CASE 1
Moving Toward the Future

The image is arresting: a bright red octagonal sign that reads “STOP the Golden State Water Rip-off! Vote YES.” The signs, which supported Measure W, were hammered into Claremont’s drought-stricken lawns before the November 2014 election. This initiative, which garnered more than 70 percent of the vote, enabled the city to use eminent domain to seize the for-profit water system and turn it into a municipally owned service. Subsequently the battle moved to and remains in the courts. Whatever its outcome, this community’s struggle to manage water is best understood when set within the region’s larger environmental and political context that has changed over time, an evolution this exhibit illustrates.


♦ A gift from Marilee Scaff, the Scaff Claremont League of Women Voters Water Study Collection contains a wealth of materials regarding Claremont’s efforts to regain control of its water rights as well as local spreading grounds and includes feasibility studies, sustainability information, maps, and other documentation, some of which have served as sources of reference in current and on-going water rights litigation.

♦ An active member of the local chapter of the League of Women Voters (LWV), Marilee Scaff’s leadership helped form the LWV Environmental Action Committee for Southern California, which began her journey into the study Claremont’s water issues and the growth of this collection.

B. League of Women Voters, Sustainable Claremont. Claremont’s water future. Brochure cover (left) and interior (right). Scaff Claremont League of Women Voters Water Study Collection, H.Mss.1079.

C. Golden State Water Company. Claremont water usage. Graphic indicating Claremont’s average gallons used per day/per household by location. Scaff Claremont League of Women Voters Water Study Collection, H.Mss.1079.


F. *Claremont Courier*, December 30, 2006. Newspaper cover depicts new housing developments in the foothills of Claremont (bottom) and the same landscape during the flood of 1938 (top). Scaff Claremont League of Women Voters Water Study Collection, H.Mss.1079.


J. Claremont FLOW. *Yes on Measure W!* Informational flyer encourages voters to vote “yes” on Measure W; front (left), back (right). Scaff Claremont League of Women Voters Water Study Collection, H.Mss.1079.


**Below Snowy Mountain**

The First People inhabiting the Pomona Valley identified water’s essential nature by naming Mount Baldy, Joat - Snowy Mountain; and the terrain that Claremont occupies Torojoatngna - the Place Below Snowy Mountain. They had a keen appreciation for the local watershed and the life-sustaining qualities of its creeks, pools, and seeps, moving to and away from water as their needs and the climate dictated. Eighteenth Century Spanish missionaries had no interest in being so
mobile; for them, water must be diverted into the agriculture and ranching economies that shaped their lives in Alta California. To do so, they forced native people to construct wells and irrigation ditches, a re-engineering that took on added significance following the 1820s Mexican overthrow of Spain. The missions collapsed, and their lands divided into large-acreage ranches - Claremont was part of Rancho San Jose which covered much of eastern Los Angeles County. Once again Indian labor made this scheme possible, digging trenches like the seven-mile ditch from the Palomares ranch at Towne Avenue and Arrow Highway seven miles northeast to San Antonio Canyon. Their backbreaking efforts, and the water rights that flowed from them, continue to define water distribution in the Pomona Valley.


Granite and Sagebrush  

Named after Frank Parkhurst Brackett’s book, *Granite and sagebrush; reminiscences of the first fifty years of Pomona College*, this section depicts early Claremont.

A. *Holmes Hall and Sumner Hall, Pomona College*, 1887. Pomona College Photo Archive, #xp00927, Claremont Colleges Archives Vertical Files, H.Mss.1068. Facsimile of image from black and white negative.

♦ An “artificial” collection of ephemeral materials collected by Special Collections
staff throughout the years, the **Claremont Colleges Archives Vertical Files** include announcements, brochures, clippings, flyers, miscellaneous correspondence and memorandums, pamphlets, programs and photo archives of The Claremont Colleges and the Claremont University Consortium arranged by organization.

♦ See the Claremont Colleges Photo Archive ([ccdl.libraries.claremont.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/ccp](ccdl.libraries.claremont.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/ccp)) in the Claremont Colleges Digital Library for images from the photo archives.


C. **Claremont real estate office**, 1962 print of original photograph circa 1880s. Claremontiana Collection, # chc00218. An unofficial repository of local history over the years, the **Claremontiana Collection** contains local newspapers, maps, scrapbooks of clippings, manuscripts, minutes of clubs and civic groups and a photograph archive.

♦ See the City of Claremont History Collection ([ccdl.libraries.claremont.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/chc](ccdl.libraries.claremont.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/chc)) in the Claremont Colleges Digital Library for images from the photo archive.


E. George C. Hitchcock (photographer). **Sumner House at its original location**, circa 1888-1900. Pomona College Photo Archive, #xp00088, Claremont Colleges Archives Vertical Files, H.Mss.1068. Built in 1888 on Foothill Boulevard, west of Sumner Avenue, as a home for Reverend and Mrs. Charles B. Sumner - relocated in 1900 to 105 College Avenue.

F. Loyd Cooper (photographer). **Sixth Street from Holmes Hall**, circa 1893. Claremontiana Collection, # chc00010. View from the roof of Holmes Hall, looking northwest.
G. Morrill G. Boynton (photographer). *College Avenue, Claremont*, circa 1900-1905. #bce00048, Charles and Edmund Boynton Papers, H.Mss.0141. Facsimile of image from glass plate negative. View of College Avenue looking south from Seventh Street towards Pearsons Hall.

- Among the Boynton papers which come from Pomona College alums - Charles (class of 1901) and Edmund (class of 1900) - is a collection of glass plate negatives which capture aspects of life in Claremont and at Pomona College around the turn of the twentieth century through the lens of younger brother and amateur photographer Morrill G. Boynton (class of 1904).

- See the Boynton Collection of Early Claremont (ccdl.libraries.claremont.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/bce) in the Claremont Colleges Digital Library for images from the glass plate negatives.


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**Mountains, Canyons, Creeks, and Ditches**

![Image of mountains, canyons, creeks, and ditches]

A. Loyd Cooper (photographer). *Postcard of Mt. Baldy and wash*. Claremontiana Collection, #chc00180.


C. George C. Hitchcock (photographer). *San Antonio Canyon water tunnel*, 1892. Claremontiana Collection, #chc00148.


- Frederick C. Finkle (May 3, 1865 - April 7, 1949) was an American consulting engineer and geologist. He was Chief Engineer or Consulting Engineer on
eighteen major dams to impound water for domestic use, power and irrigation in California and other Western States.

♦ The collection comprises correspondence, engineer's reports, government documents, legal cases, blueprints, graphs, maps, and photographs.


♦ More of a classification, rather than a single collection, the Water Resources Collection contains papers of engineers and others associated with water resources development in Southern California and other areas in the western U.S. from about 1890 to 1960, mostly correspondence, court testimony, engineering drawings, field notebooks, graphs, maps, photographs, reports, speeches, and well logs.

CASE 2
The Water Engineers: George Chaffey

It was in the first week of August, 1881 when George Chaffey (1848-1932), a Canadian engineer, viewed the wastes known as the Cucamonga Desert and decided that this patch of land, if properly watered, could become productive and profitable. George and his brother William bought the "San Antonio lands," 6,218 acres with water rights for $60,000. This was the nucleus of their new model colony. They subsequently expanded to the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks on the south. On the north, they took in the Kincaid Ranch at San Antonio Canyon, an all-important source of water.

The Ontario Colony lands were quickly surveyed and went on sale in November, 1882. The centerpiece was Euclid Avenue, eight miles long and two
hundred feet wide, the twin "driveways" separated by a parkway which was seeded in grass and lined with pepper trees. George named Euclid Avenue after the great Greek mathematician whose book Elements of Geometry had been a favorite subject for George in school.

The primary requirement, which had to be met before the land could be utilized, was that water had to be found and brought to the town. Chaffey laid miles of cement pipe for this purpose and later the San Antonio Water Co. drove a tunnel into the head of the canyon to tap the underground flow—then an innovation in the field. The need for electric power to lift water from deep wells led to the establishment of the Ontario Power Co.

Another innovation in the settlement of Ontario was the provision, whereby, purchasers of land automatically received shares in the water company. This would ensure purchasers that a share of water proportional to their acreage would be piped to their land. This eliminated many problems that faced settlers elsewhere, where land rights and water rights were kept separate.

The results of George Chaffey’s labors showed what could be achieved. All too soon, however, the Chaffey brothers went off to Australia to attempt a repeat performance of their success as city planners in Ontario.

Source: www.ontarioca.gov/about-ontario/city-history


C. Gurney E. Newlin, et.al. Cate Ditch Company, a corporation, Standifer Ditch Company ... Walnut Irrigation District ... Los Nietos Irrigating Company ... and Little Lake Irrigation Company ... plaintiffs, vs. Whittier Water Company ... George Chaffey ... Andrew M Chaffey ... Jack Chaffey ... defendants: complaint. [1912]. Call no: KF228 .C38 1912.

D. Whittier Water Company, et. al. Cate Ditch Company, a corporation, Standifer Ditch Company ... Walnut Irrigation District ... Los Nietos Irrigating Company ... and Little Lake Irrigation Company ... plaintiffs, vs. Whittier Water Company ... George Chaffey ... Andrew M Chaffey ... Jack Chaffey ... defendants: answer of certain defendants. [1913]. Call no: KF228 .C38 1912.
“Remarkable Supply of Water!”

Not even the region’s rapid infilling of Americans following the Mexican-American War disrupted these claims. Little else remained constant. US settlers and the colonies they established in the Inland Empire - including the railroad-platted Claremont - required increased quantities of water. Its ownership, distribution, and use determined spatial development, economic activity, and racial and class distinctions, determining, too, some transplants’ aspirations to establish here a "college in a garden." These educators uprooted sage scrub and chaparral in favor of thirsty trees, bushes, and flowers, a change in landscape that accelerated across the 20th Century when public funds constructed dams, aqueducts, and canals to siphon water from nearby mountains and the Sierra and Rockies. This technological imperialism captured a stupendous flow of white gold and generated kilowatts that powered the citrus industry, boomed commerce, and created the green-lawn aesthetic emblematic of the California suburban dream.


♦ A gift from Frank Wheeler, real estate businessman, the Wheeler Collection is comprised primarily of the three Wheeler Scrapbooks as well as maps and other early boosterism materials promoting the town of Claremont. The scrapbooks chronicle life at Pomona College and in the city of Claremont from 1884 to 1938 and were assembled with the assistance of Pomona College faculty member Edwin Charles Norton, as well as various other members of the community who provided items. Newspaper clippings, photographs, maps, plans, pamphlets, and other items are affixed onto roughly 300 scrapbook pages.

♦ See the Wheeler Scrapbook Collection (ccdl.libraries.claremont.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/wsc) in the Claremont Colleges Digital Library.

B. San Bernardino Board of Trade (San Bernardino, Calif.). A few facts relative to
San Bernardino, Southern California, city and county ... [San Bernardino, CA?]: Daily Index Job Print, [1888?]. Call no: 917.9495 Sa51.

C. W.H. Cochran (civil engineer). Map, 1903. Honnold/Mudd Library Map Collection

♦ Portion of Claremont bordered by Mesa Avenue (Foothill Blvd.) to the north, Indian Hill Blvd. to the west, 10th Street to the south, and Harvard Avenue to the east. Written at top is, “Parties buying lots in this track shall have the right to deploy water for use on said lots only.”

♦ The Honnold/Mudd Library Map Collection contains a myriad of maps which vary in style, geographic location and time period.

♦ See Maps and Mapping at The Claremont Colleges (cdl.libraries.claremont.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/p15831coll14) in the Claremont Colleges Digital Library for maps from this collection, and others, that have been digitized.


F. A History and description of the Barton Ranch: home of the orange, lemons ... etc. Located in San Bernardino County, California. [Los Angeles]: Los Angeles Lithographic Co., [1888?]. Call no: 917.9495 Sa51. Opened to interior section on “Water Rights.”

Citrus Empire

A. Snow-covered citrus groves, circa 1919-1923. Claremontiana Collection, chc00059.

B. Robert C. Frampton (photographer). Smudging, California lemon grove. Robert C. Frampton Photograph Collection, H.Mss.0318, #4-293d.

♦ Robert C. Frampton (1909-1989) was a popular local photographer who began his career taking nature photos for the U.S. Forest Department. He distinguished himself as a pioneer
in aerial photography as well as documenting the history of the growing city of Claremont and surrounding communities.


D. Loyd Cooper (photographer). **Aerial view of Claremont**, December 17, 1938. Claremontiana Collection, #chc00025. Photographic print from negative.

E. **Valley View brand** citrus label, circa 1930s. Oglesby Citrus Label Collection, H.Mss.1053, box 2, folder 27.

F. **Goddess of fruits** citrus label, later than 1906. Oglesby Citrus Label Collection, H.Mss.1053, box 1, folder 40.

G. **California navel oranges** citrus label, circa 1890s. Oglesby Citrus Label Collection, H.Mss.1053, box 1, folder 13.

♦ The **Oglesby Citrus Label Collection** contains over 80 citrus labels from Southern California dated from as early as the 1890s and was collected by Alice and Professor Larry Oglesby, long-time Claremont residents. Professor Oglesby was Professor Emeritus of Biology at Pomona College. The bulk of the collection originates primarily from Claremont and Pomona, California.

H. **Claremont from the south**, circa 1909. Claremontiana Collection, #chc00002.

**Powerhouses, Dams, Tunnels, and Aqueducts**

A. **Contract for electric power lights**, 1891. Cyrus Grandison Baldwin Papers, H.Mss.0111, box 1, folder 5.

♦ Cyrus Grandison Baldwin (1852-1931) was first president of Pomona College from 1890-1897. His ideas to light the Pomona valley and the region as far away as San Bernardino by using the water power of the San Antonio Canyon led to the founding of the San Antonio Light & Power Company in 1891. He and his fellow associates proposed to establish the first hydroelectric installation for high voltage transmission in the State of California.

♦ The Baldwin papers contain documents about Baldwin's involvement with water issues in the Pomona Valley and San Bernardino Mountains from 1897-1937.


**Vitirine:**

♦ Photographs of San Antonio Canyon in the Mount Baldy area of Southern California, including Pomona Valley Protective Association, Mirror Lake, Fleming Dam, Thompson Creek Dam, Palmer Canyon, San Antonio Wash, Osgoodby Dam, and San Antonio Conservation Project, as well as photographs from Dan Osgoodby and C.S. Overin.

**CASE 3
The Water Managers: Inland Empire Utilities Agency**

Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA/Agency) is a regional wastewater treatment agency and wholesale distributor of imported water. Today, the Agency is responsible for serving approximately 830,000 people over 242 square miles in western San Bernardino County. The Agency is focused on providing three key services: (1) treating wastewater, developing recycled water, local water resources, and conservation programs to reduce the region’s dependence on imported water supplies and drought-proof the service area; (2) converting biosolids and waste products into a
high-quality compost made from recycled materials; and (3) generating electrical energy from renewable sources.

**Mission Statement:**
Inland Empire Utilities Agency is committed to meeting the needs of the region by providing essential services in a regionally planned and cost effective manner while safeguarding public health, promoting economic development and protecting the environment. Key areas of service:

- Securing and supplying imported water.
- Collecting and treating wastewater.
- Producing high-quality renewable products such as recycled water, compost and energy.
- Promoting sustainable use of groundwater and development of local water supplies.

**Agency Vision:**
To become a world class leader in water management and environmental stewardship, including water quality, water-use efficiency, recycled water, and renewable energy, in order to enhance and preserve the quality of life throughout the region.

**Agency Values:**
Leading the way. Planning for the future. Protecting the resources of the communities we serve. The Inland Empire Utilities Agency is:

- Committed to applying ethical, fiscally responsible, transparent and environmentally sustainable principles to all aspects of business and organizational conduct.
- Working with integrity as one team, while celebrating the region’s diversity.
- Staying in the forefront of the industry through education, innovation, efficiency, and creativity.

**Formation & Purpose:**
The Agency was originally formed as the Chino Basin Municipal Water District on June 6, 1950 as a municipal corporation with a mission to supply supplemental imported water purchased from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) to municipalities in the Chino Groundwater Basin. Since then, the Agency has expanded its mission from a supplemental water supplier to include regional wastewater treatment with domestic and industrial disposal systems, and energy production facilities. In addition, the Agency has become a major provider of recycled water, a supplier of biosolids/compost materials, as well as continuing its leading role in water quality management and environmental protection in the Inland Empire.

Source: [www.ieua.org/about-us/](http://www.ieua.org/about-us/)


**Rampaging Waters**


B. *Photographs showing results of the 1916 flood in Claremont, California*, 1916. J. Ralph Shoemaker Papers, H.Mss.0829, box 6, folder 18. Photos depict Porter Orchard, Orchard Avenue and Ramona Avenue.

C. *Photographs showing results of the 1916 flood in Claremont, California*, 1916. J. Ralph Shoemaker Papers, H.Mss.0829, box 6, folder 18. Photos depict damage to citrus orchards.

The papers contain 60 field books, legal cases on water rights, maps, photographs, records of rainfall and wells, and engineer's and other reports.


F. *Historical Southern California floods*. J. Ralph Shoemaker Papers, H.Mss.0829, box 9, folder 3.


J. Ralph Shoemaker, representing the cities of La Verne, Pomona, Claremont, Upland, Ontario and Chino made a presentation to General Tyler, head of the Rivers & Harbors Committee of the Army Engineers, to request some measures be taken to control the flood waters of San Antonio Creek.

J. Loyd Cooper (photographer), *Air view #VII, Spreading ground from mouth of San Antonio Canyon*.

K. #III, *Flood waters*.


L. #39, *Santa Fe tracks at College Avenue, Claremont*, loose photographs, volume 13.

M. #40, *Santa Fe tracks at College Avenue, Claremont*, loose photographs, volume 13.


Vitrine:

Torrance, Tujunga, Upland; with photos of San Antonio Creek and the Claremont area. Call no: GB1225.C3 F73 1938 volume 1.

- Special Collections holds 13 volumes of scrapbooks related to the 1938 flood. On display is volume 1: Anaheim, Azusa, Brea, Chino, Claremont, Colton, and Corona.

The Sponge

That dreamscape’s fulfillment required another technocratic fix: a flood-control system designed to sluice rampaging waters into the Pacific, without which there could be no sprawl. For a time, Claremont and its valley neighbors adopted a different strategy, utilizing the San Antonio Canyon’s alluvial fan as a sponge, percolating flood and creek waters to recharge local aquifers. Although largely set aside in the 1950s after the Pomona Valley linked itself to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, this natural system could be reinvigorated via bioswales and other green infrastructure, enabling a post-Measure W Claremont and the larger region to become more water-resilient in this climate-changed era.

A. Frampton, Robert C. (photographer). San Antonio flood control channel and “the sponge” aerial photograph, 1946. Robert C. Frampton Collection, H.Mss.0318, #4-4980b.

C. **Thompson Creek spreading grounds, concept A.** Scaff Claremont League of Women Voters Water Study Collection, H.Mss.1079.

D. **Thompson Creek spreading grounds.** Scaff Claremont League of Women Voters Water Study Collection, H.Mss.1079. Interior of brochure.

E. **Thompson Creek spreading grounds, existing conditions, 2010.** Scaff Claremont League of Women Voters Water Study Collection, H.Mss.1079.


   - Top: View south-southeast from Miramar.
   - Middle: View north-east from Miramar.
   - Bottom: View south from Baldy Road.


L. Cecil, George H. **Babylon’s fate a warning: Permanence of our water resources above and under ground our sole hope if we survive.** Wheeler Scrapbooks, page 114, Wheeler Collection.
Exhibit Information


♦ All materials are from Special Collections, Claremont Colleges Library.

♦ Exhibit narrative written by Char Miller, W.M. Keck Professor of Environmental Analysis at Pomona College.

♦ Exhibit curated by Lisa L. Crane, Western Americana Manuscripts Librarian, Special Collections, Claremont Colleges Library, with assistance from Char Miller and Heather Williams, Chair of the Politics Department and Associate Professor of Politics at Pomona College.

♦ Exhibit designed by Curatorial Assistance, Pasadena, CA.