
Finding aid of the The Rocky Mountain Steve Papers

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Finding aid of the The Rocky Mountain Steve Papers

Collection number: 98.198

Autry Library
Autry National Center of the American West
Los Angeles, California

Processed by:

Sharon Johnson

Date Completed:

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Rocky Mountain Steve Papers

Dates: 1890-1920

Collection number: 98.198

Creator: Hicks, Steve, 1870-

Collection Size: .5 linear feet 23 items

Repository: Autry National Center. Institute for the Study of the American West

Los Angeles, CA 90027

Abstract: Collection relating to the life of cowboy and sharpshooter Stephen Hicks, also known as "Rocky Mountain Steve."

Physical location: Autry Library

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

Collection is open for research. Appointments to view materials are required. To make an appointment please visit http://www.autrynationalcenter.org/research_application.php or contact library staff at (323) 667-2000.

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Preferred Citation

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Acquisition Information

Purchase, High Noon Western Collectibles 1998

Processing Information

Processed by Sharon Johnson, 1998.

Biography / Administrative History

Steven Hicks, or "Rocky Mountain Steve," was born in Blountville, Tennessee in 1870. His early family life was poor, and so he left home at the age of 11. He traveled to Texas, where he learned bronco busting and sharp shooting on a large cattle ranch. At age 21, he left Texas and traveled throughout the West and South, giving sharp shooting exhibitions. He finally settled in Dallas, where he created a roping, riding and sharp shooting show that drew large audiences. He often performed with his young son, William. Hicks was good friends with Geronimo and his daughter Eva; he also occasionally participated in Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and Miller's 101 Ranch shows. He acquired his name after spending time bronco busting in the Rocky Mountains in Mexico.

Scope and Content of Collection

Collection of photographs, one program and book relating to the life of cowboy and sharpshooter Stephen Hicks, also known as "Rocky Mountain Steve." Studio portraits show Hicks and/or his young son Willie posing with rifles used in their sharp shooting act. Other photographs are of 101 Ranch Wild West Show performers, including Joe Miller, Zach Miller, Tom Mix, Indians from Holdenville in the Indian Territory, and Pawnee Bill and his wife May Lillie. Also included in the collection is a program for Miller Brothers 101 Ranch Wild West Show, and a pamphlet entitled "Life and adventure of Rocky Mountain Steve" with a sketch of his life, poetry, and recipes for treating various animal ailments.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects

Rocky Mountain Steve.

Pawnee Bill, 1860-1942.

Stephen Hicks, 1870-

Lillie, May.

Miller Bros. and Arlington 101 Ranch Real Wide West Show.

Wild west shows.

Shooters of firearms--West (U.S.)

Indians of North America--West (U.S.)--Pictorial works.

Genres and Forms of Material

Photographs.

Programs.

Life and Adventure of Rocky Mountain Steve / by Stephen Hicks
