

A GUIDE TO
THE JAMES D. HORAN COLLECTION

M-293

by

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The St. Louis Mercantile Library Association

St. Louis, Missouri

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DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Creator: St. Louis Mercantile Library

Title: The James D. Horan Collection

Dates: ca. 1950-1980

Language: English

Size: 20 boxes

Collection Number: M-293

Location:

Special Collections

St. Louis Mercantile Library at UM – St. Louis

Thomas Jefferson Library Building

One University Boulevard

St. Louis, Missouri 63121 U.S.A.

HISTORICAL NOTE

James D. Horan (1914-1981) was an historian, novelist, and newsman. He authored 40 books. Horan attended Drake College in New Jersey and the Writing Center at New York University. He married Gertrude Dorrity in 1938 and they had four children: Patricia, Brian, Gary and James.

In 1944, as a reporter, Horan and colleagues at the *New York Journal American* won the Pulitzer Prize for a story about the difficulties in obtaining penicillin, a then uncommon drug. The story was printed in 1943, and is titled: "Seven Hours to Live."

Three of Horan's novels (*The Confederate Agent*, *The Seat of Power*, and *The Blue Messiah*) were bestsellers, and his three-volume *The Authentic Wild West*, was called "the best Wild West set in print," by a *New York Times* reviewer.

SCOPE NOTE

The James D. Horan Collection consists primarily of manuscripts of his books, both fiction and non-fiction. One script for a television show is also present. In total, there are 29 series. The first 25 series are arranged alphabetically by title of the completed work, with the exception of two instances, in which the subjects received prominence (the Shenandoah series and the Pinkertons series). In general, a series devoted to a general work typically includes manuscripts and/or drafts. Correspondence, research, images (such as photocopies, Photostats or slides), and clippings may also be included. The remaining series are devoted to clippings and correspondence that are presumably unrelated to any of the completed works.

SERIES ARRANGEMENT

Series 1: Across the Cimarron

Series 1 consists of stories written by George Bolds (the subject of *Across the Cimarron*), and some correspondence with Bolds.

Series 2: Authentic Wild West: Gunfighters

Series 2 consists of manuscripts, galleys, and publicity pertaining to *The Authentic Wild West: Gunfighters*.

Series 3: Authentic Wild West: Outlaws

Series 3 consists of manuscripts and photographic slides pertaining to *The Authentic Wild West: Outlaws*. Some images may pertain to other works in *The Authentic Wild West*.

Series 4: Authentic Wild West: Lawmen

Series 4 consists of manuscripts and galleys pertaining to *The Authentic Wild West: Lawmen*.

Series 5: Authentic Wild West: Unlabelled

Series 5 consists of unlabelled manuscripts. They are believed to pertain to some or all of the three volumes of *The Authentic Wild West*. Two packets are labeled "Faces and Voices" which is believed to be a working title of *The Authentic Wild West*.

Series 6: Confederate Agent

Series 6 consists of correspondence, research (including notes and photostats), clippings, and reviews pertaining to *The Confederate Agent*. Some clippings may pertain to other works by Horan as well.

Series 7: Desperate Men

Series 7 consists of a manuscript of *Desperate Men*. The manuscript may not be complete.

Series 8: Desperate Women

Series 8 consists of correspondence, notebooks, notecards, and photostats pertaining to *Desperate Women*.

Series 9: Desperate Years

Series 9 consists of clippings pertaining to *Desperate Years, a Pictorial History of the Thirties*.

Series 10: Ginerva

Series 10 consists of manuscripts, notes, clippings, correspondence and an outline pertaining to *Ginerva*.

Series 11: Great American West

Series 11 consists of manuscripts and bibliographies pertaining to *The Great American West*.

Series 12: Hounds

Series 12 contains an outline, partial manuscript, and clippings pertaining to *Hounds*, an unpublished work.

Series 13: King's Rebel

Series 13 contains a manuscript of *King's Rebel*.

Series 14: Life and Art of Charles Schreyvogel

Series 14 contains manuscripts and publicity pertaining to *The Life and Art of Charles Schreyvogel*.

Series 15: McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians

Series 15 contains notes, research materials, negatives, and galleys pertaining to *The McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians*.

Series 16: Mob's Man

Series 16 contains a manuscript of *The Mob's Man*.

Series 17: Oklahoma Land Rush

Series 17 contains manuscripts and correspondence related to the "Oklahoma Land Rush" story. This story is also titled "The Day They Ran for Land."

Series 18: Peking Agent

Series 18 contains manuscripts and an outline of *The Peking Agent*, which was published posthumously. Several of the drafts are labeled "The Peking Junction."

Series 19: Pictorial History of the Old West

Series 19 contains correspondence related to *Pictorial History of the Old West*.

Series 20: Pinkertons

Horan authored one book and co-authored another book on the Pinkertons. Additionally, he may have had plans for a television series about the organization, and possibly a third book as well. Series 20 has materials that may pertain to any of these works. Series 20 consists of research files, note cards, notebooks, microfilm, manuscripts, galleys, correspondence and clippings related to Horan's works about the Pinkerton Detective Agency.

Series 21: Right Image

Series 21 contains an outline of "The Image Maker," which is believed to be the original title for *The Right Image*.

Series 22: Shenandoah

Series 22 contains photographs, photocopies, manuscripts, notes and a bibliography pertaining to *C.S.S. Shenandoah: The Memoirs of Lieutenant Commanding James I. Waddell*.

Series 23: Shotgun Slade

Series 23 contains a promotional pitch for a television show *Shotgun Slade*.

Series 24: Turnpike

Series 24 contains a television pilot for the show *Turnpike*.

Series 25: Source Materials

Series 25 contains reproductions (photocopies) of works that Horan presumably used as source materials; many are directly from the Library of Congress.

Series 26: Clippings

Series 26 contains news clippings on several subjects, but is mainly devoted to crime and political stories.

Series 27: Correspondence

Series 27 contains correspondence to and from Horan. The dates, subjects, and correspondents vary considerably.

Series 28: Images

Series 28 contains photographs and photocopies of various images. Images may or may not be related to Horan's works.

Series 29: Future work

Series 29 contains clippings that Horan may have considered using for future works.

ACCESS

Some of the material in Special Collection M-169 may be photocopied, digitally scanned or photographed, subject to condition.

DIGITAL IMAGES

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The St. Louis Mercantile Library appreciates hearing from anyone who may have information about any of the images in this collection.

CITATION

When citing material from this collection, the preferred citation is: From the Special Collections of the St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri – St. Louis.

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Horan, James David, 1914-

Bolds, George, 1863-1954

Gunfights – West (U.S.)

McKenney, Thomas Loraine, 1785-1859

Native Americans

Outlaws – West (U.S.) – Biography

Pinkerton, Allan, 1819-1884

Pinkerton's National Detective Agency

United States – History – Civil War, 1861-1865 – Personal narratives – Confederate

Schreyvogel, Charles, 1861-1912

Shenandoah (Cruiser)

West (U.S.) – History

OTHER RESOURCES:

The Annual Obituary 1981. USA: St. Martin's, 1982. Print.

"James Horan, 67, Dies; Historian and Novelist." *New York Times* 14 Oct. 1981, Late City Final Edition, sec. A: 28. Print.

Who's Who in America, 1980/1981. 41st ed. Vol. 1. Chicago: Marquis Who's Who, 1980. Print.

INVENTORY:

Series	Series Title	Box	Description
1	Across the Cimarron	10	George Bolds' original typed stories
1	Across the Cimarron	10	Correspondence with George Bolds
2	Authentic Wild West: Gunfighters	3	Galleys (1 packet)
2	Authentic Wild West: Gunfighters	3	Manuscripts (2 packets)
2	Authentic Wild West: Gunfighters	3	Publicity (1 packet)
3	Authentic Wild West: Outlaws	3	Manuscripts (3 packets)
3	Authentic Wild West: Outlaws	3	Photographs and slides (1 packet)
4	Authentic Wild West: Lawmen	11	Index Galleys
4	Authentic Wild West: Lawmen	11	Manuscripts (4 packets)
5	Authentic Wild West: Unlabelled Documents	10	"Faces and Voices" [working title of Authentic Wild West] manuscripts and notes (2 packets)
5	Authentic Wild West: Unlabelled Documents	11	Manuscripts (2 packets)
6	Confederate Agent	1	Photocopies and photostats of documents
6	Confederate Agent	1	Notes
6	Confederate Agent	1	Correspondence and reviews
6	Confederate Agent	1	Galley proofs
6	Confederate Agent	1	Clippings

6	Confederate Agent	1	Typescripts
6	Confederate Agent	1	Correspondence
6	Confederate Agent	1	Photostats and photocopies of documents
6	Confederate Agent	1	Clippings of reviews (and other Horan books)
6	Confederate Agent	1	Reviews and clippings
6	Confederate Agent	1	Research photocopies and clippings
7	Desperate Men	2	Manuscript
8	Desperate Women	2	Photostats
8	Desperate Women	2	Notecards (6 bundles)
8	Desperate Women	2	Notebooks (5)
8	Desperate Women	2	Correspondence (2 packets)
9	Desperate Years	2	Clippings (2 packets: 1930-1933; 1934-1937)
10	Ginerva	6	Manuscripts (2 folders)
10	Ginerva	4	Manuscripts (5 packets)
10	Ginerva	4	Outline
10	Ginerva	5	Manuscripts (2 packets)
10	Ginerva	5	Manuscript plus notes and clippings
10	Ginerva	5	Manuscript and clippings
10	Ginerva	5	Notes and clippings
10	Ginerva	5	Clippings
10	Ginerva	6	Manuscript (orange box)
10	Ginerva	6	Manuscript (1 packet)
11	Great American West	10	Manuscript and correspondence
11	Great American West	10	Bibliography
11	Great American West	10	Bibliography
11	Great American West	10	Manuscript
12	Hounds	18	Outline, partial manuscript, clippings
13	King's Rebel	18	Manuscript
14	Life and Art of Charles Schreyvogel: Painter-Historian of the Indian Fighting Army of the American West	6	Publicity
14	Life and Art of Charles Schreyvogel: Painter-Historian of the Indian Fighting Army of the American West	6	Manuscripts (2 packets)
15	McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians	7	Note cards (3 bundles)

15	McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians	8	Galleys of book
15	McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians	7	Research material
15	McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians	7	Research Notes--Hall biographies
15	McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians	7	Research Notes--McKinney biographies
15	McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians	8	Research notes and project notes
15	McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians	8	Research copies and xeroxes (5 packets)
15	McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians	8	Negatives
15	McKenney-Hall Portrait Gallery of American Indians	8	Jared S. Parks letters
16	Mob's Man	18	Manuscript
17	Oklahoma Land Rush	18	Manuscript and correspondence
18	Peking Agent	9	Manuscripts
18	Peking Agent	9	Outline
19	Pictorial History of the Wild West	18	Correspondence
20	Pinkertons	12	Note cards for index and bibliography
20	Pinkertons	10	Reviews and ad clippings
20	Pinkertons	12	Microfilm
20	Pinkertons	12	Note cards
20	Pinkertons	12	Research files
20	Pinkertons	12	Manuscripts (2 packets)
20	Pinkertons	12	Burlington Railroad reports
20	Pinkertons	12	Galleys
20	Pinkertons	13	Notebooks
20	Pinkertons	13	Research files
20	Pinkertons	14	Research files
21	Right Image	18	Outline
22	Shenandoah	12	Photographs and xeroxes (1 packet)
22	Shenandoah	12	Bibliography, notes, forward (1 folder)
22	Shenandoah	12	Manuscript
23	Shotgun Slade	18	Promotional packet for TV show

24	Turnpike	18	TV pilot
25	Source Materials	19	Reproductions (roughly 12 packets)
26	Clippings	15, 16, 17	Contains media clippings mostly concerning crime and political news stories. Some photographs, xeroxes, correspondence, or review clippings may also be present
27	Correspondence	20	Correspondence (8 packets)
28	Images	15, 16, 17	Contains photographic prints and photostats, and some xeroxes of images
29	Future Work	19	Clippings (2 packets)