National Archives Month| Libraries

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October is National Archives Month

Special Collections & Archives

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Celebrate National Archives Month by diving into stories, landscapes, and lives captured in the past. Discover how our digitized archives can take you on a visual journey through time—no time machine needed.

October is National Archives Month—and there's no better way to celebrate than by exploring some of our most fascinating digital collections. Whether you're curious about early railroad expansion, the imagery of iconic Western authors, or rare 19th-century photographs, the Digital History Collections at USU Libraries offer something inspiring for every student.

Outdoor Recreation Archive

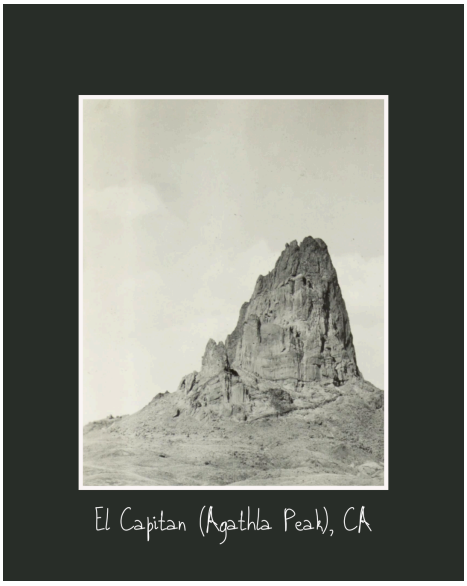
The Outdoor Recreation Archive is a unique collection founded in 2017 through a partnership between USU Special Collections & Archives and the Outdoor Product Design & Development program. It documents the history of outdoor gear—books, catalogs, magazines, photographs, manuscripts, and more—and highlights how people have experienced and shaped nature over time.

Browse the Archive

Sun Pictures of Rocky Mountain Scenery

This photo-rich digital book, *Sun Pictures of Rocky Mountain Scenery*, includes thirty photographic views along the Pacific rail line—from Omaha to Sacramento. Compiled by geologist and explorer F. V. Hayden, the book offers a powerful blend of science, photography, and adventure in the great American West.

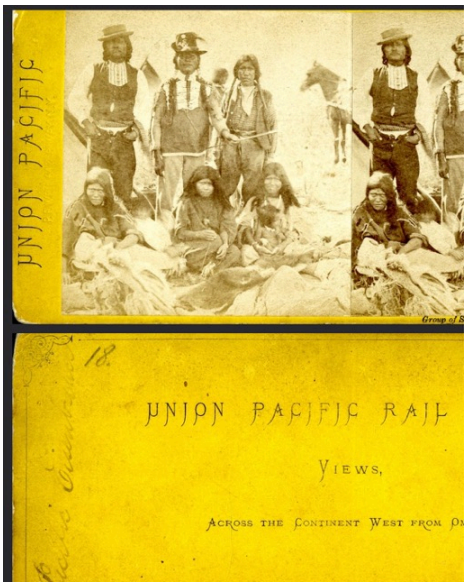
View the Collection



Zane Grey Photograph Collection

Take a visual trip into the imagination of Zane Grey—one of the most famous authors of the American West. This photograph album features the landscapes and people that inspired his novels, providing a fascinating look at both the literary world and cultural views of 1920s America.

View the Collection



19th Century Western Stereoviews

These original stereoviews offer a rare window into the sights and stories of the American West—capturing cities, railroads, landscapes, and Native American portraits from over a dozen western states. Use these images to add historical depth to your next project or just explore for fun.

View the Collection