

**TITLE:** A.L. Moore & Sons Mortuary Collection

**DATE RANGE:** 1906-2000

**CALL NUMBER:** FM MSS #59

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 1.5 linear feet (3 boxes)

**PROVENANCE:** Donated by Albert Lee Moore Jr., 2000

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**RESTRICTIONS:** Unrestricted

**CREDIT LINE:** A.L. Moore & Sons Mortuary Collection, FM MSS #59, Arizona Historical Foundation

**PROCESSED BY:** Rebekah Tabah, December 2009

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:** Albert Lincoln Moore was born in Pennsylvania in 1865. After a short stint in the fuel business, Moore moved west in 1904 with his wife and two young sons, Harold and Albert Lee (A. Lee). He began making furniture and in time caskets. The latter rapidly become full time work which led Moore into the mortuary business.

By 1906, Moore & McLellan had a busy mortuary on Adams Street in downtown Phoenix. Moore soon bought out McLellan and changed the name to A.L. Moore & Sons. Many renovations and additions to the building followed over the years. Both A. Lee and Harold went to work for their father. Although, A. Lee had gone to Stanford University to study medicine, he never finished his degree.

In 1939 Moore died leaving his sons, A. Lee and Harold to run the business. In 1951 A. Lee's son, A. Lee Jr. joined the business. He took over when his father died in 1974. A. Lee Jr. in turn gave the business over to his daughter Posey Moore Nash and son A. Lee III. In 1984 the family sold the business to Service Corporation International, but retained the property and building on Adams Street. In 1996 the City of Phoenix condemned the location to make room for the nine-story Phoenix Municipal Court.

A.L. Moore & Sons was recognized from the beginning as a modern mortuary. They had the first funeral car in Arizona (a model-T) the first automobile ambulance service, and the state's first air-ambulance service in the 1950's. These vehicles were all painted white due to Arizona's heat, and were recognized everywhere.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:** Original order is unknown. Arranged by subject alphabetically then chronologically within. There are no series. Includes photographs,

ephemera, news clippings, memorabilia, and records relating to the mortuary business. Correspondence are all addressed to Posey Moore Nash, the great-granddaughter of business founder Albert Lincoln Moore. Photographs date from the 1900s to the 1950s and pertain to the family as well as the mortuary business. These are found both un-mounted and maintained in two albums. Album #1 was in very poor condition, pages were removed and encapsulated in Mylar, original page order has been maintained. Album #2 is oversized, many of the photographs are coming loose. This album is very fragile.

### CONTAINER LIST

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Dates</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	Business History	<b>n.d.</b>
	<b>2</b>	Business Operations and Procedures	<b>1950s</b>
	<b>3</b>	Correspondence (all to Posey Moore Nash)	<b>1995-2000</b>
	<b>4</b>	Job Descriptions and Duties	<b>n.d.</b>
	<b>5</b>	Memorabilia	<b>n.d.</b>
	<b>6</b>	Newspaper Clippings	<b>1940s-1990s</b>
	<b>7</b>	Pamphlets and Public Relation Material	<b>1990s-2000</b>
	<b>8</b>	Photographs	<b>1906-1930s</b>
	<b>9</b>	Photographs	<b>1920s-1940s</b>
	<b>10</b>	Photographs	<b>n.d.</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	Photograph Album #1, pages 1 - 10 (includes photos of family, friends, golf, trips, cars, planes, and Stanford University)	<b>1906-1938</b>
	<b>2</b>	Photograph Album #1, pages 11 - 20	<b>1906-1938</b>
	<b>3</b>	Photograph Album #1, pages 21 - 30	<b>1906-1938</b>
	<b>4</b>	Photograph Album #1, pages 31 - 40	<b>1906-1938</b>
	<b>5</b>	Photograph Album #1, pages 41 - 50	<b>1906-1938</b>
	<b>6</b>	Photograph Album #1, pages 51 - 57	<b>1906-1938</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>OV</b>	Photograph Album #2 (includes photos of family, friends, early Phoenix, A.L. Moore & Sons business)	<b>1908-1940s</b>