

## AHS-TUCSON FINDING AID

**TITLE:** Ronstadt Family collection

**DATE RANGE:** 1777-1993 (bulk 1882-1960)

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 0695

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 12 linear ft (23 boxes)

**PROVENANCE:** Donated by Edward, Carlos and James Ronstadt at various dates. The postcards of Richard Ronstadt's family were donated by Gilbert Davis in 1997.

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**CREDIT LINE:** Ronstadt Family collection, MS 0695, Arizona Historical Society-Tucson

**PROCESSED BY:** AHS staff, 2014

### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:**

Frederick (Federico) Augustus Ronstadt was born in Hanover, Germany in 1816, and educated at Hanover University. He came from Germany with a group of engineers to Buenos Aires, Argentina, and traveled from there by mule across the Andes to Chile and by water to San Francisco; from San Francisco overland to Arizona and Sonora, Mexico in the early 1850s. He worked as a mining engineer for several years and later served as a commander of Mexican troops to fight Indians and revolutionaries. He had a distinguished military career, serving in various commissions and as prefect and Military Commander of every military district in Sonora at one time or another. He moved to Tucson with his son Federico José María Ronstadt, known by most as Fred, in 1887, where he died two years later.

Fred was born in Sonora in 1868 and came to Tucson in 1882 at the age of 14 to work as an apprentice in a blacksmith shop. He bought the blacksmith shop where he apprenticed in November, 1887, later expanding his business building carriages and then converting it to the largest hardware store in Southern Arizona: *The F. Ronstadt Hardware Company*. Fred was married to Sara Levin in 1890, with whom they had four children: Luisa, Laura, Fred A., and Alicia. Sara died of scarlet fever in 1902 while expecting their fifth child. Fred married Lupe Dalton in 1904 and they had four sons: William, Alfred, Gilbert, and Edward. Fred managed the store until his death in 1954. His sons, Gilbert and Edward managed the business until 1983, and turned it over to their sons, Eddie and Mike, until the store closed in 1985.

Fred's brother, Richard R. Ronstadt (1871?-1929) was a prominent cattleman and businessman in Tucson. Richard was married to Matilda Martin (1872-1962) and they had two children, Armand V. (1898?-1974) and Helen M. (who later married William McKinley Davis).

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:**

This collection is a merger of MS 0695, MS 1183, MS 1307 and various accretions. Arranged in five series.

**Series 1: Family History** – Genealogical information consists of handwritten pedigree charts, letters, and documents detailing the lineage of branches of the family, including the surnames Dalton, Ortega, Martin, Redondo, Suastegui, Vasquez and Zamorano. Also present are materials about the Ronstadt family reunion in 1993.

**Series 2: Correspondence** – Highlights include military documents in Spanish pertaining to Federico A. Ronstadt; love letters between Fred Ronstadt and Lupe Dalton; and letters to Fred Ronstadt from his father, Federico, and from some of his siblings during his apprenticeship in Tucson during the 1880s. Other correspondence includes letters from Senator Carl Hayden and others regarding the Ronstadt family.

**Series 3: Biographical information** – Arranged chronologically by individual. **Federico Ronstadt** subseries includes record of his military service; **Ricardo Ronstadt** subseries has extensive postcard correspondence between him and members of his nuclear family; **Fred Ronstadt** subseries features materials related to his book *Borderman*, as well as articles and speeches from his various activities in Tucson; **Lupe Dalton Ronstadt** subseries has financial and property documents along with personal papers; **Luisa Espinel (Ronstadt)** subseries contains items such as sheet music and programs from various musical endeavors and productions in which she was featured; **Alicia Ronstadt** subseries features research materials centered around her graduate work at University of Southern California, especially her thesis “Concepcion Arguello: Legend and Reality”; **Laudelino Moreno** subseries has notes, articles and publications having to do with his work as a professor at various institutions around the world; **Edward Ronstadt** subseries includes items from Tucson High School and University of Arizona, as well as family and personal documents along with reminiscences.

**Series 4: Photographs** – Arranged chronologically by the family of the primary individual. For instance, photos of Fred Ronstadt as a child with his nuclear family would be filed in the Federico Ronstadt folder. Photos of Fred Ronstadt as an adult with his wife and children would be filed in the Fred Ronstadt folder. Photos of individuals are in their own folders or, when not present, in the photos of their closest relative.

**Series 5: F. Ronstadt Company** - Hardware store documents include stockholder records, by-laws, and director meeting notes from 1935 to 1956. Additional index cards list company equipment and product inventory notes from 1924 to 1960. contains military documents in Spanish pertaining to Federico A. Ronstadt, as well as a handwritten record of his military service.

There also are two oversize boxes with copies of Tucson High's *Cactus Chronicle*, rough proof sheets of *Borderman* photos, and oversized photographs.

**CONTAINER LIST:**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>
<b>1</b>	1	<b>Series 1: Family history</b> – Ronstadt family tree	undated
	2	Genealogy notes	undated
	3	Ronstadt family reunion	1993
	4	Clippings, excerpts	1870s, 2000
	5	Ronstadt family biographies	1914-2000
	6	Miscellaneous narratives	undated
	7	Transcript of journal of Milo Culkin	July 1953
	8	Dalton branch	May 1953
	9	Ortega branch	1979
	10	Redondo-Martin branch	undated
	11	Suastegui branch	1980, 1998
	12	Vasquez branch	1854-1855
	13	Zamorano branch	1777-1842
	14	<b>Series 2: Correspondence</b> – General	1937-1982
15	W.A. Dalton (about Ronstadt and Dalton families)	1888, 1915-1917	
16	<b>Series 2A: Correspondence – Federico A. Ronstadt</b> – to Fred Ronstadt	1882-1886	
17	With Mexican government re: to receive military pension	1879	
<b>2</b>	1	<b>Series 2B: Correspondence – Ricardo Ronstadt</b> – to Fred Ronstadt	1882-1884
	2	<b>Series 2C: Correspondence – Fred Ronstadt</b> – miscellaneous receivers, from Fred	1904-1949
	3	To Lupe Dalton	1902-1954
	4	From Margarita Ronstadt	1883-1889
	5	From Emilia Ronstadt	1883-1884
	6	With Carl Hayden	1940
	7	<b>Series 2D: Correspondence – Lupe Dalton</b> – miscellaneous receivers, from Lupe	1929-1943
	8	<b>Series 2E: Correspondence – Luisa Espinel</b> – miscellaneous writers, to Luisa	1931-1959
	9	<b>Series 2G: Correspondence – Laudelino Moreno</b> – with various universities	1925-1964
	10	With Laudelino	1942-1966
	11	<b>Series 2H: Correspondence – Edward F. Ronstadt</b> – with Mary Catherine Geis	1938-1940

	12	Miscellaneous writers (greeting cards), to Edward	1949-1989
	13	Miscellaneous writers, to Edward	1930s-1940s
	14	<b>Series 3: Biographical information</b> – Henry Dalton biographical material	undated
	15	Transcript of interview with Louise Dalton Lewis	January 5, 1952
	16	Interview with William Edward Ronstadt	March 7, 1983
	17	<b>Series 3A: Biographical information</b> – <b>Federico A. Ronstadt</b> – Biographical information	1890-1924
	18	Record of military service	1843-1867
	19	Official military correspondence and documents	1862-1882
<b>3</b>	1	<b>Series 3B: Biographical information</b> – <b>Ricardo Ronstadt</b> – Postcards, 1907	1907
	2	Postcards, 1908	1908
	3	Postcards, 1909	1909
	4	Postcards, 1910	1910
	5	Postcards, 1911	1911
	6	Postcards, 1912	1912
	7	Postcards, 1913	1913
	8	Postcards, 1914	1914
	9	Postcards, 1915	1915
	10	Postcards, 1916	1916
	11	Postcards, 1917	1917
	12	Postcards, 1918	1918
	13	Postcards, 1919	1919
	14	Postcards, 1920	1920
	15	Postcards, 1921	1921
	16	Postcards, undated	undated
	17	Postcards without writing	undated
<b>4</b>	1	<b>Series 3C: Biographical information</b> – <b>Fred Ronstadt</b> – Borderman first draft (Part 1)	undated
	2	Borderman first draft (Part 2)	undated
	3	Borderman contracts and finances	1992-2003
	4	Borderman correspondence	1990-1994
	5	Borderman forward and introduction	undated
	6	Borderman typed draft p. 1-102 & index	undated
	7	Borderman typed draft p. 103-204	undated
	8	Borderman final edits	ca. 1992
	9	Borderman final galley copy p. 1-74	1993
	10	Borderman final galley copy p. 75-148	1993
	11	Borderman reviews	1994-2003
	12	Borderman negatives and photograph list	undated

<b>5</b>	1	Biographical information	1954-1982
	2	Articles	1928-1952
	3	Personal items	1922-1943
	4	Reminiscences	undated
	5	Speeches	1930-1953
	6	<b>Series 3D: Biographical information – Lupe Dalton</b> – Personal items	1890s-1964
	7	Financial and property documents	1929-1968
	8	Collected programs and other items	1903-1930s
	9	<b>Series 3E: Biographical information – Luisa Espinel</b> – Personal items	ca. 1913-1916
	10	Theater programs	1936, undated
	11	Original scores of Mexican folk music	ca. 1920s-1930s
<b>6</b>	1	Items from production of “Las Posadas”	1949-1950
	2	Items from production of “La Pastorela”	1959-1962
	3	Sheet music	undated
	4	Book: “Cantos de Mi Padre: Spanish Folksongs from the Southwest”	undated
	5	Scrapbook	1931-1933
	6	<b>Series 3F: Alicia Ronstadt</b> – Papers and personal items	1940-1961
	7	Children’s book: “Panchito: Vida y Aventuras de un Chamaco Mexicano”	undated
	8	School papers	1958-1964
	9	Student papers on Nikolai Petrovich Rezanov	undated
	10	Manuscript: “El Folklore Literario del Sudoeste Hispano y Cantos de Mi Padre”	June 3, 1955
	11	Manuscript notes: “Fray Geronimo de Zarate Salmeron and El Otro Mexico During the Early Seventeenth Century”	undated
<b>7</b>	1	Thesis research items	undated
	2	Thesis correspondence	1960-1967
	3	Thesis photos	1961
	4	Thesis notes	undated
	5	Thesis bibliography and references	undated
	6	Thesis draft	undated
	7	Thesis draft	1961
	8	Thesis: “Concepcion Arguello: Legend and Reality”	1961
	9	<b>Series 3G: Laudelino Moreno</b> – Personal items	1939-1968
	10	Homeowner information	1958-1966
	11	Academic records	undated
<b>8</b>	1	Articles by Laudelino	1940s
	2	Article by Laudelino	1950s-1960s

	3	Articles that mention Laudelino	1928-1967
	4	Professional notes	undated
	5	Publications (1 of 2)	1948-1949
	6	Publications (2 of 2)	undated
	7	University of Southern California	1952-1962
	8	Pacific International College of Arts and Sciences	1950s
	9	Hispanic American University	1950s-1960
	10	Miscellaneous papers	undated
<b>9</b>	1	II Congreso de Hispanistas scrapbook	1953
	2	Scrapbook	1941-1961
	3	Geography class notes (Introduction)	undated
	4	Geography class notes (Europe)	undated
	5	Geography class notes (Asia and Africa)	undated
	6	Geography class notes (Hispanic America)	undated
<b>10</b>	1	<b>Series 3H: Edward F. Ronstadt</b> – Personal items	1939-1987
	2	Tucson High School items	1930-1934
	3	University of Arizona items	1934-1938
	4	Family documents	1920-1982
	5	Financial records	1930-1943
	6	Interviews	1972-1984
	7	Oral history interview and transcript	February 14, 1984
	8	Articles	1938-1960
	9	Programs	1931-1940
	10	Mary Catherine editorial work	2003
<b>11</b>	1	SMRC newsletter material	1970s-1992
	2	<b>Series 4: Photographs</b> – Federico A. Ronstadt and Margarita Redondo	undated
	3	Emilia Ronstadt (Zepeda) and family	undated
	4	Jose Maria Ronstadt and family	undated
	5	Ricardo Ronstadt and family	undated
	6	Fred Ronstadt and family	undated
	7	Sara Levin (Fred Ronstadt's first wife) and family	undated
	8	Laura Ronstadt (Popkin) and family	undated
	9	Fred Ronstadt Jr. and family	undated
	10	William Ronstadt and family	undated
	11	Alfred Ronstadt and family	undated
	12	Gilbert Ronstadt	undated
	13	Lupe Dalton and family	undated
	14	Dalton extended family	undated
	15	Luisa Espinel and family	undated
<b>12</b>	1	Alicia Ronstadt and family	undated

	2	Laudelino Moreno and family	undated
	3	Laudelino Moreno (individuals with unknown relationship)	undated
	4	Laudelino Moreno photo album	undated
	5	Laudelino Moreno negatives	undated
	6	Edward F. Ronstadt and family	undated
	7	Mary Catherine Geis and family	undated
	8	Ronstadt family school photos	1930s
	9	Ronstadt family group pictures	undated
<b>13</b>	1	Other people (not Ronstadts) identified	undated
	2	Unidentified people (tintype & ambrotype)	undated
	3	Unidentified people (1 of 2)	undated
	4	Unidentified people (2 of 2)	undated
	5	Aerial views	undated
	6	Bands (Tucson High, University of Arizona, Philharmonic)	undated
	7	Buildings and homes – 607 N. 6 <sup>th</sup> Ave.	1904
	8	Buildings and homes – Las Delicas farm	undated
	9	Buildings and homes - unidentified	undated
	10	Contest materials (Packard Motor Car Co.)	1940
	11	Human remains	undated
	12	Parades	undated
	13	Photos of photos	undated
	14	Postcards	undated
	15	San Xavier del Bac	undated
	16	Scenery and nature shots (1 of 2)	undated
<b>14</b>	1	Scenery and nature shots (2 of 2)	undated
	2	Scrapbook pages	undated
	3	Stereoscope slides	undated
	4	Travel	undated
	5	Travel slides (Europe)	undated
	6	Miscellaneous	undated
	7	Slides and negatives	undated
	8	Negatives (identified)	undated
	9	Negatives (unidentified)	undated
	10	<b>Series 5: F. Ronstadt Co.</b> – Bylaws and director's meetings (1 of 3)	1935-1956
	11	Bylaws and director's meetings (2 of 3)	1935-1956
	12	Bylaws and director's meetings (3 of 3)	1935-1956
<b>15</b>	1	Stockholder records (1 of 4)	1935-1977
	2	Stockholder records (2 of 4)	1935-1977
	3	Stockholder records (3 of 4)	1935-1977
	4	Stockholder records (4 of 4)	1935-1977
	5	Inventory	1938
	6	Correspondence	1880s-1960s

	7	Correspondence with Briscoe	1929-1939
	8	Meeting Minutes	1950s
	9	Blueprints	1953
	10	Vehicle Registration	1938-1945
<b>16</b>	1	Contracts and deeds	1920s
	2	Contracts and deeds	1930-1956
	3	Bank records	1940s
	4	Receipts	1882-1950s
	5	Receipts	1947-1949
	6	Employee handbooks	1939
	7	Business materials and notices	1929-1985
	8	History	1947-1978
	9	Wagon making and hardware	1949-1951
	10	Payroll ledger	1942-1943
	11	Payroll ledger	1943-1945
<b>17</b>	1	Payroll ledger	1945
	2	Photos, Advertising and Business Materials	undated
	3	Photos, Business Operations	undated
	4	Photos, Contract	undated
	5	Photos, Equipment	undated
	6	Photos, Storefronts	undated
	7	Photos, Wagons	undated
	8	Photos, Negatives	undated
<b>18</b>		Index cards with equipment listings	1961
<b>19</b>		Index cards with product inventories	1929-1960
<b>20</b>		Index cards with product inventories	1929-1960
<b>21</b>		Index cards with product inventories	1929-1960
<b>22</b>	1	<b>Oversize</b> – Borderman photo sheets (photocopies)	undated
		<i>Cactus Chronicle</i> Tucson High School	1932-1933
<b>23</b>		Photos (oversize)	