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Claud R. Erickson Papers UA.10.3.425

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Conrad Hall

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Summary Information

Repository:	Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections
Creator:	Erickson, Claud R.
Source:	Michigan State University. College of Engineering
Title:	Claud R. Erickson Papers
ID:	UA.10.3.425
Date:	1943-1969, undated
Physical Description:	5.75 Cubic Feet
Language of the Material:	English

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: "Item title, Collection title, Collection Identifier, Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections, East Lansing, Michigan."

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Biographical Note

Claud R. Erickson worked for the Lansing Board of Water and Light for 53 years.

Erickson received his B.S. in mechanical engineering in 1922 from Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University). He earned professional degrees in electrical engineering in 1933 and in civil engineering in 1934, also from Michigan State. He started working for the Lansing Board of Water and Light in 1920 when he was a junior at M.A.C. Erickson wanted to quit school and work full-time, but his boss warned him that he would not have a job if he did not finish his degrees.

Because of his work for the power company, Erickson developed an interest in electric cars which continued throughout his life. He tried to bring electric vehicles to the power company though his efforts were unsuccessful. Erickson worked for the Board of Water and Light for his entire professional career leaving the company when he was 73 years old. The split was not amicable; Erickson claimed he was not yet ready to retire. When the Delta Power Station was completed in 1973 it was named for Claud Erickson.

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Scope and Contents

The Claud R. Erickson papers span the years 1943 to 1969 and contain correspondence, clippings, brochures, articles, publications, and photographs documenting Erickson's interest in electric vehicles. Where possible, folder headings assigned by Erickson have been maintained.

The Correspondence Series, 1958-1969, contains primarily mailings that Erickson sent to the electric vehicles committee of the American Public Power Association. These mailings include clippings and notes from Erickson on particular points of interest. These files have been arranged chronologically. Additional correspondence in the series is directed to specific persons or companies. All correspondence has been arranged alphabetically by recipient name.

The Conferences and Speeches Series, 1959-1967, is comprised of notes, drafts, and final speeches prepared and delivered by Erickson at various conferences and groups. The series also contains a brief article about Erickson, published in the January 16, 1967 issue of Life magazine.

The Writings Series, 1958-1967, consists of draft chapters Erickson wrote on different aspects of the electric car. Topics of these chapters include air pollution, safety features, fuel cells, and the history of the electric car. The arrangement of the files is alphabetical.

The Subject Files Series, 1943-1969, is the largest series in the collection. This series contains articles, brochures, publications, and charts on topics related to electric cars and companies that produced electric vehicles. Erickson kept these materials arranged alphabetically by subject and that order has been maintained, along with his subject headings.

The Photographs Series document different electric cars and vehicles as well as models from specific companies. These materials are arranged alphabetically by subject. Two folders of slides are also included in the collection. These slides were used by Erickson during his speeches on the history of the electric car.

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Arrangement

The collection is organized into five series: correspondence, conferences and speeches, writings, subject files, and photographs.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections

Conrad Hall
943 Conrad Road, Room 101
East Lansing , MI 48824
archives@msu.edu
URL: <http://archives.msu.edu/>

Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Permission to publish material from this collection must be obtained from University Archives & Historical Collections, Michigan State University.

Conditions Governing Access

Legal Status: Donor(s) have transferred any applicable copyright to Michigan State University but the collection may contain third-party materials for which copyright was not transferred. Copyright restrictions may apply. Property Rights: Michigan State University.

Custodial History

Transferred by the MSU Department of Engineering

Processing Information

Changed record group from 00194 to UA 10.3.425 to reflect Erickson's connection to MSU. M. Badgley Malone, November 2019.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Automobiles
- Electric automobiles
- Electric vehicles
- Brochures
- Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
- Letters (correspondence)
- Photographs
- Speeches
- Michigan State University. College of Engineering
- Glascock, Cynthia

Collection Inventory

Correspondence, 1958-1969, undated

Scope and Contents note

Title/Description	Instances	
American Public Power Association Committee		
March 29, 1966	box 6149	folder 1
April 4, 1966	box 6149	folder 2
April 11, 1966	box 6149	folder 3
April 19, 1966	box 6149	folder 4
April 25, 1966	box 6149	folder 5
April 29, 1966	box 6149	folder 6
May 24, 1966	box 6149	folder 7
June 1, 1966	box 6149	folder 8
June 6, 1966	box 6149	folder 9
June 10, 1966	box 6149	folder 10
June 17, 1966	box 6149	folder 11
June 24, 1966	box 6149	folder 12
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July 8, 1966	box 6149	folder 14

July 15, 1966	box 6149	folder 15
July 19, 1966	box 6149	folder 16
July 22, 1966	box 6149	folder 17
July 26, 1966	box 6149	folder 18
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August 12, 1966	box 6149	folder 20
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November 11, 1966	box 6149	folder 33
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December 2, 1966	box 6149	folder 36
December 16, 1966	box 6149	folder 37
January 3, 1967	box 6149	folder 38
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February 10, 1967	box 6149	folder 42
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Billingsley, Kirby, 1965-1967	box 6149	folder 67
Boulevard Machine Works North Hollywood, California, 1966	box 6149	folder 68
Boyd, P.G.	box 6149	folder 69
Coleman Co., 1966	box 6149	folder 70
Correspondence received regarding electric vehicles, 1966	box 6149	folder 71
Cozzens, Bradley, 1965-1966	box 6149	folder 72
Electric Car Correspondence A to D, 1960-1965	box 6149	folder 73
Electric Car Correspondence E to J, 1959-1966	box 6149	folder 74
Electric Car Correspondence K to R, 1960-1967	box 6149	folder 75
Electric Car Correspondence S, 1960-1969	box 6150	folder 1
Electric Car Correspondence W, 1960-1964	box 6150	folder 2
Electric Car and Truck Correspondence, 1966	box 6150	folder 3

Florida Power Corporation, 1961	box 6150	folder 4
General Correspondence A-G, 1959	box 6150	folder 5-6
General Correspondence H-Z, 1959	box 6150	folder 7-8
General Electric Co., 1964	box 6150	folder 9
Heyman, Horace W., 1962-1965	box 6150	folder 10
Heyman, Horace W., 1966	box 6150	folder 11-12
King, Frank H., 1966-1967	box 6150	folder 13
Lansing Division Motors, 1966	box 6150	folder 14
Letters written for Claud Erickson, 1966	box 6150	folder 15
Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1958-1961	box 6150	folder 16
Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1960-1969	box 6150	folder 17
Rodin, Alex, 1966-1967	box 6150	folder 18
Wallace, Robert C., 1966	box 6150	folder 19-20

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American Power Conference		
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Charts and Tabulations, undated	box 6150	folder 26
Preliminary Draft, undated	box 6150	folder 27
American Public Power Association		
1966	box 6150	folder 28-29
Alex Radin, 1966	box 6150	folder 30
Committee on Electric Cars and Trucks, 1966	box 6150	folder 31
Committee on Electric Cars and Trucks, Letters, April - May, 1966	box 6150	folder 32
Boston Conference, May 1966	box 6150	folder 33
Conference on the Super-City of Tomorrow, 1964	box 6150	folder 34
"Electric Cars and Trucks: Past, Present and Future", 1960	box 6150	folder 35

Industrial Clubs of Saginaw, 1964	box 6150	folder 36
<i>Life</i> Magazine Interview, January 16, 1967	box 6150	folder 37
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Electric Car, 1964-1966	box 6150	folder 45
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Original Change Notes, 1966-1967	box 6150	folder 51
Original Performance Chapter VII, 1961, undated	box 6150	folder 52
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American Mobile Products - Richard Dinkel, 1966	box 6151	folder 8
American Public Power Association, 1960-1966	box 6151	folder 9
Annual Reports, 1959	box 6151	folder 10
Argo Electric, undated	box 6151	folder 11
Articles, 1943-1967	box 6151	folder 12
Austin Crompton Parkinson Electric Vehicles, Ltd., 1966	box 6151	folder 13
<i>Automobile Topics</i> Magazine, 1959-1960	box 6151	folder 14
Automobiles Today and Tomorrow, 1962	box 6151	folder 15
<i>Automotive News</i> "The Billion Dollar Smog Hoax -- Book I" by Joseph M. Callahan, 1966	box 6151	folder 16
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B.I.E. Day Talk, 1960	box 6151	folder 18
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Battery - Chapter, undated	box 6151	folder 24
Battery Charger Data, 1958-1960	box 6151	folder 25
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Battery Electric Passenger Cars: An Interim Report, 1966	box 6151	folder 28
Battery Electric Traction	box 6151	folder 29
Battery-Operated Electric Automobiles, 1963	box 6151	folder 30
Batronic Battery Powered Truck, 1964-1966	box 6151	folder 31
Berg-Gibson Manufacturing Company Correspondence, 1960	box 6151	folder 32
Biochemical Fuel Cells - Ecom, Manuscripts and Articles, August 1965	box 6151	folder 33
British Electric Cars and Trucks, 1956-1960	box 6151	folder 34
Calculators (Blackwell), undated	box 6151	folder 35
Carriages, 1960	box 6151	folder 36
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Care and Maintenance Chapter, undated	box 6151	folder 38
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Cars Chapter, 1961	box 6151	folder 40
Catalogs - Surplus and Salvage, 1959	box 6151	folder 41
Clippings - Electric Car	box 6151	folder 42-43
Clippings - Electric Car	box 6152	folder 1-2
<i>Congressional Record</i> Air Pollution, 1966	box 6152	folder 3
Consumers Power Talk, April 28, 1961	box 6152	folder 4
Control Devices - Electric Car, 1957-1959	box 6152	folder 5-6
Controlled Rectifiers, Transistors-Rectifiers, 1958-1959	box 6152	folder 7-8
Controls (Speed Controls for Electric Cars), 1958-1959	box 6152	folder 9-10
Department of Health Education, Education, and Welfare, 1966	box 6152	folder 11
<i>Design News</i> (Magazine), 1966-1967	box 6152	folder 12
Development of Electrically Powered Vehicles, 1967	box 6152	folder 13
Developments in Electrochemical Energy Conversion Devices, Batteries, and Fuel Cells, 1966	box 6152	folder 14
Diagrams, undated	box 6152	folder 15
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Electric Automobile, 1966	box 6152	folder 17
Electric Car File, 1966	box 6152	folder 18
The Electric Car in Perspective, 1967	box 6152	folder 19
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Electric Car Miscellaneous, 1947-1962	box 6152	folder 22-23
The Electric Car - Present Status and Future Prospects, 1967	box 6152	folder 24
Electric Car Solutions, 1966-1967	box 6152	folder 25
Electric Cars: Modern and Proposed, 1958-1959	box 6152	folder 26
Electric Fuel Propulsion, Inc., 1966	box 6152	folder 27
Electric Locomotive Drive, 1957	box 6152	folder 28
Electric Motor Cars, 1963	box 6152	folder 29
Electric Scooter, undated	box 6152	folder 30
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Electric Trucks for Board of Water and Light, 1960-1961	box 6152	folder 33
Electric Vehicle History, 1966		

	box 6152	folder 34
Electric Vehicle Research, 1967	box 6152	folder 35
"Electric Vehicle and the Dairy Industry", 1960	box 6152	folder 36
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"Electronics Reviewed Yesteryears - Today", 1967	box 6152	folder 39
Exide Industrial Marketing Division, 1960-1965	box 6152	folder 40-41
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General Electric SCR Control for Electric Trucks, 1968	box 6153	folder 4
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A New Look at the Transit Problem, 1966	box 6153	folder 43
New Material (long articles), 1966	box 6153	folder 44
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Passenger Car Engineering Trends, 1967	box 6153	folder 51
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Operating Costs - Comparison of Electric vs. Gasoline, 1965, undated	box 6153	folder 53

Original 23 Safety Standards, 1966-1967	box 6153	folder 54
Paper - Performance and Economics of the Silver-Zinc Battery in Electric Vehicles, by George A. Dalin, 1967	box 6153	folder 55
Papers, 1965-1966	box 6153	folder 56
Papers on Electric Cars by others, 1952-1960	box 6153	folder 57
Papers - Publications, 1966-1967	box 6153	folder 58
Pensions, Smith Delivery, 1959-1961	box 6153	folder 59
Performance, 1958-1966	box 6153	folder 60
Performance and Design Data through March 1959	box 6153	folder 61
Performance Calculations - Chapter, undated	box 6153	folder 62
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Photocircuits and Circuit Research Company, 1959-1961	box 6154	folder 1
Plant-Kat Personal Carrier, 1964-1965	box 6154	folder 2
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Potential for Electric Passenger Vehicles by M.R. Eichner, 1967	box 6154	folder 4
Power Engineering article by Ronald W. Hicks, 1967	box 6154	folder 5
Power Transmission - V Belt, 1959	box 6154	folder 6
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Questionnaires on Electric Cars, 1958-1959	box 6154	folder 10
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Roberts Electric Company, 1959	box 6154	folder 13
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Special Organization Study, Memphis Light, Gas and Water Division, City of Memphis, Tennessee, 1967	box 6154	folder 21

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Stanford Research Institute, 1963-1964	box 6154	folder 23
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Trucks - Electric, Commercial and Factory Modern, 1958-1959	box 6154	folder 27-28
Vehicle Restrictions (Law), 1958	box 6154	folder 29
War on Pollution Sparks showing of Electric Cars, 1967	box 6154	folder 30
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Title/Description	Instances	
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Electric Scooter	box 6155	folder 6
Electric Tractor	box 6155	folder 7
Exide Industrial Division (The Electric Storage Battery Co.)	box 6155	folder 8-9
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