa Cruz. The ranch was first owned by Jose Castro who died in 1834, leaving a widow and fourteen children. His estate was never settled with interests in the lands conveyed by all manner of deeds. So Hale "commenced and carried on a partition suit, by which title to property was settled". There were a hundred and twelve owners besides other claimants. Two years were spent transcribing and examining deeds with the aid of William M. White, law student at Hagan & Youngers office. Hale's settled portion of the Rancho was three thousand acres.

In 1872, Hale joined F.A. Hihn, Claus Spreckels, R.R. Porter, George E. Logan in a company organized. After many lawsuits, the railroad was finished in 1876 but it was a failed business venture that eventually was sold to Charles Crocker, Southern Pacific Railroad. Hale went onto own and operate a variety of businesses from shipping to ranching.

Titus Hale married widow Martha Ann Aldrich in 1862. She died in Oakland, California on December 9, 1891. Together they raised six children, Rose G., Mary Otis, Edward F., Crescent P. William T. Charles B. between the years 1863 and 1875. Hale lived out his years in Oakland, dying in 1925 at the age of ninety one.

Scope and Content of Collection

This collection contains four books of research done by Hale on the titles to property of Rancho San Andreas for his partition suit entitled Briody vs. Hale, 1877. Aided by William M. White, law student for Hagan & Younger law firm of Santa Cruz, Hale researched 112 plus claimants to titles of the Rancho San Andreas. He filed a partition suit, Briody vs. Hale 1877, by which the title to the property was eventually settled.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Hale, Titus, 1934-1925--Archives

Real property--California--Santa Cruz County

Rancho San Andrés (Calif.)

Santa Cruz County (Calif.)

The Society of California Pioneers collection of autobiographies and reminiscences of early pioneers

- [Title: Autobiography and Reminiscence of Titus Hale, Oakland.](#)
- [Date: 1901](#)
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Box 1 ***Titus Hale, Produce Dealer, Aptos Landing ca. 1868-1878***

Scope and Content Note

Includes research on Rancho San Andreas: Family History, Deeds, Mortgages, Judgements, Certificates of Sale, Suits Pending, Taxes, Notices of Action.

Box 1 ***Abstract of Title to Rancho San Andreas ca. 1868-1878***

Scope and Content Note

Includes research on History of Family, Deeds, Mortgages, Arguments, Notice of Action, Judgements, Certificates of Sale, Suits Pending, Tax Suits, etc., Powers of Attorney.

Box 1 **Untitled, Book 3 ca. 1868-1878**

Scope and Content Note

Book 3, pages 1-51, includes listings of recorded acreage per claimant on Rancho San Andreas with the index to listings written on the front cover pastedown and flysheet.

Box 1 **Untitled, Book 4 ca. 1868-1878**

Scope and Content Note

Book 4 includes research notes on pages 1-81, notes and index on pages 150-175.