



Guide to the Emily Higby Powell Photograph Album

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Powell, Emily Higby, 1887-1969
Contributor:	Powell, Stephen, 1933-2007
Title:	Emily Higby Powell Photograph Album
ID:	PH-00114
Date [inclusive]:	approximately 1910 to 1920
Physical Description:	0.37 Cubic Feet (1 oversized box)
Physical Description:	1.08 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The Emily Higby Powell Photograph Album (approximately 1910-1920) contains black-and-white photographs taken by Emily Higby Powell on a trip from New York to the west coast. The images depict desert landscape throughout the Southwest, including Northern Nevada, as well as images taken on Lake Champlain in Essex, New York.

Preferred Citation

Emily Higby Powell Photograph Album, approximately 1910-1920. PH-00114. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Emily Higby Powell was born in Brooklyn, New York on December 25, 1887, the second of six children born to Stephen Alonzo and Julia Eliza Morhous Powell. In 1910, she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Wellesley College and returned home to work as a secretary at her father's paper business. Powell's journey across the United States took place sometime between her college graduation and her decision, in 1917, to support the war effort as a Red Cross canteen worker in Europe. Returning to the United States in 1921, Powell rejoined her father's company, working and traveling extensively throughout Europe and the Caribbean until her death in November 1969.

Never married, she remained close to her family and the photograph album of her early travels found its way to her great-nephew, Stephen Alonzo Powell III.

Stephen Alonzo Powell III was born July 21, 1933 in Summit, New Jersey, the son of Bryan B. and Elizabeth Baker Powell. Graduating in 1955 from Hamilton College, New York, he enlisted in the army. Following his military service, he obtained a Master of Library Science degree from Rutgers University in 1962 and started work at the University of Nevada, Reno as an acquisitions librarian. Moving from Reno to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1969, he joined Library Special Collections at Nevada Southern University, later the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. In 1972, he created the first published bibliography of the department's growing gaming collection. Before leaving the university in 1980, Powell donated his great-aunt's photograph album to the archive. Returning to the east coast, he eventually settling in Doylestown, Pennsylvania and began a long career in book-selling, specializing in modern literary first editions. Stephen A. Powell died on September 18, 2007.

Sources:

Ancestry.com search for Emily Higby Powell, accessed October 10, 2019, <https://www.ancestry.com/search/>

Find A Grave memorial page for Emily H. Powell, 1887-1969, accessed October 10, 2019, https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/187109078/emily-h_-powell#source

Wellesley College, "Wellesley College Calendar 1910-1911" (1910), *The Wellesley College Catalogs, Book 17*, accessed October 10, 2019, <http://repository.wellesley.edu/catalogs/17>

Hamilton College, "Hamilton Magazine," Spring, 2008, accessed October 10, 2019, <https://www.hamilton.edu/magazine/spring08/necrology/1950s#powell>

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Scope and Contents Note

The Emily Higby Powell Photograph Album (approximately 1910-1920) contains black-and-white photographs taken by Emily Higby Powell on a trip from New York to the west coast. The images depict desert landscape throughout the Southwest, including Northern Nevada, as well as images taken on Lake Champlain in Essex, New York.

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Arrangement

Materials remain as they were received.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1980 by Stephen Powell; accession number 1980-132.

Processing Note

In 2019, as part of an archival backlog elimination project, Sarah Jones and Melise Leech rehoused the materials, wrote the finding aid, and entered the data into ArchivesSpace.

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Names and Subjects

- Landscape photography -- West (U.S.)
- black-and-white photographs

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Containers
Powell's personal photographs taken on a trip from New York to the west coast, including desert landscape throughout the Southwest, Northern Nevada, and Lake Champlain in Essex, New York: photograph album, approximately 1910 to 1920 (view online)	oversized box 01