



Donald W. Sada papers 1968-1995, undated

Finding Aid

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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

Creator: Donald 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 six 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 1 Folder 1: Correspondence, 1968-1971

Box 1 Folder 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 1 Folder 3: Publications and reports, 1970-1971

Box 1 Folder 4: Publications and reports: undated

Box 1 Folder 5: Press clippings, 1969-1971

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 1 Folder 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 1 Folder 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 1 Folder 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 1 Folder 9: Death Valley slides, 1993-1995

Box 2 Folder 1: Cottonball Marsh slides, 1981-1994

Box 2 Folder 2: Salt Creek slides, 1975, 1993-1994

Box 2 Folder 3: Badwater slides, 1994-1995

Box 2 Folder 4: Lower Amargosa River slides, 1994-1995

Box 2 Folder 5: Ash Meadows slides, 1980-1983

Box 2 Folder 6: Ash Meadows slides, 1972, 1975, 1980-1983

Box 2 Folder 7: Ash Meadows slides, 1981-1983