

Forest Industries

A Guide to the Resources in the Michigan State University
Archives and Historical Collections

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The purpose of this resource guide is to familiarize visitors of the MSU Archives with some of the available resources related to the forestry and associated industries, such as commercial logging. Note that this guide is not a comprehensive listing of all the available sources, but is intended to be a starting point from which visitors can begin their research according to their specific needs. Online versions of the finding aids for most collections listed can be accessed by clicking on the collection name.

Forest Industries

1. **Harry L. Bancroft Scrapbook, 1909-1912.** **UA 10.3.132**
 - 1 item
 - Bancroft's scrapbook consists mainly of photographs which depict M.A.C. forestry expeditions, campus scenes, sports, and other student activities.

2. **Mary Crocker Boutell Papers, 1914-1923.** **UA 10.3.104**
 - 1 folder
 - This collection includes a photograph of a lumbering crew, and pictures of the M.A.C. 1915 Forestry Summer Camp attended by her brother, Emory.

3. **Marley R. Brown Research Report, 1981.** **c.00583**
 - 3 folders
 - Sonoma State University Academic Foundation was awarded a contract entitled "Redwood Logging Research on the Hume Lake Ranger District" by the U.S. Forest Service in October 1981. The Final Report is primarily based on primary and secondary documents and/or oral accounts.
 - This collection consists of one copy of the Final Report, "An Historical Overview of Redwood Logging Resources within the Hume Lake Ranger District, Sequoia National Forest, California." The Final Report is a historical overview of the redwood lumber areas of the Hume Lake Ranger District of the Sequoia National Forest.

4. **Malcolm Gordon Dickinson Papers, 1910-1915.** **UA 10.3.26**
 - 1 volume, 2 folders
 - The Malcolm Dickinson papers consist of a scrapbook (1910-1915) with photographs of family, friends, athletic events, campus life, and forestry camp, as well as postcards, receipts, report cards, a class of 1915 rivalry poster, and miscellaneous memorabilia.

5. **George K. Fisher Collection 1913, 1953.** **UA 10.3.225**
 - 2 folders
 - The collection contains photographs of Michigan Agricultural College forestry students at a summer lumbering camp in Cheboygan County,

Michigan in 1913. Also included is an account of the camp's activities written by Fisher in 1953.

6. **Jacob Gerrish Papers, 1836-1867.** **c.00273**
 - 2 folders, 6 volumes
 - This collection contains diaries kept by Jacob Gerrish to record his work as a carpenter and blacksmith. Also included are his dealings in lumber and land, agriculture and trade, daily expenses, and religious and social activities during the time he lived in New Buffalo, Michigan. In addition, deeds and tax receipts for land in Berrien and Van Buren, Michigan, as well as Laporte County, Indiana are included.

7. **Warren O. Goodwin Papers, 1926-1972.** **00157**
 - 3 cubic feet
 - Warren O. Goodwin was a partner in his father's sawmilling business. His collection includes his business' records, lumbering publications, and photographs of sawmills.

8. **Hackley and Hume Papers, 1859-1955.** **00097**
 - 83 cubic feet
 - The Hackley and Hume papers contain the business records of several inter-related Michigan-based businesses, as well as the private papers of the families of Charles Henry Hackley, and Thomas Hume. Spanning the years 1859 to 1955, the papers document lumbering and lumber investments in Michigan and other states. The papers also document Charles Henry Hackley and Thomas Hume, both prominent timber men, and philanthropists.

9. **Richard Henry Harms Papers, 1983-1984.** **UA 17.159**
 - 2 folders
 - The collection consists of two manuscripts by Harms, an article entitled "Farmers Versus Scientists: The Samuel Johnson Episode" (1983), and "Life after Lumbering: Charles Henry Hackley and the Emergence of Muskegon, Michigan" (1984). The latter was Harms' Ph.D. dissertation.

10. **Carrie Usewick Harvey Papers, undated.** **c.00174**
 - 1 folder
 - This collection consists of Harvey's reminiscences of her childhood in Wexford County, Michigan during the mid-1800s. She describes early lumbering operations in the area.

- 11. Paul A. Herbert Papers, 1931-1979.** **UA 17.119**
- 0.25 cubic feet
 - This collection contains eight folders of materials primarily dealing with Herbert's involvement with the Advisory Committee to the Conservation Commission of the State of Michigan. There are two folders of correspondence and reports documenting Herbert's involvement with the advisory committee, plus three folders of drafts of the report submitted by the advisory committee to the commission. The collection also contains Herbert's seventy-six page typescript, "Forestry and Conservation at Michigan State University." In this manuscript Herbert describes the early days of the Forestry Department, but focuses mainly on his tenure as department head. There is also a photocopy of the handwritten manuscript "The Demise of the MSU Conservation Division." "The Old Order Changeth" is a photocopy of a letter by Herbert to alumni about the breakup of the Conservation Division.
- 12. E. B. Herrick Collection, 1887-1921.** **c.00362**
- 0.1 cubic feet
 - This collection contains an account book (1887 to 1906) of a loggers' lodging house kept by L. S. Warren of Howell, Michigan.
- 13. Huron Log Booming Company Records, 1864.** **c.00167**
- 1 folder
 - This collection consists of the articles of association of the Huron Log Booming Company, which was involved in the running, booming, and rafting of logs on the Cass, Shiawassee, and Saginaw Rivers in Michigan.
- 14. Leon George Johnson Papers, 1905-1911.** **UA 10.3.62**
- 1 volume, 4 folders
 - Leon George Johnson studied Forestry at Michigan Agricultural College, and was a member of the Forestry Club. His papers include photographs of the M.A.C. Forestry Camp.
- 15. Josiah Littlefield Papers, 1879-1958.** **c.00188**
- 1 folder, 4 volumes
 - This collection contains a portion of Josiah Littlefield's unpublished autobiography, which describes his early life on a farm in Monroe County, Michigan (1850-1865). The collection also contains four ledgers from Littlefield's lumber mill, recording workers' hours and business transactions.

- 16. McKibbin Family Papers, 1845-1962.** **UA 10.3.410**
- 1 cubic foot
 - Clifford Worden McKibbin received his B.S. degree in Forestry (1911) and his Master of Forestry degree (1916) from Michigan Agricultural College. While at M.A.C., he was a member of the Forestry Club. Clifford McKibbin's scrapbook primarily portrays student life at M.A.C. His papers consist mostly of class notes and materials concerning his work with the U.S. Forest Service (1910-1916) and the Civilian Conservation Corps (1933). Included in this collection are a set of letters written by Clifford from 1910 to 1916 while he was employed by the U.S. Forestry Service in the American Southwest. In addition there are various items relating to talks which he gave on the Zuni Indians, Forests of Michigan, and Transportation Systems in Urban Areas. There are photographs in this collection of forests, camps, tree planting, and forest fires.
- 17. MSU Cooperative Extension Records, 1913-2013.** **UA 16.34**
- 2 cubic feet
 - The records of the Cooperative Extension contain Forestry Reports from various counties throughout Michigan. Some of these reports contain photographs. There are also publications about forestry.
- 18. MSU Department of Forest Products Records, 1958-1960.** **UA 22.30**
- 4 folders
 - The collection consists of a scrapbook of photographs, newspaper and magazine clippings, and news releases about an experimental house in Okemos, Michigan built in association with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). The house was made with pre-fabricated materials. The Articles folder contains additional articles about the house, and a booklet from the NAHB about the house. The brochure folder contains a brochure about the forest products department. The Forest Products department first appeared in the college catalog for the 1952-1953 school year. The department had previously been called the Department of Wood Utilization in the conservation division of the College of Agriculture. In 1957, the packaging curriculum separated from the Department of Forest Products. The Department of Forest Products last appeared in the college catalog in 1969.
- 19. MSU Department of Forestry Records, 1903-1973.** **UA 16.51**
- 1 cubic feet
 - The records of the Forestry Department consist of annual reports from 1903 to 1935 and 1959 to 1969, research papers, correspondence, pamphlets, and field

reports from various counties in Michigan. Also included is the history of the Conservation Nursery at MSU, and correspondence and reports about maple syrup. Other notable topics include Michigan Agriculture Experiment Station and Xi Sigma Pi, the forestry honor society.

20. MSU Forestry Club Records, 1903-1953. UA 12.3.2

- 3 folders
- The MSU Forestry Club was established in 1903 under the name of M.A.C. Foresters. The club's original purpose was to promote the interests of forestry. The collection contains a minute book which contains the constitution and bylaws of the club at its creation, attendance rolls, meeting minutes, and publications. The minutes for 1912-1913 contain receipts, and dues as well as meeting information. The Papers folder contains a financial statement of the club and correspondence with the Intercollegiate Association of Forestry Clubs.

21. Horace D. Moore Papers, 1851-1925. c.00407

- 1 folder, 53 volumes
- Horace D. Moore operated a successful lumber business in Saugatuck, Michigan from 1857 to 1875. His collection includes business account books, day books, and other ledgers.

22. William and Edith Overlease Collection, 1890-1973. 00100

- 0.66 cubic feet, 29 Tapes
- The Overlease collection includes transcripts of oral history interviews, together with original tape recordings and supplementary photos, collected by William and Edith Overlease, documenting the history of hardwood logging and lumbering in Benzie County, Michigan, including the communities of Benzonia, Frankfort, and Honor. There are also photographs of lumbering and lumbering camps.

23. Pere Marquette Lumber Company Records, 1860-1912. 00031

- 3 cubic feet, 17 volumes
- This collection consists of tax receipts, deeds, ledgers, cash books, correspondence, and miscellaneous legal papers having to do with the Pere Marquette Lumber Company. There is also a journal and cash book of the company store, cash book of the Ludington Water Supply Company, and miscellaneous papers of the Flint and Pere Marquette Railroad.

24. **George Rupp Papers, 1891-1916.** 00135
- 0.66 cubic feet
 - The collection includes a number of mineral maps of Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, three letterpress books of correspondence, an account book of lands purchased in 1902, two lumber grading booklets, an 1880 land deed, the agreement between Rupp and Olson, and some land redemption correspondence (1913 and 1915).
25. **Harvey C. Saunders Papers, undated.** c.00313
- 1 folder
 - This collection contains photocopies of reminiscences written by Saunders. Along with descriptions of his life in logging camps in the early 1900s, details are given on the building of dams, the format and operation of lumber companies, and the founding and growth of settlements.
26. **S. C. Overpack Company Records, 1907.** c.00095
- 1 folder
 - This collection consists of advertising brochures for the S.C. Overpack Company of Manistee, Michigan, a manufacturer of logging wheels. The brochures contain pictures of the wheels and testimonials from users.
27. **Slafter Family Papers, 1855-1891.** 00037
- 0.25 cubic feet
 - This collection includes the correspondence of Slafter family members, some of which discuss logging, and the lumber trade in Michigan.
28. **Dean S. Smith Collection, 1859-1934.** c.00502
- 2 Folders, 14 Volumes
 - This collection contains the account books, ledgers, and expense records of Carmi R. Smith's lumber business in Niles, Michigan.
29. **John Baptiste Soucie Papers, 1884-1996.** c.00581
- 0.25 cubic feet, 17 photographs.
 - John Baptiste Soucie was a professional cook, who worked in lumber mill campus in the Au Sable-Oscoda area of Michigan. His collection includes his autobiography, *Forty Years a Cookin'*, a reprint of an 1897 news article announcing the closing of a lumber mill, and photographs of lumber camps.

- 30. John W. Stelzer Papers, 1871-1891.** **c.00079**
- 2 folders
 - This collection consists of four diaries kept by John W. Stelzer, a farmer near Oak Grove, Livingston County, Michigan. These diaries include entries about Stelzer's lumbering activities.
- 31. Dora Hall Stockman Papers, 1910-1948.** **UA 1.1.11**
- 1 folder
 - The Dora Hall Stockman papers include logging photographs.
- 32. Ralph W. Stroebel Collection, undated.** **c.00223**
- 1 folder
 - This collection contains lists of lumber firms and their log marks, taken from the books of the Tittabawassee Boom Company, located in the Saginaw Valley of Michigan.
- 33. Treiber Family Papers, 1863-1889.** **c.00151**
- 4 folders
 - This collection contains correspondence from John Treiber to his wife, Mary, describing his shipping work on the Great Lakes and in lumber in Wisconsin.
- 34. Harold Tubbs Papers, undated.** **c.00171**
- 1 folder
 - Harold Tubbs, a District Game Supervisor, interviewed pioneers in northern Michigan. The interview of Elizabeth Foley includes recollections of lumbering in Grayling, Michigan in the late 1800s.
- 35. Merton J. Whitman Papers, 1900-1949.** **c.00398**
- 0.25 cubic feet
 - The papers of Merton J. Whitman contain his memoirs, which describe lumbering in Ogemaw and Arenac Counties in Michigan during the 1880s and 1890s. It also includes the records of Delano Camp No. 8732 of the Modern Woodmen of America, during the time that Whitman was the organization's clerk.
- 36. Wilson Family Papers, 1863-1926.** **00051**
- 1 cubic feet
 - Included in this collection is one book of lumber facts (size, strength, cost, etc.) dated 1882.

37. **Harry S. Wilt Papers, 1882-1948.** **UA 17.53**
- 1 folder
 - The collection includes the "Scribener's Lumber and Log Book," which has tables for measurements, and guides for aspects of the lumber trade.
38. **Wixom Family Papers, 1824-1907.** **c.00131**
- 4 folders
 - Included in this collection is a ledger (1890-1896) of W. C. Wixom and J. L. Sibley's business, which had some dealings with lumber companies.
39. **Wyman's School of the Woods Publication, 1911.** **c.00372**
- 1 folder
 - The school was organized in 1909 to teach forestry, logging, and natural science. It was under the direction of Thomas B. Wyman, Chief Forester of the Northern Forest Protective Association. The collection contains a pamphlet describing Wyman's School of the Woods in Munising, Michigan. It lists courses offered, tuition, and graduates of the school.

University Publications

1. **Serials** (includes Forester, Pine Needles, Backlog)
2. **MSU Yearbooks** (1877 to present)
3. **Faculty and Student Directories** (1907 to present)
4. **Alumni and Faculty Catalogues** (1873, 1888, 1895, 1900, 1911, 1916, 1931)
5. **Course Catalogs** (1857 – present, early issues list enrolled students)
6. **Student Newspapers** (The Holcad 1909 - 1925, State News 1925 - present)
7. **Alumni Newsletters** (M.A.C./MSC Record 1896 – present, Alumni Magazine 1983 – present)
8. **MSU Staff Newsletters** (MSU Today, MSU News Bulletin, HR News)

Other Resources

1. MSU Information Files
 - a. Forestry
 - b. Forestry, Dept. of