Naperville Heritage Society
Library/Archives Collections

Guide to Collection

Hower Collecton

Name of the Collection

37

Collection Number

1845 - 1998

Date Range

4' 10"/6 boxes 410 BH/2012-13

Linear Feet/Boxes  Number of Folders/Items Processed by/Date

Description

The Hower collection consists of items from several Naperville families, including the Shimp, Klines, LaCosses, Wendlings, Howers, and Wolvertons. The Shimp and Klines were early settlers in Naperville (the Klines arrived in the 1840s and the Shimp around 1860). Two of the Shimp daughters (Kathryn Shimp and Ida Shimp) married into the Wendling and LaCoss families and continued to live in Naperville. Kathryn married J. Richard Wendling, and Ida married Eugene LaCoss. The Hower family originally was from Indiana, but moved to Naperville when Charles C. Hower attended North Central College (NCC) and later taught there. Charles C. Hower's second wife, Evelyn Wendling Hower, was an NCC graduate and was secretary to two NCC Presidents. The Wolvertons were from Batavia, IL, and moved to Naperville in the 1920s when the Wolverton daughter, Laura, took a teaching job as an English teacher at the Naperville High School. The collection contains a variety of items—diaries, letters and postcards, school report cards and home work assignments, receipts, obituaries, memorial books, certificates, travel memorabilia, programs from local and regional events and performances, real estate tax installments, Century of Progress memorabilia, and WW II gas ration book and civil service test results.

SAMUEL EBERLY SHIMP--1831-1914
CATHERINE L. (KLINE) SHIMP--1841-1931

Samuel E. Shimp was born in 1831 in Reamstown, Pennsylvania (in Lancaster County). He was the son of William and Nancy Eberly Shimp. As a young man Sam apprenticed as a blacksmith in Ohio and then headed west and settled in the Naperville-Plainfield area. He worked as a blacksmith (with Norman Lent and also with Daniel Strubler). In 1861 he married Napervillian Catherine L. Kline, who eventually bore him 13 children—three of whom died in infancy.

Shimp was elected twice to be Sheriff of DuPage County (1864-1865 and 1876-1882). In 1864 moved his family to accommodations in the county jailhouse that was located on a site in today's Central Park in Naperville. After the end of his term as sheriff, Shimp bought a 178-acre farm in
Frontenac that he farmed for 10 years. After another six-year stint as sheriff (in Wheaton), Shimp returned to the farming life. In addition to his farming, he was elected Naperville Constable in 1887 and began auctioneering (his eldest son, Frank, also worked as an auctioneer).

In 1883, when Shimp and his family moved back to the farm, the number of Shimp children had so increased that he replaced the extant frame house with a large six-bedroom, red brick house. The house was constructed by Levi Shafer, the same person who built Pine Craig (the Martin Mitchell Museum). Shimp eventually expanded his acreage and bought more land, increasing the farm to 235 acres. The farm then covered both sides of Rt. 34 from today's Frontenac Road through most of the Georgetown subdivision. He later donated 2 ½ acres of this land to build a one-room schoolhouse on the north side of Rt. 34 near Frontenac Road. This served the educational needs of the area children until the larger Granger Consolidated School opened in the early 1920s at the intersection of Rt. 34 and 59.

Shimp equipped his farm with 10 miles of drain tile, as proper drainage was (and still is) a problem. While it did not have indoor plumbing, Shimp's house did have running water in the kitchen. Powered by a windmill, water was pumped to a high tank in the wellhouse where gravity then directed the water to the kitchen spigots.

To serve the needs of the many farmers in the area, Shimp built the Frontenac Grain Elevator in the 1880s and served as the first manager. He was assisted by sons Frank, Jesse, and Jack.

An 1874 DuPage County map is the earliest documentation of the Samuel Shimp farm (in Frontenac). That map shows that the Shimp property had a co-owner. S.E. Shimp + C. Wise. Christ (Christian) Wise--1829–1894--was married to Sarah Kline, Catharine Kline Shimp's sister. A DuPage County map dated in1897 indicates 3 plots in Frontenac owned by Andrew Shimp (Sam's brother), S.E. Shimp, and Catherine L. Shimp respectively. By 1904 the Shimp land plot deeded to Andrew P. Shimp was owned by Leonard Theis. Both Catherine and Samuel Shimp retained ownership of their land on the 1904 map.

The Shimps purchased several houses on South Webster Street when they moved into town in the early teens from the farm in Frontenac. The elder Shimps lived at 526 S. Webster. Their daughter, Bernice, and her family, lived in the house just north of 526. The Shimps also owned a house at the Southeast corner of Webster and Aurora Avenue, where their daughter-in-law--Edna Shimp--and grandchildren lived. (Edna had been married to the youngest Shimp child, Martin Pierce Shimp, who divorced Edna and remarried.) Sam Shimp died in 1914 and is buried in the Naperville Cemetery.

Catherine L. Kline Shimp came to Naperville with her family in 1847. She was born in 1841 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, the daughter of SAMUEL DAVID KLINE and CATHERINE YUNDT KLINE. She died in 1931 and is buried in the Naperville Cemetery.
The Yundts and Klines came to Naperville in a wagon train. One of Catherine Yundt Kline's sisters was Sarah Yundt Erb; she came to Naperville in 1845 with her husband, Joshua. According to family records, Samuel Kline committed suicide in 1856 by hanging himself in his barn. Several of his children had died after the family came to Naperville, which perhaps contributed to his melancholy.

An 1862 DuPage County map shows land owned by Samuel Kline located in the Northeast corner of Naperville. In an 1874 map, Kline's parcel of land was expanded from its size on the 1862 map by a purchase of land from Joshua Erb. The Kline farm of the 1874 map also is labeled as being owned by C+ S.D Kline. An 1897 map also indicates that land, formerly owned by S.D. Kline, now belonged to George Reuss.

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL E. AND CATHERINE KLINE SHIMP
Francis Elmer--1862-1938
Henrietta Eldora--1863-1864 (She is the dead baby in the Shimp family cradle picture)
Jennie Lamasda--1865-1895
Susan Alice (Stark)--1867-1946
William Sherman--1868-1870
Charles Oscar--1871-1874
Ida May (LaCoss)--1872-1969
Jesse Jason--1875-1974
Kathryn Grace (Wendling)--August 23, 1877- September 1971
John Alfred--1879-1966
Bertha Viola--1881-1935
Bernice Bell (Row)--1885-1953
Martin Pierce--1887-1933

KATHRYN SHIMP WENDLING
MARRIED: JOSEPH RICHARD WENDLING--1880-1929
CHILD: EVELYN IONE WENDLING (HOWER)--April 3, 1918-February 1, 2008

Kathryn (Kate) Grace Shimp was born in 1877 and died in 1971. She is buried, with her husband Joseph Richard Wendling, in the Naperville Cemetery. As a young girl, Kate attended Naper Academy. She was also an expert seamstress and made dresses for many Naperville women. In 1912 she married J. Richard Wendling. The Wendlings then ran the Shimp farm at Frontenac. In 1918, Kate gave birth to her only child, Evelyn Ione Wendling. An interesting side note: Evelyn was born by Caesarean section at St Joseph's Hospital in Aurora.

The Wendlings were charter members of the Rural Life Progress Club, which was organized in 1917. Richard Wendling had been elected president of the Rural Life Progress Club just shortly before his death in 1929. In 1967, five charter members celebrated the club's 50th anniversary--
Clarence and Kate Shoger, Kate Wendling, and Frank and Jenny Fraley. The club disbanded in the early 1970s, partly because of the dwindling number of farms in the area and because of the deaths of the founding members.

EVELYN WENDLING HOWER

MARRIED: Charles Clare Hower--October 25, 1902--February 13, 1982

Evelyn grew up on the old Shimp farm, in the Frontenac area of Naperville. Her father, J. Richard Wendling farmed the Shimp farm until his death in 1929, at age 49. Evelyn and her mother, Kathryn Shimp Wendling then moved into Naperville and lived with Kathryn's mother and disabled sister--Catherine Kline Shimp and Bertha Viola Shimp, respectively--until Catherine's death at age 90 in 1931. After Catherine Shimp's death, Kathryn and Evelyn Wendling moved in with Kathryn's sister and brother-in-law--IDA SHIMP LACOSS and Gene LaCoss. The LaCoss's lived at 546 S. Main St. Ida remained in her home on Main St until her death at age 96 in 1969. Kathryn and Evelyn lived with the LaCoss's until Kathryn took a position as housekeeper for Naperville High School English teacher, Laura Wolverton. Laura Wolverton and Kathryn and Evelyn Wendling lived at 119 S. Ellsworth.

Evelyn graduated from Naperville High School in 1936. She then attended North Central College, from which she graduated in 1940 with a Bachelor's degree in Commerce. She also earned an MS in Business Administration from the University of Denver. She taught in several Illinois high schools (Manlius, Vergennes, and Crystal Lake) for about 5 years and for 10 years was the secretary to the president of North Central College (was hired by Dr Rall and also worked for Dr Geiger). She met Charles Hower at the college (he was Classics professor and Registrar) and they married in 1947.

Both Charles and Evelyn Wendling Hower are buried in the Naperville Cemetery.

CHILD: BARBARA KATHRYN HOWER--August 10, 1955

Barbara attended the Naperville public schools and graduated from Naperville Central High School in 1973. She received a BA from NCC in English and History.

Charles Clare was previously married to Margaret Reynolds: 3 Children: HELEN ELIZABETH (WRIGHT)--1931 and Helen's twin, Margaret, who died shortly after birth--and CHARLES REYNOLDS--1936. Helen also graduated from NCC in 1953 with a degree in History. Charles Reynolds attended NCC for 2 years, but did not graduate.

CHARLES CLARE HOWER

October 25, 1902--February 13, 1982. He was born in Upland, Indiana, and grew up in Rochester, Indiana; came to Naperville to attend North Central College. He graduated with a BA in Classics from NCC (1927) and has an MA and PhD in Classical Philology from the University
of Illinois. Charles C. Hower was professor of Classics at North Central College in Naperville from 1936 to 1970, and was registrar there from 1943 to 1963. Both of his parents (Charles Franklin and Edella Apt Hower) lived with Charles in Naperville as their health failed; they are both buried in the IOOF cemetery in Rochester, IN. Charles F Hower was a school teacher for 19 years in Grant and Fulton counties in Indiana, and later ran a market garden and greenhouse near Rochester, IN.

PARENTS: CHARLES FRANKLIN HOWER--1867-1945
EDELLA (APT) HOWER--1872-1958

LAURA WOLVERTON

October 3, 1892-February 16, 1966-- (owner of 119 S. Ellsworth in Naperville; born in Batavia, IL; family moved to Naperville in 1920. Upon her death, gave house to Evelyn Wendling Hower)

PARENTS:

SAMUEL MITCHELL WOLVERTON

1856-1932 (he was born in New Jersey and came to Illinois to work on the James Carr farm in Batavia. It is there he met NELLIE B. MARSDEN, Carr's step daughter.)
Nellie B (Marsden)--1859-1931

SISTER:

EDITH WOLVERTON--1895-1918

In June 1920, Samuel M. Wolverton and his wife Nellie bought the Dutch colonial house at 119 S. Ellsworth Street from the John Herbert family. Herbert was a harness dealer, two of the sons were electricians, and daughter Maggie ran a notion shop for sewing supplies in a small shop near the Naper Theater on Jefferson Street.

Ellsworth Street is in one of the oldest sections of town, an area known as Sleight's addition. When the Wolverton's bought the house, Ellsworth Street was known as Front Street, so the family's address then was 53 Front. The Wolvertons had farmed in Batavia, Illinois, and moved to Naperville where their daughter, Laura, took a job teaching high school English. Laura had three years of teaching experience--her first teaching job was at a school in Joy, Illinois, a small rural community in Mercer County, Illinois--before she joined the Naperville High School faculty as an English and French teacher. In 1923, she taught Algebra as her second subject,
instead of French. Beginning in 1939, she taught only 9th grade English. Laura taught at Naperville High School for more than 40 years, retiring in 1959.

Laura received a BA from the University of Michigan in 1915 and an MA from the University of Colorado in 1942.

In 1933 Laura entered the International Canning Contest, sponsored by Ball Institute of Home Canning, which was held at the Century of Progress. Her entry of Home Canned Food was displayed at the Century of Progress, October 1933.

Laura's parents, Nellie and Sam Wolverton, died in 1931 and 1932, respectively, and Laura stayed on in the home. After her parents' deaths, Laura hired a housekeeper—KATHRYN (KATE) WENDLING, who brought with her her daughter, Evelyn. Kathryn had been widowed in 1929 and moved in with her mother and sister until Catherine Shimp passed away in 1931 and the sister, Bertha, was put in the state home at Dixon, IL. Kate and Evelyn then lived with Kate's sister and brother-in-law, Ida and Gene LaCoss; then they moved in with Laura Wolverton. Kate Wendling remained with Laura in the Ellsworth Street house until Laura passed away in 1966. Laura willed the house to EVELYN WENDLING HOWER. The Howers (Evelyn and her husband, Charles) remodeled the house and, with Kate Wendling and their daughter, Barbara, moved in to it in the fall of 1966. Charles passed away in 1982 and Evelyn remained in the home until her death in February 2008.

According to records in the Lisle Township office, 119 S. Ellsworth was built ca.1910. The Wolverton’s put on an addition that included a back porch, sewing room, bathroom, and a second-story porch roof. In one of Sam Wolverton's diaries, he talks about the house addition, which craftsmen began working on in the winter of 1923. In early 1924, the addition was just about finished, and on March 1, 1924, he notes: we dried our clothes on our new porch roof for the first time. The garage also served as a chicken coop—Sam Wolverton mentions buying some chickens and proudly notes when they got their first eggs. The chicken entrance is still visible today at the rear of the garage.

One of Laura Wolverton's greatest joys was traveling--she visited practically every U.S. state except Hawaii. As teachers generally had a large part of the Summer off, Laura and her friends would go on road trips and document their travels with her Brownie camera. She had a series of enlarged and which appeared in a local exhibit. Her usual companion on these trips was Ruth Gamerstfelder (AKA Ruth Gam). There are pictures of 1930s or 1940s New Orleans with wonderful old vintage cars parked along the streets of the French Quarter. On a trip to Washington, DC, with some other female travelers, they all posed in front of the White House. And on a trip to Alaska, they went on a dog sled ride.

All of the Wolvertons are buried in the West Batavia Cemetery, Batavia, Illinois.
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Inventory

Box 1
*Birthday Book, Shimp, no date
*New Testament, Catherine Shimp, ca. 1911
*Autograph book, Ida M. Shimp, 1889
* Autograph book, Jennie L. Shimp, 1884-1891
* Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1932
* Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1932
* Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1935-36
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1937-38
* Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1939
* Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1940
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1941-42
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1943-44
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1945-46
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1947-48
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1949-50
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1951
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1951-52
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1953
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1954
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1955-56
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1957
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, (Misc) 1950s & 60s
* Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1961-62
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1964
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1967
*Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1968
* Diary, Ida Shimp LaCoss, ca 1968
*Postcard, Ida Shimp LaCoss, line drawing from Aurora Savings, no date
*Letter, Samuel Kline to Joshua Erb, 1845
* Songbook transcription, Shimp family, ca 1880
*Bill of fare, from Mrs Wright to Shimp family--for Jennie, 1886
* Naperville High School Commencement, Bernice Shimp Row, 1900
*Postcard, friendship wishes, to Samuel Shimp from JH Alexander, Jan 7, 1911
*Postcard, of Main St. Oswego, from Richard Wendling to Kathryn Shimp (his future wife), Jul 6, 1911
*Misc Shimp, Kline, and Yundt letters and family history, 1900s and 1920s
*Clippings from Catherine Shimp New Testament, ca 1911
*Diary, loose pages, Ida Shimp LaCoss, 1932-1934
*Postcard, Kings Gateway Hotel, Wisconsin, to Ida (Mrs Frank) Shimp from Bert Shimp (Ida's son), Aug 16, 1940
*Letter, from Evelyn Wendling Hower to Jesse Shimp (her uncle) on how to enroll for Social Security, 1967
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* Clippings, taken from Ida Shimp LaCoss diary, 1964
*Clippings, taken from Ida S himp LaCoss diary, 1968

Box 2

*Certificate of Membership, Order of Gregg Artists, Evelyn Wendling, No date
*Stuffed animal pattern, Kathryn Wendling, No date
*Card, graduation, from Roberta to Evelyn Wendling, No date
*Card, graduation, from Mr/Mrs H. Vacks and Emma F. Fey to Evelyn Wendling, No date
*Card, graduation, from Alice (probably Reiser) to Evelyn Wendling, no date (possibly 1936)
* Card, graduation, from Alice to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation gift, no inscription, to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Harry, Mary, Junior, and Carol (Wright) to Evelyn Wendling, no date, but probably 1936 (note: Junior/Harry Wright Jr became Evelyn Wendling's step son-in-law)
*Card, graduation, from Millo and Fern (Kirk) to Evelyn Wendling (the Kirks were Evelyn's cousins), no date
*Card, graduation, from Miriam (Bubert Fry) to Evelyn Wendling, no date, but probably 1940
*Card, graduation, from Uncle Al and Aunt Nell to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Lois and Bob Fry to Evelyn Wendling, no date, but probably 1940s
*Card, graduation, from Ruth to Evelyn, no date
*Card, graduation, from V. B. Graham to Evelyn Wendling, no date, but probably 1936
*Card, graduation, from Millo and Fern (Kirk) to Evelyn Wendling (Evelyn's cousins), no date
*Card, graduation, from Miriam (Bubert Fry) to Evelyn Wendling, no date, probably 1940s
*Card, graduation, from Shirley (Shimp Freeman) to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from the Stauffers to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from the Connell family to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Hazel and Henry (Duel--sp?) to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Katherine to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Margie to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Chuck, Bert, and Shirley Mae (Shimp) to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Gene and Ida (Shimp) Lacoss to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Alice to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Postcard, graduation gift, from Alta (maybe Wagner) and Elizabeth to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Frank and Ida (Brossman) Shimp to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Postcard, graduation, from Don, Claire and Binny Lee Brown to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Bee (probably Shimp) to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from the Duels to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Rev. and Mrs Eder to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Helen to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, commencement, from Daisy H Warner to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Uncle Gene and Aunt Hi (Ida) LaCoss to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Bea to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Laura Wolverton to Evelyn Wendling, no date
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*Card, graduation, from the Sentys to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Dorothy and Walter (Clausen) to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Card, graduation, from Harry, Mary, Junior, Carol, and Wayne (Wright) to Evelyn Wendling, no date, but probably 1940s
*Card, graduation from Mr and Mrs EJT Moyer to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Calling card, congratulations, from Miss Dorothy B. Givler to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Calling card, congratulations, from Mrs John Walter Collins to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Calling card, Wayne S. Shimp to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Gift card, from Clara Campbell & family to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Calling card, congratulations, from Mrs John Walter Collins to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Calling card, Wayne S. Shimp to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Gift card, from Clara Campbell & family to Evelyn Wendling, no date
*Receipt, Fair Store in Chicago, J. R. (Richard) Wendling, Naperville, misc household items, Mar 9, 1909
*Photocopy, Philathea-Baraca Bonfire Luncheon, Kathryn (Shimp) Wendling, Sept 17, 1910
*Grade school grades, 3rd grade, Granger School, Evelyn Wendling, 1926-27
*Letter to Santa, Evelyn Wendling, Dec 23, 1927
*School grades, grades 4-6, Naperville Public Schools: perfect attendance certificate; 2 perfect spelling certificates, Evelyn Wendling, 1927-1930
*Letter, to Catherine L Shimp (Evelyn's grandmother) from Evelyn Wendling, Jan 1, 1928
*Homework, using ratio to solve problems, Evelyn Wendling, 1930s
*Script, "Spot Cash," Evelyn Wendling, ca 1930s
*Graduation and Band lineup, Naperville High School (NHS), Evelyn Wendling, ca 1930s
*6 plays/playbills, Evelyn Wendling, ca 1930s
* Series of math homework sheets, written on teacher's daily report of attendance and tardiness sheet from the high school (probably scrap paper from Laura Wolverton, reused by Evelyn Wendling to do her homework), 1932.
*Evangelical Church Board of Religious Education, credit awarded to Evelyn Wendling for completing The Science of Leadership, Aug. 6, 1932.
* Homework, Evelyn Wendling, graded, high school math, 1933.
* Report Cards, Evelyn Wendling, Naperville Junior High School and Senior High School, 1930-36
*NHS commencement/graduation documents, Evelyn Wendling, including Graduation Record book that includes classmates and teachers' signatures, photos, programs, and clippings; misc programs, including Program of Studies 1932; Commencement Exercises 1936; Evelyn Wendling calling card; 1936 Commencement invitations; 1936 Baccalaureate Service; Baccalaureate marching order. 1936.
*Program, North Central College (NCC) Men's Octette, Season 1936
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*Play, Senior Class of NHS, "Big Hearted Herbert, Evelyn Wendling, May 29, 1936
*Program, NCC, Big-Little Sister Banquet, sponsored by Young Women's Christian Association, Sept 19, 1936.
*NHS deposit fee and charge for adult ed class, Evelyn Wendling, Nov. 13, 1936.
*Letter, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, (Evelyn was taking typing and shorthand classes, probably at Illinois State U), Nov. 23, 1936.
*Correspondence and grades, NCC, Evelyn Wendling. Welcome letter from YWCA; grades; enrollment fees; NCC Committee on Recommendations (notes her practice teaching at East Aurora HS and teaching HS at Vergennes, IL), 1936-41
*Letter from Dorice Zilmer to Evelyn Wendling, responding to Evelyn's letter to her about coming to NCC, Sept 7, 1937.
* NCC, North Central's Peerage, contains programs, autographs (teachers and students--also Dr EE Rall). ca. 1937-40.
*Bank book, Vergennes State Bank, Evelyn Wendling, 1940s.
*Letter, from Emma Litgins to Evelyn Wendling on Evelyn's graduation from NCC, June 3, 1940.
*Transcripts and grades, Illinois State University, Evelyn Wendling, 1940.
* Pamphlet, "How to use Corona the Personal Writing Machine," LC Smith & Corona Typewriters Inc., Evelyn Wendling, 1940s.
*Valentine, to Evelyn Wendling from one of her HS students, ca. 1940s
*Valentine, to Evelyn Wendling from one of her HS students, ca. 1940s
*Valentine, to Evelyn Wendling from one of her HS students, ca. 1940s
*Valentine, to Evelyn Wendling from one of her HS students, ca. 1940s
*Valentine, to Evelyn Wendling from one of her HS students, ca. 1940s
*Valentine, no signature or name, Evelyn Wendling, ca. 1940s
*Valentine, to Evelyn Wendling from one of her HS students, ca. 1940s
*Valentine, to Evelyn Wendling from one of her HS students, ca. 1940s
*Valentine, to Evelyn Wendling from one of her HS students, ca. 1940s
*Valentine, to Evelyn Wendling from one of her HS students, ca. 1940s
*Mother's Day card, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, ca 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, ca 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, ca 1940
*Play handbill, "Night Must Fall," at Smith Hall, NCC, ca 1940
*Playbill, Shakespear's Comedies and Tragedies, DuPage County Shakespear Festival, several locations in DuPage, including NCC, Evelyn Wendling, 1940s
*Folder (empty), Teacher's Certificate belonging to Evelyn Wendling, Vergennes, IL, early 1940s
*Letter/notice, "The Minister's Page," rev Maurice Haehlen, noting Grace Church graduates, including Evelyn Wendling from NCC, 1940.
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*Baccalaureate Service program, NCC, Evelyn Wendling, June 2, 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Mom (Kathryn Wendling) and Toots (Laura Wolverton), June 12, 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, June 31, 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Jul. 7 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Jul. 13, 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Jul. 13, 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Jul. 22, 1940
*Postal Savings system account card, stamped Aurora, IL, Evelyn Wendling, Sept 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Sept 9, 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Sept 24, 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Oct 1, 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Oct 2, 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Oct 7, 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Oct 27, 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Oct 30, 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Nov 4, 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Nov 13, 1940
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Nov 16, 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Nov 19, 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Dec 7, 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Dec 12, 1940
*Letter, hand written in red pencil, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Nov 19, 1940
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, ca 1941
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Jan 3, 1941
*Letter from Bee Shimp in Cedar Rapids, IA, to "Aunt Kate" Wendling; on envelope in Kathryn Wendling's handwriting she notes: supper at Duels, Flo. F funeral, letter from Sadie, saw Gladys Erb, card from Ruth W and aunt Clara (Wendling), Jan 10, 1941
*Letter, hand written (on stationery embossed EIW--Evelyn Ione Wendling) from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Jan 12, 1941
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Jan 15, 1941
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Jan 27, 1941
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Jan 30, 1941
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Feb 13, 1941
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Feb 17, 1941
*Postcard, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Feb 18, 1941
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Feb 19, 1941
*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Feb 25, 1941
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*Letter, typewritten, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Mar. 1941
*Selective Service Certificate, acknowledging Evelyn Wendling's services rendered to the nation and state on the registration day of Oct 16, 1940. Mar 12, 1941.
*Postcard, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling. She asks her mother to say hi to "Toots" (Laura Wolverton) and Kat (Kathryn Kaye, Laura's cousin), Mar 21, 1941
*Letter, hand written, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling, Mar 24, 1941
*Postcard of Stratford, Westmoreland County, VA, from Laura Wolverton to Kathryn Wendling, Apr 8, 1941
*Letter from Metropolitan Business College verifying Evelyn Wendling attended June 9-July 24; receipt for tuition, Jul 24, 1941
*Grades and notice, from Indiana University Extension Division to Evelyn Wendling, class taken in play production, Oct 18, 1941
*Misc documents from Manlius HS, where Evelyn Wendling taught; programs, commencement program, high school handbook, 1942
*Civil Service test results, Evelyn Wendling (for stenographer/typist register). Letter forwarded (by Kathryn Wendling) from the 119 S Ellsworth, Naperville, address to Manlius. In Evelyn Wendling's handwriting, on envelope: Ensign RH Wilson, Naval Training School, Navy Pier, Chicago, Jan 16, 1942
*Postcard, Mineral Wells, TX, from Vive (classmate) to Evelyn Wendling, Dec 28, 1942
*Personal Data Sheet/resume, Evelyn Wendling, 1943
*Postcard, Village Park, Manlius, IL, from "Gen?" to Evelyn Wendling in Denver, CO (when Evelyn was working on her master's degree), Aug 6, 1943
*Postcard, Passavant Memorial Hospital, Chicago, from (B??) to Evelyn Wendling, Nov 18, 1943
*Misc documents, University of Denver, including: Commencement Program; notes with grades from professors; official grades; correspondence regarding fulfillment of degree requirements; grades from Registrar's office, 1943-1945
*Membership receipt, Delta Pi Epsilon, Evelyn Wendling, 1944
*Postcard, Village Park, Manlius, IL, from HMD to Evelyn Wendling (in Crystal Lake, IL, where she was teaching HS), Jan 11, 1944
*Term paper, for partial fulfillment of Federal Income Tax course, Evelyn Wendling, University of Denver, July 1944
*Program, Homecoming Committee of the Student Council, NCC, Evelyn Wendling, Oct 14, 1944
*Delta Pi Epsilon membership card and correspondence, Evelyn Wendling, 1944-47
*Grades, U. of Denver, Evelyn Wendling, 1945
*Personal Data Sheet and carbon copy of letter from Crystal Lake, IL, principal to the Albert Teachers' Agency, Evelyn Wendling, 1945
*Letter, typewritten, from Dr EE Rall (NCC President) to Evelyn Wendling, asking if she would accept position of secretary to the President; also letter from Rall confirming that Evelyn accepted the position, June 20-Jun 26, 1945
*Letter, typewritten, from EE Rall to Evelyn Wendling, confirming she will report for work Aug 3, July 9, 1945
*Letter, from New York Life Insurance to Evelyn Wendling, Oct 3, 1945
*Gas ration book folder, inscribed with Coca Cola logo and the name E Wendling hand written on the cover; 2 mileage rationing records from DuPage County for Evelyn Wendling's 1937 Pontiac; ration coupons, 1945-46
*Receipt, Office of County Superintendent of Schools, DuPage County, registration for high school teacher's cert, Evelyn Wendling, Mar 5, 1946
*Card, bridal shower, from Mrs Babel and Mrs Epp to Evelyn Wendling, ca 1947
*Letter, from Arden B Olsen, Director of Grad Studies U. of Denver, to Evelyn Wendling, responding to Evelyn's inquiry if he could recommend an Economist for NCC. Mar 1, 1947
*Postcard of the Open Air Post Office, St Petersburg, FL, from EE to Kathryn Wendling, Feb 21, 1949.
*Savings Note, from Naperville National Bank, to Kathryn Wendling at 546 S Main St (LaCoss residence), Mar 1, 1952.
*Postcard of flower vase and German inscription, from Evelyn Wendling to Kathryn Wendling for Mother's Day, sent from Germany, Jun 5, 1955.
*NHS Class of '36 "After 20 Years," list of class members, Jun 16, 1956.
*NHS Class of '36, list of classmates and spouses, event was held at Willow Brook, July 8, 1961.
*Misc programs from the NHS class of '36. 40 year reunion held at Oakwood Castle; 50 year reunion held at Cress Creek Country Club. 1970s-80s.
*Letter, "Cheers to the Class of 1936," to fellow classmates from Florence Seitz Widder, for 60th reunion. 1996.

Box 3

*Scraps of paper from Evelyn Wendling Hower notebook/diary. Lists memorial contributions, probably at the time of Kathryn Shimp Wendling's funeral. No date.
*Diary, Evelyn Wendling, 1936.
*Address book, Evelyn Wendling, ca 1940.

Box 4

*Program, "Montague of the Mounties," No date.
* Card, "Flag Creed," No date.
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*Mimeograph sheet, NCC Administrative Staff listing, with Evelyn Wendling Hower's addenda, No date.
*Birthday card, "To my wife on her birthday," from Charles Hower to Evelyn Hower, no date.
*Small card, yellow paper, Lifetime Free Admission, Naperville Community School District 203, Evelyn Hower and Guest, no date.
*Certificate of Merit and Appreciation, National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, presented to Evelyn W. Hower, no date.
*NCC letterhead and Evelyn Hower's notes hand written on it. No date.
*Calling card and envelope, Mrs. Charles Hower, no date.
*Ticket, Saddle, bridle, blanket & whip ticket, Philip Beckman; found in the attic of the former Beckman house when the Howers moved the house from its Loomis St location to North Huffman Street, 1888.
*Release of mortgage for Charles F. and Edella Hower, Fulton County, IN, Dec 14, 1921.
*Grades/Semester Report, North-Western College (NCC), Charles Clare Hower, 1924.
*NCC Treasurer receipts, NCC, (Received of F. W. Umbreit, Treasurer), blank, 1940s.
*Misc. Chicago Stagebills, Charles & Evelyn Hower attended, 1940s
*Card, yellow roses in blue vase, inside is a newspaper clipping "God Bless Your Marriage," from the Milton Spiegler family to Charles and Evelyn Hower, Ca 1947.
*Small card and envelope, "A wedding gift for you," from Mr and Mrs Erffmeyer and Don and Monnie Riker to Charles and Evelyn Hower, Ca 1947
*Support checks and documentation, for Charles R and Helen Hower's support, including cancelled checks from Charles Hower to Margaret Hower, his first wife, 1948.
*Postcard of Home of the Wyomissing Club in Reading, PA, from Charles Hower to Evelyn Hower (he was conducting genealogy research), Ap 19, 1948
*Misc receipts, Hower collection, some possibly from when the Howers bought and moved the Beckman House to N. Huffman St., ca 1950s.
*Enrollment Fees, NCC, for Helen E. Hower (Wright), Jan 30, 1950.
*Student enrollment forms, NCC, for Helen Hower (received of Charles C Hower), Feb. 1950.
*Student enrollment forms, for Helen Hower (received of Charles C Hower), Dec 1950.
*Student enrollment, NCC, Helen Hower, Jan 30, 1951.
*Student enrollment, NCC, Helen Hower, May 1, 1951.
*Letter, to Evelyn Hower about a vintage Odell typewriter, including an earlier letter on the same subject from 1947. July 20, 1951.
*Paystubs, NCC, for Charles C Hower, 1952.
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*Letter on NCC letterhead, from President C H Geiger to Evelyn Hower, appointing Evelyn the Alumni Secretary (part-time), Ap 27, 1953.
*Commencement events program and envelope, NCC, Helen Hower (Wright) graduation, June 1953.
*Misc receipts, for upkeep on 119 S. Loomis house, Charles and Evelyn Hower, 1953-58.
*Letters, handwritten, from Laura Wolverton to Charles and Evelyn Hower, sequential notes they were to open onboard the ship they were taking to Europe, 1955.
Letter, handwritten, to Kathryn Wendling from Evelyn Wendling Hower, when the Howers were in Germany, May 11, 1955.
*Postcard, winter scene with German writing, from Eberhard Maas to Charles and Evelyn Hower, Dec 20, 1958.
*Misc receipts for the remodel of 15 N Huffman St, Charles and Evelyn Hower, 1958-59.
*TIAA premium statement, Charles C Hower, Feb 1, 1959.
*Birthday card/dime holder, from Carrie Rarridan (family friend of Kathryn Shimp Wendling; lived on North Ellsworth St) to Barbara Hower, ca 1960.
*Supply list, Naperville schools K-4, Barbara Hower, ca 1960s.
*Centennial Convention, 2 pages, NCC, 1961.
* Certificates and envelopes, Grace EUB Church, (certificate of promotion, certificate of recognition), Barbara Hower, 1963-67.
*Cook Tours brochure for Middle East and Greek Islands, Charles C Hower, he has noted in red ink, dates and times in the itinerary, 1964.
*Christmas note and card, from Charles to Evelyn Hower, purchase of range hood, Dec 24, 1964.
*Ellsworth School Christmas program, on red construction paper, Barbara Hower, 1965.
*Summer session faculty agreement and envelope, NCC, Charles Hower Professor of Classics, Mar 23, 1966.
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*Spring concert program, Ellsworth School, Barbara Hower (orchestra), May 13, 1966.
*Certificate, Board of Christian Education/Evangelical United Brethren Church, Junior Camp at Camp Seager, Barbara Hower, Aug 1-6, 1966.
*List of expenses incurred for the remodeling of 119 S Ellsworth St. (permits, title search, supplies, etc), ca. 1967.
*Piano recital program, students of Betty Moore Clusen, Barbara Hower (also a violin duet w. Barbara Hower and Meleah McBroom), May 18, 1968.
*Program, Solo and Ensemble Concert Instrumental Music Department, Washington Jr HS, Barbara Hower (violin duet w. Meleah McBroom), May 24, 1968.
*Naperville Parents-Orchestra Association Newsletter, to recognize value of enriched string program in the Naperville Public Schools, Barbara Hower, May 23, 1969.
*Program, Christmas Concert, Naperville Central HS choral groups and orchestra, Barbara Hower, Dec 16, 1969.
*Handmade program, green paper w. flower stickers, marked "Our Guest Book," guests signatures inside, ca 1970.
*Passbook, Naperville Savings & Loan, Charles C and Evelyn Hower, 1970s.
*Mimeograph sheet, NCC survey of Administrative and Instructional Staff in order of age, includes Evelyn Hower's annotations/corrections, ca. 1970s.
*Retirement card, drawn by Herbie Gamerstfelder Barrett Nauman, for Charles C Hower's retirement from teaching at NCC, ca 1972.
*Memorial Tribute, Charles C Hower, Grace UM Church (clergy: Grant Graver and Howard Benson); typewritten letter, from Evelyn Wendling Hower to friends, informing them of Charles C Hower's death. Feb. 1982.
*NCC Commencement program, Merner Fieldhouse, Barbara Hower, June 9, 1984.
*Postcard, from Jean (?) to Evelyn Wendling Hower, talking about NCC reunion, June 1990.
*Folder and certificate, 50-Year Club of the Alumni Association, NCC, to Evelyn Wendling Hower, Class of 1940, June 16, 1990.
*Handwritten letter of red & white NCC small letterhead, from Elaine Kitzie to Evelyn Wendling Hower, talking about NCC reunion, June 24, 1990.
*Postcard of Venice Canonica Canal, from Esther (Suhr) and Wally Dow (Esther was a college classmate and long-time friend of Evelyn Wendling Hower; note talks about NCC reunion), June 25, 1990.
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* Christmas letter, typewritten, one on white paper another on green, from Evelyn Hower, Dec. 1995.
* Envelope, letter, and photograph, from Cathy Kaduk and the Project I.D.E.A. Students at Ranch View School in Naperville. In photograph, school children and Evelyn Hower, Miriam Fry, Katharine Finkbeiner, Margaret Myers, and Don Wehrli. The children interviewed the older adults about their life in Naperville in the 1930s. June 1998.
* Memory Book, from Charles F Hower funeral (father of Charles C Hower), 1945.
* Journal, "Maryland Historical," article by Charles C Hower on the genealogy of Barbara (Hower) Fritchie, Spring 1973.
* Diary/Notebook, Evelyn Hower, no date.
* Travel Diary, Evelyn Hower, on their trip to Germany, Italy, England, and Greece (Charles C Hower was on sabbatical and taking classes in Munich and then traveling to locations he taught about in his Classics classes), 1955.
* Diary, Edella Hower (mother of Charles C Hower), 1948.
* Diary, Edella Hower (mother of Charles C Hower), 1950-55; 1957.
* Diary, Edella Hower (mother of Charles C Hower), 1955.

Box 5

* Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1944.
* Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1950.
* Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1951.
* Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1952.
* Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1953.
* Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1954.
* Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1956.
* Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1957.
* Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1959.
* Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1968.
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*Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1980.
*Diary, Charles C. Hower, 1981.

Box 6

*Flyer, "Heritage Housewalk," article: "Good-bye and Good Luck to A Veteran," (Ruth Gamertsfelder, who was a close friend and fellow teacher of Laura Wolverton), No date.
*Calling card, Laura Wolverton, No date.
*Calling card, Laura Wolverton, with her handwritten address included: 119 S Ellsworth St., Naperville, IL, No date.
*Bank account ledger, Samuel Wolverton (including notation of payment to several Wolverton and Carr relatives), 1891 - 1927.
*Report card and envelope, Aurora High School, West Side, Aurora, IL, Laura Wolverton, 1908-09.
*Application of Blind for Relief, Mrs. Eunice Felver (sister of Nellie Wolverton and Aunt of Laura Wolverton. Was known in the family as "Noonie."). Application is for Kane County, IL. ca 1910-19.
*Misc receipts, Wolverton family, including "Farmers Record and Account Book," cancelled checks, house repairs, etc), 1916-1935.
*US Government Victory Liberty Loan, First National Bank, Batavia, IL, Laura Wolverton, May 12, 1919.
*US Government Victory Liberty Loan and brown envelope, First National Bank, Batavia, IL, Samuel (S.M.) Wolverton, 55 Front St, Naperville, IL, May 12, 1919.
*Funeral invitation card and envelope, with black border, to Samuel Wolverton (note: name is spelled "Woolverton" on the envelope and invitation), noting funeral of Moses Woolverton, Mar 11, 1921.
*Letters and envelope (addressed to the Wolvertons at 53 Front St, Naperville), from Kuhn & Benson Law Offices, Batavia, IL, to S.M. Wolverton, Warranty Deed between Nellie and Samuel Wolverton and Ernest and Edith Lundin. Pertaining to sale of Nellie Wolverton's family farm in Batavia, IL. Nov. 2, 1923.
*Misc letters, envelopes, and brochures, addressed to Laura Wolverton at 119 S Ellsworth St, Naperville), pertaining to the Alaska trip made by Laura Wolverton, Ruth Gamertsfelder, and V Blanche Graham. Includes a letter to Laura's parents, detailing ship-board life. 1927.
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*Envelope and Agreement for Warranty Deed, Lucy Carr (1/2 sister of Nellie Wolverton) and Nellie Wolverton to Adolph Meskan, pertaining to the James Carr farm (Nellie's step father and Lucy's father) in Batavia, IL, Oct 13, 1927.
*Envelope and Certificate, Batavia Cemeteries Perpetual Care Association to S.M. Wolverton, Apr. 7, 1928.
*Clipping, from Samuel Wolverton diary from 1929. Samuel M Wolverton obituary (Wolverton did not die in 1929; he died in July 1932, but the clipping was stuck inside his diary from 1929). 1929.
*Special Assessment Notice, to S.M. Wolverton from City of Naperville. Special assessment for constructing/improving sanitary sewars, Apr 19, 1929.
*Debit voucher, S.M.Wolverton from the First National Bank of Naperville, Aug. 18, 1930.
*Envelope, Centennial History, Naperville 1831-1931, addressed to Samuel Wolverton at 111 Grand Ave. Hackettstown, NJ (where Wolverton's family originated), 1931.
*Real Estate Tax Installment notices, for 53 Front/119 S. Ellsworth St, Naperville. 1931-1933.
*Property Taxes and envelope, S.M.Wolverton/119 S. Ellsworth St., Naperville, Mar 24, 1931.
*Envelope and misc. estate documents (letters of administration, quite claim deed, etc.) from Kuhn and Benson, Batavia, IL to Samuel M Wolverston, Pertaining to the estate of Nellie B. Wolverton, May 9, 1931.
*Misc documents (probate document, inventory list, misc correspondence) between law offices of Kuhn & Benson (Batavia) to Laura Wolverton, pertaining to the estate of Samuel M. Wolverton. 1932-1933.
*Envelope and misc. estate documents (letters of administration, State of IL inheritance tax dept, etc) from Kuhn & Benson, Batavia, IL to Laura Wolverton, regarding estate of Samuel Wolverton, Jul 27, 1932.
*Envelope, Certificate--1933 International Canning Contest/Century of Progress, magazine "International Canning Contest News." Certificate notes Laura Wolverton's home canned food was displayed at "A Century of Progress"...Chicago World's Fair. 1933.
*Envelope and Real Estate Installments, Laura Wolverton/119 S. Ellsworth St., Naperville, Apr 18, 1935.
*Postcard, Christnacht/Frohe Weihnachten, from Jeanette (?) to Laura Wolverton, Dec. 7, 1953.
*Misc Wolverton genealogy, compiled by Evelyn Hower upon the death of Laura Wolverton (Evelyn was Laura's executrix).
*Misc correspondence between Evelyn Hower (Laura Wolverton's executrix) and Laura's cousins and misc life insurance companies, ca 1966-67.
*Letter from Bertha Mitchell (relative of Laura Wolverton) to Evelyn Hower, Mar 4, 1966.
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*Letter to A.J (Al) Burek, lawyer, from Evelyn Hower for services rendered on the estate of Laura Wolverton, Jan 24, 1967.
*Photo album, empty, embossed Laura Wolverton, No date.
*Book, "Cyr's 4th Reader," belonging to Laura Wolverton, Sept 2, 1902.
*School writings of Laura Wolverton, 1915-16.
*Diary, Laura Wolverton, 1937-1941.
*Diary, Laura Wolverton, 1942-46.
*Diary, Laura Wolverton, 1947-51.
*Guest book from Laura Wolverton's high school teaching retirement, 1959.
*Bank Book, Samuel Wolverton, 1928.
*Diary, Samuel Wolverton, 1923.
*Diary, Samuel Wolverton, 1925.
*Diary, Samuel Wolverton, 1926-27.
*Diary, Samuel Wolverton, 1927-28.
*Diary, Samuel Wolverton, 1920s/1930s
*Diary, Samuel Wolverton, 1929.
*Diary, Samuel Wolverton, 1929.
*Diary, Samuel Wolverton, 1930.
*Diary, Samuel Wolverton; Laura Wolverton takes up the diary after the death of her father in 1932. 1931-1936.