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**ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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**MS 0324**  
**Hampe, Mathilde, 1863-1945**  
**Papers, ca. 1897-1915**

**DESCRIPTION**

Bound reminiscences about Mathilde and Theo Hampe's ranch life in Rucker Canyon, Cochise County, Arizona which are illustrated with photographs of ranching activities, ca. 1897-1915.

1 box, .5 linear ft.

**ACQUISITION**

Donated by Mathilde Hampe in 1939.

**ACCESS**

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

**COPYRIGHT**

Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society - Tucson, Archives Department.

**PROCESSING**

The collection was processed by Kim Frontz, September 1998.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Artist and ranch wife, Mathilde Hampe was born in San Francisco in 1863 to George and Sophie Eggars. She met her future husband, Theodor August Hampe, while they studied art at the San Francisco Art School. They married in 1892 and Theo worked as a newspaper illustrator in New York and California.

In 1897, they purchased Col. Mike Gray's house (formerly the barracks of old Camp Rucker). The ranch was located in Rucker Canyon, Cochise County, Arizona. They lived at the ranch until 1915 when it was sold to Charles and Mary Rak. Mathilde and Theo retired to Los Angeles.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection primarily consists of a reminiscence written by Mathilde Hampe in the 1930s concerning her life and activities on their Cochise County ranch. Included are photographs of many of the activities detailed in the reminiscences. There is also a small amount of biographical material, examples of Theo's illustrations, and correspondence between Mathilde and the Arizona Pioneers' Historical Society.

She mentions people she encountered including Col. Mike Gray, the Hunsaker family, and the John Slaughter family; and she tells of milking cows, feeding goats, camping trips, holiday celebrations, their first automobile, encounters with skunks, mountain lions, and snakes, and other stories of ranch life.

There are photographs of milking cows, goats, branding cattle, Apache May, and their home. Two watercolors, painted by Mathilde, depict their home "Old Camp Rucker".