

WILLIAM WALLACE BASS COLLECTION-MSS 17

Dates: 1888-1941

No. of Items: 1 box, .5 cu. ft.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

William Wallace Bass (1849-1933) came to Williams, Arizona in 1883, and established Bass Camp at the rim of the Grand Canyon. From there he built a trail into the canyon, conducted tours, and later built a cable tramway across the Colorado River. Truly a renaissance man, Bass was also a student of geology and wrote poetry.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Bass-Grand Canyon Collection consists almost entirely of printed matter, all about the Grand Canyon. The evolution of the Canyon as a tourist destination can be traced from early pamphlets written by W.W. Bass, through brochures for the Santa Fe Railroad and Fred Harvey Tours, to more recent National Park Service literature for visitors to Grand Canyon National Park. Several books have been removed from the collection and cataloged separately.

DESCRIPTION

Series 1 Printed Matter

- Folder 1 Adventures in the Canyon of the Colorado, 1920 White, James and W. W. Hawkins. Introduction and notes by W. W. Bass. (additional copies cataloged as F788.B3)
- Folder 2 Grand Canyon of the Colorado, 1893 and 1897 Higgins, C. A. (additional copies cataloged as F788.H63)
- Folder 3 Titan of Chasms, 1905, 1910 Higgins, C.A. (earlier version also available as F788.T58x 1904)
- Folder 4 Grand Canyon Nature Notes, vol. 7-9, 1933-35
- Folder 5 United States National Park Service
Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona, 1922-41
- Folder 6 El Tovar Hotel and Bright Angel Camp Pamphlets, 1908-1912
- Folder 7 Miscellaneous pamphlets, W.W. Bass as author

Folder 8 General tour and travel brochures. Grand Canyon, Bass Camp, 1894-1904

Folder 9 Magazine articles, 1888-1908

Series 2 Miscellany

Folder 1 Poem and copy of H.R. 10411, granting Bass right of way to build tramway across the Colorado River, 1904

Books separately cataloged:

Darton, N.H. Story of the Grand Canyon

Davis, W. M. An Excursion to the Grand Canyon of the Colorado

Gilmore, Charles W. Fossil Footprints from the Grand Canyon

Nicholson, George T. Grand Canyon of Arizona

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Kris Darnall