

Guide to the Hazel E. Johnson Bequest Collection – 2003.16

Reference code US CoGrCGM 2003.16
Title Hazel E. Johnson Bequest Collection
Processed by Lenore Harriman
Finding aid
Prepared by Lenore Harriman

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 1938-2002
Bulk dates 1960-2000
Level of description Subseries
Extent 1.9 cubic feet
Creator(s) Hazel E. Johnson

Administrative/Biographical History

Hazel Johnson (1902 – 2002) was born in Leon, Kansas, one of seven children. She attended business school in Colorado Springs, Colorado, worked in business and banking for several years in Southeastern Colorado, then chose to move to Greeley in 1938 to work for the Department of Revenue. She happily embraced Greeley as her adopted hometown, and devoted herself to preserving and teaching its history for the rest of her life.

Miss Johnson promoted the knowledge of local history by writing articles for the Denver Post and the Christian Science Monitor, and wrote a regular column in the Greeley Journal for 20 years. Later, she wrote a monthly column for the “Senior Voice” magazine in Weld County. She preserved local history in physical form by soliciting and collecting artifacts and photographs from local residents that she later donated, along with her writings and other books, to the City of Greeley Museums and the University of Northern Colorado. In addition to her collections and her writing, Miss Johnson also devoted countless hours to the preparation and presentation of historical programs on select topics to local service organizations, church groups, and clubs. This donation features the manuscripts for dozens of these historical programs.

Scope and Content

This donation is the last of several made by Hazel E. Johnson, and comprises the remaining items in her estate that she wished to bequeath to the City of Greeley Museums. The greater part of this collection consists of the scripts and manuscripts for the historical programs she presented

to community groups from the 1960s until the end of the century. In addition to the finished manuscripts, there are several hundred clippings she identified variously as jokes, poems, or “philosophical tidbits” which she incorporated into her talks. Other items in this donation are letters, certificates, photographs and business records. The business records reflect her acquisition of artifacts which would tell the story of Weld County’s past. In the letters, photographs and other documents, we see evidence of her role as a benefactor of the UNC history department and the UNC Foundation, as well as her invaluable contribution to the City of Greeley Museums.

System of arrangement No original order. Material is organized according to 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 reproduction and use of this collection.

Languages and scripts of the materials English

Immediate source of acquisition This collection was donated by the Estate of Hazel E. Johnson, as a bequest.

Notes Preferred citation: City of Greeley Museums, Permanent Collection, 2003.16

This donation from the estate of Hazel E. Johnson is the 24th accession bearing her name, representing more than 40 years as a local historian. The other related accessions are 0399, 1742, 3019, 1969.68, 1970.22, 1971.02, 1972.01, 1973.08, 1974.16, 1974.23, 1977.18, 1977.50, 1979.19, 1979.54, 1981.38, 1982.23, 1985.21, 1988.38, 1991.42, 1994.43, 1996.02, 1998.47, 1999.32.

Names

- Adrian, Edith V Williams, 1883-1978
- Boyd, David, 1833-1908
- Boyd, Psyche Elizabeth, 1868-1946
- Brush, Jared L., 1838-1913
- Camp, Charles, 1860-1929
- Clark, James Maxwell, 1840-1928
- Delbridge, Lucy B., 1880-1974
- Devotie, Tim
- Eaton, Rebecca Jane, 1838-1914

Elliott, Verne, 1890-1962
 Fink, Jessie Alice, 1869-1964
 Fisk, George W., 1838-1926
 Greeley, Horace, 1811-1872
 Green, Anna Maria Vincent, 1836-1913
 Griffith, Margaret Doubenmeier, 1930-2013
 Grissom, Irene Welch, 1873-1965
 Hanna, Robert E., 1875-1969
 Hauck, Robert
 Heath, Edith Verna, 1875-1952
 Horn, Gertrude, 1907-1999
 Howard, Sarah Elizabeth, 1846-1924
 Iliff, John Wesley, 1831-1878
 Johnson, Bruce F., 1834-1930
 Kelly, Winifred, 1882-1967
 Langworthy, Helen, 1899-1991
 Law, Gulielmus, 1838-1916
 Leavy, John, 1831-1911
 Lory, Charles Alfred, 1872-1969
 Luther, Henry C., 1873-1948
 McElroy, Katherine Story, 1869-1950
 Mead, Ella Avery, 1874-1961
 Mears, Otto, 1840-1931
 Meeker, Ezra
 Miller, Fern V., 1892-1981
 Napier, Grace D., 1922-
 Neff, C. D., 1842-1934
 Pierson, Charles, 1864-1910
 Pinneo, Minnie E., 1862-
 Rothaus, Barry, 1936-
 Salomon, Adolph Z., 1839-1910
 Sanborn, Burton D., 1859-1914
 Sandstead, Auriel Oram
 Searson, Maude, 1875-1958
 Seelbach, Ella (see SMITH)
 Seelbach, Louise, 1856-1943
 Shinn, Jonathan, 1811-1893
 Smith, Bessie, 1882-1921
 Smith, Louise E. Seelbach, 1861-1938
 Smith, Luna Isabel, 1875-1975
 Southard, Angelina Sutphen Kuhl, 1880-1964
 Thomas, Myra Laura, 1882-1963
 Travis, Coonie, ca. 1836-
 Van Tine, Arthur Roscoe, 1939-1963
 West, Henry Tracey, 1824-1922

Places

Greeley (Colo.)
 Weld County (Colo.)

Subjects	Historic buildings History Homesteading Pioneers Railroad companies Reminiscing Women's rights
Document forms	Clippings, Magazine Clippings, Newspaper Letters Notebooks Pamphlets Prints, Photographic Receipts Transparencies

Contents and Container List

Series I: Research Notes

Subseries A: Consists of notes on topics in local history that were used as background for her presentations and/or articles.

Box	Folder
1	1-3

Subseries B: Consists of published articles by other authors utilizing her research.

Box	Folder
1	4

Series II: Business records

Subseries A: One small notebook listing antiques purchased by Miss Johnson for her collection, two typed lists of items purchased, and one envelope of receipts.

Box	Folder
1	5

Subseries B: Consists of a few dozen invoices, notes, and receipts reflecting items acquired by Miss Johnson for inclusion in her collection, often with details about their source/donor.

Box	Folder
1	6

Series III: Program Materials

Subseries A: Consists of clippings variously identified as poetry, jokes, and ‘philosophical tidbits’ which were used to embellish the historical content of Miss Johnson’s programs.

Box	Folder
1	7-12

Subseries B: Consists of typed presentations, partial and complete, including handwritten annotations, presented to various groups and clubs.

Box	Folder
1	13-30

Series IV: Awards & Recognition.

Subseries A: Bonnell Good Samaritan Center. Consists of correspondence between Miss Johnson and Bonnell administration, acknowledging Miss Johnson’s gifts to the organization.

Box	Folder
2	1

Subseries B: City of Greeley Museums. Consists of correspondence with City/Museum personnel acknowledging Miss Johnson’s donation(s) to the Museum.

Box	Folder
2	2

Subseries C: University of Northern Colorado. Consists of correspondence between Miss Johnson and various administrators at UNC regarding contributions Miss Johnson made to the History Department and to the Foundation; events held in her honor; and thank-you notes from students who benefitted from her gifts.

Box	Folder
2	3-7

Subseries D: Various certificates and awards.

Box	Folder
2	8

Subseries E: Congratulatory notes and cards from individuals.

Box	Folder
1	9

Series V: Personal Correspondence

Consists of correspondence not directly related to her research or presentations.

Box	Folder
2	10-13

Series VI: Photographs

Subseries A: Personal photos. Consists of photos of Miss Johnson, including some for publicity purposes.

Box	Folder
2	14

Subseries B: Photographs of special events involving Miss Johnson. Some photographs were cataloged individually and stored with the Weld County Photographs collection.

Box	Folder
2	15-18

Series VII: Scrapbooks

Consists of one scrapbook, inscribed as a gift from Dorothy Bolin to Miss Johnson.

Box	Folder
Housed with scrapbooks	

Series VIII: Biographical Material

Subseries A: Writings by others about Miss Johnson's life and work

Box	Folder
3	1

Subseries B: Resumes written by Miss Johnson, and two brochures about her work.

Box	Folder
3	2

Subseries C: Ephemera. Consists of several membership cards and library cards.

Box	Folder
2	3

Subseries D: Leisure travel records

Box	Folder
2	4