
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 637
OSGOOD, DORA

DESCRIPTION

The collection consists of one (ninety-one page) typescript of reminiscences written by Dora Osgood. It is a day by day account of the Osgood family's journey from Provo, Utah to Cottonwood, Arizona in November-December 1901. The bulk of the manuscript relates the family's journey in two wagons with horses, describing the hardships of travel and camps. She also describes the dangers of crossing the Virgin River and being lost in the desert near Hackberry, Arizona. The father worked on Charlie Willard's farm near Jerome. Dora describes school and life in Verde Valley and Oak Creek. The family returned to Springville, Utah in 1904 and then later moved again to Blackfoot, Idaho in 1906 and these are briefly noted.

1 Box, .25 linear feet

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Mr. Osgood (1855?-1933) was a farmer and freighter and married Mrs. Osgood (1861?-1941) in 1880. They had seven children, but all the boys died at a young age. Mr. and Mrs. Osgood left Provo, Utah with their four daughters, Dora (1886-), Lorena (1889?-), Mattie (1895?-) and Ella (1896-) in November 1901. After a treacherous journey, the Osgood family settled on part of a farm owned by Charlie Willard in Cottonwood in January 1902. While in Cottonwood, the Osgoods farmed fruits and vegetables to sell in Jerome. In January 1903, they moved to Camp Verde and in April 1903, they moved to the William Stevens ranch. The family began to move back to Springville, Utah in March 1904. In October 1906, the family moved again to Blackfoot, Idaho and established a dairy farm. The parents retired in 1919 after the girls had married and begun their own families. The four daughters all married in Idaho. Dora moved to Walla Walla, Washington and when the manuscript was purchased, she was living in Weston, Oregon. By 1951, all the sisters were living in Oregon.

ACQUISITION

The collection was purchased by the Arizona Historical Society from Dora Osgood in 1951.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on this collection.

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Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society.

PROCESSING

The collection was processed in the early 1980s and the finding aid was completed in 1997 by Riva Dean, Library/Archives Co-Manager.