



## **Guide to the Papers of Frances Evelyn Bishop**

Calaveras Big Trees State Park  
Arnold, California

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## Descriptive Summary

### Collection Title

Frances Evelyn Bishop Papers, 1852-1987 (bulk 1852-1900 and 1975-1985)

### Collection Number

Consult repository

### Creator

Bishop, Frances Evelyn, 1919-1998.

### Extent

4.5 cubic feet (5 boxes)

### Repository

California State Parks. Calaveras Big Trees State Park (Arnold, Calif.)

### Location of Collection

The collection is located at Calaveras Big Trees State Park, Arnold, Calif.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Access**

The collection is open for research by appointment only. Appointments may be made by calling (209) 795-2234

### **Publication Rights**

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### **Preferred Citation**

[item], Frances Evelyn Bishop Papers, Calaveras Big Trees State Park, California State Parks, Calaveras , California.

## Biography

FRANCES EVELYN BISHOP  
(1918-1988)

Frances Bishop was born in Sacramento and grew up in the Stockton area, attending school in both Stockton and the town of Lodi. She was a descendent of a pioneer family, and her aunt and uncle, Frances and Charles Gann, owned grazing land along Highway 4, above Cottage Springs. Bishop and her husband, Thomas Bishop, moved to the town of Arnold in 1967.

As a historian, researcher, and writer, Bishop's life work focussed on the history of the Calaveras Big Trees, with an emphasis on the Ebbett's Pass area. For nearly 30 years, Bishop gathered facts from various repositories and individuals for her articles, brochures, and unpublished manuscript. She served as historian for the Calaveras Big Trees Association for 13 years, often contributing articles to the organization's newsletter. Although her major work remains unpublished, Bishop's influence permeates the brochures, trail guides, maps, and interpretation Calaveras Big Trees State Park.

## Collection Scope and Content Summary

The papers of Frances Bishop were donated to the Department of Parks and Recreation and consist of 4.5 cubic feet of materials. The papers date between 1852 and 1987, with the bulk of the materials between 1852 and 1900 and 1975-1985. Document types include annotated manuscript drafts and typescripts, research notes and notecards, correspondence, articles and news clippings, and photographs.

For the most part, the materials have remained in the original order created by Frances Bishop. Folder headings were copied and materials were rehoused in acid free folders and boxes. Harmful fasteners, such as brads and paper clips, were removed and replaced with plastic clips. Photographs were sleeved in polyethylene sleeves. Newspaper articles were photocopied and the originals discarded.

Frances Bishop was an extremely meticulous researcher, often questioning her sources and her own conclusions. For this reason, and because her major work was still in progress, the vast majority of her handwritten notes and her research note cards have been retained and kept in their original order when possible. Often, it is unclear which notes and graphical materials correlate with which writing effort, and occasionally several articles or manuscript drafts will use the same graphics. No attempt has been made to separate background research materials and relate them to specific efforts.

The collection is organized into four series:

Series I: Publications. 1850-1978. .5 cf.

Series II: Background Research

Subseries I: Individuals

Subseries II: Places and subjects

Subseries III: General background materials

Subseries IV: Graphics

Series III: Biographical Materials

Series IV: Calaveras Big Trees Association

## **Indexing Terms**

The following terms may be used to index the description of this collection.

Bishop, Frances Evelyn--Archives.

Calaveras Big Trees State Park (Arnold, Calif.)--Archival resources.

## Collection Contents

### **I/1-24. Series I. Publications. .5 cf.**

This series includes unpublished manuscript drafts and fragments for Bishop's major work, which at various times was titled "The Big Tree Story" and "The Mammoth Tree Ranch;" several articles, and her published brochure. Also included in this series is research correspondence and publisher and reader correspondence.

#### BOX 1:

I/1: The Big Tree Story, table of contents

I/2-3: The Mammoth Tree Ranch, chapters 1-5

I/4: The Big Tree Story, chapters 1-5

I/5-6: The Big Tree Story, chapters 6-9

I/7-9: The Big Tree Story, notes

I/10-11: The Big Tree Story, index

I/12: The Big Tree Story, mss. fragment; trails & roads

I/13: The Big Tree Story, appendices

I/14: The Big Tree Story, bibliography

I/15: The Big Tree Story, mss. corrections & additions

I/16: The Big Tree Story, Dutton's critique, chapters 1-6

I/17: The Big Tree Story, Dutton's critique, chapters 7-appendices

I/18-19: "The story of the big tree and the big stump": excerpts from the author's forthcoming book, The Mammoth Tree Ranch. 1985.

I/20: The big tree, the big stump, and the first hotel. 1977.

I/21: A brief history of the big tree and the big stump.

I/22: The winter of the flood 1861-1862

I/23: Correspondence, 1975-1979.

I/24: Correspondence, 1980-1986.

### **Series II: Background research. 2.4 cf.**

Materials in this series were acquired and used to support Bishop's various manuscripts, and include clippings, articles, and notes on historical figures and places at Calaveras Big Trees and the surrounding towns. Also included are photographs, sketches, and other graphics to be included in her book and brochure.

#### **II/1/1-50. Subseries 1. Individuals. .75 cf.**

II/1/1: Anable, Henry Sheldon

II/1/2: Archbishop of San Francisco

II/1/3: Atwood, Henry

II/1/4: Baker, Isaac W.

II/1/5: Bernasconi, Barney

II/1/6: Blake, William P.

II/1/7: Case Philip H.

II/1/8: Curtis, Charles A.

II/1/9: Cutting, Ephraim  
II/1/10: Davis, Ina  
II/1/11: DeLaittre, John  
II/1/12: Doble, John  
II/1/13: Dowd, Augustus T.  
II/1/14: Dunbar, Freeman and Willis  
II/1/15: Farquhar, Francis P.  
II/1/16: Flanders, Ira M.  
II/1/17: Fricot, Desire  
II/1/18: Gibbes, Charles D.  
II/1/19: Graves, Newton H.  
II/1/20: Greeley, Horace  
II/1/21: Greenlaw, Louise  
II/1/22: Horn, Alexander  
II/1/23: Hutching, James M.  
II/1/24: Hutchinson, James Sloan  
II/1/25: Jameson, Phoebe Caroline  
II/1/26: Jaquith, Abram  
II/1/27: Journeay, James  
II/1/28: Lapham, William W.  
II/1/29: Libby, William J.  
II/1/30: Manuel, John  
II/1/31: Ordway, Ed  
II/1/32: Sequoyah  
II/1/33: Silliman, Benjamin  
II/1/34: Smith, Andrew J.  
II/1/35: Smith, Jedediah Strong  
II/1/36: Smith, Leslie James

BOX 2:

II/1/37-39: Sperry, James L.  
II/1/40: Sperry, Mehitable Berry Felton  
II/1/41: Taylor, Bayard  
II/1/42: Thompson, John A. "Snowshoe"  
II/1/43: Tourtillott, Jane Augusta Holbrook  
II/1/44: Turrill, Charles B.  
II/1/45: Watkins, Carleton E.  
II/1/46: Wheeler, Lt. George M.  
II/1/47: Whiteside, Elizabeth  
II/1/48: Whitney, J. D.  
II/1/49: Wooster, John Marshall.  
II/1/50: Miscellaneous, A-Z.

**II/2/1-38. Subseries 2. Places and Subjects. .75 cf.**

II/2/1: Arnold

II/2/2-3: Avery Station (Halfway House)  
II/2/4: Big Bar Bridge  
II/2/5: Blagen Lumber Co.  
II/2/6: Calaveras Timber Co.  
II/2/7: Camels  
II/2/8: Camp Connell  
II/2/9: Cattle Drives  
II/2/10: Civilian Conservation Corps.  
II/2/11: Cottage Springs  
II/2/12-13: Dorrington  
II/2/14: Douglas Flat  
II/2/15-16: Ebbetts Pass  
II/2/17: Emigrant Road  
II/2/18: Evans Cruise  
II/2/19: Expositions 1850-1903  
II/2/20: Felling Machines  
II/2/21: Fire  
II/2/22: Historic Sites and Roads  
II/2/23: Hoe Printing Press  
II/2/24: Hotel Registers  
II/2/25: Memorial Groves  
II/2/26: Mosquito Lake  
II/2/27: Murphys  
II/2/28: Pioneer Cabin  
II/2/29: Plants  
II/2/30: Raggio Sawmill  
II/2/31: Ralston Wedding Party  
II/2/32: Silver Valley  
II/2/33: Squaw Hollow  
II/2/34: Stopping Places  
II/2/35: Tamarack  
II/2/36: Trees, General  
II/2/37: Union Water Co.  
II/2/38: Woodruff's Lower Ranch

**II/3/1-13. Subseries 3. Background Materials. .5 cf**

II/3/1: Assessment Rolls  
II/3/2-3: State Surveyor General (2)  
II/3/4: Historic accounts from Bancroft Library  
II/3/5: Historic accounts (See also oversize box 5)  
II/3/6: Biographies and Visitors

**BOX 3:**

II/3/7: Engbeck, Joseph, The Enduring Giants (unbound)  
II/3/8-10: Clippings and articles (See also box 4)

II/3/11-12: Research notes & mss. fragments (See also box 4)

II/3/13: DPR correspondence & notes

**II/4/1-15. Subseries 4. Graphics. .4 cf**

II/4/1-2: Graphics correspondence & notes

II/4/3: Stereopticon history

II/4/4: Anthony, E. & H.T. & Company

II/4/5: Scripture, John Calvin

II/4/6: Stereopticon views (photocopies)

II/4/7: Stereopticon views: notes

II/4/8: Photographs from Vischer's Views of California

II/4/9-11: Photographs and captions

II/4/12-14: Uncaptioned photographs

II/4/15: Images (photocopies)

**III/1. Series III. Biographical Materials. .1 cf**

III/1: Francis Bishop biographical materials

**IV/1-9. Series IV. Calaveras Big Trees Association. .3 cf.**

IV/1: CBTA general information

IV/2: CBTA membership

IV/3: CBTA brochures, guides, and lists

IV/4: Programs

IV/5: Big Tree Bulletin 1984-1987 (See also oversize box 5)

IV/6: Big Tree Bulletin 1988-1991

IV/7: Big Tree Bulletin 1992-1994

IV/8: Big Tree Bulletin 1995-1998

IV/9: Calaveras County Historical Society 1963, 1969.

**BOX 4:**

Research note cards

**BOX 5: (Oversize)**

Big Tree Bulletin, 1858

Maps and drawings

Historical accounts