Atherton, P. A.  
Diary  1849

Indiana to California 1849  
Typescript. From “The Pacific Historian”  
August 1st. Humboldt  
August 15th. Truckee River.  
August 21st. Carson River.

Babcock, Leonard  
Journal  1849

Photocopies of the diary from Bancroft Library.  
Very hard to read.  
Journal of trip to Los Angeles from Independence, Mo., in 1849.

Baker, William B.  
Diary  1852

Typescript. Copy of diary, as kept by William B. Baker,  
Father of Mrs. Guy Smith of Saticoy.  
Baker left Wisconsin March 16, 1852 bound for California.

Backus, Gurden  
Diary  1849-1851

Overland journey from Burlington, Vermont to Sacramento, Calif.  
164 Pages. Photocopy of the hand-written diary.

Bell, Jane to Julie  
Letter  1859

Facsimile of handwritten letter from Jane Bell to her sister,  
Julia, back home in South Norwalk, Connecticut, dated Oct 31, 1850,  
From Oroville, California. Account of their trip from Iowa to  
California.  
One typescript of same.
Bonney, B.F.  Personal Narrative  1846

Booklet. “Across the Plains by Prairie Schooner”
By Fred Lockley.
Personal narrative of B.F. Bonney and his trip to Sutter’s Fort, California, in 1846, and of his pioneer experiences in Oregon during the days of Oregon’s provisional government.

The diary, written almost daily through August 18, 1850 and then occasionally to May 1, 1851, describes the route from Burlington To St. Louis, Fort Kearney, the Platte and Sweetwater, Sublette’s Cut-Off, Fort Hall, and the Humboldt River to Sacramento, with descriptions of the country and notes on life in the mines and Sacramento.

Boquist, Laura Brewster  Story  1862

Typescript from Ventura County Historical Museum.
From Iowa to California – 1862. Account by Laura Brewster Boquist. April 18, 1918.

Breyfogle, Joshua D.  Diary 1849


Included with What I Know About the Breyfogle Family, by Lewis W. Breyfogle, and The Breyfogle Genealogy, by Flora Breyfogle Grumman.

Brown & Duncan Families  Diary 1862

Photocopy of typescripts. November 8. 1964
By Beverly M. Cannon, c1984, which records information, in 1938, from Velma Rodgers Moore about the Duncan and Brown Families. Included are reminiscences by Mrs. Cannon’s grandmother, Laura Ellen Duncan Brown, concerning her overland journey to Nevada In 1862 and the death of her grandmother, Lucinda Duncan.

Brown, Jos.  Story – Crossing the Plaines in 1849

Published account. 38 pages.
By Jos. Brown Marysville, California 1916
Publication unknown.
Joseph Brown, born. Scotland, 1838, died 1917 San Francisco
Chadwick, Samuel
Diary 1852

30 pages typescript.
Typewritten copies of a diary kept by Chadwick, A Wisconsin man
Who noted accounts and details of his journey to California by Ox team.
Mentions Truckee-Beckworth

Clark, Costmor Harris
Diary 1850

A Trail of Hardship to “The Land of Gold and of Plenty, 1850
Marilyn Samuel, Noel L. Danner, and Ruth E. Danner.
Four copies. Reprint from “Rangelands” Vol. 8, No. 4, August 1986,
147-154.
Immigration to California in 1850.

Cogley, Dr. Thomas J.
Letter 1850

Letter to Dr. Thomas J. Cogley from Theo S. Thompson dated
April 17, 1850. Regarding death of David A. Cogley to his brother
Dr. Thomas J. Cogley.
Photocopy of original letter and typescript copy of same.

Cornwall, Rev. Joseph
Journal 1846-1847

Account of trip from Arkansas to Oregon in 1846 and 1847. Copy
of typescript. 24 pages.

Dalton, John E.
Diary 1852

52 pages typescript
Diary of an overland journey to California, April 7 to October 31, 1852.
Mentions Truckee – Beckworth Pass

Duncan, George
Diary 1894

Photocopy of handwritten diary. Two-week account of his
Travels.
Page 2 – May 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 1894 mentions Hot Springs.
Page 3 – Washoe County.

Fuller, Randall
Diary 1849

Published in “Overland Journal” 1988
They added biographical notes and pictures.
Diary of Randall Fuller. Wisconsin to California
Galloway, John Debo   Early Travel Routes Across Northern Nevada

Extract from the bulletin, “Early Engineering Works Contributory to The Comstock, a recent publication of the Nevada State Bureau of Mines and the Mackay School of Mines, Geological and Mining Series No. 45.

Gibson, John McT.        Diary        1859


Glen Family        Story        1864


Harlan, Aaron W.    Diary        1850


Hunt Family    Story of        1847 & 1849

Booklet by Fred Lockley. 16 pages. To Oregon by ox-team in ’47. The story of the coming of the Hunt family to the Oregon County And the experiences of G.W. Hunt in the gold diggings of California In 1849.

Kaye, John Brayshaw    Diary        1850-1852

Trip by wagon train from Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, to Virginia City, Nevada, in 1863. Photocopy of typescript; 30 pages.
Keck, Joseph A.  Diary  1850-1852

34 pages typescript from the diary.
Journals of Keck from March 27, 1850 to August 1852.
Gold Rush-Covered wagon and ox team from Harrisburg Iowa, to
Sacramento, Calif.  Across plains and desert.
July 16th mentions Humboldt river.
July 20th mentions Carson river.

Lockhart, Edith A. (Humphrey)  Diary  1861

15-page typescript.
Diary of 16-year-old Edith Lockhart of trip from Harlem, Clay
County, Missouri, to Honey Lake Valley, California.

McCausley, James  1849

Newspaper copies of “A Pioneer’s Reminiscences.”
Published in the “Salem Times”, Salem, Virginia September 1881
[James McCausley born 1828 died 1913 in Los Gatos, California]
Chapter III.  Carson Desert

McKnight, Sarah  Journal  1893-1895

Living at Keystone Mine, Shenandoah Peak in Nevada
(Lincoln County)
Typescript of her journal by J. C. McKnight, grandson.

Morrison, Samuel C. and Robert  Letter  1850

Letter from Samuel C. and Robert Morrison to an unnamed brother dated
November 15, 1850, from Cold Spring, California.  Describes trip from Salt
Lake City, Utah, to Cold Spring.
Photocopy of original letter and typescript transcribed by Richard L. Rieck
of Western Illinois University, Macomb, in 1999.

Murphy’s of Santa Clara County - Diary  1844

55 typescript pages and seven of genealogy.
To California from Missouri.
Martin Murphy Sr. lead Murphy party to Calif. In 1844.
Pg. 6 – Starts account of Murphy party to California.
Pg. 14 – Humboldt
Pg. 17 – At site which became Reno
Pg. 29 – Marin Murphy in California
Pg. 36 – Bernard Daniel Murphy
Pg. 41 – Appendix:
Note excellent footnotes starting Page 43.
Ness, Richard  Diary  1849
34 pages photocopy of the diary.
Contains many random notes, short description of his trip
Via Council Bluffs, Salt Lake, Truckee route, working in the
goldfields, and the return to NY via Panama.

Owen, East S.  Diary  1852
Journal of an Overland Journey, 1852
Photocopies of original handwritten diary.
Truckee route via Beckworth Pass.

Payne, Captain James A.  Diary  1850-1853
Typescript of diary of journey from St. Louis, Missouri, in April,
1850, to Sacramento and San Francisco, California, in August 1850.
110 pages. Mentions Humboldt and Carson Rivers. Account of his
shipping business on California rivers. Typescript made in 1895 by
the son of the author; the original had been lost.

Rickey, Thomas Brinley  Diary  1852
Typescript of diary of journey from Dubuque, Iowa, in February,
1852, to Volcano, California, in August 1852. 7 pages. Mentions
Humboldt and Carson Rivers and Genoa.

Rogers, Samuel Hollister  Diary  1848
Trail Journal of 1848 transcribed by Will Bagley 1991
Transcribed from Xerox Copy of Manuscript
LDSArchives MS 883
Starts April 9, 1848 ends October 1848

Short, George Washington  Diary  1852-1853
70 typescript pages of the diary 1852-1853.
Typewritten copy of a dairy kept by Short, Waukesha, Wisc.
Covering his trip to and from California. March 29, 1852 to
November 7, 1853.

Tuttle, Charles  Diary  1859
Diary of Tuttle 1859, Salt Lake City to Carson City via
Simpson Pass/Southern Route
From: Wisconsin magazine of history, December 1931.
Twitchell, Frank M.        Diary 1856

8 handwritten pages photocopy.
To California in 1856.
Pg. 2 – “Mormon War of 1856”
Pg. 4 – Carson City.
No information as to where it came from.
Note: See Genealogy in the Holding File: Twitchell, Sarah M.

Unidentified Female Author        Diary 1864

From Iowa March 24th, 1864 to Virginia City, Nevada.
9 typescript pages of the diary from March 24th to June 15th.
She is never identified by name. Her husband is Prent (Prentiss)
And a brother named Arch (Archie)
Page 5 mentions Courthouse Rock and Chimney Rock
Page 8 mentions 49 miles to Virginia City

Unknown Scout        Diary 1854-1855

Black folder tells where it came from and a typescript copy
of the diary.
Bound copy of actual handwritten diary.
Main journal is 1854 and 1855. Missouri to California.
Newspaper article March 4, 1943, Nevada State Journal, Reno, Nevada
tells about how the diary was found in Virginia City, Nevada
Pg. 44 - Humboldt
Pg. 67 - Ragtown
Pg. 69 – Carson Valley
Pg. 71 – Mormon Station

Shepard, George        Diary 1850

They added photographs and maps to the diary.
Introduction by Merrill J. Mattes and notes by
David Bigler, Donald Buck and Merrill J. Mattes.
Shepard party used horses for the journey from Kanesville
to Placerville, California.
Stimson, Fancher  Diary  1850

Photocopy. Letter, March 19, 1851, written by Fancher from the Middle Fork Of the American River in California to his brother, Edgar. The 26-page letter includes a copy of Fancher’s diary written while Traveling overland to California in 1850. The journey commences in Along Humboldt River through Nevada, and ends in Placerville (Hangtown), California, in July. There is one annotation by the author dated September 1900.

Van Dorn, T.J.  Diary  1849-1850

Photocopy of typescript of diary. Original is in Beinecke Rare Book Library at Yale University. 54 pages. Starts in Woodburn, Macoupin County, Illinois, in April 1849, and ends in Weaverville, California, in January 1850. Mentions Humboldt and Truckee Rivers.

Walker, Zachariah  Diary  1850-1851

Photocopy of diary and typescript of each page. 21 pages. From State Historical Society of Iowa. Two pages up front with names and dates mentioned in the diary. 101 mentions the Carson river.

Watkins, Francis Marion  Story  1865

“Story of the Crow Immigrant Train of 1865

Author was Francis Marion Watkins. Photocopy from a book at the California State Library. Mentions Carson with lots of encounters with Indians. 250 wagons with the Crow party many split off at Ft. Hall to Oregon.

Williams, John T.  Diary  1850

Reproduced diary written by Williams, while on an overland Trip to California in 1850. The journey begins on March 11, 1850 at Kirkland, Clinton County, Indiana, and ended on September 20 at Parks Bar, California. Photocopy from Indiana Magazine of History – 1936. Footnotes 21 and 22, page 406. Humboldt River and the Carson River.
Woods, Andrew  
Diary  
1850

13 typescript page of the diary and two pages of a newspaper article. Diary kept by Andrew Woods of Bellevue, Jackson County, Iowa. Started March 18, 1850 arrived Weaver, California July 16, 1950. The account of voyage from Mormon Island, California to Bellevue, Iowa Via the Isthmus of Panama, August 21st, 1851 to October 16th, 1851.

Young, Anna J.  
Autobiography  
1862

10 pages typescript. She was born in Illinois. Pg. 9 – mentions Gold Hill and Silver City, Nevada and mining. Arrived in San Francisco 8th October 1862.

**ALSO SEE: CLIPPING FILE – Trails**


**ALSO CHECK THE FOLLOWING:**

Manuscript File

Photograph collection under Transportation – Trails.

July 2010 last update list

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