

An Inventory of the Newspapers Found in Cranford Walls

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

Collection number: SC 49

Title: An Inventory of the Newspapers Found in Cranford Walls

Author: Inventory prepared by Shirley Soenksen on 2009 January 8; retyped from the original inventory dated 1989 April 26.

Dates: 1910, 1917, and 1921

Creator or Collector: University personnel and/or students.

Size: 2 inches

Abstract:

This collection consists of six newspapers found in the walls of Cranford Hall when it was demolished in 1972.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection consists of six newspapers found in the walls of Cranford Hall when it was demolished in 1972.

Historical Note:

A. B. Copeland, Greeley's superintendent of schools, suggested to Albert E. Gipson, president of the Greeley school board, in 1888 that "it would be highly desirable to locate a normal school" in Greeley to train teachers.¹ Greeley as well as other communities had to hire teachers from outside of Colorado as there was no teacher college in the state. [Benjamin H. Eaton](#), former Governor of Colorado, presided over the second meeting called to discuss the issue. A committee consisting of [David Boyd](#), A. B. Copeland, and Albert E. Gipson was elected to lobby to work with Senator [James W. McCreery](#) of Greeley to lobby for a normal school.

[Governor Cooper](#) signed Senate Bill 104 bill on April 1, 1889 creating a State Normal School to train qualified teachers for the state's public schools. Greeley citizens raised the necessary money for the first building, and the cornerstone was laid on June 13, 1890. The school opened its doors on October 6 with a staff of four instructors and 96 students. Certificates were granted upon the completion of a two year course.

[Cranford Hall](#) was the first building on the campus of the State Normal School of Colorado (now the University of Northern Colorado). It was known as the Normal School Building (1891-1906), the Administration Building (1906-1931), and Cranford Hall (1931-1972).

Coloradans gathered on June 13, 1890 to dedicate the building. J. M. Wallace, president of the First National Bank, Greeley, donated the cornerstone, which contained the [Colorado state seal](#) and the inscription, "State Normal School, A.D. 1890." [J. M. Wallace](#) served as a trustee of the Normal School from 1889 to 1892.

The building was named for J. P. Cranford (John P. Cranford), a Brooklyn, New York businessman and friend of [Nathan Cook Meeker](#), founder of Greeley, Colorado. Cranford donated some property for the school as did the English Company and local insurance men Thayer and West. The English Company also donated \$15,000 toward a building. The site

¹ Robert W. Larson, *Shaping Education Change: The First Century of the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley* (Boulder, CO: Colorado Associated University Press) 1989, p. 13.

chosen for the normal school lay on a hill just south of the town which was originally known as “rattlesnake hill” and “cactus hill.” Later it became known as the Normal Hill.

[Robert S. Roeschlaub](#), a prominent Denver architect, designed Cranford as well as the original 1907 university library, which was designed to resemble Monticello, Thomas Jefferson’s home. For a biography on Roeschlaub, see: Robert S. Roeschlaub: Architect of the Emerging West, 1843-1923.

Cranford was first used as a classroom in April 1891. It was the only building on campus until Kepner Training School was built in 1911. A fire broke out in Cranford Hall on March 7, 1949. When Cranford Hall was no longer used for classes, it housed the offices for the College of Arts and Sciences (now known as the [College of Humanities and Social Sciences](#)) and [KUNC-FM](#) (no longer associated with the University).

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research.

Restrictions on Use: User is responsible for copyright compliance.

Preferred Citation: [Description of Item], University Manuscripts (SC 49), Newspapers Found in Cranford Walls, Archival Services, James A. Michener Library, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado.

Acquisition Information (if applicable):

Burton Bush, a Facilities and Operations carpenter who was hired by demolition contractors to demolish Cranford Hall, presented this collection to the University Archives wrapped in an April 9, 1972 issue of the *Rocky Mountain News*.

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

Subjects:

State Normal School (Greeley, Colo.) -- 1889-1911.
State Normal School of Colorado (Greeley, Colo.).
Colorado State Teachers College --1911-1935.
Colorado State College of Education -- Buildings.
Universities & colleges -- Colorado -- Greeley -- 1890-1972.
Cranford Hall (Greeley, Colo.).
Teachers' colleges -- Colorado -- Greeley.
Educational facilities -- Colorado -- Greeley.

Inventory:

Collection	MSS #	Series	Box	Folder	Title
Newspapers Found in Cranford Walls	SC 49		Box 1	Folder 0 – Finding Aid	Finding Aid
Newspapers Found in Cranford Walls	SC 49		Box 1	Loose	<i>The Daily News: Denver, Colorado, July 15, 1910, pp. 5-6</i>
Newspapers Found in Cranford Walls	SC 49		Box 1	Loose	<i>The Colorado City Argus, March 9, 1917</i>
Newspapers Found in Cranford Walls	SC 49		Box 1	Loose	<i>The Sedgwick Sun, March 9, 1917</i>
Newspapers Found in Cranford Walls	SC 49		Box 1	Loose	<i>Pueblo Star Journal, March 16, 1917, pp. 7-10</i>
Newspapers Found in Cranford Walls	SC 49		Box 1	Loose	<i>The Routt County Sentinel, March 16, 1917</i>
Newspapers Found in Cranford Walls	SC 49		Box 1	Loose	<i>Pueblo Star Journal, December 19, 1921</i>