

TITLE: Jesse Park correspondence

DATE RANGE: 1870-1913

CALL NUMBER: MS 1043

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: .25 linear ft. (1 box)

PROVENANCE: Purchased from Christopher Wilson in April 1992 for the cost of photocopying and shipping

COPYRIGHT: The Arizona Historical Society owns the copyright

RESTRICTIONS: This collection is unrestricted

CREDIT LINE: Jesse Park correspondence, MS 1043, Arizona Historical Society-Tucson

PROCESSED BY: Lori Davisson in July 1992; Finding aid transcribed by Nancy Siner, September 2015.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Jesse Park was born in Higginsport, Ohio. He arrived in Arizona about 1870, he did some prospecting, and then went to work in a Prescott drug store. He came to be called "Doc Park," and "The Boss." By 1878 he owned an interest in a mine with two other men, and was shipping ore to San Francisco for reduction.

He quit the drugstore in late 1878, worked his mine for about three months, and then was elected to the Arizona legislature (House of Representatives) in January 1879. By 1880 he was Deputy Internal Revenue Collector, and had apparently lost his bid for reelection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: Consists entirely of photocopies of correspondence from Jesse Park to his family in Ohio. Most of the letters were written in Prescott, Arizona Territory between January 1870 and 1885, with a few written later. His letters describe holiday celebrations, his experiences dating "grass widows," Indian raids, gossip about John C. Fremont, General A.V. Kautz, General George Crook and others, including local Prescott newspaper editors. Park describes how he writes letters for men in town who are illiterate. He often wrote about agriculture crops and produce prices as something his relatives in Ohio would be interested in.

CONTAINER LIST:

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
1	1	Photocopies of correspondence from Jesse Park to his family in Ohio, undated or illegible	undated
	2	Photocopies of correspondence from Jesse Park to his family in Ohio	January 1870- October 1875
	3	Photocopies of correspondence from Jesse Park to his family in Ohio	February 1876- November 1913