

# **Joseph W. Emerson Papers**

## **Mss.02632**

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center
<b>Title</b>	Joseph W. Emerson Papers
<b>Date</b>	1879-1923
<b>Extent</b>	0.25 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Collection [Linear-Feet]</b>	0.25
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>The Emerson family was involved with mining in the Monarch Mining District near Salida, Colorado. Joseph Wilson Emerson was involved in research of mineral processes related to mining. The collection's series includes mineral patents and mine purchases. Also included are correspondence from Edwin and John "Lou" to their mother and sister living in Portland, Maine, and newspaper clippings highlighting Charles, Edwin, and Joseph Emerson's mine claims.</p>

### Preferred Citation note

Cite as: Joseph W. Emerson Papers, Mss.02632 (2010.71), History Colorado.

## Biographical Note

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Joseph Wilson Emerson (1881-1964) was born to Charles Harris (1844-?) and Flora Wilson (1851-?) in New York. Born in Maine, Joseph's father was the third child of Myrick Emerson (1879-1874) and Deborah Megquier (1804-1892). Charles' two older brothers, Edwin Ruthven (1930-1917) and John Louville "Lou" (1842-1905) moved to Colorado in 1900 and were involved in mining. Their parents, Myrick and Deborah, and at least one sister stayed in Portland, Maine while the brothers mined in Colorado.

Joseph first moved to Colorado in 1910 as a mining engineer researching the mineral processes involved in mining. Between 1900 and 1914, Joseph married Flora Wilson, with whom he had five children. While living in Colorado, Joseph focused his research on two minerals: ore reduction and calite. He worked with The National Mineral Products Company and The North Fork Power and Mines Company. During his time with these companies he produced research material, patents, and publications. Joseph returned to New York in 1930. He is buried with his wife at Fairview Cemetery, Benson, Vermont.

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## Scope and Contents note

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The collection highlights the purchase of mines and research on mineral processes by Joseph W. Emerson and his family in the early twentieth century. Joseph purchased mines in the Monarch Mining District, Badger Creek Mining District, and around Salida, Colorado. Joseph researched mineral processes on recovering zinc from ore and "calite". Newspaper clippings in the collection provide more details about the mining property of the Emerson family and Joseph's mineral research. Also included in this collection are several letters from Joseph's uncles, Edwin and John "Lou", to their mother, Deborah Emerson, and sister living in Portland, Maine. The letters highlight their work at the mines, politics, and life out west.

This collection includes legal documents for mines and patents related to mineral processes, company contracts, correspondence from family members living in Colorado and Maine, and newspaper clippings.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

History Colorado. Stephen H. Hart Research Center

## **Provenance**

Donated by Josephine E. Roby, youngest daughter of Joseph W. Emerson, in 1999.

## **Processing Information note**

Processed by Phil Lovato and Haley Suby, February 2015.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Corporate Name(s)**

- The Garnet Hill Copper Company.
- The National Mineral Products Company.
- The North Fork Power and Mines Company.

### **Genre(s)**

- Certificates
- Correspondence.
- Legal documents
- Mineral survey
- Mining leases
- Newspaper clippings.
- Patents.

### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Badger Creek Mining District (Colo.)
- Chaffee County (Colo.)
- Cripple Creek (Colo.)
- Fremont County (Colo.)
- Granite (Colo.)
- Leadville (Colo.)
- Monarch Mining District (Colo.)
- Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

- Salida (Colo.)

### **Occupation(s)**

- Mining

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Charles H. Emerson, 1844-
- Emerson, Edwin R., 1830-1917
- Emerson, Flora, 1851-
- Emerson, John "Lou", 1842-1905
- Emerson, Joseph W., 1881-1964
- Emerson, Sarah "Elizabeth", 1884-1970
- Josephine E. Roby

### **Subject(s)**

- Mining companies

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## **Accession Number**

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2010.71

## Collection Inventory

### Legal Documents

FF1 Trust Deed and Agreement 1908

FF2 Mineral Patent 1917

FF3 Location Certificate of Mill Site 1917

FF4 Assignment of Patent 1922

### Field Notes

FF5 Mineral Survey Number 19044 1910

### Mining Companies

FF6 The North Fork Power and Mines Company 1918

FF7 The National Mineral Products Company 1921-1923

### Scope and Contents note

Included is a letter from Frederick L. Paul of Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, to J.W. Emerson, requesting information on "Calite," a product of The National Mineral Products Company.

## Mining Companies

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FF8 Correspondence 1879-1882

### **Scope and Contents note**

Correspondence is written by Edwin R. Emerson (1830-1917) and John L. "Lou" Emerson (1842-1905), uncles of Joseph Wilson Emerson. The letters are addressed to their mother, Deborah, and one of their sisters, who lived in Portland, Maine. Also mentioned in the letters is their younger brother Charles (1844-), father of Joseph W. Emerson.

FF 9 Newspaper Clippings Nov. 4, 1899, Jan. 14, 1916, Undated