

Phoenix Historical Society

Hours of operation: Thursday-Saturday 1-4 PM

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PHSM 106: Colver Family Collection (1852-2000)

***CREATOR**

Numerous family members and others

***EXTENT**

Linear Feet: .5

Number of Containers: 1 large box, ready reference notebooks, exhibits and framed photos

Number of Items or Digital Files: 20+

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Photos, ephemera, and physical objects related to the Colver Family, the family home and descendants of the family

***LANGUAGES**

English

PROCESSING ARCHIVIST

Dorothy Cotton, Margaret Croly

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

Samuel Colver (1815-1891) and his wife Hulda (1823-1907) are considered the founders of Phoenix. Sam Colver and his brother Hiram brought their families west in 1850 and in 1851, took up Donation Land Claims along Bear Creek in what is now Phoenix, Oregon. In 1852, Colver built a large, centrally located home which stood until 2008 when it was destroyed by fire. Well known for its tall white columns, the home served as a meeting place, school, and refuge for the settlers during the Indian wars. Over the years, Colver sold parcels of his land and the settlement of Phoenix was started. He also sold property to the Trustees to start the Phoenix Pioneer Cemetery in 1874. Sam Colver was a good debater and was always ready to express his opinions on any subject; he was an early abolitionist and advocate of women's rights, and a prohibitionist. He was always ready to defend his beliefs at all times and against all comers. Among his various businesses, he bought and sold numerous horses. It was on one of these business trips to Klamath Falls that Samuel lost his life in Klamath Lake.

*Collection Description

This collection has photographs, correspondence, memorabilia and portraits of the Colver Family and the many branches of the family. The collection is particularly rich with respect to the Colver House. Both are well documented.

Arrangement Description

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

Separated Materials

Book "Early Days in Phoenix" by Helms		Front room	Bookshelf
Colver Family Tree. 2 copies: looseleaf binder, red bound			Ready Ref
Hiram Colver Family and Work Data (transcripts of correspondence, memoirs): looseleaf binder		Front room	Ready Ref
Colver House: looseleaf binder		Front room	Ready Ref
Colvers and Kin in Oregon by Loretta Miller Davidson: red bound		Front room	Ready Ref

Related Materials

Southern Oregon Historical Society and Rogue Valley Genealogical Society also have material on the Colver Family.

- University of Oregon Archives. Samuel Colver Papers Finding Aid. <https://scua.uoregon.edu/repositories/2/resources/447>
- The Colver House: As We Remember It (member discussion). *Gasburg Gazette*, Winter 2007
- Historic Colver House Demolished. *Gasburg Gazette*, Fall 2008
- Miller, Bill. The sometimes eccentric life of Samuel Colver. *Senior Times*, Fall 2008
- Pollock, Buffy. Save Colver House. *Gasburg Gazette*, Summer 2007 (from the *Mail Tribune*)
- O’Harra, Marjorie. The Colver House in Phoenix. *Gasburg Gazette*, Fall 2007 (from the *Mail Tribune*)
- O’Harra, Marjorie. The Colver Home. In *Southern Oregon: Short Trips into History*, p. 63
- LaPlante, Margaret. Colver. In *On to Oregon*

Location of Originals

Primary and secondary material is 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 Pam Rose Roberts, a descendant of Sam and Hulda Colver.

Subject Headings

Colver, Samuel (1817-1891); Colver, Hulda (1823-1907); Roberts, Pam Rose; Rose, Lewis Albert (1918-1925); Stocks, Charles Thomas (1858-1945); Harker, Simon (1808-1850); Hockersmith, John M. (1849-1936) Phoenix (Or.) – History; 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 Colver Family 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 106: Colver Family Collection (1852-2000), Phoenix Historical Society Museum, Phoenix, Oregon

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Sam and Hulda Colver, 1815-1891

This is a series level scope and content note. Here you provide more detailed information than the Collection Description field. If there are related materials in other series, you may want to note that here.

Subseries 1: Photos and paper ephemera

Items relating to Sam and Hulda Colver and their immediate family

Description	Date	Box	Folder
DAR papers, Nathaniel Colver family	unk	01	01
Box of Colver family genealogy papers from UofO	unk	01	02

Subseries 2: Physical objects

Items relating to Sam and Huldah Colver

Picture with three old Christmas Cards "belonged to G-parents"		front room	wall by plaque
Rocking Chair, leather lattice seat		front room	by bookshelf

Series 2: Colver House, 1854-2008

This is a series level scope and content note. Here you provide more detailed information than the Collection Description field. If there are related materials in other series, you may want to note that here.

Subseries 1: Photos and paper ephemera, dates

Items relating to the Colver House

Description	Date	Box	Folder
See vertical file cabinet: Families -- Colver			

Subseries 2: Physical Objects

Items relating to the Colver House

Replica of Colver house made to scale	2012		Back room
Picture of interior of Colver house, several rooms		wall	front room
Picture with two photos and story of Colver House		wall	Front room
7'x8' Popcorn Stitch Bedspread, Crocheted by Mary Colver, used in the Colver House		Display	Back room

Series 3: Pam Rose Roberts, 19uu-20uu

This is a series level scope and content note. Here you provide more detailed information than the Collection Description field. If there are related materials in other series, you may want to note that here.

Subseries 1: Photos and paper ephemera

Items relating to Pam Rose Roberts (descendant of Colver, Rose, Hockersmith families)

Pam Rose Roberts, photocopies of photos	Unk	01	03
Cards used in Pam Rose Robert's garden tours	Unk	01	04
Newspaper clippings, John Hockersmith, Recipe from Hockersmith family, miscellaneous	1969	01	05
Taking down the Christmas tree, photocopied story	1942	01	06
Family Tree: Lewis Albert Rose, Pamela Lora Rose, Muriel Ruth Stocks	1992	01	07
Family Tree: Charles Thomas Stocks, Margaret Slew	1992	01	08
Family Tree: Simon Harker	1992	01	09
Lucille Jane Albin, biography, personal narrative; 2 transcribed typescript copies	Unk	01	10
Newspaper photocopies, full size Pam Rose Robert's plants		01	11
Photo: William and Rebecca Gale, parents of Martha Jane Gale Hockersmith and grandparents of John Newton Hockersmith and others. PHSM #2022.07.11 [VERTICAL FILE PEOPLE IDENTIFIED – PHSM #675]	189u	SCANNED	
Photo: Martha Jane Gale Hockersmith, born 10/7/1826, died 3/19/03; married Jackson Hockersmith, born 7/10/1818, died 3/28/1898; parents of John Newton Hockersmith and others. PHSM #2022.07.10 [VERTICAL FILE PEOPLE IDENTIFIED – PHSM #674]	189u	SCANNED	

Subseries 2: Physical objects

Items relating to Pam Rose Roberts (descendant of Colver, Rose, Hockersmith families)

Repeat Series and Subseries format as needed. If an item is in an enclosure other than a box and folder, that is OK, just specify the container type (e.g., Case 1, Drawer 1).

Description	Date(s)	Box	Folder
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