Overview of the Collection

Creator Horner, J. H. (John Harland), 1870-1953
Title J.H. Horner Papers
Dates 1889-1985 (inclusive)
1889 1985
Quantity .9 cubic feet, (2 document cases)
Collection Number Mss 6031
Summary Papers of a Wallowa County, Oregon, official and amateur historian. Includes manuscript of his unpublished book *Wallowa River and Valley* as well as correspondence with Otis Halfmoon and other papers
Repository Oregon Historical Society, Davies Family Research Library
Davies Family Research Library
Oregon Historical Society
1200 SW Park Avenue
Portland, OR
97205
Telephone: 503-306-5240
Fax: 503-219-2040
libreference@ohs.org
Access Restrictions The collection is open to the public.
Languages English
Sponsor Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Biographical Note

John Harland Horner (1870-1953) was born in Kansas City, Missouri, and moved to Enterprise, Oregon, in 1911. A life-long bachelor, he served as Wallowa County’s deputy assessor from 1918 to 1924, before being elected county assessor in 1924. Horner also had a long-standing interest in the history of Wallowa County. For more than thirty years, he collected historical information and interviewed most of the area’s early settlers and local Native Americans. His research resulted in an unpublished manuscript of more than 1,500 pages titled *Wallowa River and Valley*. Horner committed suicide on July 13, 1953, at the age of 83.

Content Description

The collection consists principally of the typescript (with corrections in hand) of Horner’s work, *Wallowa River and Valley*, dealing with regional history, as well as the Nez Percé Indians. Other papers include correspondence (ca. 1889-1985); legal documents (1898-1931); patents for window construction (1921-1922); and manuscript materials (undated). Horner’s main correspondent is Otis Halfmoon, a
Catholic Nez Percé who assisted with the author’s manuscript. The collection also includes a list of other contributors that assisted Horner in his research.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

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Preferred Citation

J. H. Horner Papers, Mss 6031, Oregon Historical Society Research Library

Administrative Information

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in two series as follows

Series A: Correspondence and general papers, 1889-1985
Series B: Manuscript of *Wallowa River and Valley*, undated

Acquisition Information

Gift of C. N. Gaylord, October 1991, Library Accession 20491

Separated Materials

Photographs were transferred to the Photographic Collection, Oregon Historical Society Research Library

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Series A: Correspondence and general papers, 1889-1985

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**Series B: Manuscript of *Wallowa River and Valley*, undated**

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J.H. Horner Papers, 1889-1985
http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv70117
Names and Subjects

Subject Terms:
Names, Geographical--Oregon--Wallowa County
Nez Percé Indians

Personal Names:
Horner, J. H. (John Harland), 1870-1953--Correspondence
Joseph, Nez Percé Chief, 1840-1904

Geographical Names:
Wallowa County (Or.)--History
Wallowa Lake (Or.)
Wallowa Mountains (Or.)

Form or Genre Terms:
Letters

Other Creators:
Personal Names:
Halfmoon, Otis--Correspondence
(creator)

2004

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