
Finding Aid for the Collection of Scripts for Death Valley Days, 1960-1969

Processed by UCLA Library Special Collections staff; machine-readable finding aid created by Julie Graham and Caroline Cubé.

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Collection of Scripts for Death Valley Days,

Date (inclusive): 1960-1969

Collection number: 250

Extent: 6 boxes (3 linear ft.)

Abstract: Death Valley Days was one of a few western anthology series as well as the longest-running series on television (1952-1970 and 1975). The collection consists of scripts for 130-plus episodes, spanning 1960-1969.

Language: Finding aid is written in English.

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library Special Collections.

Los Angeles, California 90095-1575

Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA Library, UCLA Library Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

Restrictions on Access

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF: Open for research. Advance notice required for access. Contact the UCLA Library, UCLA Library Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.

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Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Collection of Scripts for Death Valley Days (PASC Collection number 250). UCLA Library Special Collections, Charles E. Young Research Library, UCLA.

Biography

Death Valley Days was one of a few western anthology series as well as the longest-running series on television (1952-1970 and 1975). It started on radio in the 1930s and was created by Ruth Woodman, a New York advertising script writer, as a way to promote the products of sponsor 20 Mule Team Borax. Woodman wrote scripts for the program from its inception and into the transition to television. The only regular character on the series was the host, named *The Old Ranger*, who introduced each episode.

In the 1950s, when the show made the transition to television, Stanley Andrews took the role of the Old Ranger, a position he held through the early 1960s. Other hosts that followed over the years included Ronald Reagan and Robert Taylor, who both also acted in some of the episodes, Dale Robertson, and country singer Merle Haggard. Many of the nearly 600 episodes were filmed on location in Death Valley, CA and were based on factual western events and western legends. The story lines were often human-interest tales that ranged from serious drama to comedy. There were a number of well-known actors and actresses who appeared on program, among them Angie Dickinson, James Coburn, Clint Eastwood, Fess Parker, June Lockhart, Tom Skerritt and James Caan.

Re-runs of the program have appeared under other titles, featuring various hosts, including Call of the West (hosted by John Payne), Frontier Adventure (hosted by Dale Robertson), The Pioneers (hosted by Will Rogers, Jr.), Trails West (hosted by Ray Milland), and Western Star Theatre (hosted by Rory Calhoun).

Scope and Content

The collection consists of scripts for the television series, Death Valley Days. Included are scripts for 130-plus episodes from the series, spanning 1960-1969. Among the scripts are writings by Stephen Lord, Harold E. Noble, Willard Davis, Jr., and Herb Purdum among many others. Additionally there are story synopses for several of the episodes in the collection and list of color episodes.

Organization and Arrangement

The scripts are arranged alphabetically by script title.

Indexing Terms

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

Subjects

Death Valley Days (Television program)

Television production and direction -- Archival resources.

Genres and Forms of Materialtelevision scripts

- Box 1, Folder 1 **Color episode list no date**
- Box 1, Folder 2 **Story synopsis (folder 1 of 2) 688-773 no date**
- Box 1, Folder 3 **Story synopsis (folder 2 of 2) 774-684 no date**
- Box 3, Folder 23 **\$25,000 Wager (The) 7/9/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lewis, Jerry D.
- Box 3, Folder 10 **After the O.K. Corral 10/4/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Nibley, Sloan
- Box 5, Folder 3 **Along Came Mariana 10/18/1966**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lewis, Jerry D.
- Box 6, Folder 21 **Amos and the Black Bull 8/22/1969**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Reeves, Art
- Box 5, Folder 17 **Angel of Tombstone (The) 10/8/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Davis, Charles
- Box 3, Folder 18 **Big John and the Rainmaker 7/9/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Miller, Herman
- Box 6, Folder 23 **Biggest Little Post Office in the World 9/4/1969**
 Additional Note
 Written by: De Foe, Jim
- Box 4, Folder 5 **Birthright 11/13/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lord, Stephen
- Box 6, Folder 15 **Biscuits and Billy The Kid 6/16/1969**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Canning, William P.
- Box 3, Folder 5 **Book of Spanish Grammar (A) 7/31/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Saltzman, Sid
- Box 5, Folder 6 **Bread on the Desert 6/2/1967**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Andrews, Robert Hardy

Box 5, Folder 12	Britta Goes Home 8/30/1967 Additional Note Written by: Wallengren, Orma
Box 4, Folder 16	Brute Angel 5/25/1966 Additional Note Written by: Whitaker, Scott
Box 4, Folder 10	Captain Dick Mine (The) 7/15/1965 Additional Note Written by: Garfinkle, Louis
Box 6, Folder 22	Contract (The) 8/20/1969 Additional Note Written by: Canning, William P.
Box 5, Folder 8	Count Me In--Count Me Out! 6/16/1967 Additional Note Written by: McClun, Rick
Box 1, Folder 18	Dangerous Crossing 9/20/1960 Additional Note Written by: Johnson, Ryerson
Box 2, Folder 13	Davy's Friend 8/14/1962 Additional Note Written by: Gerlach, Virgil
Box 5, Folder 1	Day All Marriages Were Cancelled (The) 7/15/1966 Additional Note Written by: Higgins, Kenneth
Box 1, Folder 14	Deadline at Austin 8/11/1960 Additional Note Written by: Buffum, Ray
Box 3, Folder 17	Death in the Desert 1/15/1965 Additional Note Written by: Miller, Herman
Box 2, Folder 16	Death Valley Days TV Series 5/23/1963 Additional Note Written by: Wolf, A. Sanford
Box 4, Folder 8	Devil's Gate 7/7/1965 Additional Note Written by: Noble, Harold E.
Box 2, Folder 17	Diamond Field Jack 6/10/1963 Additional Note Written by: Noble, Harold E.

- Box 4, Folder 20 **Doc Holiday's Gold Bars 8/15/1966**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Barrington, Lowell
- Box 6, Folder 8 **Drop Out 9/24/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Sandborgh, Bert A.
- Box 4, Folder 15 **Dry Water Sailors 9/8/1965**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Bellum, Robert Leslie
- Box 1, Folder 7 **Eagle in the Rocks 3/7/1960**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Brodney, Oscar
- Box 6, Folder 24 **Early Candle Lighten 8/21/1969**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Taylor, Mary Terri
- Box 1, Folder 8 **Emma is Coming 3/21/1960**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Rhodes, Jacqueline
- Box 1, Folder 13 **Extra Guns 8/1/1960**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Alexander, John
- Box 4, Folder 13 **Fastest Nun in the West (The) 7/23/1965**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lewis, Jerry D.
- Box 4, Folder 3 **Fighting Sky Pilot (The) 11/24/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Ballard, Todhunter
- Box 1, Folder 10 **Forbidden Wedding 1/19/1960**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Woodman, Ruth C.
- Box 2, Folder 7 **Fort Bowie..Urgent 1/19/962**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Butler, John K.
- Box 3, Folder 16 **From the Earth (A) Heritage 7/9/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lord, Stephen
- Box 6, Folder 6 **Full House (A) 9/5/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Whitcomb, Dennis

- Box 1, Folder 17 **Gamble With Death 8/31/1960**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Schuyler, Dorothy
- Box 2, Folder 1 **General Without a Cause 11/16/1960**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Samuels, Robert S.
- Box 5, Folder 22 **Gift (A) 7/22/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Peters, Berta
- Box 6, Folder 20 **Gift From Father Tapis (A) 8/5/1969**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Canning, William P.
- Box 1, Folder 15 **Girl Named Virginia (A) 8/18/1960**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Brown, Karl
- Box 2, Folder 10 **Grass Man (The) 7/11/1962**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Hall, F. Paul
- Box 3, Folder 3 **Graydon's Charge 7/5/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Alexander, John
- Box 6, Folder 12 **Great Pinto Bean Gold Hunt (The) 5/29/1969**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Davis Jr., Willard S.
- Box 4, Folder 12 **Great Turkey War (The) 7/23/1965**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Andrews, Robert Hardy
- Box 2, Folder 14 **Grotto of Death 9/10/1962**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lord, Stephen
- Box 4, Folder 17 **Gypsy (The) 6/13/1966**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Whitcomb, Dennis
- Box 4, Folder 22 **Halo for a Badman 9/22/1966**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Noble, Harold E.
- Box 3, Folder 4 **Hastings Cut-Off (The) 7/24/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lord, Stephen
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- Box 6, Folder 5 **Here Stands Bailey 8/21/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Purdum, Herb
- Box 6, Folder 3 **How to Bead a Badman 9/26/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Davis Jr., Willard S.
- Box 5, Folder 5 **Indiana Girl (The) 5/29/1967**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Patch, Jerry
- Box 6, Folder 1 **Jimmy Dayton's Bonanza 9/3/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Davis, Charles
- Box 4, Folder 6 **Kate Melville and the Law 2/3/1965**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Noble, Harold E.
- Box 6, Folder 7 **Key for the Fort (A) 8/30/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Davis Jr., Willard S.
- Box 3, Folder 2 **Kingdom for a Horse 7/15/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Cramer, Zetta C.
- Box 4, Folder 9 **Lady of the Plains 7/12/1965**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lord, Stephen
- Box 1, Folder 16 **Lady Was an M.D. (The) 8/26/1960**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Enochs, Kenneth
- Box 6, Folder 2 **Lady With a Past 8/19/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Udell, Ann
- Box 3, Folder 13 **Last Stagecoach Robbery (The) 11/8/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lord, Stephen
- Box 5, Folder 9 **Let My People Go 5/29/1967**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Whitcomb, Dennis
- Box 3, Folder 7 **Little Cayuse 9/3/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Rose, Lillian

- Box 5, Folder 11 **Lone Grave (The) 7/13/1967**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Wallengren, Orma
- Box 5, Folder 21 **Long Night at Fort Lonely 8/19/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Wallengren, Orma
- Box 2, Folder 9 **Loss of Faith 6/21/1962**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Shipman, Barry
- Box 5, Folder 19 **Lucia Darling and the Ostrich 7/10/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Noble, Harold E.
- Box 3, Folder 19 **Lucky Cow (The) 7/28/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Brown, Crandall
- Box 4, Folder 4 **Magic Locket 11/18/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lee, Joanna
- Box 4, Folder 19 **Man Called Abraham (A) 3/24/1967**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Rayburn, Del
- Box 1, Folder 6 **Man on the Road (The) 2/4/1960**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Hoffman, Herman
- Box 5, Folder 2 **Man Who Didn't Want Gold (The) 8/2/1966**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lesser, Gene
- Box 2, Folder 18 **Man Who Died Twice (The) 6/20/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Hampton, Orville H.
- Box 4, Folder 18 **Man Who Wouldn't Die (The) 8/17/1966**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Whitaker, Scott
- Box 2, Folder 5 **Matter of Honor 10/13/1961**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Rose, Lillian
- Box 3, Folder 1 **Measure of a Man 5/27/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Nibley, Sloan

Box 6, Folder 16	<p>Mezcla Man (The) 7/3/1969 Additional Note Written by: Purdum, Herb</p>
Box 2, Folder 4	<p>Miracle at Whiskey Gulch 10/11/1961 Additional Note Written by: Alexander, John</p>
Box 4, Folder 14	<p>Mrs. Romney and the Outlaws 7/27/1965 Additional Note Written by: Carnes, Del</p>
Box 5, Folder 13	<p>Mule..Like the Army's Mule (A) 6/5/1968 Additional Note Written by: Lesser, Gene</p>
Box 5, Folder 15	<p>Oldest Law (The) 7/17/1968 Additional Note Written by: Niendorff, John Starr</p>
Box 3, Folder 11	<p>Other White Man (The) 7/23/1964 Additional Note Written by: Andrews, Tobert Hardy</p>
Box 3, Folder 21	<p>Paid in Full 7/13/1964 Additional Note Written by: Lewis, Jerry D.</p>
Box 1, Folder 12	<p>Pamela's Oxen 6/28/1960 Scope and Content Writer: Robert Sabaroff. Executive Producer: Gene Autry.</p>
Box 3, Folder 12	<p>Paper Dynasty (The) 10/31/1963 Additional Note Written by: Palmer, P.K.</p>
Box 1, Folder 5	<p>Pete Kitchen's Wedding Night 11/5/1959 Additional Note Written by: Gerlach, Virgil C.</p>
Box 3, Folder 24	<p>Peter the Hunter 9/8/1964 Additional Note Written by: Miller, Herman</p>
Box 2, Folder 11	<p>Phantom Procession 7/30/1962 Additional Note Written by: Shipman, Barry</p>
Box 6, Folder 17	<p>Pioneer Pluck 7/22/1969 Additional Note Written by: Davis Jr., Willard S.</p>

- Box 2, Folder 3 **Preacher With a Past 9/12/1961**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Wallace, Charles
- Box 3, Folder 9 **Quiet and the Fury 9/20/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lord, Stephen
- Box 4, Folder 2 **Race at Cherry Creek (The) 9/28/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Carnes, Del
- Box 2, Folder 19 **Red Ghost of Eagle Creek (The) 5/23/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Crabtree, Paul
- Box 2, Folder 20 **Red Ghost of Eagle Creek (The) 5/23/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Crabtree, Paul
- Box 5, Folder 14 **Restless Man (The) 7/8/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: White, Phyllis
- Box 4, Folder 11 **Rider (The) 7/19/1965**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Higgins, Kenneth
- Box 5, Folder 7 **Saga of Sadie Orchard (The) 6/5/1967**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Andrews, Robert Hardy
- Box 6, Folder 18 **Saint of Travelers (A) 8/5/1969**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Rooks, Virginia
- Box 4, Folder 21 **Samaritans--Mountain Style 6/15/1966**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Purdum, Herb
- Box 3, Folder 14 **See the Elephant and Hear the Owl 1/8/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Andrews, Robert Hardy
- Box 5, Folder 10 **Shanghai Kelly's Birthday Party 7/5/1967**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Whitcomb, Dennis
- Box 5, Folder 16 **Shortcut Through Tombstone (A) 8/16/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Noble, Harold E.

Box 5, Folder 4	Silver Tombstone 7/22/1966 Additional Note Written by: Lord, Stephen
Box 6, Folder 14	Simple Question of Justice (A) 7/1/1969 Additional Note Written by: Davis Jr., Willard S.
Box 6, Folder 25	Solid Gold Pie (The) 9/3/1969 Additional Note Written by: Purdum, Herb
Box 6, Folder 4	Solomon's Glory 8/12/1968 Additional Note Written by: Davis Jr., Willard S.
Box 6, Folder 10	Son of Thunder 5/28/1969 Additional Note Written by: Lord, Stephen
Box 1, Folder 11	Splinter Station 6/23/1960 Additional Note Written by: Cram, Mildred
Box 1, Folder 19	Stolen City (The) 10/14/1960 Additional Note Written by: Joseph, Robert
Box 3, Folder 15	Streets of El Paso (The) 1/13/1964 Additional Note Written by: White, Phyllis
Box 2, Folder 12	Stubborn Mule Hill 6/8/1962 Additional Note Written by: Butler, John K.
Box 2, Folder 8	Suzie 6/8/1962 Additional Note Written by: Maples, Terence
Box 6, Folder 19	Talk to Me, Charley 7/16/1969 Additional Note Written by: Purdum, Herb
Box 6, Folder 9	Taming of Trudy Bell (The) 5/23/1969 Additional Note Written by: Wallengren, Orma
Box 5, Folder 20	Ten Days Millionaires 7/17/1968 Additional Note Written by: Purdum, Herb

- Box 2, Folder 21 **Thar She Blows! 5/22/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lord, Stephen
- Box 3, Folder 20 **There Was Another Dalton Brother 8/14/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: White, Phyllis
- Box 3, Folder 6 **Three Minutes to Eternity 6/20/1963**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Lord, Stephen
- Box 4, Folder 7 **Traveling Trees (The) 7/2/1965**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Saltzman, Sid
- Box 3, Folder 22 **Trouble with Taxes (The) 9/8/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Niendorff, John Starr
- Box 5, Folder 23 **Understanding (The) 7/19/1968**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Hazzard, Lance
- Box 2, Folder 6 **Unshakable Man (The) 9/22/1961**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Woodfield, William Read
- Box 1, Folder 9 **Valley of Danger no date**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Cooke, Virginia M.
- Box 6, Folder 11 **Visitor (The) 6/5/1969**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Hazzard, Lance
- Box 2, Folder 2 **Watch (The) 5/9/1961**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Rosenberg, Jay
- Box 1, Folder 4 **Wedding Dress (A) 9/11/1959**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Brown, Karl
- Box 4, Folder 1 **Wild West's Biggest Train Holdup 9/28/1964**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Andrews, Robert Hardy
- Box 2, Folder 15 **With Honesty and Integrity 12/4/1962**
 Additional Note
 Written by: Alexander, John

Box 6, Folder 13

Wizard of Aberdeen (The) 7/24/1969

Additional Note

Written by: Lord, Stephen

Box 3, Folder 8

Wooring of Perilous Pauline (The) 1964

Scope and Content

Writer, Robert Sabaroff. Executive Producer, Gene Autry.

Box 5, Folder 18

World's Greatest Swimming Horse 7/5/1968

Additional Note

Written by: Enochs, Kenneth A.