



**California Polytechnic State University
Special Collections & Archives**

**Gaydon Moore Brundridge Papers
MS0192**

Collection ID: MS0192

Title: Gaydon Moore Brundridge Papers

Dates: 1913 - 1924

Creator: Daniel K. Gardner

Extent: 2.25 LF, 2 boxes

Abstract: Photographs, diaries, diary transcripts, and correspondence related to Ms. Gaydon Moore Brundridge and her experience as a teacher at Carrizo Plain (Carrisa Plains) in 1918.

Language: English

Repository: California Polytechnic State University
Robert E. Kennedy Library
Special Collections and Archives
1 Grand Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
Phone: 805-756-2305
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URL: <http://www.lib.calpoly.edu/specialcollections/>

Provenance: Donated by Daniel K. Gardner

Accessions: 2016.0026

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Historical Note:

Gaydon Moore Brundridge (b. 12 October 1897 d. 23 April 1974) was born in Texas and raised in the Los Angeles, California area. She attended the Los Angeles State Normal School (now University of California Los Angeles) where she studied teaching. She was a member of the Rooter's Club and the Push and Pull Club, and was Senior Class Treasurer.

Moore arrived at the Garcia family cattle ranch on the Carrizo Plain (Carrisa Plains) near Pozo in February 1918. She lived with the Garcia family and taught children ages 4 to 16 until June 1918. School classes were held in various ranch buildings adapted for school use. Her students included 9 children from the Garcia family and several children from the Van Meter (Van Matre) and other neighboring families. The diaries reflect her experiences as a teacher living on the plain and include descriptions of social activities with local mining and ranching families in the sparsely populated rural area. In June of 1918 Gaydon Moore returned to Los Angeles. She married Field Richard Brundidge in 1924.

Carrizo Plain is located within the territory of the Chumash people who have occupied the lands for generations. Painted Rock and other cultural sites attest to the presence of indigenous people from approximately 11,000 BCE to the present. The Salinian from the north and the Yokuts from eastern inland areas also visited and traded in the area. Evidence of European expeditions date to the late 1700s and settlement ranchers claimed homesteads on the Carrizo Plain beginning in the mid-19th century with the influx of mining and railroad construction.

Historically the plain has been referred to as Carrisa Plains by local ranchers and settlers. The original name, *carrizo*, was given by Spanish explorers who named the area for a wild grass that may have been prominent on the plain at the time. The name was Anglicised over time in written records and via verbal transmission, gradually becoming known as Carrisa Plains. In 2001 the plain was recognized a national preserve and received the title of Carrizo Plain National Monument.

Scope and Content:

The collection contains photographs, diaries, and letters relating to the Gaydon Moore Brundridge and her family, the Garcia families, the Van Meter (Van Matre) families, local ranches, and the Carrizo Plain (Carrisa Plains) region including LaPanza, Pozo, and Simmler. The collection also contains newspaper clippings about the area and a transcription of her diaries created by her grandson Daniel K. Gardner. Several photographs of Gaydon Moore Brundridge are undated, but include a portrait by Albert W. Witzel, a studio photographer in Los Angeles and Hollywood circa 1910s – 1920s.

Sources:

Ancestry.com. <<http://ancestry.com>>

Geographic Names Information System. United States Geological Survey. <<http://geonames.usgs.gov>>

Santa Margarita Historical Society. <<http://www.santamargaritahistoricalociety.org>>



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Arrangement:

The collection is arranged as a single series. Original organization of the records has been preserved where possible. Materials may have been reorganized or reboxed for preservation and access purposes.

Related Collections:

MS0041 Painted Rock Pictograph Collection
MS0045 Wreden Ranch Records Collection
MS0060 Brumley-Noyes Radio Script
MS0182 Van Matre Personal Narrative of Life on the Carrizo Plain
Carrisa Plain Oral History Project, unprocessed
Carrizo Plain, California Condor, National Monument Committee, unprocessed

Access:

Collection is open to researchers by appointment only. For more information on visiting, access policies, and reproduction requests, please visit our [Reference Services](http://lib.calpoly.edu/search-and-find/collections-and-archives/reference-services/) page online at <http://lib.calpoly.edu/search-and-find/collections-and-archives/reference-services/>.

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| Box 1 Folder 3 | Photographs, Edda and Bernice Jones, inscribed, undated |
| Box 1 Folder 4 | Photographs, Thelma B. Brundridge, inscribed, undated |
| Box 1 Folder 5 | Photographs, Gaydon Moore, 1922 – 1925 |
| Box 1 Folder 6 | Photographs, Gaydon Moore, undated |
| Box 1 Folder 7 | Diaries Transcript, "On a Cattle Ranch Carissa Plains, California 1918", Daniel K. Gardner, 1994 |
| Box 1 Folder 8 | Correspondence and slideshow materials, Daniel Gardner to San Luis Obispo Historical Society, circa 1997 |
| Box 1 Folder 9 | Research notes and maps, Daniel K. Gardner, undated |
| Box 2 Folder 1 | Scrapbook Photo Album, 1913 – 1924 |
| Box 2 Folder 2 | Newspaper clippings, <i>Carrizo Plain National Monument</i> , San Luis Obispo County Telegram-Tribune, 1991 |