

Center for Creative Photography

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Finding aid for the  
Water in the West archive, 1989-2013  
AG 172

## **Water in the West archive, 1989-2013**

### **AG 172**

#### **Creator**

Water in the West Project

#### **Abstract**

The Water in the West archive (AG 172) holds biographical materials about the project directors Robert Dawson and Ellen Manchester, and about the participants Laurie Brown, Gregory Conniff, Terry Evans, Geoff Fricker, Peter Goin, Wanda Hammerbeck, Sant Khalsa, Mark Klett, Ellen Land-Weber, Sharon Stewart and Martin Stupich. The collection also holds notes, research materials, press coverage, clippings, catalogs, contact sheets, and other records related to the individual and collaborative projects undertaken by the participants in documenting water issues in the American West.

#### **Quantity/ Extent**

6.5 linear feet

#### **Language of Materials**

English

#### **Historical Note**

The Water in the West Project was founded in 1989 by eight photographers to create an archive of contemporary photographs and to collect historical images on a wide range of topics related to the water and landscape issues in the American West. This is the first initiation of a landscape collection of this size since the 1930's, when the Farm Security Administration commissioned photographers to document the efforts of social and political policies on the American landscape and culture. This collection serves as a resource for scholars in the fields of art history, western history, landscape studies and planning, geography, and environmental studies.

Photographers have a unique opportunity to document the complex history of landscape and its relationship to water in the West. The Water in the West participants are using their photography to investigate and challenge conventional landscape imagery, and to question predominate cultural myths and resulting attitudes that have created the current crisis of water quality and quantity in the American West. The project is a group effort, requiring collaboration among photographers regarding one main topic: water.

## Scope and Content Note

The Water in the West archive contains correspondence, notes, research materials, press coverage, publications, and other materials undertaken by the participants in documenting water issues in the American West. The series, Project Files, contains eight boxes, which are arranged by photographer. There is also a box of research materials related to *A Doubtful River*, by Peter Goin.

## Names and Subject Terms

Brown, Laurie [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500033112>]

Conniff, Gregory [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500077547>]

Dawson, Robert [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500336517>]

Evans, Terry [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500083056>]

Fricker, Geoffrey [<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/names/n2013014738>]

Goin, Peter [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500348480>]

Hammerbeck, Wanda [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500068802>]

Khalsa, Sant [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500128694>]

Klett, Mark [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500036862>]

Land-Weber, Ellen E. [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500065404>]

Manchester, Ellen [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500373058>]

Stewart, Sharon [<http://id.loc.gov/authorities/names/no99072895>]

Stupich, Martin [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500036766>]

Water in the West [<http://vocab.getty.edu/ulan/500350852>]

Geography [<http://vocab.getty.edu/aat/300054388>]

Landscapes (environments) [<http://vocab.getty.edu/aat/300008626>]

## Restrictions

### Conditions Governing Access

Access to this collection requires an appointment with the Volkerding Study Center.

### **Conditions Governing Use**

Copyright is held by each artist.

It is the responsibility of the user to obtain permission from the copyright owner (which could be the institution, the creator of the record, the author or his/her transferees, heirs, legates or literary executors) prior to any copyright-protected uses of the collection.

The user agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Arizona Board of Regents, the University of Arizona, Center of Creative Photography, including its officers, employees, and agents, from and against all claims made relating to copyright or other intellectual property infringement.

### **Provenance**

Collection materials for the archive were donated by the Water in the West project members between 1998 and 2001. An additional donation by Peter Goin was made in 2015.

### **Related Materials**

Five, VHS videotapes from SPE Forum, 3/12/1999: "Water in the West: The Evolution of an Archive."

696 photographs held in the Fine Print collection.

The CCP also holds a complete set of photographs from the Central Arizona Project Survey, undertaken by Mark Klett, Ruthe Morand, Lawrence McFarland, and Ann Simmons-Myers in 1984-86. The Central Arizona Project (CAP) was constructed by the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation to divert water from the Colorado River for use in central and southern Arizona.

As part of the Ansel and Virginia Adams Collection are a number of stereoviews of the Hetch Hetchy Valley made by Sierra Club activist Joseph LeConte. Hetch Hetchy, just north of Yosemite, was inundated when the Tuolumne River was dammed in 1923 to create a reservoir serving San Francisco and the Bay Area 160 miles away.

The Barry M. Goldwater Collection (AG 88) includes views made while on a float trip down the Green and Colorado Rivers in 1940. This trip, also documented in the book *A Trip Down the Green and Colorado Rivers, 1940* (Phoenix, AZ: H. Walker, 1940), included Glen Canyon, which was later inundated to form Lake Powell.

The Mieth/Hagel Archive (AG 170) holds notes, negatives, transparencies, and contact sheets from Otto Hagel's 1961 extensive essay on water issues in California for Life magazine under the working title "California Water Story."

**Preferred Citation**

Water in the West archive, 1989-2013. AG 172. Center for Creative Photography, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ.

**Processing Information**

Collection rehoused and finding aid updated by Alexis Peregoy in June, 2017.

**Container List****Series 1: Project Files, Water in the West**

Materials relating to Water in the West projects including correspondence, biographical material, clippings, publications, project proposals, and exhibition materials.

Box	Folder	
1	1	Water in the West, general
	2	Robert Dawson
	3	Terry Evans
	4	Geoffrey Fricker
	5-8	Peter Goin
2	1-3	Sant Khalsa
	4	Mark Klett
	5	Ellen Land-Weber
	6	Martin Stupich [includes correspondence between project directors]
3		Laurie Brown
4-6		Sharon Stewart
7		Publications: Terry Evans, Peter Goin, Robert Dawson, and Geoffrey Fricker
8		<p>Research Files, <i>A Doubtful River/</i> Water in the West:</p> <p>Arid Waters- Awards, 1994</p> <p>Arid Waters- Marketing and Sales, 1994-1997</p> <p>Arid Waters- Publication- Contract, 1991-1992</p> <p>Center for Creative Photography- Correspondence, Mailings, 1982-2008</p> <p>Center for Creative Photography- Exhibitions, 200-2003</p> <p>Center for Creative Photography- Permissions, 2002, 2011</p> <p>A Doubtful River- Awards, 2000</p> <p>A Doubtful River- Collaborators- Dawson, Robert, 1993-1998</p> <p>A Doubtful River- Collaborators- Knack, Martha, 1991-1997</p> <p>A Doubtful River- Collaborators- Webb, Mary, 1991-1998</p> <p>A Doubtful River- Collaborators, Prospective, 1989-1991</p> <p>A Doubtful River- Correspondence, General, 1993-1994, 2003</p> <p>A Doubtful River- Historic Images [2 folders], 1997, undated</p> <p>A Doubtful River- Historic Images- Permissions- Library of Congress, 1997-1998</p> <p>A Doubtful River- Historic Images- Permissions- Nevada Historical Society, 1997-1999</p>

A Doubtful River- Historic Images- Permissions- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1998

A Doubtful River- Historic Images- Permissions- University of Nevada, Reno Special Collections, 1993-2000

A Doubtful River- Manuscript Materials- Captions, ca. 1999-2000

A Doubtful River- Manuscript Materials- Caption Information, 1987-2000

A Doubtful River- Manuscript Materials- Copy-editing, 1998

A Doubtful River- Manuscript Materials- Drafts, ca. 1999-2000

A Doubtful River- Manuscript Materials- Maps and Front Matter, 1998

A Doubtful River- Manuscript Materials- Mock-up [unfolded], ca. 2000

A Doubtful River- Manuscript Materials- Readers Reports, 1995

A Doubtful River- Marketing and Sales, 1999-2005

A Doubtful River- Photography Permissions, 1989-1997

A Doubtful River- Publication- Contract, 1997

A Doubtful River- Publication- Copyright, 1998

A Doubtful River- Publication- Dimensions, ca. 1998-2000

A Doubtful River- Publication- Press Check, 2000

A Doubtful River- Publication- Printing Estimates, 1993-1996

A Doubtful River- Publication- Production, 1994-1999

A Doubtful River- Related Publications- Dividing Desert Waters: Nevada Public Affairs Review Article, 1990, 1992

A Doubtful River- Research Materials- Articles and Maps, 1990-1998

A Doubtful River- Research Materials- Mapes Hotel, 1999, undated

A Doubtful River- Research Materials- Winnemucca National Wildlife Refuge, 1998

A Doubtful River- Research Materials- Truckee River Water Quality Conference [1 folder and 1 binder], 1995

Pyramid Lake Project- Captions, ca. 1990s

Pyramid Lake Project- University of Nevada Press, 1994

A River Too Far, 1990-1991

Water in the West- Archive, 1995-2013

Water in the West- Archive Prints, undated

Water in the West- Dawson, Robert (Bob), 1982-2004

Water in the West- Group Portraits, 1991-1994, undated

Water in the West- Klett, Mark, 1993

Water in the West- Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 1995

Water in the West- Member and Project Information, 1990, 1998-2003

Water in the West- Promotional Packet, 1991

Water in the West- Stupich, Martin (Marty), 2000, 2003

Water in the West- Video [unfolded], undated