



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Jane and Michael Stern Collection

NMAH.AC.1392

Vanessa Broussard Simmons

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Jane and Michael Stern Collection
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.1392
Date:	1890-2008
Extent:	17 Cubic feet (41 boxes)
Creator:	Stern, Michael, 1946- Stern, Jane
Language:	English Collection is in English.
Summary:	The 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.
Digital Content:	Image(s): Jane and Michael Stern Collection

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Collection donated by Jane and Michael Stern, 2016.

Related Materials

Archives Center Business Americana Collection, dates

Archives Center Cookbook Collection, dates

Carolyn and Donald Grepke Paper Doll Collection, dates

Warshaew Collection of Buiness Americana, dates

Processing Information

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

Preferred Citation

Jane and Michael Stern Collection, circa. 1920-2015, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

The Sterns are authors who compiled a popular series of books called Roadfood, in which they provide recommendations of restaurants, truck stops, diners, delis, bakeries and other food-related establishments in each United States. state serving classic American regional specialties. They are also authors of books about other American material culture subjects including truckers, cowboys, kitsch, and dog shows. They are frequent guests on public radio, and are regular contributors to magazine columns.

Scope and Contents

The 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, jottings 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.

Arrangement

Series 1: Research Documentation, 1975-2015, undated

Series 2: Product Cookbooks, and Trade Literature, 1890-1993, undated

Series 3: Photographs, Slides, and Transparencies, 1947-2008, 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, 1975-2015, undated

Includes material created while travelling or conducting research. The materials are organized by type. Starts with correspondence, travel notes, calendars and travel files by state. Date from 1975-2015., notes while travelling, and correspondence. Materials are arranged by type.

Box 1, Folder 1	Jack Hamilton correspondence and poetry, undated
Box 1, Folder 2	Apache Bill correspondence, undated
Box 1, Folder 3	Henry P. Joyce correspondence, 1975
Box 1, Folder 4	General correspondence , undated
Box 15, Folder 1	correspondence from Belva G. Lowery from Nebraska, 1992
Box 1, Folder 5	Ambulance Girl movie materials, 2005
Box 29, Folder 54	Ambulance Girl movie materials, 2006
Box 1, Folder 6	General correspondence, 2005
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 6	Calendar, 1980

Box 2, Folder 7	Calendar, 1981
Box 2, Folder 8	Calendar, 1982
Box 2, Folder 9	Calendar, 1983
Box 2, Folder 10	Calendar, 1984
Box 2, Folder 11	Calendar, 1985
Box 2, Folder 12	Calendar, 1986
Box 2, Folder 13	Calendar, 1987
Box 2, Folder 14	Calendar, 1988
Box 2, Folder 15	Calendar, 1989
Box 2, Folder 16	Calendar, 1990
Box 2, Folder 17	Calendar, 1991
Box 2, Folder 18	Calendar, 1992
Box 2, Folder 19	Calendar, 1993
Box 2, Folder 20	Calendar, 1994
Box 2, Folder 21	Calendar, 1995
Box 2, Folder 22	Calendar, 1996
Box 2, Folder 23	Calendar, 1997
Box 2, Folder 24	Calendar, 1998
Box 2, Folder 25	Calendar, 1999
Box 2, Folder 26	Calendar, 2000
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	Nebraska and Colorado, 2007
Box 3, Folder 9	Springfield, Illinois, 2008
Box 3, Folder 10	Texas, 2008
Box 3, Folder 11	Michigan, 2008
Box 3, Folder 12	South Carolina and Georgia, 2008

Box 3, Folder 13	New Orleans, Louisiana, 2008
Box 3, Folder 14	Cleveland, Ohio, 2008
Box 3, Folder 15	Virginia and North Carolina, 2008
Box 3, Folder 16	Texas, 2008
Box 3, Folder 17	Louisiana Boudin, 2009 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 18	Charleston, South Carolina, 2009
Box 3, Folder 19	Maine, 2009
Box 3, Folder 20	Buffalo, New York, 2009 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 21	California (Artichoke), 2009
Box 3, Folder 22	Virginia and Delaware, 2010
Box 3, Folder 23	Arkansas, 2010
Box 3, Folder 24	California, 2010
Box 3, Folder 25	Ohio, 2010
Box 3, Folder 26	San Antonio, Texas, 2010
Box 3, Folder 27	Charleston, South Carolina, 2010
Box 3, Folder 28	Fall River, Massachusetts, 2010
Box 3, Folder 29	New Mexico, 2010
Box 3, Folder 30	Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas, 2010
Box 3, Folder 31	Atlanta, Georgia, 2010 Image(s)
Box 3, Folder 32	St. Augustine, Florida, undated

Box 3, Folder 33	Philly cheese steaks, undated
Box 3, Folder 34	Rhode Island, undated Image(s)
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	The Cowboy Way, 1992
Box 40, Folder 4	The Cowboy Way, 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
Box 15, Folder 21	Trader Fred, undated
Box 15, Folder 22	Trading posts, undated

Box 15, Folder 23 Trigger, undated

Box 15, Folder 24 Well-dressed horse, undated

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Series 2: Product Cookbooks, and Trade Literature, 1890-1993, undated

Materials collected by the Sterns relating to food topics that they were interested in.

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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, Frozen Food, 1930s
Box 8, Folder 2	Celebrities, Television-Radio, Frozen Food, 1940-1950
Box 8, Folder 3	Celebrities, Television-Radio, Frozen Food, 1960-1970
Box 8, Folder 4	Celebrities, Television-Radio, Frozen Food, undated
Box 40, Folder 8	Jane Russell in Underwater, 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, Game, 1920s
Box 9, Folder 4	Meat, Fish, Game, 1930s
Box 9, Folder 5	Meat, Fish, Game, 1940s
Box 9, Folder 6	Meat, Fish, Game, 1950s

Box 9, Folder 7	Meat, Fish, Game, 1960-1970
Box 10, Folder 1	Meat, Fish, Game, undated
Box 10, Folder 2	Meat, Fish, Game, undated
Box 10, Folder 3	Parties, Etiquette, How To, 1920-1940
Box 10, Folder 4	Parties, Etiquette, How To, 1950s
Box 10, Folder 5	Parties, Etiquette, How To, 1960-1970
Box 11, Folder 1	Parties, Etiquette, 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
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Box 12, Folder 3	Products, 1970s
Box 12, Folder 4	Products, undated
Box 12, Folder 5	Products, undated
Box 41, Folder 1-2	Advertising fans, undated
Box 12, Folder 6	Suburban, Outdoor, How To, 1930-1940
Box 13, Folder 1	Suburban, Outdoor, How To, 1950s
Box 13, Folder 2	Suburban, Outdoor, How To, 1960s

Box 13, Folder 3	Suburban, Outdoor, How To, 1970-1980
Box 13, Folder 4	Suburban, Outdoor, How To, undated
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Box 13, Folder 6	The War, 1943
Box 13, Folder 7	The War, 1944-1945
Box 13, Folder 8	The War, undated

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Series 3: Photographs, Slides, and Transparencies, 1947-2008, undated

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Box 24, Folder 5	Ant farms, undated
Box 24, Folder 6	Arm wrestling, undated
Box 24, Folder 7	Arrows, undated
Box 24, Folder 8	Artificial glass, undated
Box 24, Folder 9	Artistry in Glitz, Tony Alamo, undated
Box 24, Folder 10	Ash trays, undated
Box 24, Folder 11	Bad taste, 2003, undated
Box 24, Folder 12	Barbie doll, undated
Box 24, Folder 13	Baker, Tommy, undated
Box 24, Folder 14	Baton twirling, undated
Box 24, Folder 15	Beer, undated
Box 24, Folder 16	Bikers, undated
Box 24, Folder 17	Body building, undated
Box 24, Folder 18	Boudoir photography, undated
Box 24, Folder 19	Bouffants, undated
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Box 24, Folder 21	Breast, enormous, undated
Box 24, Folder 22	Bumper stickers, undated

Box 24, Folder 23	Cadillacs, undated
Box 24, Folder 24	Candles, undated
Box 24, Folder 25	Carr, Alan, undated
Box 24, Folder 26	Carvel, Tom, undated
Box 24, Folder 27	Cedar souvenirs, undated
Box 24, Folder 28	Charo, undated
Box 24, Folder 29	Chiefs, undated
Box 24, Folder 30	Chihuahuas, 1969
Box 24, Folder 31	Children's names, undated
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Box 24, Folder 34	Clothing Liberation (book), velvet tapestries, undated
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Box 24, Folder 37	Cowboys, 1947-1962, undated
Box 24, Folder 38	Cowboys, undated
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Box 28, Folder 2	Cowboy culture and the West, undated
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Box 28, Folder 6	Cowgirls, fanclubs, 1993, undated
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Box 28, Folder 10	Death cars of famous people, undated
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Box 28, Folder 16	Elevator shoes, undated
Box 28, Folder 17	Epigraphs, 1972
Box 28, Folder 18	Face lifts, undated
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Box 28, Folder 26	Fingernail extremism, undated
Box 28, Folder 27	Fish sticks, undated
Box 28, Folder 28	Fontainebleau Hotel, undated
Box 28, Folder 29	Forest Lawn Cemetery, undated
Box 28, Folder 30	Frederick's of Hollywood, undated
Box 28, Folder 31	Fuzzy dice, undated
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Box 28, Folder 33	Gags and novelties, undated

Box 28, Folder 34	Hamburger Helper, undated
Box 28, Folder 35	Happy face, undated
Box 28, Folder 36	Heavy metal, undated
Box 28, Folder 37	Hellenic diners, undated
Box 28, Folder 38	Hummel ware, undated
Box 28, Folder 39	Indians, undated
Box 28, Folder 20	Introduction for publication, undated
Box 28, Folder 40	Jell-O, undated
Box 28, Folder 41	Jogging suits, undated
Box 28, Folder 42	Katz, Morris, 1965, 1983
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Box 28, Folder 44	Las Vegas, undated
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Box 28, Folder 47	Liberace, undated
Box 28, Folder 48	Longhorns, undated
Box 28, Folder 21	Longhorns, undated
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Box 29, Folder 3	Macramé, undated
Box 29, Folder 4	Malls, undated

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Box 29, Folder 2	Miscellaneous , undated
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Box 29, Folder 10	Motor homes, campers and trailers, undated
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Box 29, Folder 14	Novelty wrestling, 1986-1987, undated
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Box 29, Folder 17	Parton, Dolly, undated
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Box 29, Folder 20	Polynesian food, undated
Box 29, Folder 21	Poodles, undated
Box 29, Folder 22	Pop topping, undated
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Box 29, Folder 24	Reclining chairs, 1988, 1990
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Box 29, Folder 25	Ronco, undated
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Box 29, Folder 29	Smoky Mountains, undated
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Box 29, Folder 39	Vanity license plates, undated
Box 29, Folder 40	Vans, undated
Box 29, Folder 41	Velvet paintings, undated
Box 29, Folder 42	Water beds, undated

Box 29, Folder 43	Wax museums, undated
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Box 29, Folder 45	Welk, Lawrence, undated
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Box 40, Folder 3	Cowboy culture and the West, undated

Subseries 3.2: Slides and Transparencies, 1965-2008, undated

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Box 30, Folder 2	Pack 2, 1994-2002, undated
Box 30, Folder 3	Pack 3, 1992-2001, undated
Box 30, Folder 4	Pack 4, 2001
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Box 31, Folder 11	Number 6 [Bad taste] and food, undated
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Box 31, Folder 15	Aerosol cheese, 1990
Box 31, Folder 16	Albuquerque, New Mexico, 1992

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Box 32, Folder 6	Bell bottoms, 1990, undated
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Box 32, Folder 8	Blue Willow Inn, 2001-11
Box 32, Folder 9	Body building, 1990-02-05
Box 32, Folder 10	Bones, dinos, and rocks, 1992
Box 32, Folder 11	Bouffants, 1965
Box 32, Folder 12	Bowling, 1992, undated
Box 32, Folder 13	Brands, Cheyenne, 1992
Box 32, Folder 14	Buffalo, undated

Box 32, Folder 15	Buffalo flea market, number 6; and Boxing Hall of Fame, number 154, 1990-06
Box 32, Folder 16	Bulls, Gary Leffew, 1992
Box 32, Folder 17	Bulls, steers, and calves; Cheyenne, 1992
Box 32, Folder 18	Pack C, 1995-2002, undated
Box 32, Folder 19	Cacti, 1992-1993, undated
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Box 32, Folder 22	Carvel, Tom, 1990-03-01
Box 32, Folder 23	Cattle, longhorns, 1992, undated
Box 32, Folder 24	Cedar souvenirs, undated
Box 32, Folder 25	Charo, 1982-1989
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Box 32, Folder 29	Children's names, 1990
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