U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY LIBRARY
FIELD RECORDS COLLECTION
DENVER, COLORADO

ROBERT THOMAS HILL
(1858 - 1941)

NOTES, CORRESPONDENCE, PAPERS

1886 - 1917

(1.9 linear ft and 4 map folders)

Robert Thomas Hill was born in Nashville, Tennessee. During his teen years in Comanche, Texas, he worked as a cowhand and newspaperman before his interest in geology led him to earn a B.S. degree from Cornell University in 1887. Prior to his graduation Hill began an 18 year career with the U.S. Geological Survey, where he conducted numerous landmark studies in Texas geology, including the Lower Cretaceous stratigraphy of central Texas, the delineation and naming of the Balcones Fault, and the definition and naming of the physiographic provinces of the state. He is probably most widely remembered for his pioneering studies in the Trans-Pecos region, including the 1899 navigation by boat of the canyons of the Rio Grande that gained him a measure of national fame. Hill helped organize the Texas Geological Survey, served on the faculty of the University of Texas, and authored the comprehensive *Physical Geography of the Texas Region*. In geological circles he is widely remembered as the father of Texas geology.

INVENTORY

By

Clay M. Martin
U.S. Geological Survey Field Records Collection
MS 914, Box 25046, Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225-0046
May 2008

Location of Field Notebooks: CS 21-1

MISCELLANEOUS GEOLOGIC RECONNAISSANCE WORK IN TEXAS, ADJACENT STATES, AND MEXICO. 1886-1901.

Item Number	Description
NO-10591	R.T. Hill. Field notebook #801. Field notes and sketches from the Eagle Pass, Fort Worth, El Paso, Denison, Gainesville, Henrietta, Bonita, and Amarillo areas, Texas, the Texarkana area, Arkansas, and the Ardmore, Washita River, and Wichita Mountains areas, Oklahoma.
NO-10592	R.T. Hill. Field notebook #802. Geology and paleontology notes and sketches from the Fort Worth, Bowie, Millsap, Bellevue, Wichita Falls, Harrold, Decatur, Denton, Denison, Dallas, and Comanche areas, Texas. Also included are miscellaneous geologic notes from the Austin area.
NO-10593	R.T. Hill. Field notebook #803. Stratigraphic section sketches and notes on geology and paleontology of the Tascosa, Texas, and Tucumcari, New Mexico areas. Also included are geological observations made on a trip from Fort Worth to Austin, Texas in January, 1889.
NO-10594	R.T. Hill. Field notebook #804. Miscellaneous field notes and sketches taken on a trip from Memphis, Tennessee, to Ripley, Mississippi and a “student trip” to Marble Falls, Texas. Also included are notes and sketches of the Austin and McDade, Texas areas. This notebook also contains several sketches of mountain ranges in the “Santa Rosa” area, although no closer location information is discernible.
NO-10595	R.T. Hill Field notebook #805. This notebook is labeled “Water Notes”, but includes numerous geologic notes and sketches made in what appears to be the Las Vegas and Tucumcari areas, New Mexico. The faintly penciled handwriting makes full identification of the subject matter difficult.
NO-10596	R.T. Hill. Field notebook #808. Geologic notes and sketches of the Laredo, Texas, and Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, Mexico, area. Also included are several lists of project and camping gear and personal expense accounting tabulations.
NO-10604	R.T. Hill. Field notebook #820. Geologic notes and sketches from the Santa Eulalia Mine and surrounding area, Chihuahua, Mexico. No date. Also included are miscellaneous geologic notes from the Austin, Houston, and New Braunfels areas, Texas. October and November, 1901.
NO-10605	R.T. Hill. Field notebook #806. Geologic and historical notes on the Spindletop Oil Field near Beaumont, Texas. Also included are geologic notes on miscellaneous areas of east Texas; notes on the Galveston, Texas floods of 1900-1901, a listed entitled “The Industries Made Possible in Texas by Cheapening of Fuel Through Discovery of Oil”; and brief geologic notes on the Midland, Pecos, Kent, Van Horn, Sierra Blanca, and El Paso areas of west Texas.

NO-10615 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #809. General notes on trips to Round Rock, Salado, Belton, Lampasas, Austin, El Paso, West Texas, San Antonio, Waco, Gatesville, Hamilton, and Goldthwaite. 1890.

GEOLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS IN THE TRANS-PECOS REGION, TEXAS. 1899-1906.

NO-08019 Three separate document folders with:

- A 1,097-page typewritten manuscript entitled "Geology of the Trans-Pecos Province, Texas, and Adjacent Parts of the Cordilleran Region".
- Miscellaneous correspondence, editor's notes, photographs, illustrations, map legends, and table of contents information for "Geology of the Trans-Pecos Province, Texas, and Adjacent Parts of the Cordilleran Region".
- Sketch maps and structure diagrams of the Franklin Mountains near El Paso, Texas.

NO-10597 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #811. Geologic notes and sketches from the El Paso, Texas, area, including the Franklin Mountains, Smelter Gulch, and La Union Mesa areas. 1906.

NO-10598 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #812. Geologic notes and sketches from the Big Bend region of Texas, including the Marathon Basin, Pena Colorado Creek, Santiago Mountains, Maravillas Creek, and Alpine areas. September 10-29, 1899.

NO-10599 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #814. Geologic notes and sketches from the Big Bend region of Texas, including the Glass Mountains, Marathon Basin, Maravillas Creek, Del Norte Mountains, Santiago Mountains, Nine Point Mesa, Agua Fria Mountain, Terlingua, Santa Helena (Elena) Canyon, Chisos Mountains, Corazones Peaks, Rosillos Hills, and Tornillo Creek areas. Also included are miscellaneous notes on flora of the Big Bend region. November 1-24, 1899.

NO-10600 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #815. Geologic notes and sketches from the Big Bend Region of Texas. The first part of the notebook covers a journey by land from Marfa to Presidio, September 29-October 3, 1899, but the bulk of the entries describes the historic boat expedition made by Hill and five companions through the canyons of the Rio Grande from Presidio to Langtry, a river distance of about 300 miles. The journey began on October 5, 1899; the last notation in this notebook appears to be from October 24, written from the expedition's Camp 18, about 9 miles upriver from the Brewster-Terrell county line.

NO-10601 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #816. Geologic notes and sketches from the Trans-Pecos region of Texas, including the Marathon Basin, Glass Mountains, Davis Mountains, Baldy Mountain, Crow Flat, Van Horn, Delaware Mountains, and Guadalupe Mountains. Also included are notes on the geology of the Carlsbad, Sacramento Mountains, Carrizozo, White Oaks, and Pecos River Valley areas of New Mexico. July 18-September 18, 1900.

NO-10602 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #818. Geologic notes and sketches from New Mexico, including the Alamogordo, La Luz and Dog Canyon areas. Also included are some brief notes on the El Paso, Texas area. September 18-27, 1900.

NO-10603 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #819. Geologic notes and sketches from Trans-Pecos Texas, including the Marfa, Alamito Creek, San Jacinto Mountain, and Terlingua areas. 1901.

NO-10613 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #813. Geologic notes and sketches from the second portion of Hill's boat trip through the canyons of the Rio Grande in Trans-Pecos Texas. The notes cover the dates October 24-28, 1899, and discuss the stretch of river from Camp 18, about 9 miles upriver from the Brewster-Terrell county line, to the expedition's takeout at Langtry, and then by rail from Langtry to Marathon. 1899.

NO-10614 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #810. Geologic notes and sketches from the Terlingua area of Trans-Pecos Texas and the Mexican states of Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, San Luis Potosi, and Zacatecas. 1903.

MA-02725 Map folder with 37 maps of the Trans-Pecos Texas region, including:

- Paper copies of the Sierra Blanca, Kent, Marfa, San Carlos, Valentine, Monument String, Dryden Crossing, Jordan Gap, Terlingua, Alpine, Bone Spring, Chisos Mountains, Cerro Alto, Salt Basin, Hood Spring, Bullis Gap, Santiago Peak, Indian Wells, Tascotal Mesa, Shafter, Chispa, Buck Hill, and Agua Fria 1:125,000-scale topographic quadrangles, all with annotated geology.
- 3 paper copies of portions of the "Geologic Map of the Trans-Pecos Region, Texas", with handwritten annotations.

MA-02726 Map folder with one encapsulated paper map entitled "Map of Texas and Parts of Adjoining Territories". 1899. Scale 1:1,584,000.

MA-02727 Map folder with 8 maps of the Trans-Pecos Texas region, including:

- 1 linen-backed map of Trans-Pecos Texas.
- 1 paper map in 2 pieces entitled "Geographic Features of the Texas Region", by R.T. Hill.
- 1 hand drawn map on vellum showing mountain range names in Trans-Pecos Texas.
- 1 paper map in 2 pieces showing the topography of Trans-Pecos Texas. Scale 1:500,000.
- 1 paper map of a portion of Trans-Pecos Texas with sketched-in geology and a hand-drawn legend. Scale 1:500,000.
- 1 hand drawn map on linen showing the geology of the El Paso and Franklin Mountains area, Texas.

GEOLOGIC RECONNAISSANCE OF THE GRAND CANYON REGION, ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO. 1902.

NO-10606 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #807. Geologic notes and sketches taken along a route from Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the Winslow, Grand Canyon, Williams, Ash Fork, and Prescott areas, Arizona. Also included are geologic notes and sketches of the Tularosa Basin and San Andres Mountains, New Mexico.

NO-10607 R.T. Hill. Field notebook #821. Geologic notes and stratigraphic section sketches along Gallinas Creek near Las Vegas, New Mexico, and in the Bright Angel Creek area, Grand Canyon, Arizona.

GEOLOGIC INVESTIGATIONS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. 1913-1917.

NO-10608 File folder containing portions of a typed manuscript for a geologic report entitled "Geology of Southern California" and miscellaneous related material, including Handwritten and typed outlines and handwritten notes and lists.

NO-10609 File folder containing portions of a typed manuscript for a geologic report entitled "Geology of Southern California", most marked with editorial notes.

NO-10610 File folder containing portions of a typed manuscript for a geologic report entitled "Geology of Southern California", most marked with editorial notes.

NO-10611 File folder containing portions of a typed manuscript for a geologic report entitled "Geology of Southern California", most marked with editorial notes. Also included is some reference material related to the text.

NO-10612 File folder containing material related to the manuscript for a geologic report entitled "Geology of Southern California", including geologic and topographic maps, stratigraphic sections, photocopies of photographic prints, graphs, and miscellaneous reference material.

MA-02728 Map folder with paper maps of southern California, including topographic maps (some with hydrologic annotations), physiographic maps, oil field maps, and base maps for publication. Total items: 10.

Published as: Southern California Academy of Sciences. *Southern California Geology and Los Angeles Earthquakes*. 1928.