

Stephens Mink Ranch Collection

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1927, undated



Title Statement

Stephens Mink Ranch Collection Stephens Mink Ranch Collection, 1927, undated Ms.2024.005

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2024.005

Unit Date

1927, undated

Language

The materials in this collection are in English.

Abstract

The Stephens Mink Ranch Collection contains an informational pamphlet titled "Pen Raising the Mink" by G.S. Stephens along with a 1927 postcard containing information about purchasing a mink from Stephens Mink Farm.

Creator

Stephens Mink Ranch (Wytheville, VA)

Creator

Stephens, G. S. (Garland Sanders), 1904-1998

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Stephens Mink Ranch Collection was purchased by Special Collections and University Archives in December of 2016.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Stephens Mink Ranch Collection was completed in January 2024.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Stephens Mink Ranch Collection, 1927, undated, Ms2024-005, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Administrative History

The Stephens Mink Ranch was operated in Wytheville, Virginia, by G.S. Stephens, the general manager. At one point, the ranch claimed to be the "World's Largest Mink Farm".

Biographical Note

The general manager of the Stephens Mink Ranch was G. S. Stephens. He is likely Garland Sanders Stephens, who is listed as a superintendent of a fur farm in Wytheville, Virginia, on the 1930 U.S. Census.

Stephens was born to Stephen Sanders and Mary Swepson (Pritchard) Stephens on March 8, 1904, in Wythe County. He married Francis Morehead (1908-1977), and they had three daughters: Mary, Helen, and Mildred.

In the 1930 and 1940 censuses, Stephens is listed as operating a farm, presumably the Stephens Mink Ranch. During World War II, he worked at the New River Ordinance Works in Pulaski, which was operating under the U.S. War Department. By the 1950 census, both Garland and Francis were dealing in antiques.

Stephens died on November 13, 1998, and is buried alongside his wife in the Saint Johns Lutheran Church Cemetery Sauers in Wytheville.

External Sources:

U.S. Federal Census, 1910-1950

"Garland Sanders Stephens" in the U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947, Ancestry.com, <https://www.ancestrylibrary.com/discoveryui-content/view/10854863:2238>, accessed January 24, 2024.

"Garland Sanders Stephens" in the Virginia, U.S., Birth Records, 1912-2015, Delayed Birth Records, 1721-1920, Ancestry.com, <https://www.ancestrylibrary.com/discoveryui-content/view/8092128:9277>, accessed January 24, 2024.

"Garland Sanders Stephens", Findagrave.com, <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/38567435/garland-sanders-stephens>, accessed January 24, 2024.

Scope and Content

The Stephens Mink Ranch Collection contains an informational pamphlet titled "Pen Raising the Mink" by G.S. Stephens along with a 1927 postcard containing information about purchasing a mink from Stephens Mink Farm.

Keywords

Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South
Wytheville (Va.)
Pamphlets
Postcards

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Description of Subordinate Components

Pamphlet and Postcard

Unit Date 1927, undated

folder 1