Jane and Michael Stern Collection

NMAH.AC.1392
Vanessa Broussard-Simmons
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collection Overview</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Information</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biographical / Historical</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrangement</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Contents</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Names and Subjects</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Container Listing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series 1: Research Documentation and Writings, 1975-2015, undated</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series 2: Product Cookbooks and Trade Literature, 1890-1993, undated</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series 5: Vintage Postcards, undated</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Collection Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repository:</th>
<th>Archives Center, National Museum of American History</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title:</td>
<td>Jane and Michael Stern Collection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identifier:</td>
<td>NMAH.AC.1392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>1890-2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent:</td>
<td>17 Cubic feet (41 boxes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creator:</td>
<td>Stern, Michael, 1946-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stern, Jane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language:</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summary:</td>
<td>Collection documents Jane and Michael Stern's travels across the United States collecting data for their books on American material culture subjects, with particular emphasis on food and dining.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Content:</td>
<td>Image(s): Jane and Michael Stern Collection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

### Processing Information
Collection processed by Sarah Gediman, intern, 2019; Julia Gibson, intern, 2019; Savannah Hildre, intern, 2019; and Lauren Janik, intern, 2019; supervised by Vanessa Broussard-Simmons, Supervisory Archivist, 2019.

### Preferred Citation

### Restrictions
Collection is open for research.

### Conditions Governing Use
Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.
Biographical / Historical

Jane Grossman Stern (1946-) and Michael Stern (1946-) are American writers best known for their popular series of books titled Roadfood. These publications provided recommendations of restaurants, truck stops, diners, delis, bakeries, and other food-related establishments in the United States who served classic American regional specialties. The Sterns are also authors of books about American material culture subjects including truckers, cowboys, kitsch, and dog shows. They have been guests on public radio, contributors to magazine columns, and have won numerous awards for their work.

Scope and Contents

Collection primarily consists of the raw materials amassed by Jane and Michael Stern as they traveled the United States, researching for their books on American material culture subjects, with particular emphasis on food and dining. These materials include writings and notes from their various stops while traveling; photographs and slides of places they visited; vintage postcards collected in their travels; paper ephemera such as take-out menus, placemats, etc.; large quantities of trade literature such as product cookbooks (some dating back to the 1920s), food packaging and brochures on food related subjects, under headings such as "Meat, Fish, Game", "Parties, Etiquette, How-To", "Baking" and numerous others; trade literature on other material culture subjects the Sterns wrote books about with headings which include Rodeo, Cowboys, Indians" and many others; correspondence; business records, articles, and clippings. The collection is arranged into five series: Series 1, Research Documentation and Writings, 1975-2015, undated; Series 2, Product Cookbooks, and Trade Literature, 1890-1993, undated; Series 3, Photographic Materials, 1947-2008, undated; Series 4, Subject Files, 1910-1995; and Series 5, Vintage Postcards, undated.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged into five series:

Series 1, Research Documentation and Writings, 1975-2015, undated
Series 2, Product Cookbooks, and Trade Literature, 1890-1993, undated
Subseries 3.1, Photographs, 1947-2002, undated
Subseries 3.2, Slides and Transparencies, 1965-2008, undated
Series 4, Subject Files, 1910-1995
Series 5, Vintage Postcards, undated

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:
Subjects:
Automobile travel -- United States
Bakeries -- United States
Cowboys -- United States
Delicatessens -- United States
Diners -- United States
Dining
Dog shows -- United States
Food -- United States
Kitsch -- United States
Local foods -- United States
Material culture -- United States
Restaurants -- United States
Roads -- United States
Rodeos -- United States
Truck drivers -- United States
Truck stops -- United States

Types of Materials:
Articles -- 20th century
Articles -- 21st century
Brochures -- 20th century
Brochures -- 21st century
Business records -- 20th century
Cookbooks -- 20th century
Cookbooks -- 21st century
Correspondence -- 20th century
Correspondence -- 21st century
Ephemera -- 20th century
Ephemera -- 21st century
Menus -- 20th century
Menus -- 21st century
Notes -- 20th century
Postcards -- 20th century -- United States
Slides (photographs) -- 20th century
Trade literature
Writings
Container Listing

Series 1: Research Documentation and Writings, 1975-2015, undated
Documents the Stern's research and travel across the United States for their publications. Materials primarily consist of correspondence, notes, calendars, subject files, and travel files organized by states. There are drafts of writings including introductions and materials relating to the promotion and sale of their books. In addition, there are materials relating to Jane Stern's 2003 published memoir Ambulance Girl: How I Saved Myself by Becoming an EMT which describes her struggle with severe clinical depression.

Box 1, Folder 1  Correspondence and poetry, Jack Hamilton, undated
Box 1, Folder 2  Correspondence, Apache Bill, undated
Box 1, Folder 3  Correspondence, Henry P. Joyce, 1975
Box 1, Folder 4  Correspondence, general, undated
Box 15, Folder 1  Correspondence, Belva G. Lowery from Nebraska, 1992
Box 1, Folder 5  Ambulance Girl movie materials, 2005
Box 1, Folder 6  Correspondence, general, 2005
Box 29, Folder 54  Ambulance Girl movie materials, 2006
Box 1, Folder 7  Notes from roadtrips, undated
Box 1, Folder 8  Notes from roadtrips, undated
Box 1, Folder 9  Notes from roadtrip, undated
Box 40, Folder 11  Notes from road trips, undated
Box 2, Folder 1  Notebook, 2009
Box 2, Folder 2  Calendar, 1975-1976
Box 2, Folder 3  Calendar, 1977
Box 2, Folder 4  Calendar, 1978
Box 2, Folder 5  Calendar, 1979
Box 2, Folder 27  Calendar, 2001
Box 2, Folder 28  Calendar, 2002
Box 2, Folder 29  Calendar, 2003
Box 2, Folder 30  Calendar, 2004
Box 2, Folder 31  Calendar, 2005
Box 2, Folder 32  Calendar, 2006
Box 2, Folder 33  Calendar, 2007
Box 2, Folder 34  Calendar, 2008
Box 2, Folder 35  Calendar, 2009
Box 2, Folder 36  Calendar, 2010
Box 3, Folder 1  Calendar, 2011
Box 3, Folder 2  Calendar, 2012
Box 3, Folder 3  Calendar, 2013
Box 3, Folder 4  Calendar, 2014
Box 3, Folder 5  Calendar, 2015
Box 3, Folder 6  Horses, 1994
Box 41, Folder 3  Charles Weldon poster, undated
Box 3, Folder 7  Michael Stern T-Boy, 2004
Box 3, Folder 8  Travel file, Nebraska and Colorado, 2007
Box 3, Folder 9  Travel file, Springfield, Illinois, 2008
Box 3, Folder 10  Travel file, Texas, 2008
Box 3, Folder 11  Travel file, Michigan, 2008
Box 3, Folder 12  Travel file, South Carolina and Georgia, 2008
Box 3, Folder 13  Travel file, New Orleans, Louisiana, 2008
Box 3, Folder 14  Travel file, Cleveland, Ohio, 2008
Box 3, Folder 15  Travel file, Virginia and North Carolina, 2008
Box 3, Folder 16  Travel file, Texas, 2008
Box 3, Folder 17  Travel file, Louisiana Boudin, 2009
Image(s): Louisiana Boudin
Box 3, Folder 18  Travel file, Charleston, South Carolina, 2009
Box 3, Folder 19  Travel file, Maine, 2009
Box 3, Folder 20  Travel file, Buffalo, New York, 2009
Image(s): Buffalo, New York
Box 3, Folder 21  Travel file, California (Artichoke), 2009
Box 3, Folder 22  Travel file, Virginia and Delaware, 2010
Box 3, Folder 23  Travel file, Arkansas, 2010
Box 3, Folder 24  Travel file, California, 2010
Box 3, Folder 25  Travel file, Ohio, 2010
Box 3, Folder 26  Travel file, San Antonio, Texas, 2010
Box 3, Folder 27  Travel file, Charleston, South Carolina, 2010
Box 3, Folder 28  Travel file, Fall River, Massachusetts, 2010
Box 3, Folder 29  Travel file, New Mexico, 2010
Box 3, Folder 30  Travel file, Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas, 2010
Box 3, Folder 31  Travel file, Atlanta, Georgia, 2010
Image(s): Atlanta, Georgia

Box 3, Folder 32  Travel file, St. Augustine, Florida, undated

Box 3, Folder 33  Philly cheese steaks, undated

Box 3, Folder 34  Travel file, Rhode Island, undated
Image(s): Rhode Island

Box 29, Folder 53  Chile certificate for Michael Stern, 1991

Box 14, Folder 1  American Mustang and Burro Association, 1992

Box 40, Folder 1  American Stone Trade, undated

Box 14, Folder 2  Boots, undated

Box 14, Folder 3  Brands, undated

Box 14, Folder 4  Buckskin, undated

Box 14, Folder 5  Buffalo, undated

Box 14, Folder 6  Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show, Euro Disney, 1992

Box 14, Folder 7  Cactus, 1973-1991

Box 14, Folder 8  Casey Tibbs, undated

Box 14, Folder 9  Cheerios product packaging and printed advertisements, 1940-1950

Box 14, Folder 10  Cheyenne, undated

Box 14, Folder 11  Cheyenne Frontier Park, undated

Box 14, Folder 12  Chinks, 1992

Box 14, Folder 13  Comanche by David Dory, 1976

Box 14, Folder 14  Cowboy Way, The, 1992

Box 40, Folder 4  Cowboy Way, The, undated
Box 14, Folder 15  Cowboy Way Philosophy, 1950-1992
Box 41, Folder 4  Cowboy Joe coloring book, 1951
Box 14, Folder 16  Coyote, undated
Box 14, Folder 17  Creepy Snakes, Lizards and Horned Toad, 1990-1992
Box 14, Folder 18  Critters, undated
Box 14, Folder 19  End of the Trail, undated
Box 14, Folder 20  Fashion plates, undated
Box 14, Folder 21  Gary Leffew, undated
Box 14, Folder 22  Gene A text, undated
Box 14, Folder 23  General introduction for publication, 1992
Box 14, Folder 24  Guns, undated
Box 14, Folder 25  Hats, undated
Box 14, Folder 26  Hoppy, 1950
Box 14, Folder 27  Indian style text for publication, undated
Box 14, Folder 28  Indians, undated
Box 14, Folder 29  In-house publications that might be of interest, 1924
Box 14, Folder 30  Introduction for Critter publication, 1991
Box 14, Folder 31  Introduction for Road publication, undated
Box 14, Folder 32  Jewelry, undated
Box 14, Folder 33  Jim Shoulders, undated
Box 14, Folder 34  John Wayne, 1950-1992
Box 14, Folder 35  Larry Mahan, 1968
Box 15, Folder 2  Manuel, 1922-1989
Box 15, Folder 3  Millicent Rogers, 1992-1993
Box 15, Folder 4  Miss Rodeo America, 1991-1992
Box 15, Folder 5  Motels, 1993
Box 15, Folder 6  Natural Wonders, undated
Box 15, Folder 7  New York Times art, 1992
Box 15, Folder 8  Playboy Magazine, 1973
Box 15, Folder 9  Prescott Frontier Days, 1991-1992
Box 15, Folder 10  Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association, undated
Box 15, Folder 11  Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, undated
Box 15, Folder 12  Ranch Life, 1949-1991
Box 15, Folder 13  The Road, undated
Box 15, Folder 14  Roadrunners, 1984
Box 15, Folder 15  Route 66, 1992
Box 15, Folder 16  Scenery, undated
Box 15, Folder 17  Senior Rodeo, undated
Box 15, Folder 18  Sidekick, 1950
Box 15, Folder 25  Sights, undated
Box 27, Folder 7  Stern book promotion, undated
Box 15, Folder 19  Sun Trails Magazine, 1953
Box 15, Folder 20  Tequila, undated
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 15, Folder 21</th>
<th>Trader Fred, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 15, Folder 22</td>
<td>Trading posts, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 15, Folder 23</td>
<td>Trigger, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 15, Folder 24</td>
<td>Well-dressed horse, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Series 2: Product Cookbooks and Trade Literature, 1890-1993, undated

Contain materials collected by the Sterns relating to the products and food subjects that they were interested in. The subjects of the material were created by the Sterns. Materials are arranged in alphabetical order by subject.

Box 41, Folder 1-2  Advertising fans, undated

Box 4, Folder 1  Appliances, 1920s

Box 4, Folder 2  Appliances, 1930s

Box 4, Folder 3  Appliances, 1930s

Box 4, Folder 4  Appliances, 1930s

Box 4, Folder 5  Appliances, 1940s

Box 4, Folder 6  Appliances, 1940s

Box 4, Folder 7  Appliances, 1950s

Box 5, Folder 1  Appliances, 1960s

Box 5, Folder 2  Appliances, 1970-1980

Box 5, Folder 3  Appliances, undated

Box 5, Folder 4  Appliances, undated

Box 5, Folder 5  Appliances, undated

Box 5, Folder 6  Baking, circa 1890-1910

Box 6, Folder 1  Baking, 1920s

Box 6, Folder 2  Baking, 1930s

Box 6, Folder 3  Baking, 1930s

Box 6, Folder 4  Baking, 1940s

Box 6, Folder 5  Baking, 1940s
Box 6, Folder 6  Baking, 1950s
Image(s)

Box 6, Folder 7  Baking, 1950s

Box 7, Folder 1  Baking, 1960-1980

Box 7, Folder 2  Baking, undated

Box 7, Folder 3  Baking, undated

Box 7, Folder 4  Baking, undated
Image(s)

Box 7, Folder 5  Baking, undated

Box 8, Folder 1  Celebrities, television, radio, and frozen food, 1930s

Box 8, Folder 2  Celebrities, television, radio, and frozen food, 1940-1950

Box 8, Folder 3  Celebrities, television, radio, and frozen food, 1960-1970

Box 8, Folder 4  Celebrities, television, radio, and frozen food, undated

Box 8, Folder 5  Fruits, vegetables, nuts, 1920s

Box 8, Folder 6  Fruits, vegetables, nuts, 1930s

Box 8, Folder 7  Fruits, vegetables, nuts, 1930s

Box 8, Folder 8  Fruits, vegetables, nuts, 1950s

Box 8, Folder 9  Fruits, vegetables, nuts, 1970s

Box 9, Folder 1  Fruits, vegetables, nuts, undated

Box 9, Folder 2  Health and diet, undated

Box 9, Folder 3  Meat, fish, and game, 1920s

Box 9, Folder 4  Meat, fish, and game, 1930s

Box 9, Folder 5  Meat, fish, and game, 1940s
Box 9, Folder 6  Meat, fish, and game, 1950s
Box 9, Folder 7  Meat, fish, and game, 1960-1970
Box 10, Folder 1  Meat, fish, and game, undated
Box 10, Folder 2  Meat, fish, and game, undated
Box 10, Folder 3  Parties, etiquette, and how to, 1920-1940
Box 10, Folder 4  Parties, etiquette, and how to, 1950s
Box 10, Folder 5  Parties, etiquette, and how to, 1960-1970
Box 11, Folder 1  Parties, etiquette, and how to, undated
Box 11, Folder 2  Products, 1900-1920
Box 11, Folder 3  Products, 1930s
Box 11, Folder 4  Products, 1930s
Box 11, Folder 5  Products, 1930s
Box 11, Folder 6  Products, 1940s
Box 12, Folder 1  Products, 1950s
Box 12, Folder 2  Products, 1960s
Box 12, Folder 3  Products, 1970s
Box 12, Folder 4  Products, undated
Box 12, Folder 5  Products, undated
Box 40, Folder 8  Jane Russell in Underwater, undated
Box 12, Folder 6  Suburban, outdoor, and how to, 1930-1940
Box 13, Folder 1  Suburban, outdoor, and how to, 1950s
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 13, Folder 2</th>
<th>Suburban, outdoor, and how to, 1960s</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 13, Folder 3</td>
<td>Suburban, outdoor, and how to, 1970-1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13, Folder 4</td>
<td>Suburban, outdoor, and how to, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13, Folder 5</td>
<td>War, The, 1941-1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13, Folder 6</td>
<td>War, The, 1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13, Folder 7</td>
<td>War, The, 1944-1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 13, Folder 8</td>
<td>War, The, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Return to Table of Contents*
Series 5: Vintage Postcards, undated

Include materials collected by the Sterns and maintained as a group. Many of the subjects overlap with the interests found in other parts of the collection. Materials are arranged in alphabetical order.

Box 25, Folder 1  Animals, undated
Box 25, Folder 2  Art, undated
Box 25, Folder 3  Cacti, undated
Box 25, Folder 4  Cartoons and caricatures, undated
Box 25, Folder 5  Celebrities, undated
Box 25, Folder 6  Cowboys, undated
Box 26, Folder 1  Dinosaurs, undated
Box 26, Folder 2  Elvis Presley, undated
Box 26, Folder 3  Food, undated
Box 26, Folder 4  Home and garden, undated
Box 26, Folder 5  Hotels and motels, undated
Box 26, Folder 6  International, undated
Box 26, Folder 7  Miscellaneous, undated
Box 26, Folder 8  Music, undated
Box 26, Folder 9  Native American themes, undated
Box 26, Folder 10  Nudism, undated
Box 26, Folder 11  Parrots, undated
Box 27, Folder 1  Pin-up girls, undated
Box 27, Folder 2  Politics, undated
Box 27, Folder 3  Product advertisements, undated
Box 27, Folder 4  Religion, undated
Box 27, Folder 5  Restaurants, undated
Box 27, Folder 6  States and cities, undated
Box 27, Folder 8  Stores, undated
Box 27, Folder 9  Transportation and Route 66, undated
Box 27, Folder 10  World's Fair, undated

Return to Table of Contents