

TRAVELING EXHIBITS: “Please Give Us One More Boom”: Oil and Gas in Wyoming

Boom and bust in Wyoming’s oil and gas industry is the theme of this exhibit, which explores the industry’s history in Wyoming, from its time as a side note to agriculture to its growing prominence as the Cowboy State’s primary revenue generator. Personal viewpoints from participants in Wyoming’s long and intimate relationship with energy development are featured throughout. The exhibit spans the 1920s Salt Creek oil boom with its forest of wooden derricks dotting the Natrona County landscape, ending with the bust of the Great Depression, to the use of modern directional drilling and hydraulic fracturing techniques to release Sublette County’s natural gas, leading to an early 21st century boom followed by economic recession. What about a geographic area with a boom on the horizon? The exhibit includes that too. The AHC collected video oral histories from eastern Wyoming’s Niobrara Oil Play, an area that in 2010 was anticipating an oil boom.

Size: 26 framed items, 1 DVD (2 crates)

Midwest Oil Company employees working on a Salt Creek Oil Field derrick, ca. 1920s. Frank O. Prior Papers, American Heritage Center.



The American Heritage Center (AHC) is the University of Wyoming's repository of manuscripts collections, rare books, and the university archives. Many universities have primary source repositories. Few have repositories as extensive and significant as the AHC. More importantly, few universities have such repositories as welcoming and accessible to undergraduate and graduate students. Internationally known for its historical collections the AHC first and foremost serves the students and citizens of Wyoming. The AHC sponsors a wide range of scholarly and popular programs including lectures, symposia, and exhibits. Not a dusty attic or an exclusive sanctuary, the AHC is a welcoming, lively, place where both experts and novices engage with the original sources of history. Access is free and open to all.

American Heritage Center

Mailing Address

Dept. 3924, 1000 E. University Avenue
Laramie, WY 82071

Location / Contact

2111 Willett Drive (Centennial Complex)

307-766-4114 / 307-766-5511 (FAX)

ahc@uwyo.edu (General)

ahcref@uwyo.edu (Reference Dept.)

Web: <http://ahc.uwyo.edu>

Blog: <http://ahc.uwyo.edu/blog>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/AHCnews>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/UWAHC>

AHC Director

Mark Greene - 307-766-2474

AHC Associate Director

Rick Ewig - 307-766-6385

Traveling Exhibits

Mary Ann Meyer - 307-766-2573

Business Hours

M-F: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



The **American Heritage Center** gratefully acknowledges the generous support of American National Bank for its Exhibits program.