

# Montgomery Meigs Atwater papers, 1955-1966

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Atwater, Montgomery M. (Montgomery Meigs)
<b>Title</b>	Montgomery Meigs Atwater papers
<b>Dates</b>	1955-1966 (inclusive) 1955 1966
<b>Quantity</b>	3.0 linear feet, (2 containers)
<b>Collection Number</b>	Ax 630
<b>Summary</b>	Montgomery Meigs Atwater (1904-1976) was an author, forester, and avalanche expert. The collection includes manuscripts of books and articles, files of data on snow avalanche forecasting and control, and published books.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">University of Oregon Libraries, Special Collections and University Archives.</a> UO Libraries--SCUA 1299 University of Oregon Eugene OR 97403-1299 Telephone: 541-346-3068 <a href="mailto:spcarref@uoregon.edu">spcarref@uoregon.edu</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Collection is open to the public.  Collection must be used in Special Collections & University Archives Reading Room.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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## Historical Note

Montgomery Meigs Atwater (1904-1976) was an author, forester, and avalanche expert. He was born in Baker, Oregon and educated at Harvard. He lived in Montana in the 1930s and wrote short stories and mysteries, some under the pseudonym of Max Montgomery. In the 1950s he was in the U. S. Forest Service, and became an expert in snow avalanche forecasting and control.

## Content Description

The collection includes correspondence, manuscripts of books and articles, files of data on snow avalanche forecasting and control, and published books, all of which are dated from 1955 to 1966. Correspondence includes personal correspondence and business correspondence with small publishers. The subject headings for the files were established by Mr. Atwater and retained for continuity in filing. Files contain incoming and outgoing correspondence, arranged chronologically and alphabetically, reports to and from Forest Service officials and other interested persons, factual data, photographs, maps, and printed resource material. The files cover a period from 1955 to 1966,

primarily 1959 to 1962, and are related to Mr. Atwater's work in Squaw Valley, California, and the Tahoe National Forest as a snow safety and avalanche expert.

## Use of the Collection

### Restrictions on Use

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Researchers are advised that the disclosure of certain information pertaining to identifiable living individuals represented in this collection without the consent of those individuals may have legal ramifications (e.g. a cause of action for invasion of privacy may arise if facts concerning an individual's private life are published that would be deemed highly offensive to a reasonable person) for which the University of Oregon assumes no responsibility.

If a researcher finds sensitive personal information in a collection, please bring it to the attention of the reading room staff.

### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Montgomery Meigs Atwater Papers, Ax 630, Special Collections & University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon.

## Administrative Information

### Arrangement

Collection is organized into the following series: Series I. Correspondence, Subseries A. Personal Correspondence, Subseries B. Business Correspondence; Series II. Manuscripts; Series III. Subject Files; Series IV. Books.

### Processing Note

Collection processed by staff.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

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## Detailed Description of the Collection

### Series I: Correspondence

Container(s)	Description	Dates
<b>Subseries A: Personal</b>		
Box	Folder	
1	1	Outgoing and Incoming
<b>Subseries B: Business</b>		
Box	Folder	
1	2	<i>Family Weekly</i> 1963
1	2	Lenninger 1963-1964
1	2	Ski 1964
1	2	Ziff Davis Publishing Company 1964

## Series II: Manuscripts

Container(s)	Description	Dates
<b>Subseries A: Book length Manuscripts</b>		
Box	Folder	
1	3	<i>The Avalanche Hunters</i> 335.0 pages Philadelphia, Macrae Smith 1968
1	4	<i>The Avalanche Hunters</i> 335.0 pages Philadelphia, Macrae Smith 1968
1	5	<i>Avalanches of the Americas</i> 632.0 pages (11 chapters) later title: <i>The Avalanche Hunters</i>
1	6	<i>Avalanches of the Americas</i> 632.0 pages (11 chapters) later title: <i>The Avalanche Hunters</i>

Container(s)		Description	Dates
<b>Subseries B: Article length Manuscripts</b>			
Box	Folder		
1	7	Avalanche Control - Avalanche conference 5.0 pages Santa Fe, New Mexico	April, 1960
1	7	Avalanche Hunters, Snow and Avalanches 55.0 pages	
1	7	I Kill Avalanches 11.0 pages	
1	7	Search and Rescue 59.0 pages	
1	7	Skiing and Avalanches 41.0 pages	
1	7	Snow Ranger, What Gives? 9.0 pages	
1	7	Weather Observations and Snowbank Conditions - Avalanche conference 8.0 pages Santa Fe, New Mexico	April, 1960

### Series III: Subject Files

Container(s)		Description	Dates
Box	Folder		
1	8	Avalanche accidents reports, clippings	1958-1964
1	9	Avalauncher Committee, U.S. Forest Service snow safety planning, devices, training	1963-1966
1	10	Avalanche Team training, organization	1960
1	11	California, Department of Beaches and Parks	1959-1963

Container(s)		Description	Dates
		Master plan, contracts, permits, uses reports	
1	12	California, Department of Beaches and Parks Master plan, contracts, permits, uses reports	1959-1963
1	13	California, Department of Beaches and Parks Master plan, contracts, permits, uses reports	1959-1963
1	14	Connaughton-Davis case Charges of misconduct instituted by M. M. Atwater	1961-1964
1	15	Consultations Miscellaneous insurance, legal, advisory opinions and testimony	1961-1964
1	16	Consultation, California State Highway Department Snow safety and management on highway right-of-way	1958-1964
1	17	Consultation, Colorado State Highway Department Snow safety and management on highway right-of-way	1955-1956
1	18	Consultation, Insurance Expert advisory services for snow related policies	1963
1	19	Consultation, Nevada State Highway Department Snow safety and management on highway right-of-way	1956
1	20	Consultation, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Microwave station	1962
1	21	Consultation, Tangri vs. Squaw Valley Development Corporation Civil suit	1963
1	22	Forest Service correspondence Concerning duties as snow safety and avalanche expert	1962
1	23	Forest Service policy Memoranda concerning general policy problems	1960-1965
1	24	Forest Service supervisor instructions Concerning specific problems	1957-1958
1	25	Forest Service supervisor reports	1957-1964

Container(s)		Description	Dates
		Periodic routine accountings of MMA's work	
1	26	Lift inspection policy and forms Forest service safety procedure	1961-1963
1	27	Olympic Committee and Weather Bureau Coordination of meteorological services to the 1960 Winter Olympics	1957-1959
1	28	Permit negotiations, Alpine Meadows Use of National Forest land and facilities for commercial skiing.	1961-1963
1	29	Permit negotiations, Squaw Valley Use of National Forest land and facilities for commercial skiing.	1960-1965
1	30	Permit violations, Squaw Valley Reports on violations and corrective measures	1958-1962
1	31	Research projects Miscellaneous reports and injuries for equipment and information concerning snow safety.	1960-1963
1	32	Research, "Avalauncher" Specific information concerning development of this snow safety device	1961-1964
1	33	Research, explosives Uses in avalanche control	1966
1	34	Research, 2.75" and others Experiments with artillery-like devices for avalanche control	1961-1963
1	35	Research reports Official communications to and from Forest Service	1961-1962
1	36	Ski patrol, 1960 Winter Olympics, Squaw Valley Training, performance, recruitment	1958-1960
1	37	Snow ranger training program Forest Service snow safety program	1958-1961
2	1	Snow safety plan, miscellaneous notes	1957-1958

Container(s)		Description	Dates
		Organizing a plan for a specific area	
2	2	Snow safety plan, 1960 Winter Olympics, Squaw Valley Program, training, problems, reports	1958-1960
2	3	Snow safety plan, 1960 Winter Olympics, Squaw Valley Forest Service program and reports, post-olympic possibilities	1960
2	4	Snow safety plan, 1960 Winter Olympics, Squaw Valley Forest Service program and reports of violations, corrections	1961
2	5	Snow-Weather-Avalanche reports Storm reports, snow studies, comparisons and conclusions	1957-1958
2	6	Snow-Weather-Avalanche reports Storm reports, snow studies, comparisons and conclusions	1958-1959
2	7	Snow-Weather-Avalanche reports Storm reports, snow studies, comparisons and conclusions	1959-1960
2	8	Snow-Weather-Avalanche reports Storm reports, snow studies, comparisons and conclusions	1960-1961
2	9	Snow-Weather-Avalanche reports Storm reports, snow studies, comparisons and conclusions	1961-1962
2	10	Snow-Weather-Avalanche reports Storm reports, snow studies, comparisons and conclusions	1962-1963
2	11	Snow-Weather-Avalanche reports Storm reports, snow studies, comparisons and conclusions	1963-1964
2	12	Tahoe National Forest annual report	1962/1963
2	13	Tahoe National Forest district ranger reports	1958

Container(s)		Description	Dates
2	14	Use reports, Squaw Valley Capacity, manner of use, adequacy of facilities	1957-1960
2	15	Use study, general, lift-served area capacity Safety-standards, comparative studies	1958-1961
2	16	U. S. Army munitions, correspondence uses in avalanche control	1957-1963
2	17	Winter sports representative reports	1958-1961
2	18	Winter sports site development Feasibility study, weather observations, photographs of terrain, evaluation and recommendation	
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>		
2	19	Anthony Peak, California	1962
2	20	Bailey Mountain, Washington	1966
2	21	Bear Creek, California (Alpine Meadows)	1959-1961
2	22	Crater Bowl, California	1962
2	23	Castle Peak, California	1960
2	24	Highway 88 Ski areas, California	1963
2	25	Robinson Basin, California	1959-1961
2	26	Spanish Peak, et al., California	1961
2	27	Spoon Ridge, Montana	1966
2	28	Ward Creek, California	

## Series IV: Books

Container(s)		Description	Dates
<b>Box</b>	<b>Volume</b>		



Container(s)	Description	Dates
2 1	<i>The Avalanche Hunters</i> Philadelphia: Macrae Smith Company	1968
2 2	<i>Hank Winton, Smokechaser</i> New York: Random House	1947
2 3	<i>Smoke Patrol</i> New York: Random House	1949

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

American literature--20th century  
 Authors, American--20th century  
 Avalanches--Forecasting  
 Foresters--California  
 Forests and forestry--California

### Personal Names :

Atwater, Montgomery M. (Montgomery Meigs)--Archives

### Corporate Names :

United States. Forest Service--Officials and employees

### Geographical Names :

Squaw Valley (Calif.)  
 Tahoe National Forest (Calif.)

Finding aid prepared by Finding aid prepared by Vida Germano  
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