



Crawford Family collection

NUMBER: 78-71

TITLE: Crawford Family collection

CREATOR: James Harvey Crawford, John D. Crawford, Lulie Crawford Pritchett, Lulita Pritchett

DATES: 1906-1981

MEDIA: Papers

LOCATION: Collection Facility, Sec D1, Shelf 3

ACCESS RESTRICTIONS: Collection is open for Research and Use. Permission to publish material must be obtained from Tread of Pioneers Museum, Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

PREFERRED CITATION: Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: The Crawford Family collection: Tread of Pioneers Museum, Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

ACQUISITION INFORMATION: The Crawford Family collection was donated to the Tread of Pioneers Museum from various family members.

PROCESSING INFORMATION: The processing, arrangement, and description of the collection was completed in 2005 by curator Kelly Bastone and updated in 2018 by curator Katie Adams.

BIOGRAPHY:

The Crawfords are Steamboat Springs' founding family. James Harvey Crawford was born in Pettis County, Missouri, in 1845. At 16 he enlisted and fought as a cavalryman in the Civil War. Crawford, along with wife Margaret and four children (Lulie, Logan, John Daniel, and Mary Beulah) came to this area in 1873. Crawford completed the survey to establish a town site, and in 1875 five cabins were erected and the area since known as Steamboat Springs. Crawford was appointed by Governor Routt as the first county judge, then superintendent of schools. He was the first postmaster of Steamboat Springs, as well as the first president of the Routt County Pioneer Association. Maggie Crawford was instrumental in building the first church in Steamboat Springs: completed in 1884, the Union Church was open to all denominations. The family built a succession of cabins; then in 1894, they completed a grand stone house on what has become known as Crawford Hill. Lulie Crawford enjoyed painting and drawing (the museum's collection includes many of her pieces), and J.D. Crawford was County Clerk and Recorder from at least 1918-1942. Lulie's daughter Lulita wrote several books, including *The Cabin at Medicine Springs*, which tell the stories of her mother's pioneer childhood.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF COLLECTION:

The papers are both professional and personal in nature, concerning land transactions, elections, social gatherings, and civic involvement.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COLLECTION:

The Crawford Family collection is organized by type of material.

| Box | Folder | File Title | Dates |
|------------------|--------|---|----------------|
| 1 | 1 | Invitations | 1884-1915 |
| | 2 | Title abstract | 1945 |
| | 3 | Bath house permits (78.71.55a-c) | 1910 |
| | 4 | Personal cards and letters (77.91.17, 66.33.21) | 1932-1981 |
| | 5 | Civic documents of J.D. Crawford (78.71.41&43) | 1906-1917 |
| | 6 | Local history research, Lulita Crawford Pritchett | |
| | 7 | Personal correspondence, Lulita Pritchett | 1961-1975 |
| | 8 | J.R. Cruse essay on Lulita Pritchett, correspondence | 1951-1978 |
| | 9 | Story, Crawford organ by Lulie (typed 9 pages) | |
| | 10 | J.H.C. " Steamboat Springs Co. Stock Certificate" | Sept. 27 ,1884 |
| | 11 | Story, "The Indian Scare" (handwritten 5 pages) | |
| | 12 | Last Will & Testament: James H. Crawford | Nov. 21 ,1928 |
| Oversize Box 1,2 | | War Saver certificate, signed Clarence Light (78.71.42) | |
| | | Routt County board appointment (78.71.44) | 1917 |
| | | Election certificates, J.D. Crawford (78.71.45) | 1918-1942 |
| | | Election documents, J.D. Crawford/H. Lines (66.101.1-4) | 1933 |
| | | Diploma certificate, Mary Crawford (T375,78.71.63) | 1897-1901 |