

Kevin M. Britz Papers

5021

Finding aid prepared by Hannah Marshall Bawden

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center
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Summary Information

Repository	Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center
Creator	Britz, Kevin M., Professor
Creator	Deadwood Chamber of Commerce.
Title	Kevin M. Britz Papers
Date	1995-2006
Extent	4.0 Linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	<p>The Kevin M. Britz Papers includes the lecture notes, essays, Masters thesis, and Ph.D. Dissertation created by Professor Britz and the copious amounts of copied records he obtained while doing his research for a book focused on Western towns and tourism. Britz's writing revolved around three separate Western communities, Deadwood, South Dakota, Tombstone, Arizona, and Dodge City, Kansas, with a large portion of the materials focused on Deadwood's Days of '76 Celebration. While the bulk of the collection is copies of research materials from the late 19th century through the mid 20th century, all of Britz's work was created between 1995 and 2006.</p>

Biographical/Historical Note

Kevin M. Britz was born on May 1, 1954, at Langley Airforce Base in Virginia. He graduated with a bachelor of arts in history from Knox College in Illinois in 1976 and returned to school, earning an M.A. in history from the University of Arizona in 1986.

Britz worked in museums and as a consultant for historic sites in several states including Minnesota, Arizona, and Oregon while also working on a Ph.D. in U.S. History which he received in 1999 from the University of Arizona. Britz's dissertation focused on tourism in Western towns.

After earning his Ph.D., Britz continued to work in the museum field while also holding teaching positions at Kenyon College, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Oregon. In 2008, he was named director of the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. Britz continued to work on his research regarding tourism in western towns with the intent of publishing a book on the subject of how people commemorate their lives and country by creating myths.

In 2011 Britz passed away after a year-long battle with cancer. His book, *Tombstone, Deadwood, and Dodge City Re-Creating the Frontier West* was completed by historian Rogers L. Nichols and published post-humously in December 2018.

Scope and Contents Note

This collection includes copies of published works, correspondence, oral history transcripts, lecture notes, newspaper clippings, and business brochures. All materials focus on the towns of Deadwood, South Dakota, Tombstone, Arizona, and Dodge City, Kansas.

Arrangement Note

This collection has been arranged into five series. The first series consists of all materials related to college courses and workshops taught by Britz. Also found in this series is information about his doctoral degree from the University of Arizona.

The final four series consist of the themes Britz identified for his book, and original order was maintained within these themes as much as possible. The series are Heroes, Setting, Literature, and Tourism.

Please see box list for more information.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is housed at the Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center with no restrictions to access. The collection may be utilized during normal operating hours or by appointment. Some materials cannot be reproduced by Deadwood History, Inc.

Provenance

The archival collection of Kevin Britz was acquired by Deadwood History, Inc. by donation in 2017.

Accruals note

In June 2021, Kate Britz brought in Kevin M. Britz last book published post-humously in December 2018, *Tombstone, Deadwood, and Dodge City Re-Creating the Frontier West* was completed by historian Rogers L. Nichols.

The book can be found in the Homestake Adams Research and Cultural Center in the William D. Haas Resource Library.

Processing Information

This collection was processed August 2019 by Hannah Marshall Bawden.

Existence and Location of Originals note

Most of the items in this collection are copies from files at several research repositories and libraries as well as copies of published materials.

Collection Inventory

Lectures, College Courses, Dissertation and Ph.D Information 1888-2005 (Bulk, 1920-1997)		
	Box	Folder
History 106 Syllabus & Final Exam Questions, 1995	1	1
History 106 Lectures 1-21, 1995	1	2-6
Anthropology 450 The Anthropology Museum, Undated	1	7
History 466/566 The American West, 2001	1	8
History 473 Environmental History of the American West, 2003	1	9
History 410 Syllabus and Final Exam, 2003	1	10
History 410 Lecture 1 Western Myth, 2003	1	11
History 410 Lecture 2 Folklore, 2003	1	12
History 410 Lecture 3 Frontier Literature, 2003	1	13
History 410 Lecture 4 Western Literature, 2003	1	14
History 410 Lecture 4 Manifest Design, Undated	1	15

Lectures, College Courses, Dissertation and Ph.D Information

History 410 Lecture 5 Oregon Trail, 2003	1	16
History 410 Lecture 6 Railroads, 2003	1	17
History 410 Lecture 6 Silent Movies, 2003	1	18
History 410 Lecture 7 Mining, 2003	1	19
History 410 Lecture 8 Cattle, 2003	1	20
History 410 Lecture 9 Farming, 2003	1	21
History 410 Lecture 10 Community, 2003	1	22
History 410 Lecture 11 John Wesley Powell, 2003	1	23
History 410 Lecture Indian Conquest, 2003	1	24
History 410 Lecture 14 Violence, undated	1	25
History 410 Lecture 15 Dime Novels, 2003	1	26
History 410 Lecture 18 Tourism, 2003	1	27
History 410 Lecture 18 Frederick Jackson Turner, 2003	1	28
AMST 383-384 Museums and Memory: WWII Era, 2004	1	29

Lectures, College Courses, Dissertation and Ph.D Information

Summer History Teacher Workshop: Memory & Recollection WWII, 2005	1	30
High Desert Museum in Bend Oregon, 2000s	1	31
Grants, 1996	1	32
Chapter Five: Roadside Attractions, undated	1	33
Virtual Tombstone, undated	1	34
University of Arizona Doctoral Information, 1998-1992	1	36-38
Inventing the Wild West: Memory & Authenticity in Dodge City, Tombstone and Deadwood, 1999	1	39-40
Britz Notebook, undated	1	41
Outline Reports, 1998	1	48
Article References to Look Up, 1999	1	49
History Research Centers, 1998-2001	1	50
Deadwood Research and Correspondence, 1998-2000	1	51
Arizona State University Research and Correspondence, 1999	1	52

Hereos

Denver Public Library Research and Correspondence, 1996	1	53
Undermining Nature: Machine Ideology & Tombstone Consolidated 1901-1911, undated	1	35
Tombstone Research and Correspondence, 1997-1999	1	54-57
		Box
Dissertation Note Cards, 1998-1999		1

Hereos

	Box	Folder
Deadwood Hereos- General, 1929-1940	2	1
Calamity Jane, 1927-1997	2	2
Jean Hickok McCormick- Daughter of Calamity Jane and Wild Bill Hickok, 1930s	2	3
Don Clowser, 1992	2	4
Deadwood Dick, 1932-1966	2	5
Poker Alice, 1930	2	6
Potato Creek Johnny, 1941	2	7

Setting

Wild Bill Hickok, 1932-1996	2	8
E.L. Senn Deadwood's Forgotten Fiery Crusader, 1997	2	9
Ben Hodges, 1965	2	10
Wyatt Earp, 1890s-1960s	2	11
Doc Holliday, undated	2	12
Alfred Henry Lewis, 1905-1936	2	13
George Whitwell Parsons, 1939	2	14
Harold O. Love, 1973-1986	2	15
Tombstone Library Oral Histories, 1981-1982	2	16-17
Bat Masterson, 1921-1968	2	18
Ned Buntline, 1952	2	19
Setting		
	Box	Folder
Dime Novels, 1929-1999	2	20

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Dime Novels set in Tombstone, undated	2	21
Deadwood- Recollections, 1923-1939	2	22
Dodge City - Recollections, 1930-1955	2	23
Tombstone- Recollections of Ed Schieffelin and Richard Gird, 1979	2	24
Deadwood and the Black Hills Articles, 1882	2	25-27
Dodge City Articles, 1920-1986	2	28
Tombstone Articles, 1931-1992	2	29
Historical Societies, 1921-1932	2	30
Adams Museum, 1930s	2	31
Boothill Museum, 1930s-1950s	2	32-34
Boot Hill Museum Financial Crisis, 1994	2	35
Robert Eagen-Boothill Museum, 1965	2	36
Merritt Beeson- Beeson Museum, 1929-1938	2	37
Theda Medigovich- Tombstone Museum, 1979	2	38

Literature

Macia Memorial Museum, 1950s	2	39
Wyatt Earp Museum, 1969	2	40
Literature		
	Box	Folder
The Literary Digest, 1902	2	41
Analysis on Western Fiction, 1926-1990	2	42
Pulp Literature, 1983	3	1
The Wyatt Earp Syndrom, C.L. Sonnichsen, 1970	3	2
Articles on Memory, 1993-1997	3	3
Articles on the Disappearing West, 1916-1946	3	4
Articles on Agriculture, 1981	3	5
Articles on Rodeo, 1996	3	6
Articles on Gambling, 1982	3	7
Articles on Cattlemen, 1936	3	8

Literature

Articles on Frontier Community, 1963	3	9
Articles on Wild West Shows, 1970-1980	3	10
Parades & Power Street Theatre in 19th Century Philadelphia, Susan G. Davis, 1986	3	11
William Macleod Raine Articles, 1927-1940	3	12
Susan Crane Articles, 1996	3	13
Bust & Bust in the Mining West, Eric L. Clements, 1996	3	14
Black Hills Booktrails, J. Leonard Jennwein, 1962	3	15
PA.HA.SA.PAH, Rev. Peter Rosen, 1895	3	16
The Black Hills, Annie D. Tallent, 1899	3	17
Raiding Tradition: A History of Governmental Assaults on Deadwood's Beloved Brothels, Michael S. Trump, 1994	3	18
Pioneer Days in the Black Hills, John S. McClintock, 2000	3	19
Seth Bullock Frontier Marshal, Kenneth C. Kellar, 1972	3	20
Hard Knocks: A Life Story of the Vanishing West, Harry (Sam) Young, 1915	3	21

Tourism

Pioneer Years in the Black Hills, Richard B. Hughes, 1957	3	22
Frontier Days, Judge W.L. Kuykendall, 1917	3	23
40 Years Prospecting and Mining the Black Hills, Frank Herbert, 1921	3	24
The Black Hills Trails, Jesse Brown & A.M. Willard, 1924	3	25
Dodge City the Cowboy Capital and the Great Southwest, Robert M. Wright, 1913	3	26
The Thrilling Story of Boothill, Henry C. Carey, 1939	3	27
Ashes of My Campfire, Heinie Schmidt, 1952	3	28
A Study of Lawlessness & Irrational Violence in the Urban Frontier Community of Tombston 1879, Dorthy Virginia Hershey, 1988	3	29
Pioneer Days in Arizona, Frank C. Lockwood, 1932	3	30
When the West was Young, Frederick R. Bechdolt, 1922	3	31
Owen Wister Out West, 1894	3	32
Articles on Tourism, 1983-1994	3	33

Tourism

Tourism

	Box	Folder
Tourist Expectations of the 1920s-1930s, 1921-1939	3	34
W.P.A. Guides, 1930s	3	35
Markers and Monuments, 1910s-1970s	3	36
Razing Landmarks, 1949	3	37
Deadwood- Tourism, 1927-1949	3	38
Dodge City- Tourism, 1953-1970	3	39
Tombstone-Tourism, 1981-1993	3	40
Deadwood-Chamber of Commerce, 1930s-1960s	3	41
Dodge City-Chamber of Commerce, 1952-1967	3	42
Tombstone-Chamber of Commerce, undated	3	43
Resurrected Old West Towns, 1996	3	44
Boosterism, 1910s	3	45
Deadwood-Civic Cleanliness and Pride, 1929	3	46

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Dodge City-Civic Pride, 1950s-1971	3	47
Tombstone-Civic Pride and Reputation, 1930-1934	3	48
Kalamazoo Viewbook Development, 1999	3	49
Preservation Comes of Age, National Historic Trust, 1981	3	50
Deadwood Historic City, 1960s-1970s	3	51
Deadwood Gambling, 1980s	3	52
Deadwood Restoration, 1990s	3	53
Plan for the Interpretation of Deadwood South Dakota, Department of the Interior, 1992	3	54
Deadwood-National Register of Historic Places, 1970s	3	55
Tombstone- National Historic Preservation, 1970s	3	56
Tombstone- National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, 1951-1958	3	57
Historic Tombstone Adventures, 1960s	3	58
Tombstone Restoration, 1950s-1980s	3	59

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Cemeteries, 1920s-1981	3	60-62
Deadwood- Trial of Jack McCall, 1930s	4	1
Trial of Jack McCall Script, undated	4	2
Dodge City- Long Branch Variety Show, 1984	4	3
Tombstone Theatre, 1966	4	4
Tombstone-The Wild Bunch, 1970s	4	5
Total Television, 1991	4	6
Directors' Biographies, undated	4	7
A Guide to Silent Westerns, undated	4	8
Old Tuscan Film Set Fire, 1995	4	9
The Changing Cowboy: From the Dime Novel to Dollar Film, George Bluestone, 1960	4	10
Deadwood Coach and Calamity Jane Movies, 1926-1952	4	11
Wild Bill Movie, 1995	4	12

Tourism

Gunsmoke, 1950s-1960s	4	13
Dodge City Movies, 1927-1959	4	14
Dodge City Wild Bill Hickok Film, 1923-1968	4	15
Santa Fe Trail, 1958	4	16
Trek No. 16 Cheyenne-Deadwood Stage Route, 1964	4	17
Wild Bill Celebration, 1952	4	18
Days of '76 Celebration, 1920-1989	4	19-26
Days of '76 Celebration Financial Analysis, 1942-1958	4	27
Days of '76 Celebration Promtions, undated	4	28
Days of '76 Celebration Misc. Articles, 1920s-1950s	4	29
Days of '76 Celebration, Calvin Coolidge in the Black Hills, 1927	4	30
Days of '76 Celebration and Native Americans, 1930s	4	31
Dodge City Longhorn Drive, 1966	4	32
Dodge City Pioneer Days Pagent, 1928	4	33

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Dodge City 75th Annual Celebration, 1937	4	34
Dodge City Days & Boothill Fiesta, 1950s-1990s	4	35
Dodge City Last Round Up, 1920s	4	36
Wyatt Earp Days, 1980	4	37
Tombstone Helldorado, 1920s-1908s	4	38
Ghosts of Deadwood Gulch, 1959	4	39
Dodge City- Howdy Greeter Guide, 1954	4	40
Dodge City-Cowboy Capital of the World, 1970s-1980s	4	41
Tombstone- Gun Controversy 1996	4	42
Tombstone-Highway Controversey 1962-1963	3	43
Tombstone- Horse Diaper and Safety Concerns, 1995-1996	4	44
Deadwood Brochures and Businesses, 1990s	4	45
Dodge City Brochures and Pamphlets, undated	4	46
Tombstone Panoramic Sketch, 1946	4	47

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Jerome-America's Largest Ghost City, undated

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