Inventory of the Waddell F. Smith Papers D-392

University of California, Davis Library, Dept. of Special Collections
2003
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URL: http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/dept/specoll/
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: University of California, Davis Library, Dept. of Special Collections
Title: Waddell F. Smith Papers
Creator: Smith, Waddell F.
Identifier/Call Number: D-392
Physical Description: 21.6 linear feet
Date (inclusive): 1939-1976
Abstract: Waddell F. Smith, historian and collector, was the great grandson of William B. Waddell, member of freighting firm of Russell, Majors and Waddell, founders of Pony Express (1860). Smith retired from military service (1949) to devote time to study and promotion of Pony Express history. He settled in San Rafael, Calif. and organized a Pony Express History and Art Gallery. The Gallery became headquarters for the National Pony Express Centennial Association, of which Waddell Smith was President. In this capacity Smith organized and staged a reenactment of a Pony Express run (1960). He published "Stage Lines and Express Companies in California" (1965) and a number of pamphlets, such as "Pony Express versus Wells Fargo Express" (1966) The Papers contain the Pony Express Gallery Records as well as Smith's Pony Express scrapbook, research notes, writings and photographs.
Researchers should contact Special Collections to request collections, as many are stored offsite.

Biographical Narrative
Waddell F. Smith (1899-1970) was a great grandson of William B. Waddell, member of the freighting firm of Russell, Majors and Waddell, founders, owners and operators of the Pony Express. Smith retired from military service in 1949 and fulfilled his lifelong wish to study the history of the Pony Express and correct "misinterpretations of history" crediting Wells Fargo as taking over the Pony Express. He settled in San Rafael, Calif. where he created the Pony Express History and Art Gallery. The Gallery was a part-time headquarters for the Pony Express Centennial Association, of which Smith was founder and President. Waddell Smith wrote Stage Lines and Express Companies in California (1965) and a number of smaller works.

Scope and Content of Collection
The Waddell Smith Papers contain the Pony Express Gallery Records as well as Smith's Pony Express scrapbook, research notes, writings and photographs.

Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Waddell F. Smith Papers, D-392, Special Collections, UC Davis Library, Davis, California.

Access
Collection is open for research.

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Acquisition Information
Acquired in 2003

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Pony express -- History
Postal museums -- California -- San Rafael
Historians -- Correspondence
West (U.S.) -- History -- Sources
Firearms -- History
Smith, Waddell F. -- Archives
Pony Express History and Art Gallery

Correspondence Series 1
Correspondence Series 1
Letters to Individuals Subseries 1.1

Box 1  Letters to Individuals Subseries 1.1

Box 2  Letters to Historical Organizations Subseries 1.2

Box 3  Miscellany Subseries 1.3
   Box 3  Chronological Subseries 1.3.1
   Box 3  Social Subseries 1.3.2
   Box 3  Letters of Mrs. Waddell Smith Subseries 1.3.3
   Box 3  Financial records of Pony Express Museum Series 2

Box 4  Financial statements Subseries 2.1
   Scope and Contents note
   Contains balance sheets, journals, and tax reports.

Sales records Subseries 2.2

Box 5  Medal sales Subseries 2.2.1
   Scope and Contents note
   Contains sales records, ordering invoices, and correspondence.

Box 5  Memorabilia sales Subseries 2.2.2
Historical research material Series 3

Box 6  Pony Express vs. Wells Fargo Subseries 3.1
   Scope and Contents note
   Contains editorials, speeches, pamphlets, books, clippings, and correspondence.

Box 6  Pony Express Riders Subseries 3.2
   Scope and Contents note
   Contains lists of riders and research on individuals.

Box 6  Pony Express Company Subseries 3.3
   Scope and Contents note
   Contains research notes, manuscripts, and correspondence.

Box 6  Pony Express Gallery records Series 4.
   Scope and Contents note
   Contains files on tours and information requests.

Pony Express Museum printed matter Series 5.
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## Books Subseries 5.1

- **Box 7**
  - **Books Subseries 5.1**
  - **Scope and Contents note**
    - Contains corrections, sales, and correspondence files.

## News stories Subseries 5.2

- **Box 7**

## Magazine articles Subseries 5.3

- **Box 8**

## Pamphlets Subseries 5.4

- **Box 8**

## Promotions Subseries 5.5

- **Box 9**

## Newspaper clippings Series 6

- **Box 10-12**

## Pony Express memorabilia Series 7

- **Box 13**

## Pony Express scrapbook Series 8

- **Box 14**

## Speeches Series 9

- **Box 15-17**

## Gun records Series 10

- **Box 18**

## Personal financial records Series 11

- **Box 18**

## Overland Mail Centennial Association records Series 12

- **Box 18**

## Photographs Series 13

- **Box 19-21**

## Addenda

- **Scope and Contents**
  - Assorted photographs, memorabilia, printed historical brochures, clippings, and leaflets.

### Box 22, Folder 1
- **Reproduction Holy Bible with stamp “Presented by Russell, Major, and Waddell, 1860” undated**

### Box 22, Folder 2
- **Photographs of original? Bible presented by Russell, Major, and Waddell undated**

### Box 22, Folder 3
- **Preamble to Pony Express versus Wells Fargo Express by Waddell Smith 1967**

### Box 22, Folder 4
- **Pony Express versus Wells Fargo Express by Waddell Smith 1966**

### Box 22, Folder 5
- **Pony Express embossed stamp envelopes 1960**

### Box 22, Folder 6
- **Pony Express embossed stamp envelopes 1961**

### Box 22, Folder 7
- **Photograph of painting of Pony Express rider undated**

### Box 22, Folder 8
- **Unidentified carte de visite of young girl holding doll (Photographer located in Lexington, MO) undated**

### Box 22, Folder 9
- **Yearbook of the Baptist College for Young Ladies, Lexington, MO 1896?**

### Box 22, Folder 10
- **Yearbook of the Pony Express Plate for the Bicentennial 1967**

### Box 23, Folder 1
- **Pamphlet for California National Productions Pony Express television show undated**

### Box 23, Folder 2
- **Poster for the 2nd Annual Pony Express Days, Pollock Pines undated**

### Box 23, Folder 3
- **Print of unidentified woman undated**

### Box 23, Folder 4
- **Print of Central Overland California wagon and team of horses undated**

### Box 23, Folder 5
- **Sketchbook with colored sketches of Pony Express related scenes undated**
Box 24

**Clippings, Leaflets, and Brochures on the Pony Express**

- Physical Description: 3 folders
- Scope and Contents
  - Formerly part of the vertical file at the University of the Pacific Special Collections.