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**MS 645
George W. Parsons
Papers, 1879 - 1933****DESCRIPTION**

This collection entails the personal journals and papers of George W. Parsons. Journals include entries commencing in 1879 in Tombstone Arizona Territory and end in 1929 in Los Angeles, California. Personal papers consist of two folders of correspondence primarily between 1912 and 1924 written in California. Five manuscripts are present including "A Thousand-Mile Desert Trip" by Parsons and a biographical essay titled "George Whitwell Parsons" (author not identified). Numerous newspaper clippings feature stories of Tombstone during the period Parsons lived there and events in Los Angeles after he relocated. Of special note is the Parsons' journal printed in 1939 as part of the Arizona Statewide Archival and Records Project Division of Professional and Service Projects Work Projects Administration. The journal entailed the years 1879 to 1882 and featured the events in and around Tombstone, Arizona Territory. A photocopy of the original manuscript and the typed transcript are present in the collection.

4 Box, 2 linear ft.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

George Whitwell Parsons was born in 1850 in Washington D.C. and later moved with his parents to Brooklyn, N.Y. As a youth he went to Florida and then to San Francisco. Upon arrival in California he heard about the mineral strikes in Tombstone, Arizona Territory. Parsons departed California and arrived in Tombstone in 1880. Initially he worked as a laborer at the mines and later established a partnership with J. L. Redfern as mining agents for the area. Parsons relocated to Los Angeles, California in 1887 and became involved with the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce as its director and served as president of the Los Angeles Mining and Stock Exchange. Parsons died June 5, 1933.

ACQUISITION - Donated by Emma Parsons in 1934.

ACCESS

Some materials restricted due to fragile condition; photocopies available for patron use.

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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 previously processed and reviewed by Dave Tackenberg in May 2010.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1

Folder 1-2	Parsons' Correspondence	1881/1912 – 1924
f.3	Manuscript: "A Thousand-Mile Desert Trip" by Parsons	1901 – 1902
f.4	Manuscript: "George Whitwell Parsons"	1903
f.5	Manuscript: Story of Hanging of Heath in Tombstone & a Husband's Escape by "Tombstone George"	
f.6	Manuscript: "The History of the Diocese" by George W. Parsons	1930
f.7	Manuscript: Story of a Tombstone Apache Raid by Parsons	N.D.
f.8	Clippings Mentioning George Parsons	1912 – 1933
f.9	Clippings Referencing Tombstone or Arizona Activities	1881
f.10	Clippings Scrapbook Featuring Tombstone & Los Angeles Stories	1879 – 1894
f.11	MISC Items Related to Tombstone & Arizona	1881 – 1885
f.12	MISC Items Related to Los Angeles, CA	1899
f.13	George W. Parsons' Journal – Instructions for Transcription	1939
f.14-18	George W. Parsons' Journal – Photocopy of Original	1879 – 1882

Box 2

f.19-24	George W. Parsons' Journal – Typed Transcript	1879 – 1882
f.25-28	George W. Parsons' Journal – Draft Transcript	1879 – 1881
f.29-30	George W. Parsons' Journal – Original Diaries	1882 – 1883

Box 3 (Only One Volume of the Diaries May Be Requested at a Time)

24 Volumes	George W. Parsons' Journal – Original Diaries	1884 – 1907
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Box 4 (Only One Volume of the Diaries May Be Requested at a Time)

22 Volumes	George W. Parsons' Journal – Original Diaries	1908 – 1929
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Oversized Item

Certificate for George W. Parsons as Appointment to be Commissioner of Deeds for the Territory of Arizona for the State California dated 1897.