

Guide to the Stuart H. Patterson Papers

WA MSS S-2612



by Jennifer Meehan

2009

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: WA MSS S-2612

CREATOR: Patterson, Stuart Hayt

TITLE: Stuart H. Patterson papers

DATES: circa 1880-1963

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.96 linear feet (3 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection consists of letters, memoirs, photographs, annotated books, and other papers created and accumulated by Stuart Hayt Patterson, documenting his relationship with Ernest Thompson Seton and both men's experiences as ranch hands in New Mexico in the early 1890s. Highlights include drafts of Patterson's memoirs, featuring a chapter on Seton and the events that inspired Seton's book *Wild Animals I Have Known* (1898) and including rewrites by someone identified only as "Moore," letters from Seton and L. V. F. Randolph, annotated copies of Seton's books, and photographs of Patterson at various points in his life.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.patterson>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.patterson>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from William Reese Co. on the Frederick W. and Carrie S. Beinecke Fund for Western Americana, 2009.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Stuart H. Patterson Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Stuart H. Patterson. Yale Collection of Western Americana, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, and competing priorities. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections as they are acquired, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a medium level of processing in 2009. Processing included removing typescript drafts from their binders and the framed photograph of Patterson on horseback from its frame, rehousing all material in acid-free folders and boxes, and arranging files according to format or genre. Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles were supplied by staff during processing.

Stuart Hayt Patterson (1871-circa 1954)

Stuart Hayt Patterson was born on 12 February 1871 in New York City, and grew up in the suburbs of New Jersey. He worked as a cowhand and lawyer in Texas during the early 1890s. In 1893, Patterson befriended Ernest Thompson Seton while they were both working for the rancher L. V. F. Randolph, and the two remained lifelong friends. According to correspondence in the collection, the composite character of "the Dude" from Seton's autobiography, *Trail of an Artist-Naturalist*, was based in part on Patterson. Patterson returned to New York in 1894, and worked as an accountant and businessman, retiring as Vice President and Comptroller of the Guaranty Trust Company in 1940. He went on to write a memoir, which was never published, chronicling his time in the Southwest and his experiences with Seton.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of letters, memoirs, photographs, annotated books, and other papers created and accumulated by Stuart Hayt Patterson, documenting his relationship with Ernest Thompson Seton and both men's experiences as ranch hands in New Mexico in the early 1890s. Highlights include drafts of

Patterson's memoirs, featuring a chapter on Seton and the events that inspired Seton's book *Wild Animals I Have Known* (1898) and including rewrites by someone identified only as "Moore," letters from Seton and L. V. F. Randolph, annotated copies of Seton's books, and photographs of Patterson at various points in his life.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged according to form or genre.

Collection Contents**Letters, 1893-1948***4 Folders*

| | | |
|------------|---|-----------|
| b. 1, f. 1 | L. V. F. Randolph to Stuart Hayt Patterson | 1893-1894 |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Ernest Thompson Seton to Stuart Hayt Patterson | 1894-1943 |
| b. 1, f. 3 | Ernest Thompson Seton to Helen M. Patterson (photostat) | 1940 |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Julia M. Seton to Stuart Hayt Patterson (photocopies) | 1946-1948 |

Memoirs, circa 1950

9 Folders

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| b. 1, f. 5-9 | "S. H. P.'s Rough Draft (Part 2)" |
| b. 1, f. 10-11 | "Moore's final rewrite of 1st part" |
| b. 1, f. 12-13 | "[Moore's final rewrite] of 2nd part" |

Photographs, circa 1880s-1900, undated*4 Folders*

| | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|
| b. 1, f. 14 | Portraits of Stuart Hayt Patterson as a boy and young man (including 1 carte de visite and 2 cabinet cards) | circa 1880s |
| b. 1, f. 15 | Portraits of Stuart Hayt Patterson on horseback See also Portraits of Stuart Hayt Patterson on horseback | 1892-1893 |
| b. 1, f. 16 | Studio portrait of Stuart Hayt Patterson | circa 1900 |
| b. 1, f. 17 | Snapshots of Stuart Hayt Patterson and Hayt Homestead in Patterson, New Jersey | |
| | Photograph of Tetons by Stuart Hayt Patterson See: Photograph of Tetons by Stuart Hayt Patterson | |

Other Papers, 1922-1963*7 Folders*

| | | |
|-------------|--|---------------|
| b. 1, f. 18 | Printed material relating to Ernest Thompson Seton | 1922, undated |
| b. 1, f. 19 | Clippings about Ernest Thompson Seton | circa 1946 |
| b. 1, f. 20 | Printed material relating to Stuart Hayt Patterson | 1941 |
| b. 1, f. 21 | Notes about Stuart Hayt Patterson | |
| b. 1, f. 22 | Clippings | 1962-1963 |
| b. 1, f. 23 | Copy of Virginia H. Patterson's Will | |
| b. 1, f. 24 | Photocopies of material relating to collection | |

Books by Ernest Thompson Seton, 1898-1943*3 Folders*

| | | |
|-------------|---|------|
| b. 2, f. 25 | <i>The Preacher of Cedar Mountain</i> , inscribed to Patterson by Seton | 1943 |
| b. 2, f. 26 | <i>Trail of an Artist-Naturalist</i> , including letters from Seton and a typescript account by Patterson of his acquaintance with Seton attached to the frontispiece and endpapers | 1940 |
| b. 2, f. 27 | <i>Wild Animals I Have Known</i> , including a handwritten account by Patterson on front endpapers | 1898 |

Oversize

b. 3, f. 28 Portraits of Stuart Hayt Patterson on horseback

b. 3, f. 29 Photograph of Tetons by Stuart Hayt Patterson

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Ranchers -- New Mexico -- 19th century
Ranching -- New Mexico -- 19th century

Geographic Names

New Mexico

Genres / Formats

Memoirs
Photographs

Names

Patterson, Stuart Hayt
Randolph, L. V. F. (Lewis Van Syckel Fitz),
1838-1921
Seton, Ernest Thompson, 1860-1946
Seton, Julia M. (Julia Moss), 1889-1975