

The Museum of Northern Arizona
Harold S. Colton Memorial Library
3101 N. Fort Valley Road
Flagstaff, AZ 86001
(928)774-5213 ext. 256

Title

Rainbow Bridge-Monument Valley Expedition collection

Dates

1933-1935

Extent

2151 photographic images, 2 reels 35 mm film

Names of Photographers

Clifford Bond, Robert Branstead, L.W. Lowrey, Heid, Hall, Elwood Hoover, David F. Walkington, E. Beckwith, A. Andrews

Biographical History

A series of Rainbow Bridge/Monument Valley Expeditions were carried out between 1933 and 1938, but the most famous one is possibly the 1933 expedition. The goal of the expeditions was to research the area so that the National Park Service could establish a park in the region from southeast Utah to Northern Arizona. Led by Ansel Hall, the expedition included members from the Explorers Club from New York, researchers from UC-Berkeley, and others from a variety of universities throughout the United States. Ultimately, the region did not achieve National Park status, and remained a National Monument as it had been established in 1909.

The collection was previously called the "Ansel Hall collection," as Hall led the expedition and donated the materials to the Museum of Northern Arizona. Ansel Hall (1894-1962) was born in Oakland, California, and graduated from the University of California's Forestry Department. In 1924, he married June Alexander, and the couple raised six children. Hall worked for the NPS at both Sequoia National Park and Yosemite National Park as park ranger and park naturalist, respectively. From 1923 to 1937, he served in NPS more senior positions such as chief naturalist, senior naturalist, chief forester, and chief of the Field Division. He left NPS in 1938, but continued to be active with National Parks through developing interpretive programs, developing museum associations, and operating concessions at Mesa Verde. As Head of Education for the Western Region, he organized the Rainbow Bridge-Monument Valley Expedition in 1933. Hall is credited with influencing a number of individuals, including photographer Ansel Adams and other artists.

Scope and Content

The series consists of images taken during the 1933 Rainbow Bridge/Monument Valley Expedition, taken by the photographers/expedition members listed above. It includes images of sites within the Rainbow Bridge National Monument such as Bat Woman Pueblo, Betatakin, Black Mesa, Bryce Canyon, Dunn's Trading Post, Garden of Gods, Glen Canyon, Keet Siel, Kit

Seel Canyon, Kayeta, Lily Canyon, Long Canyon, Marsh Pass, Monument Valley, Navajo Mountain, Poncho House, Rainbow Bridge, Red House, Red Lake, Sagi Canyon, Skeleton Mesa, San Juan River, Twin Caves Ruin, Water Grand Canyon, Zion, etc. It includes images of members of the expedition and Navajo people.

System of Arrangement

Collection has been arranged according to media, including photographic negatives and motion pictures. Images have been kept in the order in which they were donated to the archives, which was primarily according to photographer.

The collection is arranged as follows:

Photographs

Series 1: Motion Picture

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Unpublished manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduced must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Languages and Scripts of the Materials

All materials are in English.

Finding Aids

A previous two-page box-level inventory was created in 1967.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Materials were donated to the Museum of Northern Arizona in the 1960s by Ansel Hall. The collection was not formally accessioned until 1967.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Related Archival Material

UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History. Rainbow Bridge/Monument Valley Expedition Archives.

Fort Lewis College Center of Southwest Studies. Collection P 008: Ansel Hall photograph albums

Publication Note

Ralph Leon Beals, *Archaeological Studies in Northeast Arizona: a report on the archaeological work of the Rainbow Bridge-Monument Valley Expedition* (UC-Berkeley Press, 1945).

Description Control

Finding aid written by Libby Coyner using DACS, 3 June 2009

Photographs				
Item #	Item Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/File
MS-122-1 to MS-122-642	Rainbow Bridge Monument Valley Expedition [1 of 3]	1933-1935	650 images	Nitrate Freezer
MS-122-643 to MS-122-1249	Rainbow Bridge Monument Valley Expedition [2 of 3]	1933-1935	549 images	Nitrate Freezer
MS-122-1250 to MS-122-2398	Rainbow Bridge Monument Valley Expedition [3 of 3]	1933-1935	512 images	Nitrate Freezer

Title

Series 1: Motion Picture

Dates

1933-1935

Extent

2 reels 35 mm motion picture film

Scope and Content

This series contains motion picture film of Mesa Verde during the Rainbow Bridge-Monument Valley Expedition.

Series 1: Motion Picture				
Item #	Item Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-122-1-1	RB-MV (Mesa Verde) #1	undated	1 reel 35 mm film	Vault 5
MS-122-1-2	RB-MV (Mesa Verde) #2	undated	1 reel 35 mm film	Vault 5

LCSH Access Points

Cliff dwellings – Colorado -- Mesa Verde.

Glen Canyon (Utah and Ariz.)

Hall, Ansel Franklin, 1894-

Kayenta (Ariz.)

Monument Valley (Ariz. and Utah)

Navajo Mountain Region (Utah)

Rainbow Bridge-Monument Valley Expedition

Rainbow Bridge (Utah)