Guide to MS188 Memorandum and Notebook of E. A. Barber

Owen Williamson

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Guide to

MS188

Memorandum and Notebook of E. A. Barber

1875

1.5 inches (linear)

Finding aid by Owen Williamson
February 20, 2019


Citation: Memorandum and Notebook of E. A. Barber, 1875, MS188, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department
University of Texas at El Paso
Biographical Sketch

Edwin Atlee Barber was born in Baltimore, Maryland on 13 August 1851. He entered Lafayette College in 1869 but left before graduating to assume a position as an assistant naturalist for the Hayden Survey, the first U.S. Government-sponsored expedition to explore what is now the Four Corners area of the Southwest. He developed an interest in decorated pottery and rapidly became an authority in Pueblo ceramic art. He contributed several articles to the New York Herald and American Naturalist about his work with the Hayden Survey. After the Hayden Survey ended, he returned to Lafayette College and graduated in 1877. Edwin received a graduate degree from Lafayette College in 1893. He began working as curator of ceramics at the Pennsylvania Museum and School of Industrial Art, becoming the Museum’s director in 1907, a position he held until his death from pneumonia on 12 December 1916 at age 65.


Series Description or Arrangement

This collection consists of two plastic comb-bound photocopies of Barber’s handwritten notebook from the Hayden Expedition of 1875. Barber’s notes have the character of a diary, with detailed descriptions of people, places and events encountered on this expedition. A very few pencil-drawings are included.

Scope and Content Note

Consists of photocopies of notebooks written by Elwin Atlee Barber, correspondent of the New York Herald, during his travels with the Hayden Survey of 1875. The notes in this collection are raw and unedited. Although the author’s handwriting is usually good, large and clear, many of the copied pages are of low contrast and are only marginally legible. Barber makes only minimal mention of the surveyors’ brief armed clash with members of the Ute tribe toward the end of the Expedition, an incident that in historical retrospect is now the most well-remembered and controversial part of the Survey.

Provenance Statement
The original of these notes may be held at the American Heritage Center, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY. The copies were donated to the UTEP Library in 1975 by Col. David K. Doyle of Fairfax, VT.

Restrictions

None.

Literary Rights Statement

Permission to publish material from this collection must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, Memorandum and Notebook of E. A. Barber, 1875, MS188, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Notes to the Researcher

None.

Container List

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<td>Herald. Two different bound photocopies of original handwritten notes.</td>
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