
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 0694
Rockfellow, John A., 1857-1947
Papers, 1883-1945, 1963

DESCRIPTION

This collection consists of Rockfellow's reminiscences, correspondence, and documents dealing with Rockfellow's ranching and mining activities in Cochise County, Arizona, from 1879 to 1935. Also of interest are references pertaining to notable individuals of Southwest Arizona including Pete Kitchen and Tom Jeffords. Reminiscences of mining and ranching in the late 19th century include materials associated with the Tombstone Mill and Mining Company and the Contention Consolidated Mining Company. A draft copy of Rockfellow's book, *Log of an Arizona Trail Blazer*, is also present.

6 boxes, 2.75 linear feet.

RELATED NOTE

PC 172 - Rockfellow, John N.

ACQUISITION

The first part was donated by John A. Rockfellow in the 1930s. The second part was donated by the widow of John Philip Rockfellow (John A. Rockfellow's son) in 1976.

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 Charles H. Herner under the supervision of Adelaide B. Elm, Archivist, in April 1991. The finding aid was updated in October 2009 by Dave Tackenberg.

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged in 10 series: 1/ Correspondence, 1879-1963. 2/ Manuscript material. 3/ Subject files. 4/ Diaries. 5/ Reports. 6/ Financial Documents. 7/ Legal documents. 8/ Business records. 9/ Maps and plans. 10/ Published material.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John Alexander Rockfellow was born January 30, 1857 in Mount Morris, N.Y. He first arrived in Yuma, Arizona by way of California on January 16, 1878. The following year Rockfellow came to southern Arizona and located a silver claim, the Frijole, in the Helvetia District south of Tucson. In 1883, profits from the sale of this mine enabled Rockfellow and two partners, Walter E. Servoss and "Jack" Spencer, to locate the NY Ranch in the Sulphur Spring Valley at the mouth of a canyon leading into Cochise Stronghold near Tombstone. In addition to maintaining the ranch, Rockfellow taught two years at the University of Arizona, served four years as the School Superintendent of Cochise County, and maintained a civil engineering practice in Tombstone. He died in Los Angeles, California on May 16, 1947.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The bulk of this collection consists of correspondence and manuscript material dealing with ranching and mining activities in Cochise County from 1879 to 1935. Rockfellow was anxious to record for posterity his personal experiences, as well as those of his friends, and he wrote extensively for newspapers and magazines describing those individuals and events which interested him and which he considered to be important. In particular he had a deep interest in the Sulphur Spring Valley and actively sought information concerning the Chiricahua Indians, Cochise, Apache Pass, Tom Jeffords and early settlers. The information he recorded regarding those interests is probably the most important part of this collection. Rockfellow had no interest in the popularized sensational aspects of the development of Tombstone and scrupulously avoided any discussion in his writing of rustlers, gunfighters or local feuds. Reportedly, he did not have a high opinion of the Earp family.

The collection also contains important correspondence and other material relating to the Tombstone Mill and Mining Company, as well as the Contention Consolidated Mining Company. Rockfellow, however, had no known association with either of these two corporations.

The collection is organized into ten series. Series one, correspondence, contains incoming and outgoing correspondence dealing with the activities of John A. Rockfellow in Arizona from 1879 to 1945. There is also correspondence regarding the Tombstone Mill and Mining Company, the Contention Consolidated Mining Company, Rockfellow's book, Log of an Arizona Trail Blazer, and Rockfellow's son, John Philip Rockfellow. Folders are arranged in alphabetical order and, as appropriate, material in each folder is filed chronologically.

Series two, manuscript material, contains a variety of manuscript information dealing with individuals and events associated with Cochise County. Much of this information appeared in newspaper articles written by Rockfellow, and some was included in his book, *Log of an Arizona Trail Blazer*. Material is filed by subject name arranged in alphabetical order.

Series three, subject files, contains a collection of memorabilia items dealing with events and contributions involving the Rockfellow family. Folders are arranged by topic in alphabetical order.

Series four, diaries, contains the very abbreviated diaries of John A. Rockfellow from 1884 to 1942. Folders are arranged in chronological order.

Series five, reports, contains the 1907 Annual Report of the Development Company of America and some assay reports, as well as the 1908 Annual Report of the Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company.

Series six, financial documents, contains some financial records of J.E. Durkee and Company, a Tombstone mercantile outlet, and a variety of unrelated miscellaneous items filed alphabetically.

Series seven, legal documents, contains location notices of the Frijole mine, the Copper Queen mine and one writ of attachment.

Series eight, business records, contains the record book of the Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company from 1901-1904.

Series nine, maps and plans, contains several small maps of the Sulphur Spring Valley and Tombstone area. There is one oversized diagram of the Corbin Mill at Tombstone.

Series ten, published material, contains drafts and edited manuscripts of Rockfellow's book, Log of an Arizona Trail Blazer. There are also several printed handbooks or catalogs, as well as newspaper and magazine articles. Many of the latter were written by John A. Rockfellow.

One outside item containing Rockwell's scrapbook as well as a photocopy are with the shelved collection.

Nine additional oversized items are stored in the oversized shelving areas.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Series 1: Correspondence

Box 1

f.1	Contention Consolidated Mining Co., letterbook	1885-1892
f.2	Gage, E.B.	1893-1907
f.3	Log of an Arizona Trail Blazer	1934-1942
f.4	Postcards	
f.5-9	Rockfellow, John A. correspondence	1879-1945

Box 2

f.10	Rockfellow, John Philip correspondence	1950-1963
f.11	Telegrams	1893-1917
f.12	Tombstone Mill and Mining Co.	1883-1893

Series 2: Manuscript Material

f.13	Camp Rucker	
f.14	China trip, 1918	
f.15	Chiricahua Cattle Company	
f.16	Cochise County	
f.17	Community mining	
f.18	Galveston, Texas flood, 1900	
f.19	Hardy, William H.	
f.20	Jeffords, Tom	
f.21	Kitchen, Pete	
f.22	Miscellaneous	
f.23	Mount Morris, N.Y.	
f.24	Ranches, Cochise County	
f.25	Renaud, Charles	
f.26	Rockfellow-Noonan-Kitchen	
f.27-28	Rockfellow reminiscences	
f.29	Stockton Canyon, 1940	
f.30	Sulphur Spring Valley	

Series 3: Subject Files

f.31	Fort Bowie	
f.32	Gradebook, University of Arizona	1895
f.33	Livestock board, brands	
f.34	Memorabilia	
f.35	Rockefeller Family Association	
f.36	Salt River Project tax commission	1963
f.37	Tombstone Restoration Project	1958

Series 4: Diaries**Box 3**

f.38-45	Rockfellow, John A. diaries	1884-1942
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Series 5: Reports**Box 4**

f.46	Development Company of America, Annual Report	1907
f.47	Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company, Annual Report	1908
f.48	Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company, sand tank records	

Series 6: Financial Documents

f.49	J.E. Durkee and Company, ledger	1883-1889
f.50	J.E. Durkee and Company, receipt book	1887-1888
f.51	Miscellaneous payroll	1888
f.52	Miscellaneous receipts/checks	1881-1916
f.53	Oso Negro Mining Company, stock certificates	
f.54	Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company bonds	

Series 7: Legal Documents

f.55	Copper Queen Mine location notice	1880
f.56	Frijole Mine location notice	1881
f.57	Ohnick, Hatchlow: Writ of Attachment.	1885

Series 8: Business Records

f.58	Notebook, mining claims	
f.59	Tombstone Consolidated Mines Company, record book	1901-1904

Series 9: Maps and Plans**Box 5**

f.60	Arizona land forms	
f.62	Sulphur Spring Valley	1904
f.63	Tombstone and vicinity	

Series 10: Published Material

f.65	Bickmore's horse book	
f.66	Gutta-Percha Rupper Manufacturing Co., catalog	c.1895
f.67	Light locomotive handbook	1892
f.68	<u>Log of an Arizona Trail Blazer</u> , anecdotes	
f.69	<u>Log of an Arizona Trail Blazer</u> , copy	
f.70-71	<u>Log of an Arizona Trail Blazer</u> , draft p. 1-201	
f.72-74	<u>Log of an Arizona Trail Blazer</u> , draft p. 1-190	

Box 6

f.75	Magazine articles	
f.76	Mannheim slide rule manual	1891
f.77	Miscellaneous	
f.78	Newspaper articles	
f.79	Rochester Alumni Review	
f.80	Union Oil Bulletin	1938
f.81	Valley National Bank Statistical Review	1961

Outside Item

Item #64	Rockfellow, John A. scrapbook (photocopy of pp. 1-91)	1907-1926
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Oversized Materials (stored in oversized shelving)

Item #61	Corbin Mill plan	
Item #61b	Green Cattle Company survey of Ash Canyon pipeline	
Item #82	\$250 reward poster by Wells Fargo & Co., photocopy	1875
Additional items	\$750 reward poster by Wells Fargo & Co.	1875
	Wells Fargo Bank celebration poster	
	“A short history of old Fort Bowie,” pamphlet by J.A. Rockfellow	
	Tombstone Consolidated Mining Co., contract bond stock certificate	
	Map and statement for Ash Canyon Pipe Line owned by Green Cattle Co. as surveyed by J.A. Rockfellow	
	Drawing of Corbin Mill and Mining Co.	