

MS-254

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

**Title**

J.C. Clarke collection

**Dates**

**Extent**

**Biographical History**

Jesse Cecil (J.H.) Clarke was born December 31, 1876 to John Peter and Anna Holmes Clarke of Brownsville, Tennessee. The family lived in Jackson, City, Tennessee; Waco, Texas, and finally moved to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

J.C. Clarke began working as a lineman for the Missouri and Kansas Telephone, Co., and at some point between 1893 and 1903, married a woman named "Tillie." Over the next few years, Clarke worked as a lineman at a variety of companies. Tillie bore one daughter, and passed away prior to 1910 of unspecified causes. He remarried in 1910 to Alice McWilliams.

In 1912, Clarke and his wife relocated to Flagstaff to work as office manager for the Flagstaff Office of the Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Co., and in 1919 took a position as a postal clerk in the Flagstaff Postal Office. During this period, he became interested in archaeology, and befriended Dr. Harold S. Colton. He was a life member of the Museum of Northern Arizona, and served as the unpaid "custodian" at Wupatki National Monument. He passed away on August 9, 1932 from abdominal cancer, and is buried in the Odd Fellows section at the Community Cemetery of Flagstaff.

**Scope and Content**

**System of Arrangement**

**Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use**

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**Languages and Scripts of the Materials**

All materials are in English

**Finding Aids**

A previous inventory listing of images was made by Katharine Bartlett in 1979.

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

659 nitrate negatives were donated to the Museum of Northern Arizona by Mrs. J.C. Clarke in 1933. An accrual of 80 nitrate negatives were donated by Mrs. Hensley, previously Mrs. J.C. Clarke) in 1969.

**Accruals**

No further accruals are expected.

**Related Archival Material**

Other materials related to J.C. Clarke

**Publication Note****Description Control**

Finding aid written by Libby Coyner using *DACS*, 6 March 2009