

---

## Inventory of the Sherrill Halbert Papers, 1923-1992

### D-391

Department of Special Collections  
General Library  
University of California, Davis  
Davis, California

#### Contact Information

- Department of Special Collections
- General Library
- 100 North West Quad
- University of California, Davis
- Davis, CA 95616-5292
- Phone: (530) 752-1621
- Fax: (530) 754-5758
- Email: dmorrison@ucdavis.edu

Encoded by: Sara Gunasekara

Completed: 2003

©2003 The Regents of the University of California

---

#### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Sherrill Halbert Papers,

**Date (inclusive):** 1923-1992

**Collection number:** D-391

**Creator:** Halbert, Sherrill, 1901-

**Extent:** 6.8 linear feet

**Repository:** University of California, Davis. General Library. Dept. of Special Collections.  
100 North West Quad Davis, California, 95616-5292

**Abstract:** Sherrill Halbert, Sacramento jurist and amateur historian, served as a director of the Pony Express Centennial Association from 1958-1961. He was administrator of many Association Projects including the creation of trail markers and penned about twenty "Pony Express Days" vignettes. The collection consists of Halbert's own correspondence, speeches, and writings on the Pony Express. It also includes correspondence, clippings, maps, memorabilia and photographs pertaining to the activities of the Centennial Association.

**Language:** English

#### Access

Collection is open for research.

#### Publication Rights

Copyright is protected by the copyright law, chapter 17 of the U.S. Code. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Head of Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Special Collections, General Library, University of California, Davis as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.

#### Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Sherrill Halbert Papers, D-391, Department of Special Collections, University of California Library, Davis, California.

---

**Acquisition Information**

Acquired in 2003.

**Biographical Narrative**

The Pony Express Centennial Association was incorporated for the purpose of "recognizing, marking and honoring the historical epoch of the Pony Express" (1958). It was organized by Utah Governor George Dewey, with the cooperation of other Governors of states in which the Pony Express operated. Waddell Smith (great-grandson of one of the original partners of the Pony Express) became President of the Association and twenty-two prominent historians and other citizens became at-large Directors. One of these was Sacramento jurist and amateur historian, Sherrill Halbert (1958-1961). He was administrator of many Association projects including the creation of trail markers. Halbert also penned about twenty "Pony Express Days" vignettes.

**Scope and Content of Collection**

The Halbert Papers consists of Sherrill Halbert's own correspondence, speeches and writings on the Pony Express. Correspondence, clippings, maps, memorabilia and photographs pertaining to the activities of the Centennial Association are also included.

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

**Subjects**

Halbert, Sherrill,--1901-

Pony Express Centennial Association

Sophie Comstock Memorial Committee

Pony express

Historians--Correspondence

West (U.S.)--History

Pony Express Trail

Series 1 **Correspondence,1931-1992**

**Physical Description:** 2 linear feet

**Scope and Content Note**

Arranged into two subseries: Chronological and Special topics.

**Note**

---

Subseries 1.1 **Chronological,1958-1992**

**Physical Description:** 1.5 linear feet

**Scope and Content Note**

Arranged chronologically.

Box 1:1                    **October 13, 1958 - February 29, 1960**

**Physical Description:**

Box 1:2                    **March 3, 1960-December 23, 1960**

**Physical Description:**

Box 1:3                    **Jan. 18, 1960-June 29, 1962**

**Physical Description:**

Box 1:4                    **July 2, 1962 - Dec. 29, 1962**

**Physical Description:**

Box 1:5                    **Jan. 8, 1963-June 28, 1963**

**Physical Description:**

Box 1:6                    **July 1, 1963-Dec. 26, 1963**

**Physical Description:**

Box 1:7                    **Jan 3, 1964-Dec. 30, 1965**

**Physical Description:**

Box 1:8                    **Jan. 3, 1966-Dec. 29, 1966**

**Physical Description:**

Box 1:9                    **Jan. 3, 1967 - Dec. 27, 1967**

**Physical Description:**

Box 1:10                  **Jan. 2, 1968 - Nov. 22, 1968**

**Physical Description:**

Box 1:11                  **Jan. 31, 1969 - Dec. 31, 1969**

**Physical Description:**

---

Box 1:12	<b>Jan 7, 1970 - Dec. 20, 1970</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>
Box 2:1	<b>June 19, 1970 - Sept. 14, 1970</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>
Box 2:2	<b>Jan. 1, 1971 - Dec. 27, 1971</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>
Box 2:3	<b>Jan. 3, 1972 - Dec. 7, 1972</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>
Box 2:4	<b>Jan. 8, 1973 - Dec. 24, 1974</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>
Box 2:5	<b>Jan. 23, 1975 - Dec. 22, 1975</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>
Box 2:6	<b>Jan 5, 1976 - Dec. 30, 1976</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>
Box 2:7	<b>Jan. 3, 1977 - Dec. 19, 1977</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>
Box 2:8	<b>Jan. 11, 1978 - Sept. 19, 1978</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>
Box 2:9	<b>Jan. 25, 1979 - Nov. 12, 1981</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>
Box 2:10	<b>1991-1992</b> <b>Physical Description:</b>

---

Subseries 1.2 **Special topics,1931-1983**

**Physical Description:** 0.5 linear feet

**Scope and Content Note**

Arranged into three subseries: Printed materials, Trail markers, and Other subjects.

Subseries 1.2.1 **Printed materials,1959-1983**

**Physical Description:** 6 folders

**Scope and Content Note**

Box 2:11                    **Books about Pony Express,1959-1965**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:12                    **Reinfelds book,1974-1976**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:13                    **Sharp book,1972**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:14                    **National Geographic article,1977-1981**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:15                    **Centaur magazine article,1981-1983**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:16                    **Kraft, Jack.1974**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Subseries 1.2.2 **Trail Markers,1931-1971**

**Physical Description:** 5 folders

Box 2:17                    **Establishing Trail Markers,1931**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Photocopies

Box 2:18                    **Hawley Grade Marker,1965-1970**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:19                    **Trail Marker Report: Missouri,1971**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:20                    **Trail Marker Report: Nebraska,1971**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:21                    **Trail Marker Report: Wyoming,1971**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Subseries 1.2.3 **Other subjects,1966-1983**

**Physical Description:** 5 folders

Box 2:22                    **Commemorative plaque,1969-1973**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:23                    **National Pony Express Association,Jan. 1977 - Dec. 1982**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:24                    **National Pony Express Association,Jan. 7, 1983 - Dec. 29, 1983**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 2:25                    **Pattee House,1980-1983**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:47                    **St. Joseph, MO1966-1983**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

**Series 2 National Pony Express Centennial Association,1962-1977**

**Physical Description:** 2 folders

**Scope and Content Note**

**Note**

Box 3:1            **Treasurer's file,Mar. 18, 1970 - May 18, 1970**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:2            **Check book,Aug. 30, 1962-March 10, 1977**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Series 3 Photographs and Pictures,1962-1972

Physical Description: 0.4 linear feet

Note

- Box 3:2a      **Negative of Pony Express Marker,n.d.**  
Physical Description:  
Note
- Box 3:3      **Dedication of the Pony Express plaque at Harrahs club, Stateline, Nev.,April 4, 1963**  
Physical Description:  
Note
- Box 3:4      **Dedication of the Pony Express plaque at Austin, Nev.,Aug. 3, 1963**  
Physical Description:  
Note
- Box 3:5      **Dedication of the Pony Express plaque at Carson City, Nev.,Aug. 17, 1963**  
Physical Description:  
Note
- Box 3:6      **Dedication of the Pony Express plaque, Nev.,1963**  
Physical Description:  
Note
- Box 3:7      **Dedication of the Pony Express plaque, Utah,1963**  
Physical Description:  
Note
- Box 3:8      **Pony Express plaques, Stateline, Nev.,Apr. 1963**  
Physical Description:  
Note
- Box 3:9      **Pony Express plaques, Genoa, Nev.,1963**  
Physical Description:  
Note
- Box 3:10     **Pony Express markers, Genoa, Nev.,1963**  
Physical Description:  
Note

- Box 3:11      **Dry Creek Station, Nev.n.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 3:12      **Dry Creek Station, Nev. clippingAug. 9, 1964**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 3:13      **Pony Express plaques, Californian.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 3:14      **Sketches for bronze plaques,1962**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 3:15      **Pony Express statue model,n.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 3:16      **Markers in Wyoming,n.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 3:17      **St. Joseph Museum,1972**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**

Series 4 **Halbert Writings,1960-1982**

**Physical Description:** 0.6 linear feet

**Scope and Content Note**

Arranged into three subseries: Speeches, Articles, Vignettes.

**Note**

---

Subseries 4.1 **Speeches,1960-1970**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:18                    **Sacramento County Historical Society,October 27, 1960**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:19                    **Stateline, CAApril 4, 1963**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:20                    **Woodfords,July 24, 1966**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:21                    **Rescue,July 4, 1967**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:22                    **110th Anniversary,April 4, 1970**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

---

Subseries 4.2 **Articles,1962-1981**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:23                    **San Francisco Recorder,1962**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

---

Box 3:24

**Centaur,1981**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:25

**The Name of the First Pony Express Rider Out of Sacramento,n.d.**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

---

Subseries 4.3 Vignettes,1967-1982

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:26

**Trip East,July 4, 1967**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:27

**Heroes,July 4, 1968**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:28

**Trip West,July 4, 1969**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:29

**Sportsman's Hall,July 4, 1970**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:30

**Hastings Building,July 4, 1971**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:31

**Yanks Station,July 4, 1972**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:32

**Pleasant Grove,July 4, 1973**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

---

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| Box 3:33 | <b>Placerville,1973</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note                           |
| Box 3:34 | <b>Folsom,July 4, 1975</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note                        |
| Box 3:35 | <b>15-Mile House,July 4, 1975</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note                 |
| Box 3:36 | <b>Mud Springs,July 4, 1976</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note                   |
| Box 3:37 | <b>Mormon Tavern,July 4, 1977</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note                 |
| Box 3:38 | <b>Woodfords,July 4, 1977</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note                     |
| Box 3:39 | <b>Strawberry Station,July 4, 1979</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note            |
| Box 3:40 | <b>Buffalo Bill,July 4, 1980</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note                  |
| Box 3:41 | <b>California Pony Express Trail,July 4, 1981</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note |
| Box 3:42 | <b>Magnolia House aka 5 Mile House,1981</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note       |
| Box 3:43 | <b>Nevada trail,1982</b><br><br>Physical Description:<br><br>Note                          |

Box 3:44                    **Kansas and the Pony Express,1982**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:45                    **Hope Valley,n.d.**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 3:46                    **Mountain Democrat,n.d.**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

**Series 5 Clippings and articles on the Pony Express,1923-1983**

**Physical Description:** 6 folders

**Note**

- Box 4:1            **Clippings: Apr. 3, 1960 - June 29, 1960**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 4:2            **Clippings: July 1, 1960 - Dec. 3, 1963**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 4:3            **Clippings: March 1, 1964 - June 30, 1974**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 4:4            **Clippings: March 26, 1975 - June 12, 1981**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 4:5            **Clippings: November 4, 1982 - May 4, 1983**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 4:6            **Articles: 1923-1971**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**

Series 6 Pony Express Centennial Celebration,1960-1979

Physical Description: 3 folders

Note

Box 4:7            **Newspaper Clippings, pamphlets, notes and other memorial items,1960**

Physical Description:

Note

Box 4:8            **Newspaper Clippings, pamphlets, notes and other memorial items,1960-1978**

Physical Description:

Note

Box 4:9            **Newspaper Clippings, pamphlets, notes and other memorial items,1960-1979**

Physical Description:

Note

Series 7. **Historical research material,1934-1981**

**Physical Description:** 0.5 linear feet

**Scope and Content Note**

Arranged into two subseries: Research material and Restoration plans.

**Note**

---

Subseries 7.1. **Research material,1934-1981**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

- Box 4:10            **Buffalo Bill's Imposter,n.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 4:11            **Historical landmark section, Dept. of Parks and Recreationn.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 4:12            **Placerville1934-1935**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**  
Photocopies
- Box 4:13            **Pony Express Riders1976**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 4:14            **Riders Oathn.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 4:15            **St. Joseph, Missouri1966-1981**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 3:48            **Headquarters of Russell, Majors, Waddelln.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
-

Subseries 7.2. Restoration plans, 1970-1979

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 4:16            **Hastings Building, Sacramento,1971**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 4:17            **Boom Building, Placerville,1974**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 4:18            **Sportsman's Hall1970**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Series 8. Sophie Comstock Memorial Committee,1962-1982

Physical Description: 1 linear foot

Note

- Box 5:1            **Pony Express statue, photo of Comstock model,n.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 5:2            **Stationary,n.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 5:3            **Sketches for Sacramento Pony Express Monument,n.d.**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 5:4            **Papers,1962-1964**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 5:5            **Papers,1965-1974**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 5:6            **Papers,1975-1981**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**
- Box 5:7            **Papers,1982**  
**Physical Description:**  
**Note**

Series 9. **Maps and memorabilia,n.d.**

**Physical Description:** 1 linear foot

**Note**

Box 6            **Maps of the Pony Express Routes,n.d.**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 7            **Maps of the Pony Express Routes n.d.**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 5:10        **Plaques, trophies, and ceremonial coins,n.d.**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Series 10. **Thunder Before Lightning,1961-1966**

**Physical Description:** 2 folders

**Note**

Box 5:8            **Thunder before Lightning: The Pony Express in story and stamp, by Robert L. Robbins,1961**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**

Box 5:9            **Thunder before Lightning bound typescript by Robert L. Robbins,1966**

**Physical Description:**

**Note**