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John McCandless Papers UA.17.413

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections

Conrad Hall

943 Conrad Road, Room 101

East Lansing , MI 48824

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URL: <http://archives.msu.edu/>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections
Source - dnr:	McCandless, John M.
Creator:	McCandless, John M.
Title:	John McCandless papers
ID:	UA.17.413
Date [inclusive]:	1987-2008
Physical Description:	0.25 Cubic Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Mixed Materials []:	Box 5981

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: "Item title, Collection title, Collection Identifier, Michigan State University Archives & Historical Collections, East Lansing, Michigan."

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Biographical Note

John McCandless began his career in law enforcement in 1984 with the East Lansing Police and then joined the Michigan State University Department of Police and Public Safety in 1990. During his time at MSU, McCandless served the department as Patrol Sergeant, Proactive Anti-Crime Team Supervisor, Detective, Detective Sergeant, and Lieutenant. In 1992, McCandless was assigned as the lead investigator after the arson attack at the Mink Research Center. He travelled throughout the United States and Canada to help investigate other similar incidents and several key suspects. McCandless received the Bennett J. Cohen Award from the Michigan Society for Medical Research for his services to biomedical research. McCandless worked for MSU until 2004 when he left the university to become the Chief of Police at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

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Scope and Contents Note

This collection consists of photographs, press releases, articles, and wanted posters of Rodney Adam Coronado, all related to the arson attack at the Mink Research Farm at Michigan State University. Most of the photographs show the aftermath of the damage at Anthony Hall and the mink barn that took place on February 28, 1992. Since McCandless was the MSU lead investigator for the mink case, he was sent to investigate similar arson cases to help track down who was behind the attacks. Included are photographs of Rodney Coronado's storage locker that he rented in Talent, Oregon and the aftermath of the arson of the Malecky Mink Ranch in Yamhill, Oregon that happened on December 21, 1991. There are also photographs of bagged and tagged evidence and an unknown storage shed. Along with the photographs, there are wanted posters of Rodney Adam Coronado with personal information redacted.

(Dates and locations sourced from "Operation Bite Back: Rod Coronado's War to Save American Wilderness" by Dean Kuipers, Bloomsbury, New York: 2009.)

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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archives@msu.edu
URL: <http://archives.msu.edu/>

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research. Some materials are restricted. Consult the repository for details of restrictions.

Conditions Governing Use

Permission to publish material from this collection must be obtained from University Archives & Historical Collections, Michigan State University.

Conditions Governing Access

Legal Status: Donor(s) have transferred any applicable copyright to Michigan State University but the collection may contain third-party materials for which copyright was not transferred. Copyright restrictions may apply. **Property Rights:** Michigan State University.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Arson
- Arson investigation
- Mink farming
- Photographs
- Posters
- Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
- McCandless, John M.
- Michigan State University. Department of Police and Public Safety
- Coronado, Rod, 1966-

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Articles and press releases about the MSU Mink Lab fire and Rodney Adam Coronado, 1992-2008	Box 5981	folder 1
Redacted wanted posters for Rodney Adam Coronado, 1993	Box 5981	folder 2
Photos, 1987-1995		
Title/Description	Instances	
Arson of Malecky Mink Ranch in Yamhill, Oregon, December 22, 1991	Box 5981	folder 3
Bear Creek Mini Storage Unit A-49 located in Talent, Oregon, May 20, 1992	Box 5981	folder 4

MSU Arson of the offices in Anthony Hall and mink barn, circa February 29, 1992	Box 5981	folder 5
Mug shot for Rodney James Coronado, September 21, 1987	Box 5981	folder 6
Reprints of crime scene photos of Anthony Hall and the mink barn, February 1, 1995	Box 5981	folder 7
Reprints of crime scene photos of Anthony Hall, mink barn, and hand drawn notes, February 1995	Box 5981	folder 8
Southwest in Tucson for Coronado defense, undated	Box 5981	folder 9
Unknown location of storage shed, undated	Box 5981	folder 10

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Restricted, circa 1993, undated

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