
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 0017
BARNES, WILLIAM CROFT, 1858-1936
Papers, 1878-1945

DESCRIPTION

Barnes was a signal corps officer at Ft. Apache and later became a businessman, cattleman, forester and historian. Collection includes manuscripts, correspondence and diaries by Barnes and covers topics such as the U. S. military, Mexican revolution, Apache Indians, ranching, cowboy equipment, law and order, wildlife, national forests and Barnes' notes for his book *Arizona Place Names*.

26 Boxes, 13.5 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

Donated by Edith Talbot Barnes, 1937-1945.

RELATED MATERIAL

PC 10: Will C. Barnes photo collection

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 Todd Mills in 1980; Riva Dean re-boxed parts of the collection and consolidated the finding aid in May 1999. The original folder numbers were retained.

ARRANGEMENT

Seven Series : 1/Incoming General Correspondence, 1890-1945, 2/Outgoing General Correspondence, 1899-1938; 3/Diaries, 1878-1936, 4/Business Papers, 1898-1932; 5/Manuscripts, 6/Research Material, 7/Printed Matter

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

William Croft Barnes, pioneer Arizona Indian fighter, cattleman, legislator, conservationist and author, was born in San Francisco on June 21, 1858. He received his early education in Minneapolis, Minnesota and LaPorte, Indiana. Barnes was appointed telegrapher at Fort Apache in 1880 and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1881 for heroic service there.

After leaving the military in 1882, Barnes went into the cattle business in the Holbrook area. He became general manager and principal owner of the Esperanza Cattle Company, one of the largest cattle concerns in Apache County. Barnes entered civil public service in 1890; serving on the Apache County Board of Supervisors in that year. He was elected to the Territorial legislature in 1891 and named to the Arizona Commission to the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. He served as Chairman of the Arizona Live Stock Board from 1897 to 1900. In the latter years, Barnes moved to New Mexico where he was elected to that Territory's legislature in 1901. He was chairman of the New Mexico Live Stock Board from 1902 to 1907 when he joined the Forest Service under conservationist Gifford Pinchot. For most of his twenty-one years with the Forest Service, he was instrumental in developing and administering grazing policy.

Barnes retired in 1928 and shortly afterwards became Secretary of the U. S. Geographic Board in Washington, D. C. Until retiring again in 1930, he was credited with clarifying confusing instances of place names throughout the county. He returned to Arizona in 1930 to work on his compilation which was published in 1935 under the title *Arizona Place Names*. He was a prolific writer attracted to popular as well as technical subjects. Many of his publications were illustrated with his own photographs.

He married Edith Talbot in Phoenix in 1897. He died on December 17, 1936 and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D. C.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection relates to the various professions and interests of William C. Barnes. It is especially valuable for the material it contains regarding the Territorial history of Arizona in particular, and the Southwest in general. The collection includes research materials and manuscripts on Arizona pioneers, military history, territorial politics, scientific and artistic fields; livestock and cattle grazing, range management and land conservation, Arizona flora and fauna, origins of geographic names, native American groups and cultures.

Barnes' diaries were meticulously kept on a wide range of topics from 1878 through 1936. The journal kept during his service at Fort Apache documents fort activities and the Indian raids of the late 1870s and early 1880s. This journal is a photocopy of an original at the National Archives; all others are originals. Diaries maintained during Barnes' employment with the U. S. Forest Service contain notes on land erosion, over-grazing of lands, livestock and forestry. In these volumes, he recorded observations made during inspection trips. He often kept personal and professional diaries simultaneously which resulted in an overlap of dates between the two types of diaries.

The manuscripts written by Barnes relating to a his wide range of interests. Major categories include origins of names for places and natural monuments; conservation of land and wildlife, folklore, cowboy songs, humor and travel. The manuscripts also includes his autobiography which was published posthumously under the title *Apache and Longhorns*. The research material kept by Barnes relating to his manuscripts is arranged by subject. Of particular interest are the notes cards which Barnes compiled in for the preparation of *Arizona Place Names*. The printed matter includes ten scrapbooks and Barnes index to the scrapbooks.

SERIES LIST

Series One: Incoming General Correspondence, 1890-1945. Three boxes (1.5 linear ft.) arranged alphabetically by correspondent and **Series Two:** Outgoing General Correspondence, 1899-1938. Two boxes (1 linear ft.) arranged alphabetically by correspondent. Important topics and individuals represented in the correspondence include: Col. William C. Greene and ranching in Sonora, Mexico, (correspondence with Colin Cameron, 1905-1909), place names of Arizona (with John Cameron, 1931-1934), New Mexico politics and James Garfield (with J. Hagerman, 1907-1928) native Arizona flora and fauna with W. A. Dayton, J. J. Thorneber (1928-1936), the Pleasant Valley War and the Hashknife outfit (with Earle Forrest (1924-1928) Mormon migration and settlement (with Joseph Fielding Smith and Andrew Jensen (1933-1935), range management (with H. A. Jastro, Dwight Heard and William M. Raine (1908-1935).

Series Three: Diaries, 1878-1936. Two boxes (1 linear ft.) arranged chronologically. Diaries reflect personal and business journals kept by Barnes throughout his life.

Series Four: Business Records, 1898-1932. One box (.5 linear ft.) The records relate to Barnes' partnerships in commercial and literary ventures and to his professional career.

Series Five: Manuscripts, n.d., Six boxes (3 linear ft.) arranged alphabetically by topic. The topics used when the collection was processed are broad, so that a researcher looking for a particular pioneer will have to search through several folders to find one individual.

Series Six: Research material, n.d. Six boxes (3 linear ft.) arranged alphabetically by topic. This includes research material relating to the manuscripts included in series five.

Series Seven: Printed matter, Seven boxes (3.5 linear ft.) arranged alphabetically by topic. This material includes scrapbooks kept by Barnes as well as articles which he collected on topics of interest to him.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Series One: Incoming General Correspondence, 1890-1945.

Box 1

f. 1	Incoming correspondence, "A"	1928-1936
f. 2	Incoming correspondence, "B"	1911-1936
f. 3	Incoming correspondence, "B"	1908-1936
f. 4	Incoming correspondence, "C"	1905-1936
f. 5	Incoming correspondence, "C"	1911-1936
f. 6	Incoming correspondence, "D"	1913-1936
f. 7	Incoming correspondence, "E"	1904-1945
f. 8	Incoming correspondence, "F"	1905-1936
f. 9	Incoming correspondence, "G"	1907-1936
f. 10	Incoming correspondence, "H"	1907-1936
f. 11	Incoming correspondence, "H"	1910-1936

Box 2

f. 12	Incoming correspondence, "T"	1919-1934
f. 13	Incoming correspondence, "J"	1905-1936
f. 14	Incoming correspondence, "K"	1906-1936
f. 15	Incoming correspondence, "L"	1904-1936
f. 16	Incoming correspondence, "Mc"	1904-1936
f. 17	Incoming correspondence, "M"	1905-1936
f. 18	Incoming correspondence, "M"	1911-1936
f. 19	Incoming correspondence, "N"	1905-1936
f. 20	Incoming correspondence, "O"	1905-1934
f. 21	Incoming correspondence, "P"	1906-1936
f. 22	Incoming correspondence, "R"	1916-1936

Box 3

f. 23	Incoming correspondence, "S"	1905-1936
f. 24	Incoming correspondence, "T"	1908-1936
f. 25	Incoming correspondence, "U"	1934-1936
f. 26	Incoming correspondence, "V"	1928-1935
f. 27	Incoming correspondence, "W"	1890-1936
f. 28	Incoming correspondence, "Y"	1931
f. 29	Incoming correspondence, "Z"	1909-1934
f. 30	Mrs. Edith Barnes Incoming Correspondence	1928-1930

SERIES TWO: Outgoing General Correspondence, 1899-1938

Vol. 1	Letterbook,	1899-1905
f. 31	Outgoing Correspondence, "A"	1911-1936
f. 32	Outgoing Correspondence, "B"	1904-1937

Box 4

f. 33	Outgoing Correspondence, "C"	1900-1936
f. 34	Outgoing Correspondence, "D"	1911-1936
f. 35	Outgoing Correspondence, "E"	1936-1935
f. 36	Outgoing Correspondence, "F"	1921-1936
f. 37	Outgoing Correspondence, "G"	1907-1936
f. 38	Outgoing Correspondence, "H"	1907-1936
f. 39	Outgoing Correspondence, "I"	1931-1934
f. 40	Outgoing Correspondence, "J"	1908-1934
f. 41	Outgoing Correspondence, "K"	1917-1936
f. 42	Outgoing Correspondence, "L"	1908-1936
f. 43	Outgoing Correspondence, "Mc"	1919-1936
f. 44	Outgoing Correspondence, "M"	1924-1936
f. 45	Outgoing Correspondence, "N"	1914-1936
f. 46	Outgoing Correspondence, "O"	1905-1936
f. 47	Outgoing Correspondence, "P"	1910-1936
f. 48	Outgoing Correspondence, "Q"	1931
f. 49	Outgoing Correspondence, "R"	1912-1935
f. 50	Outgoing Correspondence, "S"	1911-1936

Box 5

f. 51	Outgoing Correspondence, "T"	1913-1935
f. 52	Outgoing Correspondence, "U"	1936-1936
f. 53	Outgoing Correspondence, "V"	1909-1935
f. 54	Outgoing Correspondence, "W"	1909-1936
f. 55	Outgoing Correspondence, "Z"	1913-1921
f. 56	Mrs. Edith Barnes Outgoing Correspondence	1930-1938

Series Three : Diaries, 1878-1936

Diaries	#1-12	1904-1911
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Box 6

Diaries	#13	1911-1915
Diaries	#14-15	1911-1912
Diaries	#16-17	1912
Diaries	#18-19	1913
Diaries	#20-21	1914
Diaries	#22-23	1914-1915
Diaries	#24	1917-1920

Box 7

Diaries	#25-27	1916-1919
Diaries	#28	1920
Diaries	#29	1925
Diaries	#30	1924-1930
Diaries	#31-32	1922-1923
Diaries	#33-34	1931, 1925
Diaries	#35	1926-1929

Box 8

Diaries	#36	1927
Diaries	#37-38	1927
Diaries	#39-40	1932-1936
Diaries	#41-42	undated
Diaries	#43-44	undated, 1927
Diaries	#45	1913-1916
Diaries	#46-47	undated
Diaries	#48-50	undated, 1909
Diaries	#51-52	1929, 1930
Diaries	#53-54	1930-1931
Diaries	#55-56	1931

Box 9

Diaries	#57-58	1930, 1933
Diaries	#59 (Copy only)	1878-1886

Series 4: Business Records, 1898-1932

f. 57	Contracts, Receipts	1898-1932
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Series 5: Manuscripts

f. 58-62	Arizona Place Names, A-Q
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Box 10

f. 63-65	Arizona Place Names, R-Z
f. 66-67	Places, General
f. 68-69	Pioneers

Box 11

f. 70-72	Pioneers
f. 73-74	Indians
f. 75	Autobiography

Box 12

f. 76-78	Autobiography
f. 79-82	Land Conservation

Box 13

f. 83	Plants
f. 84-86	Animals and Livestock
f. 87	Technology
f. 88	Social Life
f. 89-90	Travel
f. 91	Cowboy Songs & Lyrics

SERIES 6: Research Material

Box 14 Arizona Place Name Cards, A-E

Box 15 Arizona Place Name Cards, E-L

Box 16 Arizona Place Name Cards, Mc-Say

Box 17 Arizona Place Name Cards, Sc-Z

Box 18

- f. 92-93 Places, General
- f. 94-97 Pioneers

Box 19

- f. 98 Pioneers
- f. 99 Indians
- f. 100 Land conservation
- f. 101 Plants
- f. 102-105 Animals and Livestock

Box 20

- f. 106 Animals and Livestock
- f. 107 Technology
- f. 108 Social Life
- f. 109 Cowboys songs and lyrics
- f. 110 Humor

Series 7: Printed Material

Scrapbooks #1-2

Box 21

Scrapbooks #3-5

Box 22

Scrapbooks #6-8

Box 23

Scrapbooks #9-10
Index to Scrapbooks

Box 24

- f. 111 Places
- f. 112-115 Pioneers
- f. 116 Indians

Box 25

- f. 117-118 Indians
- f. 119 Land conservation
- f. 120-124 Animals and livestock
- f. 125 Technology

Box 26

- f. 126-127 Social life
- f. 128-129 Travel
- f. 130 Cowboy songs and lyrics