

Phoenix Historical Society

Hours of operation: Thursday-Saturday 1-4 PM

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P.O. Box 1466 Phoenix, Oregon 97535

## **PHSM 105: Bert and Kathryn Stancliffe Collection (1888-1985)**

### **\*CREATOR**

Numerous family members and others

### **\*EXTENT**

Linear Feet: (How much shelf space does the collection take up)

Number of Containers: (How many boxes and/or folders) 2 boxes, 2 plaques

Number of Items or Digital Files: 40 .tiff images

### **COLLECTION SUMMARY**

Photos, ephemera, and physical objects related to Bert and Kathryn Stancliffe, their homes, Bert's time at Southern Oregon State Normal School and Kathryn's 1953 election as Mayor of Phoenix, Oregon

### **\*LANGUAGES**

English

### **PROCESSING ARCHIVIST**

Dorothy Cotton, Margaret Croly, Maureen Flanagan Battistella

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This finding aid was developed in part with funding from an Oregon Heritage Commission grant and with the support of Southern Oregon University.

## Collection Details

### Biographical / Historical Note

Bert Samuel Stancliffe (1885-1996) was born in Phoenix and lived to celebrate his 101 birthday. He attended schools in Phoenix and Talent and graduated from Southern Oregon State Normal School in 1906. His father traded a sow and pigs for Bert's tuition to the Normal School. It was in Phoenix that Stancliffe ran a fruit packing house, Independent Fruit Company, from 1924 through 1940, which later became Associated Fruit Company. He bought and operated a nearby peach orchard from 1941-1964. In 1941 Bert married Kathryn Sally Curren Denzer (1909-1906), second marriages for both. He often said his secret to a long life was having a young wife who was born in 1909. Kathryn graduated from Phoenix High School, attended Southern Oregon Normal School in Ashland and retired after teaching 39 years in Jackson County. She was the first female mayor of Phoenix and served on the city budget committee. Throughout her life, Kathryn worked on causes to improve the city of Phoenix and she was known as always having her say. Bert served on the Phoenix City Council and managed the Phoenix Cemetery for 40 years. Both Kathryn and Bert served on the school board and in several civic groups and were great supporters of community and high school activities. In the 1990s Kathryn raised funds to help establish the Phoenix Museum which opened in 1999, three years following her death. Bert had two daughters, Barbara Issacs and Beverly Reynolds, and Kathryn a son, Gary Denzer, from their first marriages. Bert and Kathryn Stancliffe are interred in the Phoenix Pioneer Cemetery.

### \*Collection Description

Bert and Kathryn Stancliffe were well known in Phoenix and left many items that document their life and times. Some materials relate to Bert Stancliffe's time at Southern Oregon State Normal School including named photographs of friends, certificates and sports ribbons. Some materials relate to Kathryn Stancliffe's 1953 term as Mayor of Phoenix, Oregon including many photographs documenting the 1953 and 1954 May Festival. More than 50 photographs have been scanned as .tiff files, leaving the originals in the 4-drawer file cabinet. Other materials include postcards, correspondence, realia and more.

### Arrangement Description

This collection was processed at the collection-level and as time allows, at the item level as described below.

### Separated Materials

Vertical File: Families -- Stancliffe
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### Related Materials

Southern Oregon University, Southern Oregon Historical Society and Rogue Valley Genealogical Society may also have material on the Stancliffe's.

Interview with Kathryn Stancliffe. Gasburg Gazette, winter 2010		
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### **Location of Originals**

Primary and secondary materials are boxed and also found in a variety of locations in the Phoenix Historical Society Museum.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Various individuals and groups have donated material to the Phoenix Historical Society Museum over time. This collection also includes materials donated by Bert and Kathryn Stancliffe.

### **Subject Headings**

Phoenix (Or.) – History; Stancliffe, Bert; Stancliffe, Kathryn; Southern Oregon State Normal School; Jackson County (Or.) – History

### **Processing Note**

There may be photographs in the not-yet-scanned files of the 4-drawer file cabinet and in the drawers under the display cases.

## **Using the Collection**

### **\*ACCESS STATEMENT**

Collection is open to the public and available for use in the Phoenix Historical Society Museum.

### **RIGHTS STATEMENT**

The material in the Stancliffe collection may be freely used for non-profit, educational and research purposes. Any and all commercial use must be explicitly approved by the Phoenix Historical Society Museum.

Copyright has been assigned to the Phoenix Historical Society Museum by various donors.

### **PREFERRED CITATION**

PHSM 105: Bert and Kathryn Stancliffe Collection (1888-1985), Phoenix Historical Society Museum, Phoenix, Oregon

