University Libraries Special Collections & University Archives

Early Wichita Drawings

Collection Summary

Title: Early Wichita Drawings

Call Number: MS 2017-06

Size: 0.25 linear feet (1 box)

Acquisition: Purchased from Michael D. Heaston, 6-2001

Processed by: JZ, 9-2016

Restrictions: None

Literary Rights

Literary rights were not granted to Wichita State University. When permission is granted to examine manuscripts, it is not an authorization to publish them. Manuscripts cannot be used for publication without regard for common law literary rights, copyright laws and the laws of libel. It is the responsibility of the researcher and his/her publisher to obtain permission to publish. Scholars and students who eventually plan to have their work published are urged to make inquiry regarding overall restrictions on publication before initial research.

Content Note

This collection contains the earliest known depictions of the area that would become the city of Wichita drawn by the noted illustrator James E. Taylor (1839-1901). The images show Native Americans hunting and in their encampment, early trader settlements and ranches, a view of a wooded Arkansas River, and William "Dutch Bill" Greiffenstein, one of the founders of Wichita.

Biography

James E. Taylor was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, on December 12, 1839, and served as an illustrator in the Union Army at the outset of the Civil War. After his discharge in 1863 he worked as a civilian journalist for Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, travelling with Union forces in the mid-Atlantic region. Following the end of the conflict Taylor went west and sketched the frontier and scenes related to the Indian Wars, notably the Medicine Lodge Peace Treaty of 1867, which took place in Kansas. He continued to work as an illustrator until his death on June 22, 1901, in New York City.

Series 1 Box 1 Early Drawings. This series contains Taylor's drawings of Wichita and Indians, along with negatives and reproductions of the same. Also included is a newspaper article about WSU's purchase of the collection. Material is arranged by title.

Box and Folder Listing

Series 1 – Early Drawings

| Box 1 | FF 1 | "The Buffalo Hunt," 1894 |
|-------|------|---|
| Box 1 | FF 2 | "The City of Wichita, Kansas – 1867," 1867 |
| Box 1 | FF 3 | "Dutch Bill Griffenstein [sic]" and "Dutch Bills Ranche [sic]," n.d. |
| Box 1 | FF 4 | "Ed Geary and Cheyennes Powwowing with Gen. Harvey," 1867 |
| Box 1 | FF 5 | "Lewellen and Davis Ranch – 2000 yards from the confluence of the Arkansaw [sic]," n.d. |
| Box 1 | FF 6 | "Return from the Hunt," 1882 |
| Box 1 | FF 7 | Negatives and newspaper article on the collection, 2003, n.d. |

For information, please contact us at:

Special Collections and University Archives

Wichita State University Libraries

1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260-0068 E-mail: specialcollections@wichita.edu

Telephone: 316-978-3590