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Life and Law in Late 19th Century Arkansas teaching kit MS.000732

Finding aid prepared by the Arkansas State Archives

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Summary Information

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Repository Arkansas State Archives

Title Life and Law in Late 19th Century Arkansas teaching kit

Date 2012

Extent 0.2 Cubic feet 1 box

Language English

Language of Materials Materials entirely in English.

Preferred Citation

Life and Law in Late 19th Century Arkansas teaching kit, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas

Biographical/Historical Note

Fort Smith was established in 1817 as a military post due to its strategic location for keeping peace. Though abandoned in 1824, fur trapper and supplier John Rogers helped to reestablish Fort Smith as a prominent settlement with a strong military presence in the 1830s and later came to be considered the city's founder. In 1872, Fort Smith became the headquarters for the Federal Court for the Western District of Arkansas and the Indian Territory. As such, this federal trial court was to administer law, keep the peace, and exercise judicial power and punishment. Prominent figures of this region during this time were "hanging judge" U.S. District Judge Isaac Parker, U.S. Attorney and chief prosecutor William Henry Harrison Clayton, and one of the first black lawmen Deputy U.S. Marshal Bass Reeves.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of a teaching kit issued by the U.S. Marshals Museum, and sponsored by the Fort Smith Museum of History, Fort Smith National Historic Site, and the Clayton House. These materials are used as teaching aids for children pertaining to how law and judicial power was administered in late 19th century Arkansas. Materials include information on U.S. Marshals, the judicial system of the late 1800s, photocopies of legal documents, transcriptions, portraits, and biographical information on prominent figures from Fort Smith who worked in the judicial system, were criminals, or frontiersmen. Also included are one DVD containing aforementioned documents and one children's book on black U.S. Marshall Bass Reeves.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 5/27/2016

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17-U.S. Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. The person using this material is liable for any infringement.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Carla Hines Coleman, Little Rock, Arkansas, 2016.

Collection Inventory

Introductory materials

Contains

Introductory Research Activity instructions

Life and Law in 19th Century Arkansas word search puzzle

Calling Card Activity instructions

Table of Contents

U.S. Marshals Museum materials

Contains

The U.S. Marshals Service

History of the Western District

The Judiciary Act and photocopy of original

Becoming a Marshal

J.W. Bowman Oath of Office photocopy

James McAlester "Endorsements and Recommendations" photocopy

U.S. Marshals Service Federal Judicial Districts map

Marshal John Carroll correspondence photocopy, transcript, and biographical information

Marshal Jacob Yoes correspondence photocopy

Marshal Jacob Yoes portrait photocopy and biographical information

"They Rode for Parker..."

San Francisco Call, Volume 76, Number 177, 24 November 1894, "On Bill Cook's Trail" photocopy

Fort Smith National Historic Site materials

Contains

Judge Isaac Parker biography and portrait photocopies [young and old]

Courtroom floorplan

The Government of the United States of America diagram

Argyle Langston correspondence/envelope photocopies, transcript and background information

Roles of the Court in the late 19th Century descriptive outline

Women and the Federal Court

Bell Starr portrait photocopy and biographical information

Anna Dawes portrait photocopy and biographical information

Florence Hammersly portrait photocopy and biographical information

Fort Smith Elevator, 11 February 1887 "Deputy Marshals" letter of instruction transcript

Payment for U.S. Deputy Marshals

Indian Territory, 1886-1889 map

Fort Smith Museum of History materials

Contains

Benjamin Bonneville portrait photocopy and biographical information

Benjamin Bonneville Commission photocopy

Marquis de Lafayette correspondence photocopy and transcript, 1825 April 24

John Foster Wheeler biographical information

"Old Red Mill" photograph with John Foster Wheeler photocopy

Albert Pike biographical information

The Cherokee Advocate and the Cherokee Phoenix background information

The Cherokee Advocate sample photocopy

The Fort Smith Times background information

John Rogers portrait photocopy and biographical information

John Rogers' Obituary transcript, 1860 October 19

Miller and Jones Furniture Company background information

Miller and Jones Furniture Company Advertisement photocopy

Miller and Jones Furniture Company employees photograph photocopy

Clayton House materials

Contains

The Clayton House Historic House Museum

Queen Victoria portrait photocopy and historical information

1887 Fort Smith map and historical information

William Henry Harrison Clayton portrait photocopy and life timeline

Florence A. Barnes Clayton portrait photocopy and biographical information

Daily Life of the Clayton Children

Clayton children outside the family home photocopy and information

Twelve Golden Rules for Children of the 1880s from the Canton Historical Society

Victorian Calling Cards photocopies and information

Wedding article photocopies and transcriptions

Clayton Family Wedding article photocopies

Clayton Family Wedding Announcement photocopies

Clayton Family Birth Records photocopies

William Clayton article

William Clayton Land Deed photocopy

What are These?

Life and Law in Late 19th Century Arkansas DVD

ASA_DVD_LifeandLaw_MS732_Disc_1

DVD contains documents used throughout toolkit guide.

Bad News for Outlaws: The Remarkable Life of Bass Reeves, Deputy U.S. Marshal [book]