
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

949 East Second Street
Tucson, AZ 85719

Library and Archives
(520) 617-1157

ahsref@azhs.gov

MS 1054
Fickett, Fred Wildon, Sr.
Family Papers, 1876-1940

DESCRIPTION

Collection consists of photocopies of correspondence, printed materials and documents of the Fred Wildon Fickett family. The bulk of the collection consists of photocopies of correspondence and diaries of F. W. Fickett, his wife, Nellie Tibbetts during the years that Fickett was in Alaska. Other family members' papers are also included. The bulk of the original material consists of photo albums.

11 Boxes, 7.75 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

Record Group One was donated by Mary Ruth Howes in May 1991; Record Group Two was donated by the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

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. Requests for permission to publish material from photocopies of the Alaska material should be addressed to the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

PROCESSING

The manuscript portion of the collection was processed in 1993 by Heather Braun, intern. Riva Dean completed the processing and the finding aid in March 2000.

ARRANGEMENT

Record Group 1: Family Donations: Series 1 : Correspondence (Photocopies), Series 2: Documents & Diary, Series 3 : Photographs, Series 4 : Printed Material, Series 5 : Manuscripts, Series 6 : Scrapbooks, Series 7 : Photo Albums. **Record Group 2 :** Copies from the University of Alaska: Series 1 : F. W. Fickett Diaries & Notebooks, Series 2 : F. W. Fickett Correspondence, Series 3 : Photographs (photocopies), Series 4 : Misc. printed material.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Fred Wildon Fickett, Sr. (1857-1928), of the U. S. Signal Corps, was raised and educated in Maine. He married Nellie Tibbetts Lord in 1886. They had four children: Fred W. Fickett, Jr., Harold, Webster and Mary. After training for the U. S. Signal Corps, he was positioned in Sitka, Alaska in 1882. While stationed in Alaska, he served on scientific explorations for the army. He remained in the army until 1890 and in 1891 was appointed Assistant Observer in the U. S. Weather Bureau office in Galveston, Texas. He moved to Tucson in 1906 where he was Vice President and General Manager of the Lincoln Consolidated Mining Company. He died in Tucson in 1928.

Fred W. Fickett, Jr. (1895-) graduated from the University of Arizona in 1917 and entered Camp Presidio in San Francisco serving in World War I. He began practicing law upon his return and was appointed Assistant City Attorney under John B. Wright in 1925. He was named Judge of Superior Court of Pima County. He was a member of the school board for many years.

Mary Fickett Howes (1897-) attended Tucson High and the University of Arizona and was active in many campus activities and the Baptist Youth organizations. In the 1920s, she went to China as a missionary under the direction of the China Inland Mission Board, serving there for about twenty years. She married Roger Williams Howes in China.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Though certain members of the Fickett family spent many years in Tucson, the significant portion of this collection relates to Alaska. The manuscript portion of the collection is primarily photocopies of correspondence between Fred W. Fickett, Sr. and his wife, Nellie. During his years with the U. S. Signal Corps in Alaska, he wrote to his future wife, describing life in Alaska and his expeditions there. Other family correspondence includes letters from Fickett, Sr. to Fred Fickett, Jr. An original diary begun by Nellie Lord Fickett and then completed by her daughter, Mary Fickett Howes includes describes student activities in high school and at University of Arizona during the teens.

Of interest to Arizona researchers will primarily be the photographic portion of the collection. The boxes of scrapbooks and photo albums kept by Mary Fickett Howes include photographs of her years at the University of Arizona with views of the campus, student activities and Tucson from 1914 into the early 1920s. Some photographs of friends and Tucson views are identified, but many are not. Other photo albums kept by Mary Fickett Howes include family trips to relatives around the country as well as her missionary work in China from 1920-1940.

MS 1054 : BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Record Group One (donated by Family)

Series 1 : Correspondence (Photocopies)

Box 1

- f. 1 Family genealogy
 - f. 2 Misc. family correspondence
 - f. 3-4 Fred W. Fickett Personal Correspondence (FWF to Nellie), 1883-1886
 - f. 5 Fred W. Fickett Personal Correspondence (FWF to FWF, Jr.), 1900-1906
 - f. 6-8 Fred W. Fickett Personal Correspondence (Nellie to FWF), 1885-1886
 - f. 9 Fred W. Fickett Business Correspondence, 1882-1908
 - f. 10 Fred W. Fickett Military Orders & Correspondence, 1882-1890
 - f. 11 Fred W. Fickett U. S. Weather Bureau Correspondence, 1891-1892
- Series 2 : Documents & Diary**
- f. 12 Documents (photocopies) of FWF & Mary Fickett's passport (original)
 - f. 13 Original Diary kept by Nellie Fickett, 1894 & completed by Mary, 1913-1916

Series 3 : Photographs

Box 2

- f. 14 Fred W. Fickett & Expeditions (Photocopies)
 - f. 15 Sitka Individuals (Photocopies)
 - f. 16 Sitka Views (Photocopies)
- Series 4 : Printed Material**
- f. 17 Articles Re: Alaska
- Series 5 : Manuscripts**
- f. 18 Manuscripts by Fred W. Fickett
- Series 6 : Scrapbooks**
- f. 19 Scrapbook

Box 3

University of Arizona Scrapbook (Mary Fickett), 1918-1920

This scrapbook includes photographs (primarily unidentified) of other students, student activities, campus buildings along with newspaper clippings, student documents and programs.

Series 7 : Photo Albums

Box 4

Photo Album, 1914-1918 kept by Mary Fickett. Primarily family photos. Also includes some University of Arizona and Tucson shots.

Box 5

Family photo album, taken in Tucson and on family vacations, 1919-1920.

Box 6

Photo album kept by Mary Fickett. Includes Texas, Buffalo, N.Y., Tennessee, Chicago, Maine & other family visits, ca. 1920s.

Box 7

Photo album of Mary Fickett's trip China, ca. 1925-1931. Includes visit back to Tucson, but primarily of China.

Box 8

Contains two small albums, both include some Tucson snapshots including Sabino Canyon, ca. 1920s-30s.

Box 9

9A - Shanghai, 1939-1940

9B - Mostly Canada, 1933-34

Record Group 2 : Copies from the University of Alaska

For complete guide to University of Alaska collection, see f. 95

Series 1 : F. W. Fickett Diaries & Notebooks**Box 10**

f. 1 Diary, 1876-77

f. 2 Diary, 1880-88

f. 3-9 Diary, 1883-88

f. 10-11 Notebooks, 1878-1884

f. 12 Notes, 1885

f. 13 Essays

f. 14 Speech

Series 2 : F. W. Fickett Correspondence

f. 15-51 Correspondence, 1877-1885

Box 11

f. 52-64 Correspondence, 1886-1890

f. 65 Correspondence, 1930

f. 66 Correspondence, n.d.

f. 67-71 Transcribed & Copied Correspondence, 1882-1886

f. 72-78 Army Correspondence, 1881-1888

- f. 79-80 Legal Documents & Certificates, 1877, 1880
- f. 81 Receipt, 1885
- f. 82 Family notes, n.d.

Series 3 : Photographs (photocopies)

- f. 83 Fickett Family & Individual photographs
- f. 84-86 Sitka & Miscellaneous
- f. 87 Misc. Family Photos

Series 4 : Misc. printed material

- f. 88 Programs & Handbills
- f. 89 Scrapbook
- f. 90-94 Maps & Circulars
- f. 95 Guide to the collection at the University of Alaska
- f. 96 Microfiche of the University of Alaska collection
- f. 97 Nellie Fickett's funeral audio tape