Finding Aid to the J. G. (John George) Braecklein Papers MS.574

Finding aid prepared by Holly Rose Larson
Autry National Center, Braun Research Library
234 Museum Drive
Los Angeles, CA, 90065-5030
323-221-2164
room@theautry.org
2012 October 8
Title: J. G. (John George) Braecklein Papers
Identifier/Call Number: MS.574
Contributing Institution: Autry National Center, Braun Research Library
Language of Material: English
Physical Description: 0.2 linear feet(5 folders)
Date (inclusive): 1901-1958
Abstract: J. G. (John George) Braecklein (1865-1958) was an architect, responsible for designing Kansas City's first skyscraper, a world champion bones player with a minstrel group, and collector of Native American and Spanish relics. This collection consists of a book of Braecklein's architectural work, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and an obituary. Materials in this collection range from 1901-1958.
creator: Braecklein, J. G. (John George)

Processing history
Processed by Glenna Schroeder, circa 1977-1981. Final processing and finding aid completed by Holly Rose Larson, NHPRC Processing Archivist, 2012 October 8, made possible through grant funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commissions (NHPRC).

Scope and Contents
This collection consists of a book of J. G. (John George) Braecklein's architectural work, newspaper clippings, correspondence, and an obituary. Materials range from 1901-1958.

Acquisition
The majority of this collection came from donations made by J. G. Braecklein between 1944 and 1950. Some clippings were donated by F. W. Hodge in 1948.

Preferred citation
J. G. (John George) Braecklein Papers, 1901-1958, Braun Research Library Collection, Autry National Center, Los Angeles; MS.574; [folder number] [folder title][date].

Use
Copyright has not been assigned to the Autry National Center. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Autry Archivist. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Autry National Center as the custodian of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the reader.

Access
Collection is open for research. Appointments to view materials are required. To make an appointment please visit http://theautry.org/research/research-rules-and-application or contact library staff at rroom@theautry.org. An item-level list is available

Biographical note
J. G. (John George) Braecklein was born in 1865. He studied architecture at Harvard University, and designed Kansas City's first skyscraper, the Heist Building, in 1888. Besides architecture, Braecklein was interested in and collected Native American and Spanish relics, many of which he gave to Frederick Webb Hodge in 1944. Braecklein also had some involvement in the Boy Scouts in his later years. Braecklein was a world champion bones player, and performed as a member of Epperson Megaphone Minstrals, a blackface musical group active from 1899-1907. Braecklein married Louise Merritt, with whom he had four children. At the time of Braecklein's death on October 7, 1958, he had eight grandchildren and ten great-grand-children.

Related Archival Materials note
Photograph of Oscar Braecklein (John's father) with the following biographical information: "Just before he left TREUEN, SAXONY, GERMANY, for the gold fields of California by way of Cuba, thence to New Orleans, thence to St. Louis thence to California thence to Leavenworth Kansas in 1855 and opened the first drug store in Leavenworth, Kansas. I gave my daughter his tin type Mrs. Elsie Braecklein Daugherty. The photograph I present to F. W. Hodge. J. G. Braecklein December 15, 1944"

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Architecture
Clippings
Correspondence
Obituaries

Folder 1
1. Album (1901) of buildings designed by Braecklein with annotative comments by Braecklein (probably about 1944)

Folder 2
1. Braecklein as a bones player - clippings:
   2. Kansas City Times June 1, 1950
   3. Kansas City Times June 7, 1950 (with picture)
   4. Unidentified Kansas City paper October ?, 1945
   5. Unidentified Kansas City paper July 17, 1949

Folder 3
1. Interest in Indians - clippings
   2. Kansas City paper January 19, 1948 about speaking on arrowheads at the Greater Kansas City Council of American Pioneer Trails Association (includes picture)
   3. Kansas City Star May 16, 1948 about part of Mic-O-Say Boy Scout Honor group (includes picture)
   4. Tulsa World March 2, 1945 (2 c.) about being the man responsible for the Spiro Mound excavation in Tulsa

Folder 4
1. Other personalia
   2. Note in Ararat Shrine News October 1942
   3. Letter to Braecklein from B. Bates July 11, 1915
   4. Letter to Braecklein from Grace Nicholson April 20, 1942

Folder 5
1. Obituary - Kansas City paper October 8, 1958