Manuscripts Collection

The manuscript collections are listed here in alphabetical order. Collections contain original source materials related to the named individual, family, or organization, and can range in size from several items to multiple boxes. A portion of these collections are described in more detail in the Library & Archives Research Center Catalog, and many have finding aids that are available upon request.

Available at Iowa City Research Center

Acton, Richard, and Patricia Nassif Acton. Papers, 1836-2008. Research files on legal history, civil rights, Iowa governors and politicians. 10.5 ft. (11 boxes). (Ms 251)

Adams, Ephraim, 1818-1907, and wife, Elisabeth. Papers, 1840-1907. Congregational minister, founder of Iowa College (later Grinnell College). 7 ft. (14 boxes). (Ms 92)

American Urological Association, North Central Section. Records, 1923-1973. 3 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 149)


Atkinson, Wallace, 1878- and Atkinson, Buena Vista, 1884-. Papers, 1889-1935. Cherokee musician and optician, and his wife, Buena Vista, musician. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 65)


Beall, Walter H., 1871-1944. Papers, 1913-1959. West Union editor and publisher. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 60)


Beed, James H., 1835-1921. Papers, 1850-1954. Devonshire, England; Hampton and Waverly businessman and farmer. Also served in 4th Iowa Cavalry. 2 ft. (4 boxes). (Ms 59)

Black, Paul W., 1887-? Notes on lynching in Iowa, compiled 1910-1912. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 94)

Booker, Edna. Papers, 1965-1982. Iowa City. Active in volunteer activities: Veterans Administration, Goodwill Industries, etc. 3 ft. (5 boxes, 1 vol.) (Ms 151)
Boston Evening Globe Transcripts. Scrapbook of genealogical newspaper clippings, 1914-1935. 2 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 140)

Bristol, Myrl Lewark. Papers, 1925-1981. Iowa City writer, scholar and student of mysticism. 4 ft. (7 boxes). (Ms 155)

Brown, Aaron, 1822-1904. Papers, 1850-1875. Fayette legislator, Civil War colonel, Register of State Land Office. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 38)


Bruns, Armin R., 1892-1977. Papers, ca. 1934-1974. Davenport businessman and seed dealer. 2 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 5)

Byington, LeGrand W., 1816-1907. Papers, 1852-1882. Iowa City farmer, real estate agent and Democrat. 3 ft. (7 boxes). (Ms 216)

Campbell, Macy. Papers, 1917-1919. Chairman of Blackhawk County Liberty Loan drive. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 77)


Chapman family. Papers, 1855-1865. Civil War letters between Philo Judson Chapman of the 3rd Iowa Infantry and Sarah Florence Chapman. 1.5 ft. (3 boxes) (Ms 233)

Citizens Historical Society. Biographical sketches, 1938-1940. 1 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 54)

Civil War, 7th Infantry Regiment. 2 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 96)

Clark, Lou E. Papers 1909-1941. Member of American Legion, Iowa National Guard, Engineers, Co. A, World War I. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 107)


Clasen-Thomarsen Papers. Papers, 1915-1934. Edward Thomarsen, Le Mars insurance agent and investor. Investments in Iowa and Nevada real estate, and in the Gopher Iron Co. of Minneapolis, Minnesota. 9 ft. (17 boxes). (Ms 139)

Coffman, Virgil S. Papers, 1929-1968. Farm accounts from near South English. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 240)


Cook-Stevens family. Papers and photographs, 1890-1962. New London and Burlington families. ½ ft. (1 box). (Ms 226)


Cummins family. Papers, 1869-1998. Ute family farm diaries and papers related to R. Tait Cummins’ career as sports broadcaster in Cedar Rapids. 2 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 218)

Davis, Mrs. Lloyd (Laura). Mechanicsville, Iowa. Papers, 1863-1908. Account books of several Mechanicsville businesses: 5 vols. from G. A. Eagerty Dry Goods Store and 2 others. 1 ft. (1 box 3 vols.) (Ms 135)

Dawson, Albert, 1879-1949 Scrapbooks, 1886-1936. Preston, Clinton, and Davenport banker and Iowa Congressman. 4 ft. (4 boxes). (Ms 66)

De Quille, Dan. Papers, 1860s-1890s, 1920s-1950s. Photocopies of originals. Virginia City, Nevada, novelist and friend of Mark Twain. 1 ft. (1 box). (Ms 172)

Des Moines Federal Office Building. Objects and documents from cornerstone, 1853-1868. 1 ft. and roll of plans. (Ms 1)


Dodge, Augustus C., 1812-1883. Papers, 1836-1883. Burlington lawyer and congressman. 1 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 49)


Donovan, Clifford. Correspondence and business reports, 1926-1950. Engineer and road builder. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 138)

Downey Grange No. 2087, 1907-1957. Local records for Downey chapter and National Grange items. ½ ft. (1 box) (Ms 182)


Dubuque Academy of Music. Scrapbooks, 1880-1940. 2 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 194)


Eaton, Linda. Papers, 1974-1980. Legal files and correspondence concerning civil rights case of Iowa City firefighter fired for breastfeeding infant on the job. 5 ft. (10 boxes). (Ms 160)

Edwards, Mabel. Papers, 1950-1971. Iowa City, active in Institute of Gerontology, Iowa Commission on Aging, retirement and nursing home newsletters. 5 ft. (8 boxes). (Ms 120)

Ellis, Franny McQuitty. Papers, 1912-1960s. Marengo school teacher who taught in Ames, Randolph, and Amana. 10 ft. (10 boxes). (Ms 197)

Ellwood, J. M., ?-1880. Papers, 1856-1877, 1880? Des Moines lawyer. 1 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 34)

Elson, Jeremiah and Mollie. Papers, 1859-1937. Civil War soldier's correspondence and woman's diary of first winter in Dakota territory. ¼ ft. (1 box). (Ms 186)


Enlow family. Papers, 1850?-1941. West Branch, etc. Farmers, lawyer, etc. Samuel Enlow and family including surnames, Crew, Hollingsworth, Steer. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 46)

Entler, John S., 1852?- Scrapbooks, ca. 1860-1915. Bonaparte. Includes information on bicyling, boxing, baseball, local obituaries, etc. 6 ft. (28 vols.). (Ms 112)

Evans, William T., 1869-? Papers, 1889-1960? Parkersburg lawyer and legislator. 3 ft. (5 boxes). (Ms 35)


Franke, Carl, 1871-1940. Papers, 1900-1924. Parkersburg and Mason City. Real estate businessman, Republican State Central Committee Chairman. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 61)
Foley-Reilly family. Papers and photographs, 1874-1960s. New Hampton businessman active in Democratic Party; includes papers of World War II correspondent. 3 ft. (6 boxes). (Ms 224)

Fort Atkinson. Research Files, 1840-1856, 1970s-1980s. 5 ft. (6 boxes). (Ms 173)


Gifford, Alice Mary. Photo albums and scrapbooks, 1900-1976. Iowa City. 2 ft. (1 box, 2 vols.). (Ms 104)

Glesne, Dr. Otto N., 1899-? Papers, 1926-1969. Fort Dodge physician. 1 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 84)

Goosetown Neighborhood, Iowa City, Iowa. Papers, 1863-2000. Research files created by Marybeth Slonneger. 3 ft. (6 boxes). (Ms 244)

Gribben, Ray, 1885-? Papers, 1869-1960. Minburn farmer. 4 ft. (7 boxes). (Ms 42)

Grizel, Della A. 1933-53. Report of an investigation of assessment conditions in Iowa City. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 175)

Guthrie family. Papers, 1903-1960. Primarily diaries of James Guthrie and Irma Tabor Guthrie, Quaker ministers in several Iowa communities. 2 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 148)

Hackett, Dr. James F. Papers, 1904-1907. Kellogg physician and novelist. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 83)


Hauge, Herbert, 1906-1978. Papers, Des Moines attorney and representative, served in European theater in World War II. 6 ft. (7 boxes). (Ms 81)


Hemphill family. Papers, 1852-1943. Johnson County family farmers, telephone company workers, and teachers. Includes Civil War letters describing 22nd Iowa Infantry. 2 ft. (4 boxes). (Ms 225)


Henry, John M., 1845-? Papers, 1949-1977. Des Moines farmer, also includes Flying Hoofs of Iowa records. 1 ½ ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 119)
Hillis, Cora Bussey, 1858-1924. Papers, 1865-1954. Des Moines promoter of child welfare. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 72)


Holmes, Chrystal. Papers, 1932-1979. Iowa City and Stanton, school teacher who taught Indian history. 1 ½ ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 126)

Hoover Birthplace Grange, No. 2224. Records, 1951-1957. Local records of West Branch Grange. ½ ft. (1 box). (Ms 190)


Immer, Esther, 1902-1970. Papers, 1919-1969. Charles City and Des Moines. Executive Secretary, Iowa Commission on Children and Youth. 3 ft. (8 boxes). (Ms 90)


Iowa City Engineers Club. Records, 1924-1964. 1 ft. (1 box)(Ms 183)


Iowa Commission on the Aging Essay contest, 1976-1978. 3 ft. (5 boxes). (Ms 89)


Irish-Preston families. Papers, 1832-1972. Iowa City & Davenport. 13 ft. (23 boxes). (Ms 105)


RESTRICTED COLLECTION
Johnson County Civilian Defense Council. Records, 1942-1944. Includes World War II Victory Garden and Canning, Blood Donor, Red Cross, etc. 3 ft. (7 boxes). (Ms 117)


Kennedy, Ronald F., 1910- . Papers, 1899-1960. Southwest Iowa family papers for three generations. 4 ft. (7 boxes). (Ms 204)

Kent, Fred W. and family. Papers and photographs, 1858-1971. DeWitt and Iowa City photographer. 75 ft. (11 boxes of papers). (Ms 210)


Kinkel, Lenore Sidwell. Papers and photographs, 1880-2000. Iowa City businesswoman and family historian. 1 ft. (1 box). (Ms 229)

Kirkwood, Samuel J., 1813-1894. Papers, 1843-1915. Iowa City miller, Senator, Secretary of Interior, Governor. 2 ft. (5 boxes). (Ms 53)


Krueger Family. Papers, 1910-1966. Charles City farmers, owners of hatchery, teachers, etc. 7 ft. (15 boxes). (Ms 30)

Kubby, Karen, 1960-. Papers, 1979-2001. Socialist member of Iowa City council and social justice advocate. 1 ½ ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 221)


Lana, Eric. Research files on Underground Railroad in Iowa, 1837-1838, 1848-1862. 3.2 ft. (8 archives boxes). (Ms 235)


Landers, Frank E., 1884-1930. Papers, 1880-1930. Webster City genealogist. 3 ft. (7 boxes). (Ms 91)

Larew, A. J. Records, 1917-1986. Iowa City realtor. 2 ½ ft. (3 boxes) (Ms 181)
Larrabee, William, 1832-1912. Papers and photographs, 1848-1943. Clermont miller, Governor of Iowa, family papers. 12 ft. (18 boxes). (Ms 9)


Lathrop family. Papers, 1829-1998. Iowa City family of farmers and teachers. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 191)


Lewis, Thelma. Papers, 1954-1963. Iowa City mayor, League of Women Voters officer. 1 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 36)


Lothrop, Charles H., 1831-1890. Papers, 1861-1894. Lyons, surgeon served in 1st Iowa Cavalry. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 97)


Macy, Jesse, 1842-1933. Papers, 1862-1941. Grinnell College political science professor, author, etc. 6 ft. (15 boxes). (Ms 27)

Maddix, Bill. Research files on African-Americans in Manly, 1913-1958. 2 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 207) RESTRICTED COLLECTION

Mahan, Bruce. Papers, 1863-1971. Iowa City, Research Associate at the State Historical Society. 2 ½ ft. (5 boxes). (Ms 7)

Manville, Berton E., 1873-1965? Papers, 1894-1970. Iowa City realtor and candidate for Congress. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 73)

Marshall, Russell and Edna. Research files on local history, 1950s-1980s. Ireton, Iowa. ½ ft. (1 box) (Ms 234)

Marshalltown Scrapbook. 1890s-1928. 2 ft. (640 p.) (Ms 4)

Mather, Samuel. Papers, 1869-1951. West Liberty farmer. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 68) (See also Mather-Bush Collection, Ms 162).

Mather-Bush Collection. Papers, 1845-1955. Iowa City and Cedar County. Quaker pioneers and farmers, University of Iowa professor, Women's Christian Temperance Union, etc. 26 ft. (39 boxes). (Ms 162) (See also Mather Papers, Ms 68)


McKnight, Thomas, 1787-1865. Papers, 1805-1863. St. Louis, Dubuque, businessman, politician, lawyer, Register of Land Office. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 40)


Mediapolis State Bank. Bank records, 1915-1933. Bank folded in 1933. Also known in records as Commercial State Bank and Citizen's State Bank. 5 ft. (4 boxes, 9 vols.) (Ms 142)

Metcalf, Herbert. Papers, 1910-1919. Des Moines, State Director of Iowa Public Service Reserve (World War I labor program). 5 ft. (12 boxes). (Ms 74)

Meyers, Joseph E., 18__-1937. Papers, 1883-1953. Biographies of Iowa Quakers. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 208)

Middleburg Independent District No. 1. English River Township, Kalona, Iowa. School records, 1873-1965. 2 ft. (3 boxes, 1 vol.). (Ms 3)


Montgomery, Harold. Papers, 1928-1958. County Extension agent reports. 2 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 57)

Mosher, Martin and father, Lemuel. Papers, 1878-1970s. Muscatine County agricultural extension agents. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 82)

Munger, Grant, 1885-? Papers, 1925-1974. Cedar Rapids veterinarian, active in Eastern Iowa Veterinarian Association and Cow War in Cedar County. 5 ft. (4 boxes). (Ms 58)

Muscantie Migrant Committee. Records, 1959-1980. Organizational papers, constitution and by-laws, annual reports, clippings, and manuscript by Marilyn Jackson on committee. ½ ft. (1 box). (Ms 158)


Norris, W. J. Papers, 1928-1932. Annual reports of Benton County Agriculture Extension Agent. 1 ft. (1 box, 5 vols.). (Ms 152)
Oleson, Clifford P. "Ole." Iowa aviation history material, 1967-1970. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 133)

109th Engineers Association, 1918-1919. Papers, 1922-1984. Annual meeting, correspondence, scrapbooks, and photos. 5 ft. (9 boxes). (Ms 164)


Pan American League of Iowa City. Records, 1936-1979. 2 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 154)

Parker, Leonard F., 1825-1911. Papers, 1840-1925. History professor, Grinnell and University of Iowa, and wife, Sarah Pearse. 3 ft. (6 boxes). (Ms 44)

Parker, George F., 1847-1928. Papers, 1878-1924? Journalist, diplomat. 5 ft. (8 boxes). (Ms 45)

Parkhurst, Clinton, 1844-1933. Papers, 1862-1921. Journalist and author. Civil War veteran from LeClaire. 3 ft. (6 boxes). (Ms 16)


Parvin, Theodore, 1817-1901. Papers, 1851-1874. Weather records of Iowa City. (17 vols.) (Ms 23)

Pattee, John, 1830-1901. Papers, 1856-1882. Lt. Col. 7th Cavalry, Maj. 41st Iowa Infantry. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 87)


Powers, Elmer G. Papers, 1920-1942. Ogden farmer and diarist. 3 ft. (6 boxes). (Ms 63)

Quinones Family. Correspondence of William and other sons during World War II, 1940-1953. Mason City hispanic family. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 114)
Reinhardt, Kathryn Warner. Papers, 1970-1979. Family genealogist from Iowa City. 9 ft. (9 boxes, 2 vol.). (Ms 166)

Remey, Charles Mason, 1874-? Papers, 1910-1940. Architect, author and lecturer. 7 ft. (119 vols. in 7 boxes). (Ms 212)

Remington, Helen. Papers, 1907-1967. Cedar Rapids genealogist. 3 ft. (7 boxes). (Ms 20)


Rennie, Orville and Jane. Papers, 1875-1987. Relating to the Cherry Sisters, vaudeville performers from Marion. 2 ½ ft. (5 boxes). (Ms 178)

Rhode family. Papers, 1942-1977. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 205)

Richter, Dr. August P. Papers, 1884-1925. Davenport, Editor of Der Demokrat, 12 ft. (12 boxes). (Ms 103)

Riggs, Charles Randal. Civil War papers and artifacts relating to 2nd Cavalry, 1835-1909. Clinton County and Sioux City resident. Also includes African-American regiments. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 8)


Rohlf, William A., 1867-1941. Papers, 1885-1955. Waverly doctor and wife, Lottie Beed 3 ft. (5 boxes). (Ms 43) (See also Beed Papers, Ms 59).


Rosenberger, Harry C., 1885-1963. Papers, diaries, correspondence, sermons, writings, 1892-1964. University Park, teacher of religion and philosophy. Also records of Central Holiness University, John Fletcher College, and Kletzing College. 2 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 150)


Rowe, Lorin A. Papers, 1868, 1894-1925. Eddyville, Iowa. Manager of Opera House, water works and electric plant. 1 1/2 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 127)

Rundle and Platner Family. Genealogical research files. 1 ft. (1 box). (Ms 206)

Samuelson, Agnes, 1886-1963. Papers, 1905-1963. Shenandoah, Des Moines, educator. Superintendent of Public Instruction, NEA President. 11 ft (16 boxes, 3 vols.). (Ms 26)

Sanders, Cyrus, 1817-1887. Papers, 1836-1927. Iowa City farmer and surveyor. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 51)


Schottle, Emil, 1829-1910. Papers, 1876-1927. Lisbon, owner of bakery and restaurant. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 118)

Schroeder, Fred Herman. Papers, 1911-1922. Tipton. World War I manuals, pamphlets, songbooks and personal papers. Served in Co. "C" of 338th Machine Gun Battalion, 88th Division, and received training at Camp Dodge. ½ ft. (1 box). (Ms 157)

Seagrave, Sadie, 1882-1972. Papers, 1890-1961. Secretary at Oakdale Sanitarium and poet. 6 ft. (13 boxes). (Ms 64)

Shambaugh, Benjamin F., 1871-1940 and wife, Bertha, 1871-1953. Papers, 1888-1953. University of Iowa professor and Superintendent of SHSI. Iowa City author and photographer. 11 ft. (16 boxes). (Ms 100)


Slimmer, Abram, 1835-1917? Papers, 1872-1903. Waverly banker, livestock dealer, philanthropist. 1 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 52)


Stach and Harvat Collection. Papers, 1910-1930. Iowa City family. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 195)

State Historical Society of Iowa & Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, Essay Contest, 1923. High school students writing essays on grandparents or town history. 11 ft. (22 boxes). (Ms 22)

Stronks, James B. Papers, 1911-1984. Iowa City businessman's diaries. 3 ft. (4 boxes). (Ms 184)

Tanner, Alfred J. Class notes from University of Iowa School of Dentistry, personal and patient records, 1907-1967. Cherokee dentist. 3 ft. (3 boxes, 3 vols.) (Ms 141)

Thompson Family. Papers, 1843-1968. Forest City, etc. Bankers, real estate, lawyer, etc. 8 ft. (15 boxes). (Ms 130)


Tracy, James B. Papers, 1964-1977. Correspondence, records, and architectural plans relating to Muscatine Community on Low Rent Housing, Muscatine Elderly Housing Project and Muscatine County Community on Aging. 4 ft. (7 boxes). (Ms 161)

U. S. Food Administration. Iowa Division. Records, 1917-1920. 2 ft. (5 boxes). (Ms 76)

UNI Price Lab School. Explorations in Iowa History Project research papers, 1974-1976. 5 ft. (12 boxes). (Ms 80)


Ushers Society Genealogy. Papers, 1648-1996. Genealogical research files. 1 ½ ft. (2 boxes, 2 vols.). (Ms 217)

Van Der Zee, Jacob, 1884-1960. Papers, 1805-1958. Iowa City, University of Iowa political science professor. 1 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 70)


Walker, Robert M. Chautauqua research material, collected 1980-1981. Correspondence, programs and reminiscences. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 143)

Walker, Myron Joseph. Papers, 1849-1884, 1930s. Iowa City family, Naval officer in World War I and World War II. 1/2 ft. (1 box). (Ms 174)


Weitz, Alice. Papers, 1910-1953. Des Moines journalist. 1 ft. (3 boxes). (Ms 71)


Wilson, Jennie Shrader, 1838-1931. Papers, 1863-1930. 1 ft. (2 boxes). (Ms 110)

Wortman, Rev. Verne V. Notes and manuscript for graduate thesis on: ”The History of the United Presbyterian Synod of Iowa, 1860-1952.” 1 ft. (2 boxes) (Ms 111)

Winborn Collection. Genealogical research files. 6 ft. (6 boxes) (Ms 177)

World War I materials. 4 ft. (10 boxes). (Ms 78)

Wright, Henry. Papers, 1861-1865. Relating to history of 6th Iowa Infantry in Civil War. 2 ft. (4 boxes). (Ms 50)

Wright, Thomas H., ca. 1841-? Papers, 1904-1927. Ft. Dodge real estate and insurance business. 2 ft. (4 boxes). (Ms 131)

Young Family. Papers, 1858-1970s. North Liberty farm family (Dr. Miller Young and Maria Wray Young). 5 ft. (10 boxes). (Ms 39)