

Guide to the School Bus Accident 1961 Collection 2 - 2008.18

Reference code US CoGrCGM 2008.18
Title School Bus Accident 1961 Collection 2
Processed by Patsy White
Finding aid prepared by Patsy White

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

Collection Summary

Dates 1961
Bulk dates 1961
Level of description Collection
Extent 1.37 cubic feet
Creator(s) Weld/Evans School District 6

Administrative/Biographical History

Brief History of the Greeley/Evans Train/School Bus Tragedy

On Thursday, December 14, 1961 at about 8:00 a.m., Union Pacific Train No. 111 "City of Denver" was travelling toward Denver at a higher than normal speed and behind schedule. A Greeley-Evans School District 6 bus was travelling toward Evans, CO and was crossing the tracks where an east and west county road crosses the Union Pacific Railroad two miles east and one mile south of Evans, CO in section 27, Weld County. The bus was carrying 36 children on the way to school. The train struck the right rear of the school bus, resulting in the death of 20 children.

Brief History of the F. H. Langell Presentation

F. H. Langell was a consultant with the Dow Chemical Company's operations at the Atomic Energy Commissions Rocky Flats Plant near Denver, CO from 1951 until 1961. Rocky Flats held the nationwide safety record for all AEC contractors (17,00,000 man hours of exposure without a lost-time injury. Because of his deep personal interest in safety, Mr. Langell became

interested in the school bus/train accident. He spent over 29 hours at the accident site and prepared a series of slides for a presentation on principles of industrial safety in the hopes it would prevent such things from happening in the future.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of 2 black and white photographs (one 3"x 5" and one 8"x 10") of aerial views of the scene of the accident involving a Greeley/Evans school bus and a Union Pacific train in 1961; 58 5" x 7" index cards with typed presentation by F. W. Langell with a description of the accident, analysis of dynamics of the accident, and suggestions for safety guidelines; 34 slides corresponding to the presentation; and 2 audiotapes of radio reports of the accident.

System of arrangement	No original order. Order imposed by material type and subject.
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 or reproduction of this collection.
Languages and scripts of the materials	English
Immediate source of acquisition	This collection was donated by Greeley-Evans School District 6.
Notes	Preferred citation: City of Greeley Museum's Permanent Collection, #2008.18.
Names	Bindell, Arthur Harms, Duane Hembry, Jerry Langell, F. H. Larson, Arthur Sommers, Herbert Swanson, Melvin
Places	Greeley (Colo.) Evans (Colo.)
Subjects	Casualties

Accidents
Traffic accidents
Tragedies
School buses
School children

Document forms Photographs
 Presentation Index Cards
 Slides
 Audiotapes

Contents

Series I: Photographs

Consists of one 8" x 10" and one 3" X 5" black and white photo of aerial views of the scene of the accident.

Series II: Presentation Index Cards

Consists of 58 5" x 7" index cards with typed presentation of F. H. Langell on the Greeley-Evans school bus tragedy.

Series III: Slides

Consists of 34 slides from presentation by F. H. Langell on the Greeley-Evans school bus accident.

Series IV: Audiotapes

Consists of two audiotapes of radio reports of the school bus tragedy.

Container List

Series I: Photographs

Box	Folder
1	1

Series II: Index Cards

Box	Folder
1	2

Series III: Audiotapes

Box	Folder
AV-ARC-001	N/A

Series IV: Slides

Box	Folder
IM-ARC-001	N/A