

**FRANK WINTHROP STETSON PAPERS**

1857 - 1963

**FINDING AID**

The Sherman Library  
614 Dahlia Avenue  
Corona del Mar, CA 92625  
(949) 673-1880

## **Administrative Information**

Extent: 12 boxes.

Date Span: 1857-1963 (bulk 1890s-1940s).

Provenance: The collection was donated to the Sherman Library by Horace Parker, 1970-1974.

Processed by: Jennifer L. Martinez, April 2006.

## **Biographical Note**

Frank Winthrop Stetson (1877-1963) was born in Watertown, Massachusetts, to Charles Thomas (1847-1935) and Lillie F. Hall Stetson (1855-1930). He moved to California in 1899 and studied engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, graduating in 1902. He moved to Hemet, in Riverside County, California, in 1902, and the remainder of his family moved to Hemet from Boston later that same year. Frank pursued surveying and engineering work, and he served as city engineer for Hemet from the time of the city's incorporation in 1910 until he retired in 1959. He also served as city engineer for San Jacinto and as a member of the San Jacinto Planning Commission. He also pursued agricultural interests in Hemet, growing potatoes, citrus and other crops for sale on the family's Samoset Ranch. Stetson was also active in the Hemet Odd Fellows Lodge, the Comfort Rebekah Lodge of Hemet, and the Star encampment I.O.O.F. of Riverside.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The collection contains the personal, business and family papers of Frank Winthrop Stetson. This includes correspondence related to his education at UC Berkeley, his surveying work, his agricultural pursuits in Hemet, and his involvement with various local civic and social organizations. The family correspondence, which includes some of the oldest materials in the collection, includes not only letters between Frank W. Stetson and his immediate family but also letters sent to his parents by other extended Stetson and Hall family members over several years' time. The largest amount of family correspondence is addressed to Frank's mother, Lillie F. Hall Stetson (1855-1930), and it includes letters from both family members and friends.

Arranged alphabetically, much of the correspondence addressed to Frank W. Stetson appears to be responses to his inquiries about various publications, instruments, tools, agricultural products and real estate. Of note in the collection is correspondence from the Hemet Land and Water Companies, for whom Stetson did some early surveying work, and letters from various Southern California nurseries, wholesalers and agricultural cooperatives (including Loeb, Fleishman & Co. and several area fruit exchanges affiliated with Sunkist) related to Stetson's activities as a grower of potatoes and citrus. Correspondence and advertisements from several publishers and magazines, including *Engineering News*, Doubleday, Page & Co., *Out West*, Dodd, Mead & Co.,

and the offices of John Wanamaker, reflect Stetson's interest in reading not only contemporary literature but also in acquiring books regarding engineering and agriculture.

Other interesting items in the collection include minutes from meetings of the Commonwealth Club of California from the late 1940s and early 1950s. A large assortment of ephemera, including receipts, programs for theatrical and musical productions, invitations, and printed brochures regarding various schools in both California and Massachusetts, demonstrate not only the day-to-day lives of the Stetson family but also the social and economic worlds of Southern California and the Boston area during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Four small artifacts, primarily buttons and ribbons from different events and organizations, are in envelopes at the end of the collection.

### **Organization and Arrangement**

The collection is arranged into the following series:

I. Correspondence to Frank Winthrop Stetson (Boxes 1-3)

The correspondence is arranged alphabetically by name. Small groups or single letters from individuals or businesses are filed alphabetically in folders identified by the first letter of the filing name (i.e., "A," "B," "C," etc.), and larger numbers of letters from a single correspondent are filed separately in their own folder. Correspondents for whom a last name does not appear are filed under the first letter of their first name. In some cases, ephemeral items such as clippings, receipts or brochures accompany correspondence with which they were originally sent.

II. Agricultural correspondence to Frank Winthrop Stetson (Box 4)

This series is arranged similarly to the one described above.

III. Stetson family correspondence (Boxes 5-9)

This series is arranged in alphabetical order by addressee, then by alphabetically by author.

IV. Manuscript items and subject files (Box 10)

V. Ephemera (Boxes 11-12)

## Container List

### *Series I: Correspondence to Frank Winthrop Stetson*

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	1	A	1898-1922
1	2	Adolf Frese Optical Co. (Los Angeles, Calif.)	1902-1907
1	3	Alexander, Marguerite [folder 1 of 2]	1944-1948
1	4	Alexander, Marguerite [folder 2 of 2]	1949-1951, n.d.
1	5	B	1898-1948
1	6	The Benjamin-Dixon Co. (Port Huron, Mich.)	1906
1	7	C	1894-1922
1	8	Colman, William T.	1900-1904
1	9	Comfort Rebekah Lodge #293, I.O.O.F. (Hemet, Calif.)	1917-1951
1	10	D	1899-1949
1	11	Dodd, Mead & Company (Chicago, Ill.)	1903-1904
1	12	Doubleday Page & Co. (New York, N.Y.)	1904-1905
1	13	E	1899-1919
1	14	<i>Engineering News</i> (New York, N.Y.)	1906-1907
1	15	<i>Engineering Record</i> (New York, N.Y.)	1907, n.d.
1	16	F	1899-1918
1	17	Foster, Frank A.	1895-1907
1	18	G	1899-1948
1	19	Gibson, R.H.	1919
2	1	H	1897-1945
2	2	Hemet Land and Water Companies	1895-1913
2	3	I	1898-1919
2	4	Independent Order of Foresters (I.O.F.)	1904-1947, n.d.
2	5	International Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) Lodge #190 (Hemet, Calif.)	1907-1951, n.d.
2	6	J	1899-1931
2	7	K	1899-1919
2	8	L	1898-1948
2	9	M	1894-1951
2	10	Mc/Mac	1896-1914
2	11	Miracle Pressed Stone Company (Minneapolis, Minn.)	1906-1907
2	12	Moore's Subscription Agency (Brockport, N.Y.)	1906-1907
2	13	Murphy, G.A.	1901-1906
2	14	N	1899-1951
2	15	O	1901-1933
2	16	Ostrander, W.M.	1903-1906
<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>

	2	17	The Outlook (New York, N.Y.)	1904-1905
	2	18	Out West Co. (Los Angeles, Calif.)	1904
	2	19	<i>The Outlook</i> (New York, N.Y.)	1904-1905
	2	20	Owen, Nancy C. (Miller)	1945-1949
	2	21	P	1901-1949
	2	22	Pacific Coast Home Supply Ass'n. (Los Angeles, Calif.)	1904
	2	23	The Pierce Cycle Company (Oakland, Calif.)	1907
24			The Protective Savings Mutual Building and Loan Association (Los Angeles, Calif.)	1902-1903
	2	25	<i>Public Opinion</i> [magazine]	1904-1905
	3	1	R	1900-1919
	3	2	Riverside Bazaar Company (Riverside, Calif.)	1904-1906
	3	3	Riverside County (Calif.)	1903-1951
	3	4	Riverside County (Calif.). Surveyor	1906-1951
	3	5	S	1898-1950
	3	6	Sun Advertising Bureau (Chicago, Ill.)	1900, n.d.
	3	7	T	1898-1930, n.d.
	3	8	U	1902-1904
	3	9	United States. Civil Service Commission	1898
	3	10	V	1906
	3	11	W	1899-1951
	3	12	Wanamaker, John	1901-1904
	3	13	Wm. H. Hoegee Co. (Los Angeles, Calif.)	1902
	3	14	Young Men's Christian Association	1898-1910
	3	15	Letters from Frank Winthrop Stetson to various persons	1898-1931
	3	16	Fragments	
	3	17	Unidentified correspondents	
	3	18	Empty envelopes	

*Series II: Agricultural correspondence to Frank Winthrop Stetson*

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
4	1	A-G	1902-1918
4	2	The Chase Nursery Company (Riverside, Calif.)	1902-1905
4	3	Ennis-Brown Company (Sacramento, Calif.)	1903-1904
4	4	Fancher Creek Nurseries (Fresno, Calif.)	1901-1907
4	5	Germain Seed and Plant Co. (Los Angeles, Calif.)	1903-1906
4	6	H-O	1899-1924
4	7	Hemet Orange Growers' Association (Hemet, Calif.)	1919

Produce Co.  
(Los Angeles,  
Calif.)  
1903

			<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u> <u>Descrip</u> <u>tion</u>	<u>Dates</u>
4	9	Kirkman Nurseries (Fresno, Calif.)			1907
4	10	Loeb, Fleishman & Co. (Los Angeles, Calif.)			1904
4	11	Loeb, Fleishman & Co. (Los Angeles, Calif.) [folder 2 of 2]			1905, n.d.
4	12	Morris & Company, Packers and Provisioners (Riverside, Calif.)			1906-1907
4	13	Newberry's (Redlands, Riverside & Los Angeles, Calif.)			1903-1905
4	14	P-W			1899-1929
4	15	S.S. Wallace & Co. (Los Angeles, Calif.)			1903-1904
4	16	San Dimas Nurseries (San Dimas, Calif.)			1901-1905, n.d.
4	17	Simpson & Hack Fruit Company (Los Angeles, Calif.)			1903-1904
4	18	University of California. College of Agriculture. Agricultural Experiment Station			1901-1919
4	19	United States. Dept. of Agriculture			1902-1904

*Series III: Stetson family correspondence*

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Addressee</u>	<u>Dates</u>
5	1	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	Hall, Adeline F.T.	1875
5	2	Various persons	Stetson, Charles Thomas	1857-1911, n.d.
5	3	Riverside County (Calif.) Assessor	Stetson, Charles Thomas	1909-1911
5	4	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	Stetson, Charles Thomas	1900
5	5	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	Stetson, Charles Thomas	1901
5	6	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	Stetson, Charles Thomas	1902
5	7	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	Stetson, Charles Thomas	1874-1875, n.d.
5	8	Various persons	Stetson, Charles Thomas and Lillie F. (Hall) Stetson	1876, n.d.
6	1	Doyen, Ruth	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1907
6	2	Hall, George W.	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1898

6	3	Hall, Mabel T.	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1882-1901
6	4	Stetson, Charles Thomas	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1896 & 1899
6	5	Stetson, Charles Thomas	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1900
6	6	Stetson, Charles Thomas	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1901
6				7
				Stetson, Charles Thomas Stetson, Frank Winthrop 1902

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>		<u>Dates</u>
6	8	Stetson, Charles Thomas	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1906 & fragment
6	9	Stetson, Clifford H.	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1900 & 1901
6	10	Stetson, Fred Russell	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1900-1951
6	11	Stetson, Robert Bartlett	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1926-1951
6	12	Stetson, Theodore Russell	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1946 & 1948
7	1	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1895 & 1898
7	2	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1899
7	3	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall) [folder 1 of 2]	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1900
7	4	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall) [folder 2 of 2]	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1900
7	5	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall) [folder 1 of 2]	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1901
7	6	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall) [folder 2 of 2]	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1901
7	7	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1902
7	8	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1906-1907, 1925
7	9	Various cousins	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	1886-1900
8	1	Various persons	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1862-1897, n.d.
8	2	Abbie	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1870
8	3	Barnes, M.F.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1864 & 1865
8	4	Cad	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1870, n.d.
8	5	Carrie	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1871-1873, n.d.
8	6	Fannie	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1870 & 1873
8	7	Fillebrown, Julia F.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1869, n.d.
8	8	Hall, Adeline F.T.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1869-1882,

8	9	Hall, George W.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	n.d. 1870-1884
8	10	Hall, Mabel T.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1875-1898
8	11	Hall, Mabel T.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	n.d.
8	12	Lottie	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1876, n.d.
8	13	Louise	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1871
8	14	Minnie	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1870 & 1873, n.d.
8	15	Patten, Newt O.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1870
9	1	Smith, Alice D.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1876
9	2	Smith, Lillian D.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1869-1890, n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Addressee</u>	<u>Dates</u>
9	3	Stetson, Charles Thomas	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1873-1909, n.d.
9	4	Stetson, Frank Winthrop	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1900-1907
9	5	Towne, Fred B.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1867 & 1869
9	6	Trowbridge, Theodore W.	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1865-1878
9	7	Will	Stetson, Lillie F. (Hall)	1870-1873, n.d.
9	8	Various persons	Stetson, Lucy A. (Smith)	1882-1886, n.d.
9	9	Smith, Jonas	Stetson, Lucy A. (Smith)	1876-1888
9	10	Stetson, Charles Thomas	Stetson, Lucy A. (Smith)	1862
9	11	Stetson Kindred of America, Inc.		1897-1958, n.d.

*Series IV: Manuscript items and subject files*

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
10	1	Boston (Mass.). Street Department. Sewer Division - Grades for Sewer, 1898.	1898
10	2	[Child's manuscript story - Frank Stetson, Winship School]	n.d.
10	3	Commonwealth Club of California - <i>The Commonwealth</i>	1949-1951
10	4	Commonwealth Club of California. Section on City Planning – Minutes.	1946-1951
10	5	Commonwealth Club of California. Section on Industrial Relations – Minutes.	1947-1950
10	6	Commonwealth Club of California. Section on International Relations – Minutes.	1948-1951
10	7	[Deposition & statements]	1930, n.d.

10	8	[Fairview Land and Water Co. Property description, Hemet, Calif.]	n.d.
10	9	Hemet Land & Water Company (Hemet, Calif.)	n.d.
10	10	[Lists and notes]	n.d.
10	11	Maps (6)	n.d.
10	12	Massachusetts. Civil Service Commission	1900, n.d.
10	13	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	1895-1898, n.d.
10	14	Newton Battalion	1872
10			15 [Notebook & notes]
			n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
10	16	Photographs (6)	1904 & 1951, n.d.
10	17	Poems: "War," "Ques. and Reply," and "O! What Joy is tent life!" [anonymous]	n.d.
10	18	Rate cards	1911
10	19	Schools - Boston (Mass.)	1882-1897
10	20	Schools - Brighton (Mass.) - Brighton High School	1892-1901, n.d.
10	21	Schools - Hemet (Calif.)	1907-1908
10	22	Schools - Newton (Mass.)	1872-1886
10	23	Summary of Zoning Requirements	n.d.
10	24	University of California, Berkeley	1900-1930, n.d.

*Series V: Ephemera*

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>
11	1	Advertisements - Agricultural tools and businesses	1902-1929, n.d.
11	2	Advertisements - Books and other publications	1890-1909, n.d.
11	3	Advertisements - Household goods	1907 & n.d.
11	4	Advertisements - Medical conditions and health concerns	1951 & n.d.
11	5	Agricultural publications	1898-1930
11	6	Blank forms and stationery	n.d.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Dates</u>	
11	7	Calendars	1875 & 1897, n.d.	
11	8	Calling and business cards	n.d.	
11	9	Clippings	1873-1901 n.d.	
11	10	Dance cards	1871-1878, n.d.	
11	11	Financial institutions	1947 & n.d.	
11	12	Insurance	1863	
11	13	Invitations	1872-1890, n.d.	
11	14	Libraries	1870 & 1876	
11	15	"Lucifer. The Light-Bearer" [newsletter]	1906	
11	16	Menus	1860-1901	
11	17	Niagra Falls (N.Y.)	n.d.	
12	1	Political	1896-1950	
	12	2	Portraits	n.d.
12	3	Programs	1923-1963	
12	4	Receipts, A-I	1873-1910	
12	5	Receipts - Hemet Land Company	1902-1904, n.d.	
12	6	Receipts, J-O	1864-1936	
12	7	Receipts - Lake Hemet Water Company	1899-1905	
12	8	Receipts, P-Z	1899-1941	
12	9	Religious	1857-1928	
12	10	Schools	1893-1910, n.d.	
12	11	Score cards	1878 & n.d.	
12	12	Seating charts for Boston-area theaters	n.d.	
12	13	Stocks	1971 & 1931	
12	14	Taxes	1947 & n.d.	
12	15	Theatrical programs - The Ray (Boston, Mass.)	1871-1874	
12	16	Theatrical programs - Boston Museum	1873 & 1879	
12	17	Theatrical programs - The Globe (Boston, Mass.)	1873 & 1876	
12	18	Theatrical and musical programs	1872-1916, n.d.	
12	19	Transportation	1896-1931	
12	20	Travel and leisure	n.d.	
12	21	United States Postal Service	1900-1907	
12	22	Valentines	n.d.	
12	23	Wedding announcements	1869-1911	

12	24	World War II ration book	1942
12	env.1	Artifact: Ribbon & button from Southern California W.C.T.U. 48 <sup>th</sup> annual convention	1928
12	env.2	Artifact: Ribbon & button from American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers regional meeting	1932
12	env.3	Ribbon: Native Sons of the Golden West	1888
12	env.4	Button: University of California Extension School, Citriculture, Orange	1927

### References

family members who  
of the Hemet-San Jacinto  
Dallas, TX: Curtis Media  
Library [F 869 H488 S26].

## **Subjects**

Stetson, Frank Winthrop, 1877-1963.

Stetson, Lillie F. Hall, 1855-1930.

Stetson Family.

Commonwealth Club of California.

Hemet Land and Water Companies.

Agriculture – California – Hemet.

Agriculture – California, Southern.

City engineers – California – Riverside County.

Real property – California – Riverside County.

Surveying – California – Riverside County.

Hemet (Calif.) – History.

Massachusetts – History – 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Riverside County (Calif.) – History.