A. E. Howse Papers

Collection Summary

Title: A. E. Howse Papers
Call Number: MS 80-05
Size: 29.0 linear feet
Acquisition: Source unknown
Processed By: Staff, 1980; JLY, 9-2001; JLY, 7-2002; MN, 12-2008

Note: None
Restrictions: None

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Restrictions

None

Content Note

The collection includes reports, correspondence and other materials covering federal matters, House documents, Saline Water legislation, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Interstate compacts, Arkansas River Basin states, Kansas State Agencies, Kansas State reports, city of Wichita, and the National Reclamation Association. The collection also contains personal files of A. E. Howse including rose catalogs and family photographs. The numbers appearing in parentheses before the description of folder contents were originally assigned to each folder by Howse in his own filing system.

Biography

When looking at the life of A. E. Howse it is evident that the native Wichitan enjoyed a challenge. Born in 1908, Howse easily made his way through the Wichita School system with a straight-A average. Upon arriving at the
University of Chicago, Howse made an arrangement with the head of the school. If the young man was able to pass a special examination arranged by the University, he would be allowed to take graduate courses without enrolling in any undergraduate course work. As with most challenges Howse faced, he prevailed, and two and one half years later he graduated from the University having only enrolled in one undergraduate class. Howse was a success not only in education, but also in business. After graduation he traveled the country working in the investment field before returning home to Wichita to open a number of furniture businesses. Never one to shy away from a challenge, Howse entered World War II along with the United States and organized an $80 billion Air Corps program to buy military planes. For his military accomplishments he was commissioned a colonel and retired from the Army in 1944. Back in Wichita, Howse continued his business ventures, raised horses, collected art, and hungered for another competition. This time he offered his services to better his community. Howse chaired the Kansas State Crime Commission, the Eisenhower Foundation, and helped establish the Kansas Highway Patrol. He also served as a Wichita City Commissioner during the 1950s as well as Mayor of the city in 1956 and 1957. Despite everything he accomplished, fellow Wichitans may owe the greatest debt of gratitude to Howse for his research and advocacy in the field of water resources. In fact, with his effort to build Cheney Reservoir, Wichita was ensured a long-term water supply. Throughout his life, A. E. Howse sought challenges, and through his successes fought for the betterment of his country and his community. He died in 1986.
Detailed Description: Box and Folder Listing

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Box 30 FF 4 Correspondence and Papers Pertaining to Water in 1955

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Box 30 FF 9 Black and Veatch- Report Covering Investigation and Studies of the Progressive Water Supply Requirements of the City of Wichita for a Substantial Period in the Future, 1952


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