
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 0677

Rasch, Philip J., d. 1995

Research collection, 1861-1991 (bulk 1957-1986)

DESCRIPTION

Research materials including correspondence, newspaper articles, manuscripts, photographs and photocopies of documents concerning Rasch's research into criminals, robberies and shootings in Arizona. The materials chiefly document incidents in Tombstone, Arizona and St. Johns, Arizona.

11 boxes, 5.25 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

The materials were donated by Philip Rasch between 1982 and 1991.

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

The collection was processed by Kim Frontz, July 1998.

ARRANGEMENT

Arranged in three series: Research files, ca. 1957-1991. Printed material, ca. 1861-1901. Photographs, ca. 1880-1980.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Known best as a writer and researcher of Western outlaw history; Rasch was also a Lt. Commander in the U.S. Navy, archeologist, physiologist, and a technical author. Rasch authored many articles about lawlessness in the Southwest which were published in Westerners' Brand Books, *Real West*, *True West*, *National Association and Center for Outlaw and Lawman History Newsletter*, *New Mexico Historical Review*, and other publications.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Research correspondence, newspaper articles, manuscripts of articles, photographs and photocopies of documents from Rasch's research primarily about crimes, lawmen and outlaws in Tombstone, Arizona and St. Johns, Arizona. The majority of the collection relates to the OK Corral shooting and related Tombstone characters including the Earps, Clantons, Frank Leslie, "Doc" Holliday, John Ringo, "Curly" Bill Brocius, and Pete Spencer. There is a great deal of material on Pete Spencer including extracts from newspapers and documents, photocopies of trial documents, and correspondence with other researchers and librarians. St Johns material includes a shooting involving the Greer Brothers and Mormon families.

Rasch's arrangement of his material has mostly been retained. The majority of the collection is arranged by name of the lawman or outlaw with each file containing research correspondence, extracts and copies of newspaper and magazine articles, and photocopies of documents. Many of the files were gathered for specific articles Rasch was working on. Several files, in particular the Earp files, also contain information about related Tombstone outlaws. For example, the Earp files also contain information about Sherman McMasters, "Doc" Holliday, and M. E. Joyce among others.

Correspondents include Dave Cruickshank, Glenn Boyer, and others. Binders of typed newspaper extracts are present for Tombstone, Tucson, and other Arizona newspapers. Most articles deal with outlaws in the 1880s. There are also photocopies of the *Commercial Advertiser*, January-May 1882, of Tombstone, Arizona. Also present is a listing and description of prisoners in the Arizona Territorial Prison at Yuma from 1876 to 1895. The photographs are mostly 1980s snapshots of grave sites, homes of former outlaws, and sites of shootings.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Series 1: Research files – People and Events

Box 1

People

- f.1 Barton, Jerry
- f.2-3 Bass, Lorenzo
- f.4-5 Billy the Kid's First(?) Victim – Frank P. Cahill
- f.6-7 Billy the Kid #2
- f.8 Bradberry-Fulcher "Train Robbery & Murder"

Box 2

- f.9-10 Brocius, "Curly" Bill (also Pony Diehl)
 - *Cahill, Frank (see f.45)
- f.11-12 Clanton family
- f.13 Clanton family "Farewell to the Clantons"
- f.14 Clanton, Peter
 - *Crane, Jim (see f.38)
 - *Diehl, Pony (see f.9-10)

f.15 Earps

Box 3

f.16-21 Earp gang (correspondence with Cruickshank, etc.)
f.22 Earp, Warren
*Ellis, Emory P. (see f. 27)

Box 4

f.23 Evans, Billy & Joe Williams (Ace of Diamonds)
*Ewing, E. (see f. 42)
*Fulcher, Sidney Lee and John (see f.8)
f.24-25 Gildea, Gus
f.26-28 Greer Brothers (St. Johns)
f.29 Grounds, Billy and Zwing Hunt
f.30 Harlan, John Jefferson
*Head, Harry "Kid" (see f.35)

Box 5

f.31 Hicks, Milton and Will
*Hill, Joe (see f.43)
f.32 Holliday, John "Doc" (also f. 35)
*Hunt, Zwing (see f.29)
*Joyce, M.E. (see f.16)
f.33 Kidder, Jeff death, 1908, & Emory P. Ellis
*King, Luther (see f.35)
f.34 Langdon, William "Red Mike"
f.35 Leonard, Head, Crane, King
f.36-39 Leslie, "Buckskin" Frank
f.39 Lewis, Frank "Kid"
f.41 Lloyd, Dick

Box 6

f.42 McGinnis, L.C. & E. Ewing, "A Correction to Gillet"
f.43 Olney, Joe Hill
f.44 Parker, Fleming "Jim"
f.45 Redfield & Tuttle "Florence stage robbery"
f.46-47 Riggs, Barney
f.48 Ringo, John
f.49 Smith, Charlie "6-shooter and 3-shooter"

Box 7

f.50-56 Spencer, Pete – Extracts from newspapers & documents, 1870s-1900
f.57 Spencer, Pete - Trial documents (photocopies), 1893
f.58-59 Spencer, Pete – Correspondence, 1980-1983

Box 8

f.60-61 Spencer, Pete – Correspondence, 1983-1991
f.62 Streeter, L. U.

- f.63 Swingle, G. S. "Kid"
- f.64 Taylor, Jim
- *Tuttle, Joe (see f.45)

Events

- f.65-67 "Death Comes to St. Johns," 1900
- f.68 "Train Robbery Times Four"

Series 2: Printed materials and misc.

- f.69 Misc. correspondence
- f.70 Indexes to Bartholomew and Gray books

Box 9

- f.71 Arizona Territorial Prison – List and description of Prisoners, 1876-1895
- f.72 Finding Aid to NOLA Collection, Univ. of Wyoming
- f.73 Transcripts from Record Group 60: Cowboy depredations and investigation of C. P. Dake, 1881-1887
- f.74 Articles by P.J.Rasch
- f.75 Newspaper extracts – St. Johns & Holbrook, 1887-1901
- f.76 Newspaper (photocopies) – Commercial Advertiser (Tombstone), Jan.-May 1882
- f.77 Newspaper extracts – Tombstone papers, 1880-1887

Box 10

- f.78 Newspaper extracts – Tucson papers, 1873-1881
- f.79 Newspaper extracts – Tucson papers, 1882-1926
- f.80 Newspaper extracts – Arizona papers, 1874-1935 (Prescott, Bisbee, Benson, Globe, etc.)
- f.81 Newspaper extracts – Texas papers, 1861-1897

Box 11

- f.82 Extracts – Texas records
- f.83 Maps – Tombstone, Ariz. and Lincoln, N.M.

Series 3: Photographs, ca. 1880-1980

- f.84 "Billy the Kid's 1st Victim"
- f.85 Clantons
- f.86 Earps
- f.87 Gibbons, Gus & Frank LeSeur
- f.88 Holliday, John H. "Doc" – Georgia home
- f.89 Leslie, Frank
- f.90 Olney, Joe Hill – gravesite
- f.91 Parker, Jim – hanging
- f.92 Spencer, Pete
- f.93 Tombstone Volunteer Fire Dept., 1881 or 1882