
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 1435
Martha Nelson Collection
1890s-1980s

DESCRIPTION

The Martha Nelson Collection contains photographs and papers of the Grossetta family and the Nelson family. Some documents of interest from the Grossetta family include tax and financial documents from Tucson in the early 20th century, as well as vital documents that include their marriage license, passport, and certificate of death. Some important documents from the Nelson family include Bob Nelson's military papers, report cards from Tucson in the early 20th century, and yearbooks from schools in Tucson. The collection also includes photographs from the Grossetta and Nelson families, including two albums featuring Martha Nelson and her friends in and around Tucson and photographs from the set of the movie "Salt of the Earth."

5 Boxes, 4 linear ft.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Martha Crowell was born October 30th, 1901 in Sackett Harbor, New York. She moved to Nogales Arizona soon after with her family; her father, Eben Lewis Crowell, was a customs broker and her mother, Etta Frances Potter, was a homemaker. Potter divorced Eben and married Anthony Vincent Grossetta, a prominent business man in Tucson. Martha had one brother, Irving Crowell, and attended Tucson High School where she played basketball. Martha attended the University of Arizona where she majored in physical education and was a member of the Pi Beta Phi Fraternity. She married William Campbell and they had 2 children, Dorthea and Frances. They lived several years in Globe, Arizona. Martha later divorced Bill Campbell and married Robert Nelson.

Martha belonged to several organizations around Tucson, including the Humane Society of Southern Arizona, Square Dance Society, and she was an early member of the Tucson Watercolor Guild. She died in 1995 in Tucson.

ACQUISITION

Donated by Ken Newman in 2007.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access research to this collection.

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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 Nancy Siner in March 2011

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1

f. 1	Photographs – Martha Nelson	1900s-1970s
f. 2	Photographs – Martha Nelson with groups	1900s-1980s
f. 3	Photographs – Martha (Crowell) Nelson and Irving Crowell	1900s; 1960s
f. 4	Photographs – Irving Crowell	1900s-1970s
f. 5	Photographs – Frances Campbell	1930s
f. 6	Photographs – Anthony and E. Frances Grossetta	1910s-1950s
f. 7	Photographs – Other family members	ca. 1890s-1950s
f. 8	Photographs – Bob Nelson	1930s-1940s
f. 9	Photographs – Bob Nelson military scenes and groups	1940s
f. 10	Photographs – Warren Grossetta / “Salt of the Earth”	1950s
f. 11	Photographs – University of Arizona events	1910s-1920s
f. 12	Photographs – Car racing	
f. 13	Photographs – Nelso Air-Chair	1938
f. 14	Photographs – E. Frances Grossetta friends	1890s
f. 15	Photographs – Celebrity publicity shots	1930s
f. 16	Photographs – Miscellaneous identified people and places	
f. 17	Photographs – Miscellaneous unidentified people and places	

Box 2

f. 18	Photo album ‘A’ – folder 1 of 3 (pages 1-26)	1900s-1910s
f. 19	Photo album ‘A’ – folder 2 of 3 (pages 27-52)	1910s
f. 20	Photo album ‘A’ – folder 3 of 3 (pages 53-72)	1920s
f. 21	Photo album ‘A’ loose photos	1910s-1920s
f. 22	Photo album ‘A’ loose documents	
f. 23	Photo album ‘B’ loose photos (see Box 5)	1960s-1980s
f. 24	Photo album ‘B’ loose documents	1930s-1960s
f. 25	Grossetta vital documents	1920s-1950s
f. 26	Grossetta correspondence (mostly incoming)	1909-1920s
f. 27	Grossetta community involvement	1891-1933
f. 28	Grossetta financial and property documents	1897-1931
f. 29	Grossetta tax documents	1904-1934
f. 30	Grossetta travel receipts	1912-1922
f. 31	Irving Crowell papers	1913-1960
f. 32	John Campbell papers	1890-1928

Box 3

f. 33	Nelson marriage documents	1938
f. 34	Martha Crowell and Frances Campbell school items	1907-1937
f. 35	Tucsonian yearbook	1916; 1919
f. 36	Class of 1923 [University of Arizona] 40 th reunion biographies	1963
f. 37	Pi Beta Phi materials	1920s-1974
f. 38	Robert Nelson – military service	1940s
f. 39	Military service items	1940s
f. 40	Nelson correspondence	1913-1956
f. 41	Nelson community involvement	1930s-1980s

- f. 42 Nelson community involvement – square dancing (notes, meetings) 1949-1951
- f. 43 Nelson community involvement – square dancing (programs, clippings) 1949-1951
- f. 44 Nelso Air-Chair 1937-1939
- f. 45 Nelson financial documents 1947-1980s

Box 4

- f. 46 Nelson property documents 1960s
- f. 47 Event programs 1917-1928
- f. 48 Miscellaneous items
- f. 49 Miscellaneous documents
- f. 50 Newspaper clippings – Martha Nelson extended family
- f. 51 Newspaper clippings – Tucson Opera House 1937-1947
- f. 52 Newspaper clippings – Leigh Wade (world flier) 1924; 1926
- f. 53 Newspaper – Arizona wildcat (2 issues) February 11, 1920
October 26, 1921
- f. 54 Newspaper – Egyptian gazette: folder 1 of 3 (2 issues) May 9, 1922;
May 10, 1922
- f. 55 Newspaper – Egyptian gazette: folder 2 of 3 (2 issues) May 11, 1922
May 12, 1922
- f. 56 Newspaper – Egyptian gazette: folder 3 of 3 (2 issues) May 13, 1922
May 15, 1922
- f. 57 Newspaper – Roman mail (1 issue) January 11, 1913
- f. 58 Newspaper – Roman messenger (1 issue) Christmas 1912

Box 5

Photo album 'B'

One Outside Item

Three certificates