

An Inventory of the Camp Greeley POW Collection

Repository: University of Northern Colorado, James A. Michener Library, Archival Services

Collection number: SC 86

Title: An Inventory of the Camp Greeley POW Collection

Author: Inventory prepared by Shirley Soenksen on 2009 February 26; revised on 2011 August 29.

Dates: 1998, 2010-2011

Creator or Collector: Hirtens, Helmut; Archival Services staff

Size: 0.1 linear feet

Scope and Content Note:

This collection consists of one letter dated 1998 August 26th from Ruth & H. Hirtens to Mr. & Mrs. Damschroder. In the letter Helmut Hirtens describes his experiences as a German prisoner of war during World War II at Camp Greeley and Camp Gould, both located in Colorado. The majority of the letter deals with his stay at Camp Gould, a branch of Camp Greeley.

Later additions include:

World War II on the Home Front: Prisoner of War Camp 202 Greeley, Colorado several news clippings were added at a later date.

Arrangement (required for multiple level collections):

Series 1: Correspondence

Series 2: Publications

Series 3: Clippings

Biography of Helmut Hirtens:

Helmut Hirtens was a member of the 5th Paratrooper Division in the German Army during World War II. After the "Ardennen Offensive," he was captured by American troops and sent to several camps in France, Camp Chaffee/Arkansas, and arrived in Camp Greeley in April 1945. When Camp Greeley and Gould were closed in December 1945, he was transferred to other destinations in the United States and England. He was released on June 24, 1948.

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research unless restrictions are noted.

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Preferred Citation: [Description of Item], University Manuscripts, SC86, Camp Greeley POW Collection, Archival Services, James A. Michener Library, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado.

Acquisition Information (if applicable):

Correspondence from Helmut Hirtens was received from Dr. Janet E. Worrall on September 27, 2008 at the request of Helmut Hirtens.

Additional materials were collected by Archival Services staff in 2011.

Documentation relating to the acquisition is on file in Archives, RG 13 S1 F1.

Subjects:

Hirtens, Helmut.
Prisoners of war -- United States -- Colorado -- Greeley.
Prisoners of war -- Germany.
World War, 1939-1945 -- Prisoners and prisons, American.
Camp Gould (Gould, Colo.)
Camp Greeley (Greeley, Colo.)
Gould (Colo.) -- History.
Greeley (Colo.) -- History.

Inventory:

Box 1

Folder 0 – Finding Aid Finding Aid

Series 1: Correspondence

Folder 1 – Helmut Hirtens
Letter dated 1998 August 26th from Ruth & H. Hirtens to Mr. & Mrs. Damschroder

Series 2: Publications

Folder 2 – Publications
World War II on the Home Front: Prisoner of War Camp 202 Greeley, Colorado. Greeley, CO: City of Greeley, Historic Preservation Office, 2011.
This publication was distributed at a Historic Preservation Month Reception on May 19, 2011.

Series 3: Clippings

Folder 3 – Clippings

Hunt, Peggy. "WWII Prisoners Here," Photocopy, *Senior Voice*, June 2011, p. 5.

Peters, Mike. "Former German POW: Thanks Greeley, had a Great Time," Photocopy, *Greeley Tribune*, Aug. 14, 2010. Last viewed August 29, 2011:
<<http://www.greeleytribune.com/article/20100814/NEWS/100819851>>.

Sokoloski, Cherry. "German POWs Provided Labor to Local Farms," Photocopy, *North Forty News*, May. Last viewed August 29, 2011:
<http://www.northfortynews.com/Archive/A20110508_laborFarmsGermanPOWs.htm>.