



Sharlot Hall Museum Library and Archives
415 West Gurley Street
Prescott, AZ 86301
www.sharlot.org

Title: George U. Young Papers

Creators: George U. Young, Fred Smith & George U. Young, Jr.

Dates: 1890-1987 (Bulk Dates 1903-1917)

Quantity: 2 linear feet (4 boxes, one oversize folder)

System of Arrangement:

- Series 1: Arizona Territorial Public Officeholder & Political Campaigns
- Series 2: Private Entrepreneur - Railroad & Mining Investor/Operator
- Series 3: Mine and Family Photos
- Series 4: Maps

Abstract: Collection of correspondence, financial records, photos, personal papers, land and mining documents and scrapbooks related to Young's mining, business, personal and political affairs from 1890-1933. Also includes the personal and professional papers of his friend and assistant, Fred J. Smith, merged from a separate Smith collection in 2014.

Identification: SHM MS-26

Language and Scripts of the Materials: English

Biographical History

George U. Young was born at Hamburg, Indiana February 10, 1867. His family moved to Kansas when Young was 13 years of age. He soon began to educate himself and eventually to educate others. He began studying law and was admitted to the Kansas bar in 1890. Young came to Arizona in the early 1890s. For three years he was engaged in railroad construction of the Prescott and Arizona Central Railroad (Bullock Line) and later became a fireman and engineer for the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad. Switching roles, Young was elected principal of the school at Williams, Arizona, a position he served for four years. He then acquired ownership of the *Williams News* and served as its editor for a number of years.



Young entered into a partnership with William “Buckey” O’Neill in the promotion of the Santa Fe and Grand Canyon Railroad located in Williams. O’Neill’s death in Cuba during the Spanish-American War in 1898 left the entire responsibility of the western interests in the proposition upon Young, and it was through his efforts that the road was built. In 1903, Young became interested in mining endeavors. He became the president and General Manager of Young Mine Company, Ltd. and for the Madizelle Mining Company. Young was the proprietor and owner of the Derby Mine and Mammoth or Goldfield Mine for several decades prior to his death.

Young was prominently known as a Republican politician. In 1909, he was appointed Secretary of State for Arizona and filled the position until 1912. He served as Mayor of Phoenix from 1914-1916. Young then retired to his mining business, and died of natural causes at the Derby Mine in November of 1926.

Scope and Content Note

The George U. Young Collection (formerly DB 281) consists of correspondence, bills, various receipts and contracts regarding his mining interests and operations in Arizona 1903-1917. The correspondence (1903-1905) is from several different sources. Letters from his wife and business partners in Connecticut form the bulk of the correspondence. The contracts and receipts are for various mining claims transferred under his supervision as a consultant.

A second George U. Young Collection (formerly DB 641) consists of correspondence, financial records, photographs, personal papers, land records, mining records, and scrapbooks related to Young’s mining, business, personal, and political affairs, 1890-1933. The most significant part of this collection is in Series 4-1, a folder on the creation of the Santa Fe & Grand Canyon Railroad, 1897-1901. Much of the collection consists of materials related to Young Mines Company Limited, primarily the Derby mine near Prescott, AZ and the Mammoth/Goldfield Mine in Apache Junction, AZ.

The Fred J. Smith Collection (formerly DB 281) consists of letters from George U. Young concerning the Derby Mine as well as Mr. Smith’s personal correspondence, dated 1917-1951. Fred J. Smith was a caretaker of the Derby Mine for many years. Fred Smith and George Young seemed to be inseparable friends and business partners. Young relied heavily upon Smith to carry out his business in Prescott and Yavapai County.

Restrictions

None



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Related Archival Materials & Subjects

[Arizona. Office of Secretary of State](#)

[Arizona. Secretary of Arizona](#)

[Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railway Company.](#)

Bullock Line

Derby Mine

[Goldfield Mines, Ltd.](#)

[Goldfield Mining District \(Ariz.\)](#)

[Gold miners.](#)

[Grand Canyon Railway](#)

Madizelle Mining Company

Mammoth Mine

[O'Neill, William Owen, 1860-1898](#)

[O'Neill, William](#)

[Phoenix \(Ariz.\)](#)

[Railroads.](#)

[Smith, Fred](#)

[Williams \(Ariz.\)](#)

Williams News

[Young, Ellen](#)

Young, Lyle

Young Mine Co., Ltd.

Related collections:

Anderson, Leroy Collection - Document Box 55, 56, 56A & 233-248D

Cline Photograph Collection - Photo Box 88, Folders 6A-C

Mitchell-Brown Family Papers - MS-3

Fred J. Smith Papers – Document Box 281, Folders 5-10

Lyle Young Photographs - Document Box 481, Folder 2 & Photo Box 186, Folder 8



Administrative Information

Custodial History

Accession Number – **2008.212**

Most of the materials found within this collection under the above accession number were personally donated by Charlie D. Farrow to the Sharlot Hall Museum on September 17, 2008. Other materials came from the personal collection of Fred J. Smith. The materials were processed and placed into a standardized DACS compliant archival arrangement and organization scheme. The materials were originally cataloged using a non-standardized organization scheme in Document Box and/or Photo Boxes 281 and 641. A new DACS compliant number was assigned to the collection – MS-26.

Accruals: No further accruals are expected.

Description Control

This collection was processed by Murray Smolens and David Duryee using *Describing Archives: a Content Standard (DACS)* in 2013-2014.

Container List

Title: George U. Young Papers - SHM MS-26

Dates: June 1910 – April 1914

Series Scope & Content: George U. Young – Arizona Territorial Public Officeholder & Political Campaigns. All items in this series are photocopies.

Series 1: AZ Territorial Public Officeholder & Political Campaigns		
Box/Folder	File/Item Description	Date(s)
1.1	Acting AZ Territorial Governor & Territorial Secretary news articles as well as Territorial gubernatorial campaign materials.	June 1910 – Oct. 1914, Dec. 1911- Oct. 1914
1.2	Phoenix Mayoral Campaign Materials	Feb. 1914 – Apr. 1914



Title: George U. Young Papers – SHM MS-26

Dates: July 20, 1901 – February 1907

Series Scope & Content: Documents, correspondence, affidavits and reports for George U. Young’s private entrepreneur pursuits in railroads and mining.

Series 2: Private Entrepreneur - Railroad & Mining Investor/Manager		
Box/Folder	File/Item Description	Date(s)
1.3	Santa Fe & Grand Canyon Railroad Co. – Articles of Incorporation & official recorded documents as well as copy letter from promoter (J.M Goode) and two photocopied news articles.	July 1897 – Dec. 28, 1923
1.4	Young Mines Co. Ltd. – Mining Claims & Three legal contracts as well as Sworn Affidavit & related news report; two business correspondence as well as 52-page typewritten “Report on Mining Property – Young Mines’ Co. Ltd” by mining engineer (undated).	Jan 10, 1910- Sep. 26, 1932; July 20, 1932 – Jun 17, 1933; Feb 17, 1934; Nov 23, 1913; Feb 11, 1928 & Mar. 20, 1933
1.5	Derby Mining Co. Ltd. – Prospectus (8 copies) & 25 stock certificates packet; personnel roster & 45 payroll stubs; 14 haberdasher receipts; six bank deposit receipts; descriptive profile Derby Mine & related map (undated); equipment correspondence & two photocopied news reports	Apr 5, 1900 & Aug 1910- 1920; Jan 27, 1903 –Apr 5, 1904; Nov 11, 1903 – Aug 1, 1904; Dec 9, 1903 – Feb 8, 1904; Nov. 21, 1903- Nov. 12, 1904 and Jun 8, 1964 – Jul 21, 1987
1.6	Derby Mining Co. Ltd. – photocopied 21-page research notes & equipment/physical plant detailed profile as well as photocopied Highland Pines brochure (undated).	Feb. 1987
1.7	Business Correspondence – miscellaneous handwritten & typed including transaction receipts & telegraph messages.	Jan 9, 1903 – Dec. 22, 1903



1.8	Business Correspondence – miscellaneous handwritten & typed including transaction receipts & telegraph messages.	Jan. 23, 1904 – Dec 3, 1904
1.9	Business Correspondence – miscellaneous handwritten & typed re/variety of subjects directed primarily to George Young.	Jan. 8, 1905 – Aug. 27, 1905
2.1	Official Mining Documents – Prospectus, deed & stock investment materials as well as miscellaneous transaction receipts & six postcards.	Jan. 8, 1904 – Apr. 5, 1951
2.2	Newspaper Articles (5) – all photocopied re/miscellaneous subjects.	Undated
2.3	Personal Correspondence – miscellaneous handwritten & typed including letters from wife & letters to social acquaintances along with will of George U Young and typed instructions to wife.	Oct. 21, 1903 – Dec. 13, 1903; & Sep. 22, 1925
2.4	Assistant Fred Smith – Business/Personal Correspondence re/miscellaneous subjects.	May 21, 1904 – Dec. 22, 1916
2.5	Assistant Fred Smith – Business/Personal Correspondence re/miscellaneous subjects.	Jan. 8, 1917 – Dec. 17, 1919
2.6	Assistant Fred Smith – Business/Personal Correspondence re/miscellaneous subjects including mining deed.	Mar. 8, 1920 – Mar. 3, 1928; Mar. 13, 1923
2.7	Assistant Fred Smith – Business/Personal Correspondence re/miscellaneous subjects.	Dec 9, 1930 – Sep. 15, 1948
2.8	Assistant Fred Smith – Business/Personal Correspondence re/miscellaneous subjects.	Jan. 14, 1950 – Apr. 12, 1952
2.9	Assistant Fred Smith – Christmas greeting cards (2 packets)	1920 and 1930-40
3.1	Assistant Fred Smith – Christmas greeting cards (2 packets)	1940-50 and 1951
3.2	Assistant Fred Smith – Business/Personal Correspondence re/miscellaneous subjects including Christmas greeting cards & two pin buttons	Undated



Title: George U. Young Papers - SHM MS-26

Date: About 1910-20

Series Scope & Content: Derby Mine photo album and photos; family photo album and personal photos as well as family portraits.

Series 3: Family Photos		
Box/Folder	File/Item Description	Date(s)
3.3	Photo Album – Derby Mine (14 pages)	Undated
3.4	Mounted Photos – Derby Mine (4 packets A-E)	Undated
3.5	Individual Photos – Derby Mine (30)	Undated
3.6	Individual Photos – George Young (personal)	Undated
3.7	Individual Photos (5) – miscellaneous Superstition Mt., Williams and Grand Canyon	Undated
3.8	Individual Photos (8) – miscellaneous Mammoth, Goldfield and Derby Mines.	Undated
Box 4	Family Portraits Photo Plates	Circa 1910-20

Title: George U. Young Papers - SHM MS-26

Date: 1907

Series Scope & Content: Derby Mine Maps

Series 4: Maps		
Box/Folder	File/Item Description	Date(s)
MS Oversize Drawer 8 Folder 1	Derby Mine Maps	1907