

# **Guide to the Hawks Family Papers Relating to Business Ventures in the American West**

**WA MSS S-2958**



by Beinecke Staff

2014

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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	3
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Processing Information .....	4
William Edward Hawks (1832-1911) .....	4
Samuel Brown Hawks (1862-1899) .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Collection Contents .....	6
Selected Search Terms .....	7

## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** WA MSS S-2958

**CREATOR:** Hawks Family

**TITLE:** Hawks Family Papers Relating to Business Ventures in the American West

**DATES:** 1854-1899

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 4.59 linear feet (11 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence and financial records of the Hawks family's business ventures in the American West. Correspondence among William E. Hawks, senior, Samuel B. Hawks, William E. Hawks, junior, William S. Hawks, and George M. Hawks documents the family's management of its companies. Also present is extensive correspondence with the family's business partners and financial organizations.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.hawks>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.hawks>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Hawks Family Papers Relating to Business Ventures in the American West is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## Preferred Citation

Hawks Family Papers Relating to Business Ventures in the American West. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

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## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing in 2014, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

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

Former call number: Uncat WA MS Hawks

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## William Edward Hawks (1832-1911)

William Edward Hawks was a resident of Bennington, Vermont who traveled to and conducted business in the American West. Hawks primarily worked in the water works industry; he was an executive with the Monroe Water Works and Light Company, Illinois's Marseilles Water Power Company, and the Raton Water Works Company of Raton, New Mexico.

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## Samuel Brown Hawks (1862-1899)

Samuel Brown Hawks, son of William Edward Hawks, senior, was a resident of Bennington, Vermont who conducted business in the American West. He managed cattle in Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming and was an executive of the Soda Springs Land and Cattle Company. He also worked in the water industry and was an executive with Louisiana's Monroe Water Works and Light Company, the Monroe Plumbing Company, and the Illinois's Marseilles Water Power Company.

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence and financial records of the Hawks family's business ventures in the American West. Correspondence among William E. Hawks, senior, Samuel B. Hawks, William E. Hawks, junior, William

S. Hawks, and George M. Hawks documents the family's management of its companies. Also present is extensive correspondence with the family's business partners and financial organizations.

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## Collection Contents

b. 1	Cattle business records <i>2 Folders</i>	1886–1891
b. 1	Idaho business financial records <i>3 Folders</i>	1868–1893
b. 1	Soda Springs Land and Cattle Company records and Samuel B. Hawks records <i>3 Folders</i>	1883–1892
b. 2	Water works business records, including for the Monroe Water Works and Light Company and the Marseilles Water Power Company <i>5 Folders</i>	1861–1899
b. 2	Unsorted business records and correspondence	1854–1898
b. 3	Unsorted business records and correspondence	1854–1898
b. 4	Unsorted business records and correspondence	1854–1898
b. 5	Unsorted business records and correspondence	1854–1898
b. 6	Unsorted business records and correspondence	1854–1898
b. 7	Unsorted business records and correspondence	1854–1898
b. 8	Unsorted business records and correspondence	1854–1898
b. 9	Unsorted business records and correspondence	1854–1898
b. 10	Unsorted business records and correspondence	1854–1898
b. 11	Unsorted business records and correspondence	1854–1898

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Businessmen -- West (U.S.)  
Cowboys -- West (U.S.)  
Water-power -- West (U.S.)  
Water-supply -- West (U.S.)  
Waterworks -- West (U.S.)

### **Geographic Names**

West (U.S.) -- Commerce  
West (U.S.) -- Economic conditions -- 19th century  
West (U.S.) -- Social life and customs -- 19th century

### **Occupations**

Businessmen -- West (U.S.) -- 19th century  
Cowboys -- West (U.S.) -- 19th century

### **Families**

Hawk family

### **Names**

Hawks, George M.  
Hawks, Samuel Brown, 1862-1899  
Hawks, William Edward, 1832-1911  
Hawks, William Edward, active 1854-1899  
Hawks, William S.