

MS-239

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

Title

Dorothy Gale Burak collection

Dates

1840-1978

Extent

2.1 cm textual material, 81 images (53 photographic prints, 1 negative, 20 book plates (8 engravings, 12 lithographs), 7 postcards), 2 books

Name of Creator(s)

Burak, Dorothy Gale, 1917-2011
Kolb, Emery Clifford, 1881-1976
Schultz, Hart Merriam
Bartlett, Katharine

Biographical History

Dorothy Gale Burak (October, 2 1917-March 10, 2011) was born in Lexington, Virginia. She spent most of her childhood in Massachusetts, as her family was from the Boston area. The daughter of a concert pianist and a Massachusetts Institute of Technology professor, Ms. Burak loved the outdoors and was a member of the Appalachian Club. In 1937, she married her first husband, Reuel MacLaughlin. They were divorced in 1942.

Ms. Burak first came to Arizona in the spring of that same year, at the age of 24, to visit a friend. She immediately fell in love with the vast expanses, open spaces, and freedom of the western landscape. Instead of returning to the East, she found herself at the Grand Canyon, working in various Fred Harvey establishments and hiking into the Canyon in her spare time. For a short 3 months, she worked for the Havasu Lead and Zinc Mine on the Havasupai Reservation as a cook.

While on a solo backpacking trip through Yosemite National Park in 1945, Ms. Burak met Tom Burak, whom she married. They moved to Sonora, California and had three children: T. Lance, Susan, and Pam. In 1955, they moved to Lincoln, New Hampshire so that their children could be closer to their extended families. After her children had grown up, Ms. Burak again felt the urge to go westward, and returned to Arizona at the age of about 55. She volunteered at the Back Country Office at Grand Canyon National Park, was a ranger at the Cottonwood campground, and worked at Phantom Ranch.

In 1974, Ms. Burak began helping Grand Canyon photographer Emery Kolb organize his photographs and papers to be deposited at Northern Arizona University. She served as his caretaker until his death in 1976. Also a member of the Grand Canyon Pioneers Society (now

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the Grand Canyon Historical Society), she received the Pioneer Award in 1998 for her contributions to the park.

Ms. Burak passed away in North Woodstock, New Hampshire on March 10, 2011 at age 93.

Scope and Content

Collection consists of correspondence, photographic material, printed material, and manuscripts pertaining to Ms. Burak's time spent in Arizona, in particular her time at the Grand Canyon. Many of the materials, especially images, were collected through her relationship with Emery Kolb. Images of the Grand Canyon, San Francisco Peaks, and Oak creek areas, as well as Native American subjects make up a bulk of the photographs in this collection. Also included are book plates that were removed from publications about the Southwest and wildlife, as well as published materials and ephemera.

System of Arrangement

Collection is arranged in the following series and subseries:

- Series 1: Correspondence
- Series 2: Images
 - Subseries 2.1: Photographs
 - Subseries 2.2: Engravings
 - Subseries 2.3: Lithographs
 - Subseries 2.4: Restricted Materials
- Series 3: Published and Unpublished Materials
- Series 4: Ephemera

Conditions Governing Access

Viewing restrictions were placed on particular images in this collection due to the culturally sensitive nature of the subjects. These restrictions were placed by the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office. Please contact the MNA Archivist for more information and to obtain permission to view these materials.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Unpublished and published manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce 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 finding aid was created in 2004, and is available upon request.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Materials were donated by Dorothy Gale Burak in 1977 and 1978 (Accession #MS-239).

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Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Related Archival Materials

Rawdon, Wright & Hatch engravings. Mid-Manhattan Picture Collection, New York Public Library Digital Gallery.

NAU.MS.197, Emery Kolb collection. Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives Department, Northern Arizona University.

NAU.OH.16, Emery Kolb collection. Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives Department, Northern Arizona University.

NAU.MS.242, Grand Canyon Pioneers Society, Inc. Collection, 1897-1997. Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives Department, Northern Arizona University.

NAU.OH.2006.114.1, Oral history interview with Dorothy Gale Burak, parts I & II, April 20-21, 2006. Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives Department, Northern Arizona University.

NAU.OH.2006.114.2, Oral history interview with Dorothy Gale Burak, tapes 1 & 2, April 25, 2006. Cline Library, Special Collections and Archives Department, Northern Arizona University.

Description Control

Finding aid written by Melissa VanOtterloo using *DACS*, 11 June 2012.

Title

Series 1: Correspondence

Dates

1955, 1977, 1978

Extent

.3 cm textual material

Scope and Content

Series consists of correspondence from Sam Ahkeah, Chairman of the Navajo Tribal Council, and between Ms. Burak and MNA Librarian Katharine Bartlett about her donations to the Museum.

Series 1: Correspondence				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-239-1-1	Correspondence	1955, 1977, 1978	.3 cm	1.1

Title

Series 2: Images

Dates

ca. 1832-1913

Extent

74 images (53 photographic prints, 1 negative, 8 engravings, 12 lithographs)

Scope and Content

Series consists of images by Emery Kolb and other photographers, and includes photographs of Native American subjects, petroglyphs, and landscapes in Northern Arizona. It also includes engravings and lithographs in the form book plates that were removed from published materials.

Images were divided into folders according to tribal affiliations in a previous arrangement and it is unclear whether those categorizations were correct. Please use caution when attributing an image to a particular tribe.

Note: this series contains restricted materials.

System of Arrangement

Series 2: Images

Subseries 2.1: Photographs

Subseries 2.2: Engravings

Subseries 2.3: Lithographs

Subseries 2.4: Restricted Materials

Title

Subseries 2.1: Photographs

Dates

Unknown, 1898-1915

Extent

52 black & white prints, 1 negative

Scope and Content

Subseries includes photographic prints of Native Americans and their homes from the Hopi, Mohave, Navajo, and other unidentified tribes. Images of petroglyphs and Native American ruins are among the photographs, and there are also images of Anglo Americans and landscapes from Northern Arizona.

Subseries 2.1: Photographs				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-239-2.1-1	Photographs – Hopi	unknown, 1913	12 prints	1.2

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MS-239-2.1-2	Photographs – Mohave	ca. 1909	5 prints	1.3
MS-239-2.1-3	Photographs – Navajo	unknown, ca. 1910-ca. 1913	10 prints	1.4
MS-239-2.1-4	Photographs – Other People	unknown, 1902, 1913, 1915	1 negative, 14 prints	1.5
MS-239-2.1-5	Photographs – Places	unknown, 1898, ca. 1910, 1913	12 prints	1.6

Title

Subseries 2.2: Engravings

Dates

ca. 1832-1847, 1857

Extent

8 black & white book plates

Scope and Content

Subseries includes engravings in the form of book plates from different publications. The images are of Native Americans, with the exception of one landscape.

Some plates have been removed from unknown sources. The engravings that have been identified were removed from the following publications:

Emory, William H. *Report on the United States and Mexican Boundary survey, volume 1: Made under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior*. 34th Congress, First Session: Executive Document No. 135, House of Representatives. Washington, D.C.: Cornelius Wendell, 1857.

The Evergreen. Philadelphia: Carey & Hart, 1847.

Subseries 2.2: Engravings				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-239-2.2-1	Engravings	ca. 1832-1847, 1857	8 plates	1.7

Title

Subseries 2.3: Lithographs

Dates

1846, 1848, 1857

Extent

13 book plates (5 black & white, 8 color)

Scope and Content

The lithographs in this subseries contain Native American subjects, as well as images of ruins, flora, fauna, and landscapes.

Plates have been removed from the following publications:

Audubon, John James. *The Quadrupeds of North America, volume II*. New York: V.G. Audubon, 1846.

Audubon, John James. *The Quadrupeds of North America, volume III*. New York: V.G. Audubon, 1854.

Emory, William H. *Report on the United States and Mexican Boundary survey, volume 1: Made under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior*. 34th Congress, First Session: Executive Document No. 135, House of Representatives. Washington, D.C.: Cornelius Wendell, 1857.

Emory, William H. *Notes of a Military Reconnoissance from Fort Leavenworth, in Missouri, to San Diego, in California, Including Parts of the Arkansas, Del Norte, and Gila Rivers*. 30th Congress, First Session: Executive Document No. 7, Senate. Washington, D.C.: Wendell and Van Benthuysen, 1848.

Subseries 2.3: Lithographs				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-239-2.3-1	Lithographs	1846, 1848, 1857	13 plates	1.8

Title

Subseries 2.4: Restricted Materials

Dates

Unknown, 1913

Extent

18 black & white prints, 1 postcard

Scope and Content

Subseries contains images of sacred Native American ceremonies. Advance permission is required to view this material.

Subseries 2.4: Restricted Materials				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-239-2.4-1	Restricted Materials	unknown, 1913	18 prints, 1 postcard	1.9

Title

Series 3: Published and Unpublished Materials

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Dates

Unknown, 1840-1965

Extent

.8 cm textual material, 2 books

Scope and Content

Published materials in this series include a photocopy of an article about the Kolb brothers' work and experiences at the Grand Canyon, a biographical entry about Hart Merriam Schultz, noted Blackfoot painter, and a two volume set of books about Native Americans.

Garrison, Lon. *A Camera and a Dream: The Story of the Kolb Brothers of the Grand Canyon*. Arizona Highways, January 1953, p. 30-35.

King, Jeanne Snodgrass. "Schultz, Hart Merriam." In *American Indian Painters: A Biographical Dictionary*. New York: Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, 1968.

B.B. Thatcher. *Indian Traits: Being Sketches of the Manners, Customs, and Character of the North American Natives, Volume I*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1840.

B.B. Thatcher. *Indian Traits: Being Sketches of the Manners, Customs, and Character of the North American Natives, Volume II*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1848.

Ms. Burak originally donated a first edition copy of:

Colton, Harold Sellers & Baxter, Frank Conde. *Days on the Painted Desert and in the San Francisco Peaks: A Guide*. Flagstaff, AZ: Coyote Range, printed by The Coconino Sun, 1927.

This publication removed from the collection in 2004 and cannot be located as of 2012. Also removed from the collection and added to the accession file is a photocopy of:

Lavender, David. *Gale Burak of the Grand Canyon: For the Love of Wilderness....* Arizona Highways, September 1984, p. 33-35.

Unpublished materials include a carbon copy of "Statements by Lone Wolf (Indian Artist) concerning a few incidents of his early life among the Blackfoot Indians," detailing the ceremonies performed by his grandfather upon Lone Wolf's leaving the tribe to go to school, and a photocopy of a manuscript entitled "A Trip to a Supai Indian Reservation in the Bad Lands of Arizona" by an unknown author.

Series 3: Published and Unpublished Materials				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-239-3-1	Published and Unpublished Materials	unknown, 1840, 1848, 1953, 1965	.8 cm textual material, 2 books	1.10

Title

Series 4: Ephemera

Dates

Unknown, 1913-1966

Extent

1 cm textual material, 6 postcards

Scope and Content

Series consist of a September 12, 1913 issue of *The Coconino Sun*, various clippings regarding the Navajo tribe’s struggle with the United States government, an obituary for Hugh D. Smith, a Navajo missionary, and an obituary for James Kewanwytewa, a Hopi craftsman who worked for the Museum. Although the previous finding aid indicates that there were originally 48 postcards, only 7 remain in the collection at this time. The 6 postcards in this series feature images of the Oak Creek Canyon area, Walnut Canyon, and a Native American village. Tourism brochures include “Flagstaff and Vicinity” published by the Santa Fe Railroad and “See Southern Utah: Nature’s Wonderland” issued by the Associated Civic Clubs of Southern Utah.

Series 4: Ephemera				
File #	File Description	Date(s)	Extent	Box/Folder
MS-239-4-1	Ephemera	unknown, 1913, ca. 1914, 1954, 1966	1 cm textual material, 6 postcards	1.11

LCSH Access Points

- Burak, Dorothy Gale, 1917-2011
- Kolb, Emery Clifford, 1881-1976
- Schultz, Hart Merriam
- Bartlett, Katharine
- Navajo Indians
- Missionaries--Navajo Indian Reservation
- Hopi Indians
- Obituaries
- Museum of Northern Arizona
- Indians of North America
- Mohave Indians
- Tourist maps
- Brochures