
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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PC 261
Santa Clara Ranch Collection
1940

DESCRIPTION

This small collection consists of photos depicting the people and activities of the Spanish Republicans (Loyalists) at the Santa Clara Ranch in Chihuahua Mexico. Activities depicted include cattle ranching, field agricultural preparations, construction work on a dam, and lumbering and saw mill operations. Donald Dean took all images, as a boy when he visited the colony with his uncle between February and April of 1940. While at the colony Dean recorded a devastating fire that destroyed one of the colony log-buildings. Additional images show the Catholic Church at Santa Rosa and other unidentified structures.

1 Box, .25 linear ft.

HISTORICAL NOTE

A portion of the Santa Clara Ranch in Chihuahua Mexico was opened to settlement by a group of Spanish Republicans fleeing the Franco regime in 1939. Approximately 2,000 refugees purchased 140,000 hectares of land from the old hacienda estate in 1939 and 1940. After defeat in the Spanish Civil War many individuals fled to France. Later these refugees came to Chihuahua after numerous moves to Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America including Cuba, Santo Domingo and other locations in Mexico. Some individuals became merchants while others became involved with agriculture and ranching activities.

ACQUISITION

Donated by Donald A. Dean in 2006.

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, and Archives Department.

PROCESSING

The collection was processed by Dave Tackenberg in December 2006.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1

Folder 1 Construction Activities and Dam Building	1940
f.2 Lumbering and Saw Mill Operations	1940
f.3 Cattle and Ranching Activities	1940
f.4 Field Work and Agricultural Activities	1940
f.5 Fire in Building at Ranch	1940
f.6 People and General Activities	1940
f.7 Buildings and Santa Rosa Church	1940
f.8 Landscape Scenery and Misc. Images	1940