

TITLE: Richard Van Valkenburgh papers

DATE RANGE: 1868-1950 (bulk 1928-1950)

CALL NUMBER: MS 0831

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3 linear ft. (6 boxes)

PROVENANCE: Donated by Richard Van Valkenburgh between 1944 and 1950

COPYRIGHT: The Arizona Historical Society owns the copyright to this collection.

RESTRICTIONS: This collection is unrestricted.

CREDIT LINE: Richard Van Valkenburgh papers, MS 0831, Arizona Historical Society-Tucson

PROCESSED BY: Finding aid transcribed by Nancy Siner, November 2015.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE: Richard F. Van Valkenburgh, widely known as Van or Dick, was born in Newark, California on June 16, 1904. He graduated from Compton High School, and studied history and anthropology at the University of California. He moved to Arizona in 1930, and devoted his life to the study of Indians in California, Arizona and New Mexico. From 1935 until his death his major interest remained the Navajo with whom he lived and did his most important work.

From 1935 to 1941, Van Valkenburgh was employed by the Office of Indian Affairs to head a social and economic survey of the Navajo Reservation, and from 1952 until his death he was employed by the Navajo Tribe as head of its Department of Land Use and Surveys. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Navajo Tribal Park Commission and the Navajo Archaeological Society. He was a witness and collaborator in the development of the Navajo claims case, toward which he did much archaeological research.

Van Valkenburgh wrote voluminously on the Navajo. Occasional scientific articles were published by the Museum of Northern Arizona, the Southwest Museum and the Office of Indian Affairs. For the public at large, he wrote frequently in Desert Magazine and Arizona Highways. His gazetteer, Diné Bikéyah (published by the Navajo Service, 1941), was a major contribution to Navajo studies.

Van Valkenburgh worked in the aircraft industry in Whittier, California from 1941 to 1943. He moved to Tucson in late 1943 and worked as a mechanic for the Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation. He was also employed by the Federal Writers' War Board. Van Valkenburgh collaborated with Harold C. Wheeler and E.N. Fishman in 1945 in founding the quarterly Arizona Police Review, but only one issue was published. In November of that year, he founded the Arizona Nightingale, a monthly travel newspaper. The periodical ceased publication after twelve issues. During this period, Van Valkenburgh also managed the Arizona Travel Agency in Tucson. Van Valkenburgh was a deputy Pima County sheriff from 1948 to 1951. During this time he appeared regularly on "Sheriff's Story," a weekly historical radio program produced by KTUC.

Van Valkenburgh was married in 1925 to Elsie Condon, from whom he was divorced in 1931. A daughter, Mary, was born to this marriage. In 1938, he married Ruth Williams, and they had one son, Richard John. Richard F. Van Valkenburgh died at Window Rock, Arizona on June 19, 1957.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE: The collection related primarily to Richard Van Valkenburgh's work on the Navajo Reservation from 1938 to 1941, his journalistic enterprises in Tucson from 1945 to 1946, and his freelance writing (principally on Navajo topics) from 1938 to 1946. The collection also includes correspondence with anthropologists, writers and Indians, selected manuscripts by Van Valkenburgh, research material taken from Navajo and Hopi Indian Agency files, and a small amount of material related to H.P. Van Valkenburgh, father of Richard. The collection is arranged in four subgroups with nine series total:

Subgroup I: Richard Van Valkenburgh, 1921-1950

Series one consists of correspondence, 1928-1946, both personal and business, relating to all aspects of Van Valkenburgh's career. It is arranged alphabetically by person, although in a few instances, persons have been grouped under a corporate name in order to keep related correspondence together. Correspondents include several noted anthropologists and writers such as Donald Brand, Raymond Carlson, Harold S. Colton, J.P. Harrington, Randall Henderson, E.L. Hewett, F.W. Hodge, Jack Van Ryder, Evon Z. Vogt, and Art Woodward. There are also a few letters from Carl Hayden, Barry Goldwater and W. Somerset Maugham. Much of the business correspondence is from the files of offices in which Van Valkenburgh worked, and many of these items are neither written by nor to Van Valkenburgh. This is particularly true of the Navajo Service and Arizona Nightingale materials. A few categories of correspondence have been grouped by subject rather than by person, specifically letters of introduction and short wave radio verified reception letters.

Series two consists of a wide variety of manuscripts, 1938-1950. The bulk of the series is made up of straight matter and mockups for the Arizona Nightingale. Also included are transcripts of two radio series, miscellaneous manuscripts, notes and fragments of articles, and books by Van Valkenburgh, as well as official reports generated under the auspices of the Navajo Service.

Series three consists of a small amount of printed matter, 1921-1923; 1937-1946, including copies of the Compton Stentor (Van Valkenburgh's high school paper), releases from the Writers' War Board, and miscellaneous clippings.

Series four consists of business records, 1938-1946, including subscription records of the Arizona Nightingale, requisition and job classification records of the Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation and property requisitions and transfer vouchers of the Navajo Service.

Series five consists of a small number of miscellaneous items, 1889; 1943-1945, including insurance policies, membership applications for two organizations, recreational programs, and an 1889 letter from E.E. Katz of Harshaw to his "Uncle" (unidentified).

Subgroup II: H.P. Van Valkenburgh, 1931-1940

Series six consists of a scrapbook of H.P. Van Valkenburgh (father of Richard) pertaining to his involvement in the California State Employees' Association.

Subgroup III: Navajo Indian Agency (Arizona-New Mexico), 1868-1908

Series seven consists of correspondence, 1884-1906, among officials of the Department of Interior, including the Secretary, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs and U.S. Indian Agents in Arizona and New Mexico. A few letters from unofficial sources are also included. Topics discussed in the correspondence include Indian education, imprisonment, missions and general reservation matters.

Series eight consist of miscellaneous materials, 1868-1905, related to the Navajo Agency. Included are annual reports, a census, a treaty, traders' licenses and a purchase order for equipment.

Subgroup IV: Moqui (Hopi) Indian Agency, 1900-1913

Series nine consists of correspondence from the Moqui (Hopi) Indian Training School at Keam's Canyon, Arizona to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C. The materials were removed from several different letterbooks. Annual reports (in letter form) are also included in this series.

CONTAINER LIST:

Box	Folder	Description	Dates
		Subgroup I: Richard F. Van Valkenburgh Series I: Correspondence	
1	1	Allen, Norton	undated
	2	American Museum of Natural History (Hazel Gay)	1942-1945
	3	Arizona government	1940-1946
	4	<u>Arizona Highways</u> (Raymond Carlson)	1940-1942
	5	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> (including Jack Van Ryder)	1945-1946
	6	<u>Arizona Police Review</u>	1945
	7	Begay, Scotty	1943-1945
	8	Bell, Lorin	1940
	9	Blake, Josephine	undated
	10	Brand, Donald	1939-1943
	11	Chandlee, Harry	1938-1942
	12	<u>Collier's</u>	1939
	13	Colorado State College	1940-1942
	14	Cruse, C.J.	1945
	15	Cutler, Hugh	1940-1941
	16	<u>Desert Magazine</u> (Randall Henderson, Lucile, Harris)	1938-1946
	17	Duane, William North	1939-1940
	18	Eggan, Fred	1939-1940
	19	Elmore, Francis	1941-1942
	20	Farmer, Malcolm	1938-1943
	21	Flora, Zeke	1942
	22	Gladwin, Harold	1942
	23	Goldwater, Barry	1942, 1946
	24	Grand Canyon National Park (Louis Schellback, et. al.)	1940-1941

	25	Hansen, Lucile	1944
	26	Harrington, John	1938-1941
	27	Haury, Emil	1939, 1944
	28	Hayden, Carl	1939-1944
	29	Hewett, Edgar	1940-1942
	30	Hibben, Frank	1939, 1942
	31	Hurt, Wesley	1941-1942
	32	Kelley, J. Charles	1939
	33	Kelly, Charles	1940-1943
	34	Keur, John & Dorothy	1938-1941
	35	Kluckhohn, Clyde	1939-1943
	36	Kostlan, Frank	1938-1944
	37	LaFarge, Oliver	1939, 1941
	38	Lasky, Jesse	1940
	39	Lillard, J.B.	1934, 1940
	40	Lindgreen, Raymond	1945-1946
2	41	Los Angeles Museum (Art Woodward, Betty Murphy)	1938-1946
	42	Lowe, William	1943-1946
	43	Maxwell, Mamie	1940-1946
	44	MacDonald, H.T.	1946
	45	McGregory, John C.	1939
	46	Montgomery, Rutherford	1941
	47	Museum of New Mexico (Bertha Dutton, et. al.)	1939-1943
	48	Museum of Northern Arizona (Harold Colton, Katherine Bartlett)	1938-1944
	49	Naas, Charles	1944-1945
	50	Navajo Indian Mission (Frank Walker, Fr. Anselm)	1942-1945
	51	Navajo Service - Adams, Lucy Wilcox	1938-1941
	52	Navajo Service - Beatty, Willard	1938-1944
	53	Navajo Service - Fryer, E.R.	1939-1941
	54	Navajo Service - Laves, Gerhardt	1938-1939
	55	Navajo Service - Lockett, H. Claybourne	1939
	56	Navajo Service - McPhee, John C.	1941-1945
	57	Navajo Service - Stewart, J.M.	1942-1946
	58	Navajo Service - Young, Robert	1940-1944
	59	Navajo Service - miscellaneous	1936-1941
	60	<u>New Mexico Magazine</u> (George Fitzpatrick)	1940-1942
	61	Perkins, A.B.	1940, 1943
	62	Pollock, Floyd A.	1940-1941
	63	Racer, F.H.	1940
	64	Reed, Erik K. (National Park Service)	1939-1941
	65	Richardson, Gladwell	1939-1940
	66	Riordan, Timothy	1943, 1946
	67	St. Arnaud, Mary	undated
	68	Secrist, Laura	1941

	69	Shirley, Charles Keetsie	1942-1946
	70	Smith, Mrs. White Mountain (Margie)	undated
	71	Smithsonian Institution (M.W. Stirling, Julian Steward)	1934-1942
	72	Snow, Jack	undated
	73	Southwest Museum (F.W. Hodge, M.R. Harrington, Anna Briggs)	1940-1942
	74	Stacher, F.S. (Ute Indian Agency)	1939-1940
	75	Strong, Duncan	1939
	76	Tanner, Clara Lee	1945-1946
	77	Tilden, Sam and Bennie	1938-1941
	78	Titiev, Mischa	1938-1939
	79	Van Valkenburgh family	1939-1946
	80	Vogt, Evon Z. (<u>Gallup Gazette</u>)	1939-1942
	81	Wharton, Bill	1945-1946
	82	Writers' War Board	1943
	83	Wyman, Leland	1939-1941
	84	Letters of introduction	1939-1946
3	85	Short Wave Radio verified reception	1928-1931
	86	Miscellaneous	1939-1946
		Series II: Manuscripts	
	87	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - straight matter and pasteups	November 1945
	88	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - straight matter and pasteups	December 1945
	89	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - straight matter and pasteups	January 1946
	90	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - straight matter and pasteups	February 1946
	91	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - straight matter and pasteups	March 1946
	92	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - straight matter and pasteups	April 1946
	93	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - straight matter and pasteups	June 1946
	94	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - pasteup	August 1946
	95	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - straight matter	September 1946
	96	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - copy	October 1946
	97	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - straight matter and pasteups	November 1946
	98	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - straight matter	undated
4	99	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - advertising	undated
	100	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - artwork	undated
	101	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u> - source material and notes	undated
	102	<u>Arizona Police Review</u> - straight matter and clipping	1945
	103	"Death and Burial of Black Hat"	undated
	104	"Death and Burial of Flint Singer"	undated
	105	"Death and Burial of White Hat"	undated

	106	“18 th Century Missions and Forts of Pimeria Alta”	undated
	107	“Frank Walker, Interpreter to the Navajo:	undated
	108	“Fred Wright” - with map	undated
	109	“Glyphs in the Guijus”	undated
	110	“Guidebook for a Historical and Geographical Map of the Navajo Country”	undated
	111	“History of the Navajo Nation” chapter 9	undated
	112	KTGM Radio (Window Rock) transcripts - Navajo topics	1938-1939
	113	“Long Walk of Very Slim Man”	undated
5	114	“Massacre of the Little Running Water”	undated
	115	Navajo biographies	undated
	116	Navajo place names - with oversize map	undated
	117	Navajo Service - economic reports	undated
	118	“On Kino’s Trail to Pozo Verde” - with map	undated
	119	“Plain and Fancy Pot-Hunting”	undated
	120	“Sheriff’s Story” - KTUC radio transcripts, Tucson	1948
	121	“Sheriff’s Story”	1948-1949
	122	“Sheriff’s Story”	1949-1950
	123	“Thomas V. Keam, Friend of the Moqui”	undated
	124	“Tom Childs of Batamonte”	undated
	125	Tombstone - sketch maps	undated
	126	“We Searched for the Lost Treasure of Cerro Colorado” - with map	undated
		Series III: Printed Matter	
	127	Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society (Kiva index and annual report)	1946
	128	<u>Compton Stentor</u>	1921-1923
	129	Writers’ War Board Reports	1943
	130	Clippings	1937; 1940 - 1941; 1944
		Series IV: Business Records	
	131	<u>Arizona Nightingale</u>	1945-1946
	132	Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation	1943-1944
6	133	Navajo Service	1938-1941
		Series V: Miscellany	
	134	Insurance policies, travel permit, application for Elks membership, bullfight program, 1889 letter from E.E. Katz (Harshaw) to “Uncle” (unidentified)	1889, 1943-1945
		Subgroup II: H.P. Van Valkenburgh	
		Series VI: Scrapbooks	
	135	Scrapbook of clippings and letters pertaining to California State Employees Association	1931-1940
		Subgroup III: Navajo Indian Agency (Arizona-New Mexico)	
		Series VII: Correspondence	

	136	Letterbook	January-June 1884
	137	Correspondence and circulars - education	1889-1908
	138	Correspondence and circulars - prisoners	1906
	139	Correspondence and circulars - missions	1889-1902
		Series VIII: Miscellany	
	140	Annual reports - Navajo, New Mexico Agency	1889-1890; 1902-1905
	141	Navajo census - Ft. Defiance, Arizona Agency	1871
	142	Navajo-Ute Treaty	1868
	143	Traders' licenses	1886-1899
	144	Purchase order	1892
		Subgroup IV: Moqui (Hopi) Indian Agency Series IX: Correspondence	
	145	Extracts of letterbooks	1900-1913