

Guide to the Richard Allen "Al" Moorman Collection – 2008.13

Reference code US CoGrCGM 2008.13
Title: Richard Allen "Al" Moorman Collection
Processed by Caroline Blackburn
Finding aid prepared by Caroline Blackburn

Name and location of repository Hazel E Johnson Research Center
Greeley History Museum
714 8th Street
Greeley, CO 80631
Phone: (970)351-9219
Email: museums@greeleygov.com
URL: <http://greeleymuseums.com/>

Collection Summary

Dates 1909-1975
Bulk dates 1930-1975
Level of description Collection
Extent .5 cubic feet
Creator(s) Richard Allen "Al" Moorman and family

Administrative/Biographical History

Richard Allen "Al" Moorman was born at Smith Center, Kansas on September 7, 1901 to Edgar Daniel and Mattie Fay (Curry) Moorman. He spent his early years as a growing musician. In 1923, he played and wrote music for a circus band. Later, he played with a group called "The Moonlight Serenaders". Al attended Kansas State University from 1921 to 1923 to get a degree and learn music. On March 8, 1925 he married Gertrude G. Gates at Kingman, Kansas. The ill health of his wife brought them to Colorado in 1938 where he taught music in Nederland. The couple moved to Denver in 1940 and then came to Greeley in 1959, where he taught in various Weld County schools. He played with the Clay Taylor Band for twelve years and taught private students on clarinet, flute and saxophone. Al worked for several years with disabled children, had a rhythm band at Kenton Manor, was a member of the Swingin' Seniors group, and conducted the Kitchen Band at Bonell Retirement Community and a "Flying Squadron" group at Fairacres Manor. He was a member of the Musicians Association. He died November 3, 1980.

Scope and Content

Collection of Richard Allen Moorman, also known as Al Moorman, consisting of photographs, music and music booklets, music programs, scrapbooks, northeastern Colorado information, Moorman family documents, and a small amount of railroad and streetcar information. Photographs include of images of Al Moorman conducting bands, Clay Taylor and his Band, the Jolly Corks of the Denver Elks, Edgar Allan Moorman and Dorothy Alice Moorman, Al Moorman portraits, the Ault High School marching band, the Colorado Ramblers, orchestras, and the Ault streetcar, Documents consist of correspondence, legal documents, autobiographical information, "The Milliken Mail", receipts, and documents related to the death of Gertrude G. Moorman. Music includes "Towns of Colorado", "Fleas", "Los Tigres Magnificos", "Possum Gravy", "Let's Play", "Circus Days", "Cinco de Mayo", "Jolly Corks", and "Star Spangled Banner". Other documents include programs for the United States Marine Band, the 1970 Summer Symphonic Band of the University of Northern Colorado, the Adult Recreation Band, and the Greeley Musicians Association, and a Sterling Theatre floor plan. One scrapbook contains writings about the Denver-Greeley electric street car. Another scrapbook is titled "Show Biz Was Never Like This" and contains poems or lyrics and programs. There is also one phonograph record of the U.S. Marine Corps, and a booklet on Farming in Northeastern Colorado.

System of arrangement

As no original order could be established, materials from this collection have been interfiled in an imposed order and organized by object type.

Conditions governing access

There are no restrictions on the access of this collection.

Conditions governing reproduction and use

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.

Languages and scripts of the materials

English

Custodial history

The materials in this collection were most likely created and assembled by the Moorman family, although this is unclear.

Immediate source of acquisition

The collection was donated by Fred or Isabel Franklin.

Related archival materials

2013.29

Notes	Preferred citation: City of Greeley Museum's Permanent Collection, #2008.13
Names	Moorman, Gertrude G., 1902-1964 Moorman, Richard Allen, 1901-1980
Places	Greeley (Colo.)
Subjects	Music Music ensembles Music stores Musicians Orchestras and Bands
Document forms	Booklet Correspondence Documents Floor Plan Lyrics Music Sheets Newspaper Clippings Phonograph Record Photographs Programs Scrapbooks

Contents

Series I: Photographs and Photograph Album

Photographs of Al Moorman conducting ensembles, Clay Taylor and His Band, Jolly Corks band, Edgar Allan Moorman and Dorothy Alice Moorman as children, portrait photos of Al Moorman, a marching band, the Colorado Ramblers band, Ault High School band, the Morland Grade School Orchestra, railroad cars, and an orchestra.

Series II: Personal Documents

Personal documents of Al Moorman, including a guest release form for the Columbia Broadcasting System, the *Milliken Mail* for December 17, 1909, a memorial card for Gertrude Moorman, and various financial documents and correspondence.

Series III: Music Documents

Sheet music, music booklets, song lyrics, and band programs.

Series IV: Seating and Floor Plan

Single drawn seating and floor plan for the Sterling Theater.

Series V: Scrapbooks

Three scrapbooks. One primarily containing band and orchestra programs, one titled “Show Biz Was Never Like This” containing lyrics, and one contains a typed manuscript on the Denver-Greeley Electric streetcar.

Series VI: Newspaper Clippings

Four newspaper clippings regarding high school bands, the Greeley Adult Recreation Band, Clay Taylor and Russ Morgan.

Series VII: Phonograph Record

One phonograph record for the Quantico Marine Band of the Department of the Navy, United States Marine Corps.

Series VIII: Booklet

Photocopy of a 1910 booklet titled *Farming in Northeastern Colorado*.

Series IX: Guest Books

Series IX: Railroad and Streetcar Documents

Railroad and streetcar documents compiled by Al Moorman that include receipts for the Greeley & Denver Railroad Company, the Union Pacific timetables, and a Greeley City Directory for street car employees created by Al Moorman.

Container List

Series I: Photographs and Photograph Album

Box	Folder(s)
1	1-2

Series II: Personal Documents

Box	Folder(s)
1	3

Series III: Music Documents

Box	Folder(s)
1	4-9

Series VI: Seating and Floor Plan

Box	Folder(s)
1	10

Series V: Scrapbooks

Box	Folder(s)
1	11, 12, 16

Series VI: Newspaper Clippings

Box	Folder(s)
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1 13

Series VII: Phonograph Record

Box	Folder(s)
1	14

Series VIII: Booklet

Box	Folder(s)
1	15

Series IX: Railroad and Streetcar Documents

Box	Folder(s)
1	17