Moreland Stevens Family Papers

Monika Lehman, updated and edited by Lauren DeCelle in 2019
SJ most Collections & Archives
2014
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library
San José State University
One Washington Square
San José, CA 95192-0028
special.collections@sjsu.edu
URL: http://library.sjsu.edu/sjsu-special-collections/sjsu-special-collections-and-archives
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: SJSU Special Collections & Archives
Title: Moreland Stevens Family Papers
Identifier/Call Number: MSS 2002-09-20
Physical Description: 4.0 boxes (6.17 linear ft.)
Date (inclusive): 1861-2001
Abstract: The Moreland Stevens Family Papers consists of newspaper clippings, photographs, letters, art and artifacts donated by the Stevens family. The bulk of this collection is 1890 - 1930.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Moreland Stevens Family Papers documents the lives of Charles Edwin Stevens and Alice Biddle Moreland, as well as contains the art and artifact donations of Moreland Stevens. This collection tracks Edwin Stevens' personal life and professional life as a stage and silent film actor during the early 20th century and Alice Biddle Moreland's trip to Asia in the 1880s. The collection includes various paintings and artifacts, such as Yurok baskets, that had been collected by the Stevens family through the generations.

Arrangement
This collection is arranged into three series: Series I: Alice Biddle Moreland Photo Journal, Series II: Edwin Stevens Papers, and Series III: Art and Artifacts.
All series are arranged chronologically.

Preferred Citation
The Moreland Stevens Family Papers, MSS 2002-09-20, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

Access
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Processing Information
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Biographical / Historical
Edwin Stevens was born in San Francisco in 1860. He was a film and theater actor from the 1890s to the 1920s, and later directed and wrote screenplays. He starred in over 45 films, and died at the age of 63 in 1923.

Alice Biddle Moreland, related to Edwin Stevens by marriage, was born in Oregon in 1854. She is Oregon State University's first female graduate, completing her degree in three years, graduating at age sixteen. She married a professor named William Moreland in 1870 and together they had a daughter named Esther. Years later, Esther Moreland Leithold wrote her mother's biography "And This Is Our Heritage."

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Theater Programs
University of Oregon
Travel
silent films
Actors
Women -- Education (Higher) -- 20th century
Motion pictures
Theater Periodicals
Yurok Indians
Yurok, baskets
Series 1: Alice Biddle Moreland Photo Journal 1880
Physical Description: 1 Box
Scope and Contents
Series I contains a photographic album of Alice Biddle Moreland's travels through Asia, specifically China and Japan, in the 1880s. Many of the photographs have been colored, and some are panoramic photographs.
Arrangement
This series is arranged chronologically by date.

Box 1
Photo Album

Scope and Contents
Series II documents Edwin Stevens' personal and professional life as a stage and silent film actor. The series includes his personal letters to his family, photographs, newspaper clippings, negatives of the film "The Yellow Menace," and a short biography written by his great grand-nephew Moreland Leithold Stevens. Also included are two issues of "The Theater", a magazine for playgoers, from 1908. The bulk of the series is from 1900-1923.
Arrangement
This series is arranged chronologically by date.

Box 1, Folder 1
Edwin Stevens Photographs 1876-1922
Box 1, Folder 2
Edwin Stevens Newspaper Clippings 1890-1971
Box 1, Folder 3
Edwin Stevens Family Letters 1911-2001
Box 1, Folder 4
Edwin Stevens Periodicals 1908

Series 3: Art and Artifacts 1861-1937
Arrangement
This series is arranged chronologically.
Scope and Contents
This series consists of framed paintings, framed and loose prints, and Yurok woven artifacts.

Box 1, Folder 5
One Framed Certificate of Agriculture, Horticulture, and Mechanics Society of the Northern District of California September 1861
Box 2
Yurok Basket 3 5/8" x 5 1/2" circa 1890
Box 2
Yurok Basket 4 1/4" x 6" circa 1890
Box 3
Yurok Basket 5 1/4" x 7 1/2" circa 1890
Box 4
Yurok Cradleboard 26 1/2" x 10 1/2" x 5" circa 1890
Box 1, Folder 5
Woodblock print "Criptomeria Avenue" by Hiroshi Yoshida 1937?
Box 1, Folder 5
Seascape by Denney
drawer 01-18,
Folder 6
Print of The City of San Francisco in 1878, Birds Eye View From the Bay Looking South-West
General
Reproduced from an original lithograph published by Currier and Ives in The Mariners Museum, Newport News, Virginia.
drawer 01-18, Folder 6

Print of San Francisco in 1847

General

Reproduced from an original lithograph in The Mariners Museum, Newport News, Virginia.