

**Guide to the Grace Norcross Allen Manuscripts Collection – 1986.26, &  
AI 4772 - 4778**

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**Title:** Grace Norcross Allen Manuscripts Collection  
**Processed by** Lenore Harriman  
**Finding aid prepared by** Lenore Harriman  
**Encoded finding aid prepared by**

**Name and location of repository** Hazel E. Johnson Research Center  
City of Greeley Museums  
714 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Greeley, Colorado 80631  
Phone: (970) 336-4187  
Email: museums@greeleygov.com  
URL: <http://greeleymuseums.com/>

**Collection Summary**

**Dates** 1900-1948  
**Bulk dates** 1910-1948  
**Level of description** Series  
**Extent** .5 cubic ft  
**Creator(s)** David Henderson

**Administrative/Biographical History**

Grace Norcross Allen was born on May 15, 1868 in Brownsville, Pennsylvania, the first child of William Robert Norcross (1844-1908) and Mary Emma Barclay Norcross (1848-1939). Her three siblings were all born in Greeley, where her parents were among the pioneers of the Union Colony in 1870. In 1889, she married Ulysses M. Henderson. They had one son, John W. Henderson, who became a prominent local businessman and attorney. This marriage was dissolved in 1905, and the following year she married Albert J. Allen, who predeceased her in 1928. Having lived in Greeley her entire adult life, she died in her home there on March 20, 1948.

Grace Norcross graduated from Greeley High School in 1886, and began teaching school at Pleasant Valley at the age of 17. She continued teaching for a while at other schools, using the education she gained at the Colorado State College of Education in Greeley. Later, she served for a time as secretary of School District #6, and even ventured briefly into local politics, serving as deputy county treasurer. During the years between 1929 and 1939, she enjoyed traveling abroad, particularly in the company of three close Greeley friends, Mrs. Agnes Nusbaum, Mrs.

Kittie Marsh Parker, and Miss Elizabeth Kendel. With her active intellect and wide-ranging interests, her greatest passion was journalism.

Mrs. Allen wrote for the early “Denver Republican” as a Weld County correspondent, as well as for the “Weld County Republican.” Long passionate about the history of the Union Colony and Greeley, she wrote extensively about the personalities and events that shaped its character and culture.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection of the writings of Grace N. Allen is one component of a much larger collection associated with her name. It consists of approximately 75 typewritten manuscripts including 25 which were intended for oral presentation at meetings of the Want-to-Know Club. Two of the manuscripts were associated with photos which served as illustrations, and these photos are retained in the collection and linked to the corresponding manuscripts. There are also several pages of hand-written notes and personal correspondence which provided background information for articles.

In addition to the manuscripts, this collection also contains newspaper clippings of Mrs. Allen’s series as they appeared in the Greeley Tribune in the 1930s and 40s. These series include: “Old Houses of Greeley”, “Our Pioneer Neighbors”, “Pioneer Days in Greeley”, “Early School Days in Greeley”, “Weld County Frontier Life”, and “Cow County Recollections”.

### **System of Arrangement**

No original order in the collection. Dates were indicated on some items, but not all. Manuscripts are grouped by series title assigned by the author, where once was given. If there was no title, a brief descriptor was used. Newspaper clippings grouped according to published series.

### **Conditions**

**Governing access** There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

### **Conditions**

**Governing  
Reproduction and  
Use**

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.

### **Languages and Scripts of the Materials**

English

### **Immediate source Of acquisition**

Materials in this collection were donated by David Henderson, grandson of Grace Norcross (Henderson) Allen.

### **Notes**

Preferred citation: City of Greeley Museums, Permanent Collection, #1986.26.

This finding aid does not follow the usual format for archival collections. It covers only the writings of Grace Norcross Allen and associated ephemera, rather than the entire donation bearing her name. The finding aid includes the following **Object IDs: 1986.26.0019** through **1986.26.0022, 1986.26.0029, 1986.26.0036** through **1986.26.0037**, and **AI -4772** through **AI-4778**.

## **Names**

Acree, S.F.  
Adams, Susan G  
Allen, Albert J.  
Allen, Grace Norcross  
Anthony, Susan B  
Atkinson, James  
Atkinson, Sharon  
Atkinson, Thomas  
Barclay, J.B.  
Barnum, P.T.  
Baxter, Alfred  
Birkle, Louis  
Bliss, Stephen  
Borne, Jennie  
Boyd, Psyche  
Boyd, Robert  
Brush, Jared L  
Brush, John  
Bryan, William Jennings  
Burroughs, Henry  
Cadman, Charles  
Wakefield  
Calkins, Bill  
Camfield, Lottie  
Camp, Archibald Lacy  
Childs, Francis  
Childs, Will  
Copeland, A.B.  
Dangerfield, Rachel  
Darling, Frank  
Darling, Mort  
Darling, Willard  
Delbridge, Lucy B.  
Delbridge, William  
Eaton, Aaron

Eaton, Benjamin  
Ellis, David  
Emerson, Charles  
Evans, John  
Fisk, Jerry  
Gallup, Mary  
Gipson, Albert  
Green, Franklin Joseph  
Hanna, Robert  
Heaton, Ephraim  
Henderson, J.W.  
Hogarty, M.J.  
Hopkins, Lewis A.  
Howard, Oliver  
Hoyt, Homer  
Huffsmith , Ed  
Iilff, John Wesley  
Johnson, Bruce F.  
Kendel, Elizabeth  
Kennedy, S.S.  
LaGrange, B.S.  
Luther, A.J.  
Markle, Sherman  
McArthur, Jessie  
McClellan, W.H.  
McClements, Clara, Mrs  
McCutcheon, John M.  
McKissick, J.W.  
McLeod, Ace  
Meeker, N.C.  
Moodie, Alexander Dunbar  
Murphy, Francis  
Nichols, E.F.  
Norcross, Fred  
Norcross, W.R.  
Nusbaum, Agnes Moodie  
Nusbaum, Jesse  
Orr, James  
Paine, I.H.  
Parker, Kittie Irene Marsh  
Petrikin, John M.B.  
Petrikin, Katherine Norcross  
Petrikin, Nancy

Pinkerton, J.M.  
Plumb, Ovid  
Read, Julia  
Rising, Walter  
Salomon, A.Z.  
Senier, John Howell  
Shattuck, Hubert  
Sims, Homer  
Southard, Angelina S. Kuhl  
Stanton, Elizabeth Cady  
Sterling, Asa  
Stillwell, John Thomas  
Thomas, Helen  
Thumb, Tom  
Todd, Andrew  
Vanderlip, L.C.  
VanGohren, Edmond  
Watt, Tom  
Watts, Virgil  
West, H.T.  
Williams, Eugene  
Williams, Mabel Woolf  
Wolaver, Jacob M.  
Wright, S.B.  
Wyatt, D.B.  
Wyatt, Frank E.  
Wyman, George E.

### **Places**

Greeley (Colo.)  
Weld County (Colo.)  
Union Colony of Colorado  
Evans, Colo.  
Grover, Colo.  
Briggsdale, Colo.

### **Subjects**

Union Colony of Colorado  
Union Colony Pioneer Society  
Greeley Tribune (Colo.)  
Cattle herding  
Cattle ranches  
Churches  
Cowboys

Historic buildings  
History  
Homesteading  
Journalism  
Pioneers  
Railroads  
Ranches  
Reminiscence  
Schools  
Travel sketches  
Want-to-Know (W.T.K.) Club

### **Document Forms**

Manuscripts  
Newspaper Clippings  
Photographs  
Correspondence

### **Contents**

#### **Series I:** Scrapbooks

**Subseries A:** Pioneer stories published in the Greeley Tribune 1945-46, adhered to scrapbook pages.

**Subseries B:** “Old Houses in Greeley” and “Cow County Recollections” series, glued to white paper, three-hole punched.

#### **Series II:** Writings and associated ephemera of Grace Norcross Allen

**Subseries A:** Literary works: travel, plays, memoirs

**Subseries B:** Pioneer stories: articles for various historical series published in the Greeley Tribune during the 1940s.

**Subseries C:** Want To Know (W.T.K) Club presentations

**Subseries D:** Manuscripts and ephemera related to the history of cowboys and ranching in Weld County

**Subseries E:** Other manuscripts found in the collection, not part of a published series.

#### **Series III:** Newspaper clippings found in collection, aggregated by series as published in the Greeley Tribune.

**Subseries A:** “Pioneer Days in Greeley”

**Subseries B:** “Cow Country Recollections”

**Subseries C:** “Our Pioneer Neighbors”

**Subseries D:** “Early School Days”

**Subseries E:** “Weld County Frontier Life”

**Subseries F:** “Old Houses in Greeley”

**Subseries G:** “Pioneer Life in Greeley”

### **Container List**

#### **Series I:** Scrapbooks

**Subseries A:** Pioneer stories published in the Greeley Tribune  
Rehoused with scrapbooks

**Subseries B:** “Old Houses” and “Cow Country Recollections” articles

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folder</b> |
|---------------|---------------|
| ARC-Allen-002 | 25            |

#### **Series II:** Writings and associated ephemera of Grace Norcross Allen

**Subseries A:** Literary works: travel, plays, memoirs, photographs

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folders</b> |
|---------------|----------------|
| ARC-Allen-001 | 2-5            |

**Subseries B:** Pioneer stories: articles for historical series published by the Tribune in the 1940s

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folders</b> |
|---------------|----------------|
| ARC-Allen-001 | 6-10           |

**Subseries C:** W.T.K. Club presentations

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folders</b> |
|---------------|----------------|
| ARC-Allen-001 | 11-16          |

**Subseries D:** Manuscripts and ephemera related to the history of cowboys and ranching in Weld County

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folders</b> |
|---------------|----------------|
| ARC-Allen-001 | 1              |
| ARC-Allen-002 | 17-22          |

**Subseries E:** Other manuscripts found in the collection, not part of a published series.

| <b>Box</b>     | <b>Folders</b> |
|----------------|----------------|
| ARC-Allen- 002 | 23-24          |

**Series III:** Newspaper clippings found in the collection, aggregated by series as published in the Greeley Tribune.

**Subseries A:** “Pioneer Days in Greeley”

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folder</b> |
|---------------|---------------|
| ARC-Allen-002 | 26            |

**Subseries B:** “Cow Country Recollections”

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folder</b> |
|---------------|---------------|
| ARC-Allen-002 | 27            |

**Subseries C:** “Our Pioneer Neighbors”

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folder</b> |
|---------------|---------------|
| ARC-Allen-002 | 28            |

**Subseries D:** “Early School Days”

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folder</b> |
|---------------|---------------|
| ARC-Allen-002 | 29            |

**Subseries E:** “Weld County Frontier Life”

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folder</b> |
|---------------|---------------|
| ARC-Allen-002 | 30            |

**Subseries F:** “Old Houses in Greeley”

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folder</b> |
|---------------|---------------|
| ARC-Allen-002 | 31            |

**Subseries G:** “Pioneer Life in Greeley”

| <b>Box</b>    | <b>Folder</b> |
|---------------|---------------|
| ARC-Allen-002 | 32            |