

Guide to the Omer C. Stewart and Martha C. Knack Collection on the Pyramid Lake Northern Paiute People and Reservation

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Stewart, Omer C.
Creator:	Knack, Martha C.
Title:	Omer C. Stewart and Martha C. Knack Collection on the Pyramid Lake Northern Paiute People and Reservation
ID:	MS-00274
Date [inclusive]:	1831-1975
Physical Description:	3 Linear Feet (3 boxes)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Omer C. Stewart and Martha C. Knack Collection on the Pyramid Lake Northern Paiute People and Reservation contains materials from 1831 to 1975 collected for Stewart's and Knack's book, <i>As Long as the River Shall Run: An Ethnohistory of Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation</i> . Materials include legal documents, correspondence, newspaper articles, maps, and ethnohistorical data.

Preferred Citation

Omer C. Stewart and Martha C. Knack Collection on the Pyramid Lake Northern Paiute People and Reservation, 1831-1975. MS-00274. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Omer C. Stewart and Martha C. Knack wrote a book together in 1984 titled *As Long as the River Shall Run: An Ethnohistory of Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation*. Stewart (1908-1991) was Professor Emeritus of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colorado and a renowned scholar of indigenous religions, particularly peyotism. He was also an outspoken advocate for the indigenous nations of the United States. Martha Knack began teaching in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Nevada Las Vegas in 1977 and is the author of numerous books and articles on the Northern and Southern Paiute.

Source:

Weaver, Thomas. "Omer C. Stewart: Advocate for Indian Religion and Land Claims." In *SfAA Malinowski Award Papers*, by the Society for Applied Anthropology, 2002. <http://www.sfaa.net/publications/other/malinowski-award-monograph/chapter-13/>

UNLV Media Services "UNLV Honors Outstanding Faculty Members," April 24, 2002, accessed June 8, 2015, <http://news.unlv.edu/release/unlv-honors-outstanding-faculty-members>.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Omer C. Stewart and Martha C. Knack Collection on the Pyramid Lake Northern Paiute People and Reservation is comprised of materials collected by Stewart and Knack as research for their 1984 book, *As Long as the River Shall Run: An Ethnohistory of Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation*. The collection focuses on the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation in Northeastern Nevada from 1831 to 1975. The materials document the change in Northern Paiute land ownership, subsistence patterns, access to resources, and cultural traditions after contact with Americans. Furthermore, the materials contain documented pieces of indigenous resistance, including documentation from a court case over disputed water rights.

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Arrangement

Materials are arranged topically in rough chronological order.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1987 by Dr. Omer C. Stewart; accession number 1987-26.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Special Collections Staff. In 2015, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Franklin Howard revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

Revision Description

The finding aid was revised and enhanced by Franklin Howard to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. June 2015

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Names and Subjects

- Indians, Treatment of -- United States
- Indians of North America -- Cultural assimilation
- Northern Paiute Indians
- Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation (Nev.)
- Fishing--Nevada
- Land use

Collection Inventory

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Exploring and expedition of the Rocky Mountains, 1842-1847	box 01	folder 02
Nevada and Utah Territory: foot and wagon expeditions, 1852-1859	box 01	folder 03
Multi tribes/ Provisions given & rewards for capture, 1866-1869	box 01	folder 04
First white settlers/ Indian behavior/ Massacres, 1866-1869	box 01	folder 05
Squatters on reservations, 1870-1871	box 01	folder 06
Rations from the government "Washington D.C.", 1872-1874	box 01	folder 07
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Boundaries change/ Pyramid Lake Reservation, 1878	box 01	folder 10

Trespassers on reservation, 1878	box 01	folder 11
War against white men (stay out of reservation), 1879	box 01	folder 12
Allotment of land/ Incorrect surveys/ Squatters, 1880	box 01	folder 13
Fishing (all aspects)/ War in Nevada, 1881-1882	box 01	folder 14
Restricted fishing/ Life among Paiutes, 1883-1884	box 01	folder 15
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Walker Lake reclaimed by whites/ Sawdust killing fish, 1888-1889	box 01	folder 17
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