
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 1449
Colossal Cave Mountain Park (Ariz.)
Visitor's register, 1954

DESCRIPTION

A leather-bound visitor's register contains signatures of visitors to Colossal Cave Mountain Park throughout 1954. It also lists the date of visit, visitor's home city and state, and the number of adults and children in their party.

1 box, 2 linear ft.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Hohokam Indians used Colossal Cave as early as 900-1450 A.D. In 1879, Solomon Lick undertook a series of explorations of the cave and a report appeared in the Arizona Daily Star on January 26, 1879. Other explorations occurred regularly over the years. In early 1890, a photographer, Osbon, took photographs inside and outside the cave. In 1905, a tunnel was excavated to mine bat guano. It was not until 1917 that it was referred to as Colossal Cave in print, and by 1923, guided tours were being conducted into the cave by Frank Schmidt. In 1944, Pima County leased Colossal Cave Park from the State Land Department. Frank Schmidt continued to operate the tours.

ACQUISITION

Donated by Pima County administrators.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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PROCESSING

Kim Frontz prepared this finding aid in February 2012.

ARRANGEMENT

Chronological