
Finding Aid to James Addison Reavis and the Peralta Claim MS.635

Finding aid prepared by Holly Rose Larson
Autry National Center, Braun Research Library
234 Museum Drive
Los Angeles, CA, 90065-5030
323-221-2164
rroom@theautry.org
2012 October 25

Title: James Addison Reavis and the Peralta Claim

Identifier/Call Number: MS.635

Contributing Institution: Autry National Center, Braun Research Library

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 0.1 linear feet(1 folder)

Date: 1942 May

Abstract: This is a thesis entitled "James Addison Reavis and the Peralta Claim" by Newton A. Johnson. It was presented to the Department of History, University of Southern California in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the degree Master of Arts in May 1942. The appendix to the thesis includes copies of legal documents from 1883-1895, photographs, and a map.

creator: Johnson, Newton A.

Biographical note

James Addison Reavis (1843-1914) arrived in Arizona in 1882 and filed claim on more than twelve million acres of land in Arizona and New Mexico based on altered Spanish land grant documents; he gained fame as the "Baron of Arizona." He served a short term in a New Mexico prison, then returned to Arizona under the alias J.A. Ashley-Reavis.

Scope and Contents

This is a thesis entitled "James Addison Reavis and the Peralta Claim" by Newton A. Johnson. It was presented to the Department of History, University of Southern California in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the degree Master of Arts in May 1942. The appendix to the thesis includes copies of legal documents from 1883-1895, photographs, and a map. Reavis was a swindler and forger, famous for attempting to fraudulently obtain 7,500 sq. miles of Arizona Territory by falsifying documents in Mexico and Spain to show a Spanish land grant to Don Miguel Peralta in 1748.

Preferred citation

James Addison Reavis and the Peralta Claim, 1942, Braun Research Library Collection, Autry National Center, Los Angeles; MS.635.

Processing history

Processed by Glenna Schroeder, circa 1977-1981. Finding aid completed by Holly Rose Larson, NHPRC Processing Archivist, 2012 October 25, made possible through grant funding from the National Historical Publications and Records Commissions (NHPRC).

Acquisition

Donated by Newton A. Johnson, 1942 June.

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.

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Reavis, James Addison, 1843-1914

Arizona -- History

Dissertations, Academic

Fraud -- Arizona

Land grants -- Arizona

Peralta (N.M.)

Peralta grant

Swindlers and swindling -- Arizona
