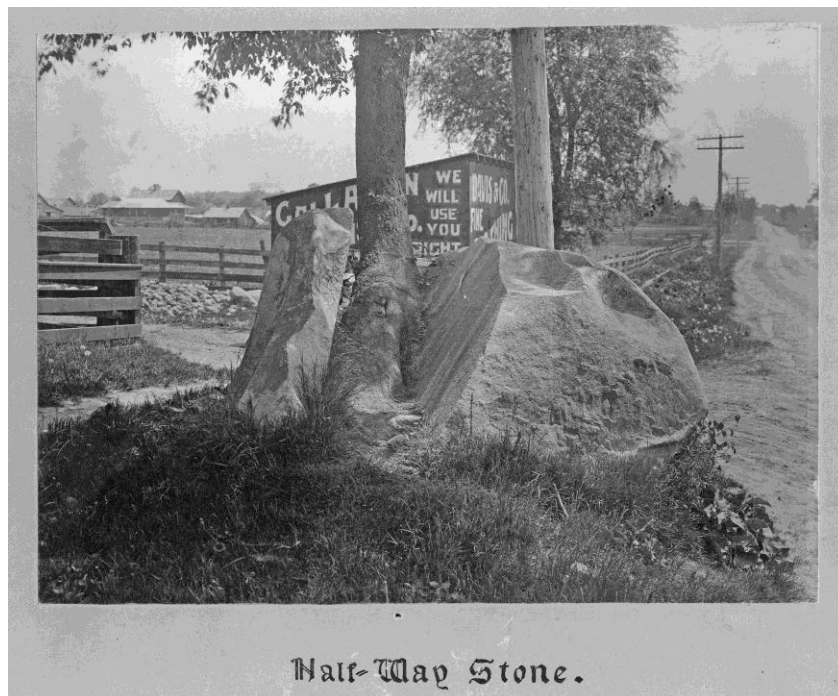


Local History

A Guide to Resources
in the Michigan State University Archives
about
Lansing, East Lansing, and Surrounding Areas

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This resource guide has been compiled to present a sampling of the materials that can be used for local history research about the Lansing, East Lansing, and surrounding areas. Collections that are primarily biographical in nature from people that lived in these areas are also available, but are not listed in this guide. Please note that MSU Archives has extensive holdings about the history of Michigan State University, faculty, and students that also can contribute to local history research.

Organizational Records

- 1. City of East Lansing Report, 1986-1987. c564**
 - 1 folder
 - The "Final Report of the East Lansing Historical/Architectural Survey 1986-1987" examines the Historic Districts Neighborhoods: Bailey, College Grove, Oakwood, Collegeville, Chesterfield Hills, and Hillcrest Village. In addition, Brookfield, Central, Glencairn, and the Street Light District areas were surveyed. The report includes a map and description of the survey areas; information about the research process; a list of landmark properties; an historical overview; architectural overviews for each neighborhood; and resource protection planning summaries covering agriculture, economic affairs and technology, education, growth and settlement, and social affairs. Note: The report was prepared by the East Lansing Historic District Study Committee. It was a required component for the approval of Historic Districts by the State of Michigan.

- 2. Democratic Party Campaign Materials, 1870-1964. 34**
 - 19 folders
 - Democratic campaign materials from 1870 to 1964, including handbills, pamphlets, posters, comic books and programs. Voting tickets for several Lansing, Michigan, area communities. Voting information and campaign instructions. Various tickets, programs and statements from Democratic conventions, both in Michigan and on a national level. Biographical and political information on Michigan candidates for governor, legislature, and other offices, including Austin Blair, Josiah Begole, and Frank Kelly.

- 3. East Lansing Planning Commission Records, 1944-1969. 80**
- 1.3 cu. ft.
 - Predominantly meeting minutes of the East Lansing Planning Commission, complete from 1958 to June 1969 and numerous bound studies and reports, some done by the ELPC and others by outside consultants, dealing with the East Lansing and Lansing Tri-County area. Collection includes East Lansing progress reports, the creation of a central business district, and problems of streets, parking, sewage, and capital improvements. In addition, long-range studies of the domicile preferences of Michigan State University faculty and staff, the creation of subdivision regulations, the comprehensive plan for East Lansing in 1980, and the Commission Handbook. Collection also includes minutes from the East Lansing City Council and the Tri-County Planning Commission, many advisory studies from the Tri-County Planning Commission, the State of Michigan, and Michigan State University, and several miscellaneous pamphlets.
- 4. East Lansing Woman's Club History. Manuscript. 1903-1978. c438**
- 1 folder
 - This collection contains an 80 page unpublished manuscript of the history of the East Lansing Woman's Club, East Lansing, Michigan, written by Mae Belle McKune. Topics include the subjects of each year's discussions, membership, and a one-paragraph synopsis of the club activity year by year. Appended is a list of the club's presidents year by year.
- 5. Edgewood Cooperative Nursery School Records, 1961-2007 199**
- 3 cu. ft.
 - This collection contains a comprehensive set of records pertaining to the operation of the cooperative preschool. Edgewood was formed in 1960 at the Edgewood United Church of Christ in East Lansing, Michigan. Documents include materials from the Board of Directors, as well as, other governing bodies, newsletters, brochures, area studies about preschools and nursery schools in the area. The school closed in 2007.
- 6. First Universalist Church Records, 1852-1971. 189**
- 2.5 cu. ft.
 - The First Universalist Church of Lansing records consist of accounting ledgers from the Church and church school, annual reports, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, histories of the Church, parish records, and treasurer's reports. Among the notable items are a photocopy of the 1852 charter and a scrapbook of histories of the church dating back to 1848.
- 7. Grand River Avenue Beautification Committee Records, 1963-1970. c535**
- 1 folder
 - This collection contains records of a beautification project for Grand River Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan. It includes early thinking about the proposed improvement, a downtown parking study completed in April 1970, and a brief history of the development of Grand River Avenue.

- 8. Greater Michigan Foundation Records, 1951-1966. 119**
- 9 cu. ft.
 - These records, covering the years 1954-1964, contain correspondence, reports, committee information, newspaper clippings, publications, promotional materials, and information about awards and activities relating to Michigan Week, the Foundation's most well known project.
- Note: The Greater Michigan Foundation, chartered in 1961, grew out of an association of businessmen, Greater Michigan, Inc., founded in 1954 in Lansing, Michigan, to promote the State of Michigan.
- 9. Kiwanis Club Records, 1915. 1915-1996 117**
- 3.4 cu. ft.
 - The Kiwanis Club, a men's service organization, was founded in Detroit, Michigan in 1915. The East Lansing Club was organized in 1949 and chartered in 1950. The records consist of general correspondence, weekly news bulletins, financial records, annual barbeque records, and materials relating to the club's 20th Anniversary.
- 10. Lansing Automobile Club Records, ca. 1919. c297**
- 1 folder
 - This collection consists of the membership list for the Lansing Automobile Club ca. 1919. The list includes such prominent Lansing citizens as Edwin A. Bowd, William H. Newbrough, and Roy C. Vandercook.
- 11. Marble School Historical Book, 1976. c201**
- 1 volume
 - This book gives a brief history and description of the Marble School in East Lansing, Michigan. Excerpts from the Marble School Newsletter are included, with sample class schedules, lists of staff and students, and descriptions of classes and special events. Note: Literary rights belong to the Marble Elementary School. This book was prepared by the staff and students of the Marble School as a Bicentennial project; the original was placed in a time capsule.
- 12. Novo Engine Company Papers, 1914-1946. c391**
- 4 folders
 - This collection contains advertising bulletins and engine catalogues of the Novo Engine Company of Lansing, Michigan. Also, a sales training brochure containing a short history of the firm is included. Note: The Novo Engine Company were manufacturers of industrial equipment.
- 13. Opera Company of Greater Lansing, Inc, 1973-1980. UA 16.86.1**
- .2 cu. ft.
 - Formed in 1973 as a non-profit organization to bring Opera to the Lansing area. Includes: Performance programs, a poster, a post card, and ticket order forms.

- 14. REO Motors, Inc./White Motor Company Records, 1904-1976. 36**
- 283 Vols., 169 cu. ft.
- This collection consists of the business records of REO Motors, Inc. and includes correspondence, financial records, annual reports, minutes of meetings, policy directives, personnel records, blueprints, government contracts, sales and distribution records, operating expenses, and office memos. Personnel records include labor turnover reports (1917-1944), health and safety records (1917-1955), agreements and grievances, appeal board minutes, unemployment compensation cases, and wage records. A full record of correspondence details the company's relations with the U.S. government (1939-1957). Miscellaneous records include business association correspondence, newsletters, publications, and photographs. White Motor Company Records, 1922 - 1974, include financial statements, letterbooks, sales information and parts specifications.
- 15. Sears, Roebuck & Co. Photographs, 1920s- 1960s. c588**
- 10 items
 - These photos are of the different Sears stores locations in the Lansing, Michigan area. Each photo is 16" x 20." Five photos depict the Automotive Center, Retail Store, and Farm Store in downtown Lansing. Four photos are of the Frandor Shopping Center site, one is of the pre- construction site. One image is a store advertisement.
- 16. Towar Collection, 1987 c599**
- 2 items
- This collection chronicles the development of the Towar Gardens area in Meridian Township, Michigan and contains information about the Towar School, named after George Morris Towar. Included is a program from the 50th anniversary of the Towar School and a manuscript describing the early school houses in the Meridian School District, the Towar family, and histories of the Towar Garden subdivision in Whitehills and Meridian School district #7.
- 17. Triennial Capsule Committee Papers, 1976. c190**
- 1 folder
 - This collection contains a letter of thanks from the Triennial Capsule Committee of Lansing to MSU for materials contributed to the capsule. Also included is a list of other donations, as well as a program from the Lansing Bicentennial Celebration.

Families and Individuals

- 1. Roger Ault Collection, 1978.** **c433**
 - 3 folders
 - This collection contains copies of "North Lansing Gazette"; "A World Gone Down: Smoke into Steel"; "Mary Chase Perry Stratton and her Pewabic Pottery". All were written in 1978. They deal with local history in Michigan.

- 2. Herbert C. Bartlett Papers, 1913-1916** **UA 10.3.29**
 - 2 folders
 - This collection is primarily about Bartlett's days as a student at Michigan Agricultural College (MAC) and includes several photographs. Of particular interest are two photographs that refer to a "movie" being made in Lansing in 1914.

- 3. Brook Family Papers, 1877-1973.** **195**
 - 3.25 cu. ft.
 - The Brook Family papers (1877 - 1973) consist of photographs, newspaper clippings, memorabilia, and genealogy notes. The bulk of the collection is photographic material. The majority of the photographic images are of family members but there are photographs of events at Haslett High School and buildings where family members resided. There are six family albums, fourteen cased 19th century photographic portrait images (daguerreo-, ambro- and tintypes), and over 100 loose photographic images (tintype and paper). The albums are mostly undated and unidentified family members. Identified photographs have been arranged into separate folders. Unidentified photographs have been arranged by size and type.

- 4. Vernon J. Brown Papers, 1959** **c22**
 - 1 volume
 - This collection contains a typewritten manuscript, "70 Years – 17 Governors," in which Brown gives his impressions and memories of prominent Michigan politicians and educator between 1889-1959. It also includes a reprint of Brown's reminiscences of pioneering history and farm life around Ingham County, Michigan. Brown was the owner and editor of the Ingham County News and held several political posts in Michigan including Mayor of Mason, Auditor General (1939-1944), and Lieutenant Governor (1945-1946).

- 5. C. M. Burdick Collection, 1904-1957. c487**
- 10 folders
 - This collection contains diaries, correspondence, and a biographical sketch of R.E. Olds entitled "That Boy Ranney." Also included is a letter from R. Shettler explaining his unhappiness with Olds over the affairs of the Reo Motor Car Company. Some material on Olds' interest in music is also included. Note: C.M. Burdick was Ransom E. Olds' personal secretary for a considerable period of time.
- 6. Kit Clardy Papers, 1950-1955. c278**
- 3 folders
 - This collection contains campaign literature, letters to constituents, newspaper clippings, and weekly "Washington Reports", which describe Kit Clardy's work to his constituents. Note: Kit Clardy (1892-1961), an East Lansing lawyer, was elected to represent Michigan's 6th district in Congress. He served on the House Un-American Activities Committee in this period of Anti-Communist fervor. He was defeated for reelection in 1954 by Donald Hayworth.
- 7. Harley O. Dorman Papers, 1907-1909. UA 10.3.40**
- 1 volume
 - The Harley Dorman scrapbook contains photographs and postcards depicting campus life at Michigan Agricultural College with a few scenes of Lansing and Grand Ledge. Note: Harley O. Dorman, an engineering student from Vermontville, attended Michigan Agricultural College from 1906 to 1908. He apparently did not complete requirements for graduation.
- 8. Betty Garlick Collection, 1948-1977. UA 17.258**
- 4 folders
 - This collection consists of correspondence, newspaper clippings, and photographs about the Spartan Nursery School in East Lansing Michigan. She was director of the school from 1967-1973.
- 9. Ivan Goodrich Collection, 1910-1965. 144**
- 1.33 cu ft.
 - The records of Ivan Goodrich consist of correspondence, financial records and Michigan Tourist publications. He was a member of various Eaton County, Michigan governmental board from 1938-1966. There are also records for Hayes-Green Memorial Hospital, the Tri-County Planning Commission and Eaton County records of the Health Department, Road Commission, and Board of Social Welfare.

- 10. John M. Gram research Papers, 1996. c585**
- 1 folder
 - The John M. Gram papers contain one typescript of a research paper Gram wrote for the Great Lakes Research Associates called, "Historical Development of the Grand River Road, East Lansing, Michigan." The paper chronicles the changes made to Grand River Road.
- 11. Alan P. Grimes Papers, 1950-1952, 1999. c558**
- 2 folders
 - This collection consists of the papers of MSU Professor Emeritus Alan P. Grimes. "Remembering Lantern Hill, 1950-1952" is about the early history and development of the Lantern Hill Housing subdivision. Founded by a group of MSU faculty, the essay describes the development of the idea for a cooperative, steps taken to purchase the land and to design the houses, and some setbacks encountered along the way. Originally, a part of Meridian Township, Lantern Hill subdivision was annexed by the City of East Lansing in 1958. Appendices include a list of the founders, plat of the subdivision, bibliography, and scanned images from the early 1950s. Also included are photocopies of personal papers relating to the creation of the Lantern Hill subdivision and the building of Grimes' house. The papers include the organizational materials of Home Sites Inc. such as bylaws, articles of incorporation, certificate of membership, and protective covenants. Home Sites Inc. was the unit created by the faculty to buy the land for development. Also included are documents related to the construction of Grimes' home such as correspondence, contracts and lists of work; mortgage documents; receipts for minor work done on the house; plat of the subdivision; and newspaper articles.
- 12. Richard Hammerstein Collection, 1872-1959. c300**
- 21 folders
 - This collection contains magazines, railroad timetables, maps, photographs, and other materials dealing with the history of railroads in Lansing, Michigan, most of which are from the C&O Railroad. Most materials are from the 1950s, but photocopies of some earlier (1872, 1907, 1909) timetables are also present. The collection also includes programs for East Lansing's Golden Anniversary in 1947 and Lansing's Centennial in 1959.
- 13. Fay L. Hendry Records, 1976-1981. 149**
- 6.6 cu. ft.
 - Research data and administrative records of the project that studied outdoor sculpture in three Michigan cities: Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, and Lansing. Included are: geographically arranged research files on sculpture in Michigan cities and Brazil; general files on more than one sculpture, organized by author, title or location, depending on available information. Files include inventory forms with photographs, correspondence, interview notes, and newspaper clippings on each piece of sculpture. Administrative records include correspondence proposals, fiscal records, reports, copies of the original guidebook manuscripts, and publicity materials.

- 14. Robert E. Hicks Family Papers, 1836-1986. c538**
- .33 cu. ft.
 - The Robert Hicks Family papers consist of documents, oral history interviews, memorabilia, and two published family histories. An album and three folders contain photographs, news articles, documents, family histories, and a history of the development of the "Flowerpot" neighborhood in East Lansing, Michigan. Album also contains an outline of Thurber family history, an account of Robert Hicks' life from 1972 to 1986, and minutes from a Hicks Family Reunion. Letters discuss family activities, encyclopedia sales in Indiana, and farming in Canada. Oral interviews detail the life of Robert Hicks, his parents, and the development of the "Flowerpot" neighborhood. Also included is a history of the Sickie Family.
- 15. Hill Family Papers, 1908-1932. c374**
- 8 folders
 - This collection contains correspondence and legal papers concerning the estates of Edward M. Hill and his wife Phoebe A. Hill, both of Lansing, Michigan. Many of the letters are from beneficiaries living in Derby, England, and Mrs. William (Phoebe) Bohnet, executor of Mrs. Hill's estate.
- 16. Jacqueline D. Holecek, Papers, 1994-1995. UA 10.3.154**
- 2 items
 - The collection consists of two papers written by Jacqueline Holecek as class assignments. "The Union Building at Michigan State University" (1994) traces the history of the Union and provides information on the contributing architects and the artists. "Archival Research in the R.E. Olds Mansion in Lansing, Michigan" (1995) traces the history of the Olds family and their mansion.
- 17. Andrew Hunt Collection, 1844-1891. c113**
- 2 Folders
 - This collection includes tax receipts for land in Ingham County, Michigan and roadwork assessment for Ingham Township.
- 18. Jenison Family Papers, 1877-1939. 125**
- 4.8 cu. ft.
 - The bulk of the collection consists of Frederick C. Jenison's papers, for the period 1907-1939. Primarily personal and business records, the majority are expenditure reports, IE Check stubs for personal and business expenses. A detailed reconstruction of family and business finances is possible with these records. Also included is his correspondence with the insurance companies he represented and a small amount of material from other members of the family. Note: Prominent

Lansing, Michigan business family, Nelson and Alice Jenison operated the Lansing Dry Goods Store in the late 19th Century. Their son, Frederick C. Jenison, owned and operated the Frederick C. Jenison Insurance Agency. The family owned prime business property and buildings and was active (and successful) investors. At his death, F. C. Jenison's entire estate was bequeathed to M.S.U.

- 19. Lenore Nixon Johnson Collection, 1909-1910, 1913. UA 10.3.212**
- 2 folders
 - The collection consists of photographs and postcards. The photographs are of the 1913 winter term Union Literary Society party and an image of three women holding decorations for a party possibly in association with the Sororian Literary Society. The postcards consist of MSU buildings including the Poultry Plant; Armory; Wells Hall #2 decorated with banners and an unlit bonfire in the front; Women's Building; an aerial view of campus; and a drawing of the Willows in winter. In addition, there is a postcard with a drawing of East Side Park in Lansing. Some of the postcards have letters on the back that give a bit of information about her college life.
- 20. H.J. Karn Collection, 1910-1964. c184**
- 1 folder
 - This collection contains notes kept by Bill Taylor during an interview with H. J. Karn, in which Karn describes his working experiences (1906-1916) at the Lansing plant of the REO Motor Car Company. Also included is a brochure describing a 1910 record-breaking transcontinental trip made in a REO car.
- 21. Kinney Family Papers, 1848-1970. c547**
- 9 folders
 - The Kinney family papers cover three generations, and family members were located in Kansas, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska and Ohio. Edward Porter Kinney's papers comprise a large portion of the collection. Since E.P. Kinney lived and worked in the Lansing area, much of the material in this collection pertains to East Lansing and Lansing, Michigan. Also, a majority of the material included in the family papers pertains to electricity or electrical engineering since many of the family members worked in this profession. Other family members' papers include Daniel Bishop Kinney; Edward Cornelius Kinney; Edward Porter Kinney; Harry Allen Kinney; Frank F. Kinney; Ernest A. Kinney; and Sarah Moffett Graham.
- 22. Francis McDonald Reminiscences, 1912-1979. c451**
- 1 folder
 - This collection contains a brief personal account of life in and around Lansing, Michigan, during World War I, the Great Depression, and World War II, written by Francis McDonald. Throughout her writing, Mrs. McDonald shows how people were able to cope with the problem presented by the Depression and two world wars, and how she, herself, profited from the experience. Also included are comments on the New Deal and a trip to the Chicago World's Fair of 1931.

- 23. McKibbin Family Papers, 1845-1962. 3**
- 2 cu. ft., 2 volumes
 - This collection is primarily related to the Joseph T. McKibbin family (1900-1950), but includes correspondence dating back to the 1840's which was written by the Rolfe and North families, early settlers in Lansing and Ingham County. Family correspondence, household and business records, college memorabilia, pamphlets and scrapbooks represent the bulk of the collection. Joseph's daughter, May McKibbin, was at one time principal of Logan School in Lansing.
- 24. Walter Neller Family Scrapbooks, 1924-1991. 196**
- 6.6 cu. ft.
 - This collection contains 13 scrapbooks which span from 1924 to 1991. The scrapbooks are mostly general in content; however, several of them contain newspaper clippings, correspondence and memorabilia highlighting the Neller's social life in Lansing and East Lansing. There is also information on the R.E. Olds Museum and the real estate business in Lansing, and East Lansing. Note: Walter H. Neller founded the Walter Neller Company, a real estate company in the Lansing, Michigan area. Additional Scrapbooks specifically about the Walter Neller Company are also available.
- 25. Chace Newman Papers, 1894-1951. UA 17.37**
- 4 folders, scrapbooks, 1 v.
 - The papers of Chace Newman consist of correspondence, newspaper articles, and papers. Two papers on the history of East Lansing are dated 1916 and 1927.
- 26. Nixon Family and Starr Family Papers, 1897-1923. 60**
- .33 cu. ft.
 - Primarily the papers of Bruce Elbert and Ethel Nixon Starr of Lansing, Michigan. Includes household and business receipts and accounts, newspaper clippings and coroners' reports, and letters of condolence. Also various receipts and papers of fraternal orders that both belonged to, including the Order of the Blue Goose, the Knights of the Maccabees, and the Order of the Eastern Star. Of particular interest may be a set of receipts pertaining to B.E. Starr's purchase of a new REO automobile in 1923, and a photograph of Starr in folder 14.
- 27. Marilyn Noller Photographic Collection, 1918-1921. 592**
- 1 folder
 - The collection contains photographs that are of East Lansing and Michigan State University's campus, featuring views of the Agriculture Building and its mechanic's room, as well as several pictures of the Veterinary Building, the Dairy Barn, and the Dairy Building. There are several photographs of Bill's champion cow "Johanna" as well as a Belgian Stallion and pigs that belonged to Michigan State University.

- 28. R.E. Olds Papers, 1884-1950.** **27**
- 5.7 cu. ft., 9 volumes, 5 microfilm reels
 - The Olds Papers are divided into two sections. The first section consists of Olds' personal papers. Included in this section are Olds' love letters to Metta Woodward, whom he married in 1899; correspondence related to his philanthropic activities; daybooks; and two journals of the Olds family's European tour. The second deals with Olds' business activities from 1904 to 1947. Included are correspondence series of Olds Motor Works, REO, and several small companies of which Olds was either owner or the major stockholder. Also included is correspondence between Olds and various investment agents and family photographs.
- 29. Pinckney Family Papers, 1848-1959.** **c490**
- 8 folders
 - The Pinckney Family papers consist of correspondence, invitations, programs, certificates, and newspapers clippings relating to the Civil War and to early history of Lansing, Michigan. Note: The Pinckney family has been prominent in the Lansing area from the 19th century. William H. Pinckney, a lawyer, was appointed Attorney Solicitor and Counselor in the courts of Michigan and was elected Judge of Probate in Ingham County, Michigan, from 1856 to 1864.
- 30. Alvin Crossman Pratt Papers, 1902-1909.** **UA 10.3.72**
- 1 volume, 4 folders
 - Alvin Crossman Pratt papers consist of a scrapbook and memorabilia, primarily from Michigan Agricultural College, but including some items from Pratt's years as a student at Lansing High School. The scrapbook contains invitations, letters, postcards, photographs, posters, and programs from dances and parties, as well as from the Semi-Centennial Celebration in 1907. Memorabilia also include M.A.C. registration receipts (1904-1907).
- 31. Roy James Robb Papers, 1824-1957.** **67**
- 1.3 cu. ft.
 - Survey field books, maps, and diaries of Roy James Robb, of East Lansing, Michigan. Primarily Ingham County, Michigan, but also of other Michigan counties including Clinton, Barry, Mackinac, and Iosco. Many older survey papers and field books done by previous Ingham County Surveyors (1824-1908) purchased by Robb for reference, which include a field book of Menominee County, Michigan, surveys. Of particular interest here is a fragile, hand-drawn map of Lansing Township (1896), which is only partially preserved (some has broken or rotted off). Robb's work includes surveys done for Ingham County, the Clinton County Drain Commissioner, and the Hiawatha Sportsman's Club (Mackinac County). Diaries contain brief notes pertaining to the surveys. Note: Roy James Robb was a Registered Surveyor who lived in East Lansing, Michigan. He was the Ingham County Surveyor from c.1906 to c.1908. His later practice included work for the Clinton County Drain Commissioner and the Hiawatha Sportsman's Club of Mackinac County.

32. James I. Rogers Letter, 1847.

c142

- 1 folder
- This collection consists of a letter from James I. Rogers of Eaton County, Michigan, to his brother and sister, describing in detail his farm and agricultural prospects. Rogers also describes the new town of Eaton Rapids and the construction of the state capitol in Lansing.

33. Eleanor Clapp Smith Papers, 1987.

c575

- 1 folder
- The collection consists of the book "Sparrow Tales: Memories from the Graduates" compiled by Eleanor Clapp Smith and Gloria Smith Bouterse and published in 1987. It is a compilation of personal stories, newspaper clippings, and photographs of the nurses that graduated from the Edward W. Sparrow Hospital School of Nurses in Lansing, Michigan. The book covers the first graduating class of 1899 to its final graduating class of 1961.

34. Philena Esther Smith Papers, 1906-1913.

UA 10.3.66

- 1 volume, 1 folder
- Papers of Philena Smith consist of personal artwork and a scrapbook containing programs, invitations, tickets, greeting cards, letters, report cards, menus, postcards, and news clippings related to student life at Michigan Agricultural College. Photographs are of friends and campus events. Some items pertain to her student athletic participation in Lansing High School. Philena Esther Smith, of Lansing, Michigan, earned her B.S. degree in Home Economics from Michigan Agricultural College in 1912.

35. Ruth Radimersky Postcard Collection, 1935-1937.

c580

- 99 postcards
- The postcards in this collection were sent to Ruth Steidte by an unidentified Michigan Agricultural College professor between 1935 and 1937. The postcards are primarily the MAC campus and include buildings and gardens. There are many other Michigan locations on the postcards, including Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, East Lansing, Lansing, Marshall, and Olivet. There are also several postcards of Madison, Wisconsin. Many of the messages and addresses on the postcards have been marked over to make them illegible.

36. Rawson Smith Family Papers, 1850-1892.

c72

- 4 folders
- The Rawson Smith Family Papers contain correspondence between family members in New York and Michigan, discussing agricultural conditions, market prices, and politics. They also contain documents including insurance policies, deeds, and mortgages. In addition, the collection contains Civil War letters from Alfred J. Smith

to his parents. Smith enlisted in the 78th New York Infantry, but spent much of the war in army hospitals with various illnesses. After the war, he moved to Michigan. Letters to his parents describe the new capitol building in Lansing and a visit to the state legislature (1872-1879).

37. Henrik Ekroll Stafseth Papers, 1960-1972.

c485

- 23 Folders
- This collection contains letters of congratulation, personal papers, and papers of the Lansing Rotary Club relating to Henrick Ekroll Stafseth.
Note: Stafseth was a Rotarian, local road engineer, and served as Deputy Director, Acting Director, and Director of the Planning and Governmental Liaison of the Michigan State Department of Highways. In 1972, he accepted a position as Executive Director of the American Association of State Highway Officials.

38. Stebbins Family Papers, 1741-1976 1821-1940.

14

- 1.33 cu. ft.
- The collection consists of family correspondence, account books, newspapers, clippings about or by family members, and some legal documents. C. B. Stebbins was a prolific writer and numerous examples of his poetry, essays, editorials and historical manuscripts are included. The collection also includes newspaper clippings of his children's articles and poetry.
Note: The Stebbins family has resided in Michigan since 1837 when Cortland Bliss Stebbins moved to Palmyra, Michigan, from Vermont where he had been a cabinetmaker and part-time journalist. In 1843 Stebbins moved to Adrian, Michigan, where he became the editor of the ADRIAN MICHIGAN EXPOSITOR. In 1857, he moved to Lansing and became editor of the LANSING REPUBLICAN. In 1858 he became an officer in the Michigan Department of Public Instruction, a position he held until 1878. He died in 1901.

39. Emory W. Tappan Papers, 1928-1953.

65

- 6 cu. ft.
- Survey notes, sketches, and certificates of Emory W. Tappan of East Lansing, Michigan. Early surveys relate to his association with Postiff and Tappan of Detroit, Michigan, whereas later ones are his independent work in the Lansing area. Some certificates of survey include negatives (box 3), while others are photocopied with pictures of buildings.
Notes are accompanied by related correspondence, blueprints, and plat maps. Most surveys are from Ingham County, Michigan, and were conducted for Lansing area institutions and individuals, as well as the State and Local governments. Others are from Clinton, Eaton, Ionia Otsego, and Antrim Counties. Some relate to proposed sites for the Abbot Road, East Lansing, Post Office, and others include surveys for Michigan State College cross-country courses and for University President John A. Hannah. Includes surveying notes for a St. Johns, Michigan (1935) Works Progress Administration project, which also contains a proposal for the development of a city park and various construction notes.

- 40. Allan S. Thompson Photographic Collection, 1898-1913. 186**
- 1866 glass negatives, 3 lantern slides, 1869 negatives, 573 photographs.
 - The collection consists of glass plate negatives, film negatives, and contact prints of images of people, places, and events in the greater Lansing, Michigan area, 1898-1913. Included in the collection are images of products of the companies Thompson worked for. Also included are images that document the Lansing Wheelbarrow Company, including views of the buildings and grounds, men working, the arrival of raw materials via railroad, and the various processes necessary to produce the wheelbarrows, carts, trucks, and hardware. Other businesses documented include the Severance Tank Works, Oldsmobile Motor Car Company, and Capitol Electrical Engineering Company. Thompson also photographed local buildings, homes, churches, water towers, and firefighting equipment. The collection also contains images of local parades and carnivals and the Ringling Brothers Circus. Also included are images of Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show. Thompson also photographed his family, the mourning for U.S. President McKinley on the Michigan Capitol Lawn, the visit of Admiral Dewey, and panoramic views of Lansing.
- 41. James H. Thompson Papers, 1910-1913. 57**
- .33 cu. ft.
 - Correspondence and miscellaneous receipts and papers of James H. Thompson, a Lansing, Michigan, lawyer who was originally from Ewart, Michigan. His business correspondence deals primarily with the giving of legal advice on real estate matters and with the collection of monies due his clients. A particularly interesting exchange is between the Original Gas Engine Company, for whom he was secretary at one time, and Morse Brothers Machinery and Supply of Denver, Colorado. There is also correspondence about various investments Thompson or his clients had made, including the Superior and Boston Copper Company of Houghton, Michigan. Also documentation of two contested wills, that of Nettie Rosencrance and that of E.C. Thompson. Copies of several inquiries for and letters of recommendation and extensive correspondence pertaining to Republican politics and to the Presidential election of 1912. Correspondence with Triplex Tire Company about endorsing their tires, and bankruptcy papers for the Elk Cement and Lime Company. There is correspondence with newspapers and magazines about publishing articles and about subscription to their publications, and several clippings dealing with Thompson's Masonic activities. Much of Thompson's personal correspondence deals with the Masonic Order, and with the history of the Thompson family.
- 42. James D. Towar Manuscript, 1760-1933. c73**
- 1 folder
 - This collection contains the unpublished manuscript written for the East Lansing Public Library in 1933, detailing the history of East Lansing. Reference is made to pre-Revolutionary times, but the bulk of the data deals with the years 1850-1930.

- 43. Town Family Papers, 1830-1932 1850-1876. c132**
- 3 folders
 - This collection consists primarily of letters between Sarah Ann and Oka Town, while he was serving as a delegate to the Michigan Constitutional Convention in 1850 and as a legislator in 1851. Oka's letters describe Lansing and the political scene, while Sarah Ann's are concerned with family matters, especially their children's health. A later series of letters from the Towns' daughter-in-law, Nellie Faling Town, to her family describes life in Clam Lake (now Cadillac) in 1875-1876. Also included is a letterbook kept by Nellie's brother, Charles Faling, a student at West Point.
Note: The Town family farmed near Otsego in Allegan County, Michigan. Oka Town was a delegate to the Michigan Constitutional Convention in 1850, and returned to Lansing as a legislator in 1851. His son Carleton married Nellie Faling and moved to Clam Lake (now Cadillac), Michigan.
- 44. Roy Clark Vandercook Papers, 1849-1957. 11**
- .5 cu. ft.
 - This collection contains correspondence, newspaper clippings, scrapbook pages, legal documents, and a date book pertaining to Roy C. Vandercook of Lansing, Michigan. The correspondence deals primarily with the Michigan National Guard and the 1913 Copper Strike, including correspondence with Gov. Woodbridge Ferris. The collection also discusses the United States' occupation of the Philippines and World War 1 security measures taken in Michigan. Clippings deal primarily with Vandercook's activities in the National Guard, but also with his appointment as public relations manager of the Michigan Railroads Association and as commissioner of the newly founded Michigan State Police. There are several papers dealing with the National Guard in Michigan and with general political opinion. Other topics covered include Ferris Institute and the Michigan Constabulary. Note: Roy Clark Vandercook was originally a newsman, and remained so at least on a free-lance basis all his life. He worked at the LANSING STATE JOURNAL; for the Associated Press, and for various newspapers around Michigan. He became active in the National Guard in 1898, and was Adjutant General from 1911-1915. In 1917-1918, he was Secretary of the Michigan War Board, and was Commissioner of the Michigan State Police from their creation in 1918 until 1923. He was public relations manager for the Michigan Railroads Association and their legislative agent in Congress. Vandercook was responsible for the majority of military action dealing with the 1913 Copper Strike.
- 45. Eugene G. Wanger Papers, 1969-1991. 203**
- 10 cu ft
 - This collection consists of unpublished manuscripts, papers from the Ingham County Historical Commission (minutes, agenda, and reports); the R.E. Olds Museum Board of Trustees and associated governing committees documents. Of particular note is a "Discovering Ingham County: A Descriptive Bibliography" by Eugene G. Wanger and published by the Ingham County Historical Commission of Mason, Michigan. The bibliography covers general works on Ingham County; Lansing; East Lansing; Meridian; Haslett; Okemos; Mason; Williamston, and a "Brief History of the Ingham County Historical Commission.

- 46. Lewis P. Watson Collection, ca. 1927-1928, n.d.** **UA 10.3.170**
- .4 cu. ft.
 - The Lewis P. Watson collection consists of a photograph album and collection of 43 loose photographs. The album consists of images of buildings and scenes at Michigan State University, athletic events, and people working in the fields. There are also images of Lansing, and other unidentified scenes of water beaches and a ship. There are also images of Watson, people at their desks- many of which are identified, and other friends. The loose photographs contain images of campus buildings, trains, trestles and tracks, the House of David Home Team baseball team from Benton Harbor Michigan, the We-go-ta Hotel in Central Lake, Michigan, and a Sunny South Lines bus in Cincinnati, Ohio. There are also photographs of houses at Graham Station in Grand Rapids.
- 47. Ada Hunt Whitehouse Papers, 1849-1972.** **124**
- 1.3 cu. ft., 11 volumes
 - Primarily financial records of Ada Hunt Whitehouse, her family, and the Hunt Food Shop, pertaining to property holdings, taxes, wages, bank accounts, and outstanding debts. Also some bonds, insurance papers, a will, general ledgers, farm ledgers, and auditors' reports. Some personal correspondence, notes, and agricultural materials.
- 48. Lewis A. Wileden Papers, 1908-1968.** **73**
- .66 cu. ft., 2 Vols.
 - Lewis A. Wileden, Michigan State University's first veterinary graduate, also served in the Army Veterinary Corps in World War I. Most of his papers deal with his military experiences, including personal notebooks, military vouchers and orders, and personal reports. Also a 1919 copy of the Second Division newspaper, THE INDIAN, a small publication about the accomplishments of the division during the war, a scrapbook of postcards and photographs of Europe, postwar correspondence with the Second Regiment Engineers, wartime newspaper clippings, and military identification papers, one of which holds a photograph of Wileden. Includes a personal synopsis of his war experiences and copies of speeches he made concerning the war in later years. Michigan State University materials include a personal expense notebook, a couple of social programs, a scrapbook including photographs of family and friends from the Ortonville and Lansing (Michigan) areas, programs, invitations, and ribbons, and articles and programs of alumni events. Postwar materials include veterinary accounts, records, and daybooks; articles; a Federal income tax return (1942 - restricted); records of his service with the Ingham County (Michigan) Health Department, the Mason (Michigan) City Council, and his jury-duty tenures; speeches; personal correspondence; and numerous materials relating to his accident on the Grand Trunk Railway system, his claim against the railroad company, his medical expenses, and a hospital diary.
 - Note: Lewis A. Wileden (1888-19--) of Oxford Township, Oakland County, Michigan, was the first student at Michigan Agricultural College (Michigan State University) to earn a degree in Veterinary Medicine. After graduating in 1913, he accepted the position of Sanitary Inspector for Lansing, Michigan. In 1914, he married Carolyn D. Gornitz. In 1917, he enlisted in the Second Engineers, American Expeditionary

Forces, and he was a 2nd Lieutenant in the Veterinary Corps in France. Upon his return, in 1919, he set up a veterinary practice in Cassopolis, Cass County, Michigan, which he relocated to Mason, Michigan, in 1922. He was elected president of the Michigan Veterinarians' Association in 1927, and he served on the Mason Board of Education from 1927 to 1935. In 1941, he was injured in a train accident in Lansing. In 1946, he sold his veterinary practice to become the meat inspector for the Ingham County (Michigan) Health Department, from which he retired in 1957. He also served on the Mason City Council 1954-1956.

49. Arthur E. Wilhelm Papers, 1911-1931.

c20

- 1 Folder
- This collection consists of income and expense records from the Wilhelm farm in Ingham County, Michigan for the years 1911, 1920, and 1931.

50. Beryl Williamson Papers, 1942-1996.

UA 17.242

- 3.2 cu. ft.
- The Beryl Williamson papers consist of albums, programs, clippings about Williamson and her ice skaters, Lansing Skating Club directories, photographs, scrapbooks, audio, films, and videos with segments about Williamson. The scrapbooks contain family and vacation photographs, skating photographs, and newspaper clippings about Williamson and her students. The audio materials contain reel-to-reel tape and audio cassettes of music from skaters' routines. The 16mm and 8mm film consists of skaters as well as home movies. The videotapes contain "Perspectives on Ice" an MSU talk show that Williamson was interviewed on, and an "Unsung Hero" segment that featured Williamson.

51. Woodbury Family Papers, 1863-1976.

184

- .8 cu. ft.
- The collection consists of papers of the Woodbury family including John D. Woodbury, Chester D. Woodbury, and Charles G. Woodbury. The papers contain a folder related to the Capitol Savings and Loan Bank, and the articles of association of the Central Michigan Business College. The correspondence folders contain letters between the Chester Woodbury family and the Charles Woodbury family and contain information about family events, and some business information. There are also documents related to the settlement of the Edna Woodbury estate and the Eudora Hagadorn estate. There are two folders with documents related to land the Woodbury family owned, such as tax information, warranty deeds, state of Michigan land patent, and mortgages. There are also photographs and brochures related to the East Jordan Fruit and Land Co., Evelyn Orchards, and Roaring Brook Resort, which were business ventures that Chester and Charles were involved in. The Lindbergh Baby Kidnapping Notice folder contains a public notice for the reward for the kidnappers of Charles Lindbergh's son. The collection also includes reminiscences written by Charles of his childhood along with photographs. There is also an essay written by Chester called the "Fun of a River Trip" which illustrates the advantages of

a river trip; it contains pictures and captions. In addition, there is an oversized folder with plat maps of Roaring Brook Resort, and a map of Evelyn Orchard.

52. Jon L. Young Reminiscences, 1986.

UA 10.3.116

- 3 folders
- This collection consists of Jon L. Young's reminiscences, based on diaries he kept as a student at Michigan State College from 1931-1935. Young describes his classes, social activities, and work as a teaching assistant in the History Department. He also talks about his family, who lived in Lansing, and the impact of the Depression, especially on his father, an employee of the REO Motor Car Company. Young also analyzes the unsettled international events of the 1930s.

Other Resources

1. MSU Info File

- a. East Lansing State Bank Bonds
- b. East Lansing
- c. East Lansing [Relationship]
- d. East Village

2. MI Info Files

- a. East Lansing
- b. East Lansing. Dialog
- c. East Lansing. Historical Society
- d. East Lansing. Historical Society. The Lamplighter
- e. East Lansing. Film Festival

3. Photographs. Michigan. East Lansing

- a. Churches
- b. Commercial Buildings
- c. Homes
- d. Schools
- e. Street Scenes

4. Franks S. Kedzie Papers – Photographs

5. Snyder Family Collection – Photographs

6. East Lansing History Collection (unprocessed)

7. Joint Issue – Biweekly. Underground community newspaper. 1970-1974. (Serial #405)

8. Lansing Star – Underground community newspaper. 1974-1982. (Serial #405)

9. Lansing Weekly – Underground community newspaper. 1974 (Serial #405)