



FINDING AID

DONALD W. SADA PAPERS

1968-1995, undated

Processed by Allyson Sekerke, 2025

Death Valley National Park
PO Box 579, Death Valley, CA 92328
Death Valley, CA

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COLLECTION SUMMARY

Catalog Number: DEVA 66594
Collection Number: 66594
Title: Donald W. Sada papers
Dates: 1968-1995, undated
Extent: 0.83 linear feet Donald
Creator: W. Sada
Languages and Scripts: Collection is in English and script is Latin
Custodial History: Collected by Donald W. Sada and donated by daughter Alison Rockwell.

HISTORY

Donald Sada, also known as Don Sada, earned a B.S. in biology from the University of the Pacific, Stockton in 1973, an M.S. in biology from California State University, Long Beach in 1977, and a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1990.

As an applied ecologist, Sada studied the relationships between the environment and desert aquatic invertebrates and vertebrates and regularly worked with government agencies including Death Valley National Park.

Sources

"Don Sada." 2025. DRI. January 27, 2025. <https://www.dri.edu/directory/don-sada/>.

COLLECTION CONTENT AND STRUCTURE**Scope and Content Note**

This collection includes correspondence, publications, press clippings, legal documents, grant documentation, and notes related to the Pupfish Task Force (also referred to as the U.S. Department of Interior Pupfish Task Force and Desert Pupfish Taskforce), water levels at Devil's Hole, and Spring Meadows, Inc. (Spring Meadows, Inc. became Cappaert Enterprises in 1972).

This collection also includes approximately 300 slides taken from 1981-1995 at Cottonball Marsh, Ash Meadows, Devils Hole, Salt Creek, Badwater, and the Lower Amargosa River.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in 7 series. More detailed information on the arrangement of the file units can be found in the series level descriptions.

Series 1: Correspondence, 1968-1972

Series 2: Publications and press clippings, 1969-1977, undated

Series 3: Legal documents, 1971-1972

Series 4: Grant application and documentation, 1970-1972

Series 5: Notes, 1970-1972

Series 6: Slides, 1972-1995

DETAILED SERIES AND FILE DESCRIPTIONS

Series 1: Correspondence, 1968-1972

Scope and Content: This series contains correspondence related to Devils Hole, water levels, ground water, irrigation, desert pupfish, Ash Meadows, Spring Meadows, Inc., Spring Meadows farm, and the Pupfish Task Force (also referred to as the U.S. Department of Interior Pupfish Task Force and Desert Pupfish Taskforce). It also includes one permit for underwater exploration of Devils Hole. Correspondents include George B. Maxey, James T. McBroom, Skip Worts, Gilbert. F. Cochran, Robert W. Millard, H. Garland Hershey, and Millard-Spink Associates, Inc.

Arrangement: This series is arranged chronologically.

Box and Folder List			
Box #	Folder #	Title	Dates
1	1	Correspondence	1968-1971
1	2	Correspondence	1971-1972

Series 2: Publications, reports, and press clippings, 1969-1972, undated

Scope and Content: This series includes scholarly publications, drafts, press clippings from widespread publications, one photocopied brochure related to Devils Hole, water levels, and desert pupfish.

Arrangement: This series is arranged by type of item and date.

Box and Folder List			
Box #	Folder #	Title	Dates

1	3	Publications and reports	1970-1971
1	4	Publications and reports	Undated
1	5	Press clippings	1969-1972

Series 3: Legal documents, 1971-1972

Scope and Content: This series includes copies of a stipulation for continuance for United States of America v. Spring Meadows, Inc. (Spring Meadows, Inc. became Cappaert Enterprises in 1972) and a motion for leave to file complaint, complaint and brief in support of motion for United States of America V. States of Nevada and California.

Box and Folder List			
Box #	Folder #	Title	Dates
1	6	Legal records	1971-1972

Series 4: Grant application and documentation, 1970-1972

Scope and Content: This series includes an application for a grant pursuant to Title II of the Water Resources Act of 1964 and associated documentation.

Box and Folder List			
Box #	Folder #	Title	Dates
1	7	Grant application and documentation	1970-1972

Series 5: Notes, 1970-1972

Scope and Content: This series includes meeting notes (handwritten and typed) as well as drafts of documents with notes.

Box and Folder List			
Box #	Folder #	Title	Dates
1	8	Notes	1970-1972

Series 6: Slides, 1972-1995

Scope and Content: This series includes approximately 300 slides taken from 1981-1995 at Cottonball Marsh, Ash Meadows, Salt Creek, Badwater, and the Lower Amargosa River. Ash Meadows slides include images of Jackrabbit Spring, Point of Rocks Springs, Big Spring, Kings Pool, Crystal Springs, Tubbs Spring, Bradford Springs, Rogers Spring, Scruggs Spring, Marsh Spring, Indian Spring, School Spring, Devils Hole, Fairbanks Spring, Longstreet Springs, the

Ash Meadows pupfish (*Cyprinodon nevadensis mionectes*), Ash Meadows milkvetch (*Astragalus phoenix*), and other plants.

Box and Folder List			
Box #	Folder #	Title	Dates
1	9	Death Valley slides	1993-1995
2	1	Cottonball Marsh slides	1981-1994
2	2	Salt Creek slides	1975, 1993-1994
2	3	Badwater slides	1994-1995
2	4	Lower Amargosa River slides	1994-1995
2	5	Ash Meadows slides	1980-1983
2	6	Ash Meadows slides	1972, 1975, 1980-1983
2	7	Ash Meadows slides	1981-1983