
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PC 206

**Carpenter, Edwin F., 1898-1963
Photograph Collection, 1925-1929**

DESCRIPTION

The collection includes prints, primarily made from glass plate negatives, of the mountain ranges surrounding the Tucson area, the mines and desert landscape in the San Pedro Valley, the Tucson area from the Steward Observatory on the University of Arizona campus, and the landscape surrounding the Roosevelt Dam.

1 box, .75 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

These materials were donated by Roger E. Carpenter on July 3, 2001.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access 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

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

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged topically.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Edwin F. Carpenter was born on November 1, 1898 in Boston, Massachusetts. He received his undergraduate and master degrees from Harvard and obtained his Doctorate of Astronomy at the University of California at Berkeley. He came to Arizona in 1925 to teach astronomy at the university. At that time the astronomy department was a two-man operation, with the head, Dr. Andrew Ellicot Douglas, the other member. Dr. Carpenter succeeded Dr. Douglas in 1938 as director of the Steward Observatory, and as head of the astronomy department at the University of Arizona.

While his work on the absorption stratum in the late 1920's and early 1930's brought him international attention, his most notable interest was in extragalactic nebulae. He discovered a number of galaxies and studied their characteristics. His work made the Steward Observatory the leader in this type of research for many years.

Dr. Edwin Carpenter was also a veteran of World War II, serving in the Navy as a lieutenant commander. He was a member of numerous scientific and academic honorary groups, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Astronomical Society. He died of a heart attack in February of 1963.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The photographic negatives taken by Dr. Carpenter include views of the desert landscape surrounding Tucson, mining regions in the San Pedro Valley, and the Roosevelt Dam area; most of the photographs are panoramas of the Catalina, Santa Rita, Tucson, and Huachuca Mts. The prints of the San Pedro Valley not only show the desert landscape of the valley, but also include images of the Mammoth and Mohawk mining operations. The Roosevelt Dam and Trip photographs outline Dr. Carpenter's visit to the Dam, and include images of the Dam itself. The photographs taken from the Steward Observatory show the sparsely settled city of Tucson in the 1920's. Part of the University of Arizona campus, including the stables to the south, can be seen in the prints. Most of the buildings surrounding the observatory look to be residential homes, and Speedway is shown as an unpaved dirt road.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box 1

- f.1 Group of people at Mount Lemmon "Seldom Inn"
- f.2 Baboquivari Peak in distance
- f.3 Huachuca Mountains
- f.4 Mountain views towards Nogales
- f.5 Roosevelt trip - Roosevelt Lake, Dam and Salt River
- f.6 San Pedro Valley (includes Mammoth Mine, Mohawk Mine, Table Mountain, Galliluro Mountains.
- f.7 Santa Catalina Mountains (mostly foothills)
- f.8 Santa Rita Mountains
- f.9 Tucson Mountains (from Snyder Hill)
- f.10 Steward Observatory
- f.11 Tucson - from top of Steward Observatory looking east to Rincon Mountains
- f.12 Tucson - from top of Steward Observatory looking north and northeast to Speedway and Santa Catalina Mountains
- f.13 Tucson - from top of Steward Observatory looking south to Santa Rita Mountains
- f.14 Unidentified