

Frank D. Baker Papers
1962.1
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Jonathan Kirkwood
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Description and Provenance

Custodial History

Frank D. Baker collected and generated the records in this collection. Martha Baker donated them in 1962.

Scope and Content

The breadth of records in this collection is expansive, covering many aspects of the life of Frank D. Baker and family members. Represented are correspondence, newsletters, newspaper clippings and pages, class yearbooks, meeting minutes, expense ledgers, and poems. Some of these were collected and produced by Baker, others by family members. Records reveal Baker had a varied career and life. The expense ledgers detail purchases made by customers of good in his store, notably pharmaceuticals. The ledgers represent purchases made in the early 1880s. All writing in them is in cursive. Baker served a single-year term as Mayor of Flint in 1889 and was subsequently elected twice as Sheriff of Genesee County. An opponent, William A. Garner, in 1893 accused Baker in a letter of illegally occupying the office, despite Baker have won a majority in the election. Baker is reported to have resigned the office to avoid a confrontation. He returned to his business but later joined the board of the Flint Building Corporation in the 1920s, which oversaw capital development in Flint. He also served as a delegate to the 1924 Democratic National Convention in New York City. He also served as postmaster of Flint between 1914 and 1922. He died in 1927.

Records relating to other family members largely represent those of a daughter, Mattie. Her school records compose most of what is present. These include yearbooks and composition books. She also undertook a long holiday in Europe in the early 1930s as evidenced from brochures and tickets.

The remaining records include minutes of the Genesee County Board of Supervisors from 1892 to 1893, handwritten poems by an unnamed author, and World War II-era ration cards. Another descendant served as postmaster for the city in Flint in the late 1940s.

Languages of the Materials

English.

Date(s)

1882 to 1962.

Related Publications

None.

Condition and Physical DescriptionPhysical Access

Excepting one of the ledgers, all records are housed in acid-free folders that are housed inside two legal-length full Hollinger boxes.

The overall condition of the collection is fair. Newspaper clippings and pages have yellowed considerably and are frail. Some are housed in Mylar sleeves to prevent further cracking and flaking. Handwriting in pencil and pen is faded on some pages, but most writing can be read with ease. Newsletters have tears along their edges. The yearbook is in good condition with faint signs of yellowing on its pages. The Proceedings of the Genesee County Board of Supervisors is in poor condition with its covers detached from the pages, which have yellowed. The covers had been held together with Scotch tape. The tape was removed.

Extent of Contents

0.834 linear feet.

Location

SMOD: Manuscripts: Row A: Unit 1: Shelf 6

Rights and Restrictions

Conditions governing access

No restrictions. Contact the Collections Department to arrange use for research.

Conditions governing reproduction and use

No restrictions. Reproductions are done and charged in accordance with Sloan Museum Archives Fee Service Policy.

Access Points

People

Baker, Frank D.	Davis, John W.	Murphy, Edward A.
Baker, Fred P.	Day, Homer A.	Pengelly, J. Bradford
Baker, Gertrude	Garner, William A.	Thomas, Mrs. Fred
Baker, Margaret L.	Hetchler, Clarence O.	Billiard
Baker, Martha	Klein, Philip C.	Wilson, Mark A.
Baker, Mattie	Mott, Charles Stewart	

Subjects

American Institute of Banking	Equitable Savings & Loan	Flint Sunday Journal
American Legion	Association	Genesee County
American Legion Post No. 64	Flint Automobile Club	Board of
Armory Hall	Flint Bank News	Supervisors
Baker & Son	Flint Building	Genesee County
Drugstore	Corporation	Historical and
Baker Drug Company	Flint Capitol Theatre	Museum
Baker's Drug Store	Company	Society
County Prosecutor	Flint Chamber of	Genesee County
Delta Sigma Nu	Commerce	Jefferson Club
Democratic National	Flint Cigar Co., The	Genesee County
Committee	Flint City Mills	Sheriff
Democratic National	Flint Daily Journal	Genesee Democrat
Convention	Flint Daily News	Guardian Detroit
Democratic Party	Flint Evening Journal	Union Group
Democratic State	Flint High School	Industrial Mutual
Convention	Flint High School	Association
Detroit News	Athletic Club	Industrial Savings
Detroit Times	Flint Journal	Bank
	Flint Post Office News	Kiwanis International
		Ku Klux Klan

Michigan Seminary
Miller & Baker
Drugstore
National Association
of Postmasters

Pengelly Realty
Corporation
Ration card
St. Cecilia Society
State Democrat, The

Stone's Hall
Stone's Opera House
Stone's Theatre
Wolverine Citizen

Place access points

Kalamazoo, Michigan

Container List

Box 1: SMOD: Manuscripts: Row A: Unit 1: Shelf 6

Flint Post-Office news, 1947 and 1949
"History and Rhymes of the Lost Battalion"
Composition Books of Mattie Baker
Newspaper Clippings, 1927 – 1962
Charter Banquet & Program, Genesee County Historical and Museum
Society, 1946
Flint High School yearbook and other records, 1895 – 1930
Board of Supervisors, Genesee County, 1892 – 1893
Advertisements
Small paintings of Mohawk Lake
Political Flyers and Pamphlets
Picture Magazine of Flint, 1901
Kiwanis Minstrel Programs, 1935 – 1936
Guardian Detroit Union Group Annual Report, 1931
Purchase Ledger, 1884 – 1885

Box 2: SMOD: Manuscripts: Row A: Unit 1: Shelf 6

Purchase Ledger, 1882 – 1883
Correspondence, 1889 – 1924
Correspondence and Schoolwork
Ninth Reunion, Pupils of the 70s Flint High School, 1922
Flint Building Corporation Expense Sheet, Undated
Flint Building Corporation Correspondence, 1922 – 1925
Correspondence and Records