Inventory of the Pony Express Centennial Association Records, 1957-1976

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Note
History--United States and North American History.
Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Pony Express Centennial Association Records, 1957-1976

**Date (inclusive):** 1957-1976

**Collection number:** D-390

**Creator:** Pony Express Centennial Association

**Extent:** 10 linear feet

**Repository:** University of California, Davis, General Library, Dept. of Special Collections.

100 North West Quad

Davis, California, 95616-5292

**Abstract:** The Pony Express Centennial Association was incorporated (1958) to foster and facilitate commemorations of the centennial of the Pony Express (1860-1861). The man principally responsible for promoting this Association was retired Air Force Lt. Col. Waddell Smith, a grandson of one of the partners in the firm Russell, Majors and Waddell which had operated the Pony Express. The Records of the Pony Express Centennial Association consist principally of the correspondence of Waddell Smith. The collection also contains financial records, reports, clippings, other materials Smith gathered and some correspondence of Edwin H. Burgess, Director of the Washington D.C. Branch of the Centennial Association.

**Language:** English.

**Access**

Collection is open for research.

**Publication Rights**

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**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Pony Express Centennial Association Records, D-390, Department of Special Collections, University of California Library, Davis, California.

**Acquisition Information**

Acquired in 2003.
History
The Pony Express Centennial Association was incorporated (1958) to foster and facilitate commemorations of the centennial of the Pony Express (1860-1861). The man principally responsible for promoting this Association was retired Air Force Lt. Col. Waddell Smith, a grandson of one of the partners in the firm Russell, Majors and Waddell which had operated the Pony Express. A collector of Pony Express artifacts and an authority on the history of the company, Smith served as President of the Association. Association activities included a multi-state historic marker program and a two-way reenactment across the original route with a thousand volunteer riders.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Records of the Pony Express Centennial Association consist principally of the correspondence of Waddell Smith. The collection also contains financial records, reports, clippings, other materials Smith gathered and some correspondence of Edwin H. Burgess, Director of the Washington D.C. Branch of the Centennial Association.

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

Subjects
Halbert, Sherrill,--1901-
Smith, Waddell F.
Burgess, Edwin H.
Pony Express Centennial Association
Pony express
West (U.S.)--History
Pony Express Trail

Box 1

Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet
Scope and Content Note
Contains articles of incorporation, by-laws, and directives, among other records. Arranged alphabetically.

Note

Box 1

Series 2. Board of Directors' minutes and notes, 1958-1968
Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet
Scope and Content Note
Arranged chronologically.

Note

Box 2-3

Physical Description: 1.5 linear feet
Scope and Content Note
Arranged in two subseries: Individuals and Special Subjects.

Note

Box 2

Subseries 3.1. Individuals, 1958-1969
Physical Description: 1 linear foot
Scope and Content Note

Note
Box 3

Subseries 3.2. Special subjects, 1958-1969

Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet

Scope and Content Note


Note

Box 3


Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet

Scope and Content Note

Includes financial and bank statements, cancelled checks and statements, miscellaneous bank records, Pony Express-carried letter stubs, cash book, invoices, disbursement record book, inventories of plaques and medals, tax exemption records, mailing lists, and office seals and rubber stamps.

Note

Box 4

Series 5. Special Committee Records, 1959-1963

Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet

Scope and Content Note

Includes files for the centennial history, executive, finance, historical research, operations, philatelic & numismatic, projects, planning & action, and public relations committees. Arranged alphabetically.

Note

Box 4-5


Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet

Scope and Content Note

Includes files for California, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming. Arranged alphabetically.

Note

Box 5

Series 7. Special events, 1958-1965

Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet

Scope and Content Note

Includes files on Air Force flights, and the centennial ride & riders.

Note

Box 5-6


Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet

Scope and Content Note

Contains files on belts, holsters, and mochilas, bibles, commemorative medals, and commemorative stamps & covers.

Note
Box 6  Series 9. **Regional organizations and distribution, 1958-1969**  
Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet  
Scope and Content Note  
Contains files for the California Historical Society, the California Pony Express Centennial Association, the Central Overland Pony Express Trail Association, the Sacramento County Historical Society, the Utah State Historical Society, and the Pony Express "package" [for distribution to historical societies].  
Note

Box 7  Series 10. **Publicity, 1959-1961**  
Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet  
Scope and Content Note  
Contains news releases and photographs.  
Note

Box 7-8  Series 11. **Clippings and historical source materials, 1957-1968**  
Physical Description: 1.5 linear feet  
Scope and Content Note  
Contains clippings, published articles, maps, and memorabilia.  
Note

Box 9-10  Series 12. **Edwin H. Burgess Correspondence, 1958-1976**  
Physical Description: 2 linear feet  
Scope and Content Note  
Arranged chronologically. Also contains 2 folders of correspondence pertaining to the centennial medals and stamps.  
Note