
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**949 East Second Street****Library and Archives****Tucson, AZ 85719 (520) 617-1157 Fax: (520) 629-8966 ahsref@vms.arizona.edu**

PC205**Arizona Desert School, 1927-1953****Photograph Collection, 1945-1946****DESCRIPTION**

This collection consists of a series of black and white snapshots of the Arizona Desert School buildings and surrounding landscape. The landscape pictures include views of the Catalina Mountains, desert plants, and the school's grazing cattle. Also included are black and white photographs of two ADS teachers, Charlie Allen and Robert T. Fox, Jr., on and around the property.

1 box, .75 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

Robert T. Fox donated these materials in 1981.

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

Brandi Barleycorn, AHS volunteer, processed this collection under the supervision of Riva Dean. September 2001.

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged in four folders: People, Places, and Subject.

HISTORICAL NOTE

The Arizona Desert School was located approximately 9 miles north of Tucson in the mouth of Pima Canyon, near the Santa Catalina Mountains. It was established in 1927, and was originally set up to be a boarding school, exclusively for boys between the ages of 8 and 14. The school advertised expert teaching and sound physical care, all in a healthy, outdoor ranch setting. In October of 1950, the Arizona Desert School became coeducational and took on day students. The school also expanded its curriculum to include a senior school, consisting of all high school grades, as well as the original lower school for pupils from the third through the eighth grades. The school finally closed its doors in 1953, due to accumulated debts and a light enrollment. In 1961 the old school, minus many acres of land which had been sold off, was purchased by James Hannan, a former Michigan state senator, and transformed into a convalescent home. In 1966, the nursing home was partially destroyed by fire. In 1969, the old buildings were bulldozed down to make way for the construction of condominium apartments. The series of black and white photographs, included in the collection, show two of the Arizona Desert Schoolteachers posing in different areas around the school. Mr. Allen, originally from Louisville, Kentucky, came to the school with a Masters in English. Mr. Fox, originally from Hummelstown, Pennsylvania, had a Masters in French and later taught at the University of Arizona.