

PC 001
KEALY FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS
1903-1939; BULK 1910-13, 1920-22

DESCRIPTION

Contains a wide variety of images from Cochise County, Arizona. Included in the images are portraits of Robert and Annie Serena Kealy, their family and friends, the Kealy's box car home, photographs of Cochise, Arizona, Texas Canyon, Arizona and mining at Red Bird Mine, Bismarck Gold Mining & Milling Co., and the Republic Mines at Johnson. The bulk of the photographs are from two periods, 1910-1913 and 1920-1922, with a few later photographs from the 1930s.

1 box, .25 linear feet

ACQUISITION

This collection was donated in 1964-1965 by Mrs. Robert Kealy's Estate.

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

This collection was processed by Mario M. Einaudi, Archivist, November, 1997.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Robert and Annie Serena Kealy came to Arizona from Ohio around 1900. Robert worked for the Southern Pacific as a car inspector. In 1910 he was sent to Cochise, Arizona by the SPRR. He and Annie moved into a two-room boxcar home next to the tracks. Robert quit his job with the Southern Pacific shortly after the move to Cochise. He and Annie then moved to a small farm nearby where they raised chickens, crops of milo and alfalfa, and a few fruit trees. They also dabbled in mining, working a small claim in the Little Dragoon Mountains. Some time in the mid-1930s the Kealy's moved to Wilcox. Robert Kealy died in Wilcox in 1943 and Annie in 1960.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Kealy Photo Collection represents an example of very good amateur photography. When the collection was first received by the Society in 1964-65, the original photos appeared to have been removed from photo albums. These individual photos were broken up into several subject files. Sometime in the 1980s an attempt was made to reassemble the original photos and have copy negatives made. From that attempt this collection has been derived. However, some of the Kealy photographs remain in separate photo files, and copy prints have been placed in others.

The re-founded collection has been organized into three series: S1–Portraits, S2–Places, and S3–Mines and Mining. The collection depicts images of life in Cochise County and the town of Cochise in the early 1900s. Photographs include portraits of Robert and Annie Kealy, his mother Margaret, and sisters Rosa and Mary Elizabeth. Often the names of various farm animals, q.v. Jack the burro, are included with the portraits of their human owners. There are images of their friends the Metts' and Sprado's and holiday images—Thanksgiving, Fourth of July, and an Easter picnic in Texas Canyon.

Also included are photographs of Cochise, Arizona—street scenes, homes, townfolk—and the town under a blanket of snow. With the Cochise photographs are photos of the Kealy's box car home—including a picture of Annie cutting a pumpkin with a saw in the kitchen—and photographs of the Kealy's homestead. There are also images of Texas Canyon, various picnics and outings from the 1920s and 1930s. Finally there are images of Robert Kealy prospecting at Red Bird Mine and mining activity at Bismarck Gold Mining & Milling Co., and the Republic Mines at Johnson.