



Collection Summary

Title

Chester H. Ramsdell Family Collection

Date

Approximately middle 1800s to middle 1990s

Extent

2 archival document boxes

Name and Location of Repository

Midwest Genealogy Center, Independence (Mo.)

Reference code: MGC 1048-CHRF

Processed by: Sheri Volpe, 2014; Finding aid created by Sheri Volpe and Nicole Pye, 2014

Name of Creator

Ramsdell Family

Biographical History

Chester Howard Ramsdell was born in Wareham, Plymouth County, Massachusetts on October 29, 1883 and died in New Hampshire in November 1965. According to marriage record, his parents were William C. Ramsdell and Abbie M. Gregory. Ramsdell married Katie Perry Besse on June 12, 1907 in East Wareham, Massachusetts.

Scope and Content

This collection contains materials from middle 1800s to middle 1960s regarding the family lines of Chester Howard Ramsdell, considered by the donor as the family historian. Also in this collection is additional material supplied by Joanne Eakin, a genealogist, as some items are dated after C.H. Ramsdell's death. Other family names include Allen, Beets, Calhoun, Eaton, Edwards, Gerhardt, Hall, Hardin, Heibel, Hentges, Jarrett, Kickbusch, Kizer, Lynch, McDaniel, Merrill, Pierce, Pollock, Schmidt, Shelby, Sommerhauser, Steiner Gerhard, Trimble, and Walker.

Collection Inventory

System of Arrangement

These records are arranged in 8 series.

Series 1, Genealogy and Family History

Folder 1, Beets Family

Item 1, Family history, December, 1964

Item 2, Copies of the 1900, 1910, and 1920 census records

Folder 2, Calhoun Family

Item 1, Smith County Historical Society research, circa 1977

Folder 3, Eaton, H. K.

Item 1, Letter, October 21, 1861

Item 2, Complaint, U.S. vs. P. Hevey, October 20, 1861

Item 3, Letter to Secretary of State, October 22, 1961

Item 4, Transcript, letters and complaints, undated

Folder 4, Edwards, John

Item 1, Article, undated

Item 2, Article, October 24, 1961

Item 3, Article, KC Star, April 13, 1980

Folder 5, Gerhardt family

Item 1, Passenger list, 1852

Item 2, Biography of James Gerhardt, undated

Item 3, Table of Contents page, undated

Folder 6, Hall Family

Item 1, Photocopy of photo of Jacob Hall, undated

Item 2, Descendancy chart, undated

Item 3, Notes, handwritten, undated

Item 4, Typed stories of Jacob Hall's wife, undated

Item 5, Transcription of sellers of administration from Jacob Hall, May 16, 1865

Folder 7, Hardin, Lt. Hopkins Genealogy

Item 1, Newspaper article on needlework of W. Palmer, Kansas City Star, August 16, 1931

Item 2, Article on John Hardin, Independence Examiner, September 5, 1933

Item 3, Letter to Raymond Westmoreland from John Hardin, March 17, 1969

Item 4, Letter to Ethel from John Hardin, June 24, 1969

Item 5, Letter to Ethel from John Hardin, July 14, 1969

Item 6, Letter to Ethel from John Hardin, September 26, 1969

Item 7, Letter to Ethel from John Hardin, June 27, 1970

Item 8, Letter to Suzanne from unknown individual, June 10, 1971

Item 9, Obituary on William Hopkins Palmer, circa Jan 21, 1997

Item 10, Article on Elizabeth Palmer Thompson, Independence Examiner, May 12, 1998

Item 11, Reminiscence, typed, by daughter W. Palmer, undated

Item 12, Family charts and Hopkins Harding and Susan Westmoreland marriage information, undated



- Item 13, Generation chart Beale family (Amanda Jane Beale married Hopkins Hardin)
- Item, 14, Letter to Janet Thompson from Polly Palmer Brunkhardt, undated
- Item 15, Letter to Joanne from Martha Miller, undated
- Item 16, Notes on reminiscences, undated
- Item 17, Notes on Hardin family line by Mrs. W. Palmer, undated
- Folder 8, Heibel, Johannes
 - Item 1, Family unit chart first marriage, undated
 - Item 2, Family unit chart second marriage, undated
 - Item 3, Biography, undated
- Folder 9, Hentges Family
 - Item 1, Family unit chart, undated
- Folder 10, Jarrett, John
 - Item 1, Letter, June 14, 1983
- Folder 11, Kizer Family
 - Item 1, Article on reminiscences of Kizer in Civil War, Palmyra, Spectator, September 8, 1926
 - Item 2, Article on Mary Robinson, Palmyra Spectator, December 8, 1926
 - Item 3, Article on Henry Kizer's Civil War experience, Palmyra Spectator, April 20, 1927
 - Item 4, Article on death of Henry Kizer, Sept 14, 1927
 - Item 5, Obituary, Henry Kizer, undated
- Folder 12, Lynch Family
 - Item 5, Article on death of Elijah Lynch, Independence Examiner, July 22, 1918
 - Item 3, Article, Muster Roll, Kansas City Genealogist, June 1, 1960
 - Item 1, Family Group Sheet, September 17, 1999
 - Item 2, Letter from Jon Harris to Joanne, 2001
 - Item 4, Civil War service record for Elijah Lynch, undated
 - Item 6, Obituary, Miranda Lynch, wife of Eljah Lynch, undated
- Folder 13, McDaniel, Henry and Hattie
 - Item 1, Photos of Henry McDaniel, 1863, and Hattie McDaniel from Gone with the Wind, 1939
- Folder 14, Merrill Family
 - Item 1, Petition, Frankie Merrill Allen, Daughters of Confederacy, January 24, 1925
 - Item 2, Christmas card including photo, article, and stamped napkin, Augusta Merrill, May 21, 1961
 - Item 3, Article, Independence Examiner, July 3, 1975
 - Item 4, Memorial announcement, Martha Willis, 1988
- Folder 15, Pierce, Robert
 - Item 1, Typed manuscript on Civil War experience, undated
- Folder 16, Pollock, John C.
 - Item 1, Article, Tribute, KC Bar Bulletin, January, 1937, V. 14:1
- Folder 17, Ramsdell Family Chart, Folder 1
 - Item 1, Ramsdell chart, undated
- Folder 18, Ramsdell Family Chart, Folder 2
 - Item 2, Ramsdell chart, undated



- Folder 19, Schmidt Family
 - Item 1, Family unit chart, undated
- Folder 20, Shelby, Jo
 - Item 1, Article, copy, April 20, 1901
- Folder 21, Sommerhauser Family
 - Item 1, Family unit chart, undated
- Folder 22, Steiner Gerhard Family
 - Item 1, Ancestor chart, undated
- Folder 23, Trimble, Francis H.
 - Item 1, Biography, undated
 - Item 2, Article, Tribute, KC Bar Bulletin, March, 1936 V. 13:5
- Folder 24, Walker Family
 - Item 1, Legal documents, copies, approximately 1861-63
 - Item 2, Article, KC Star, May 26, 1950
 - Item 3, Article, Russian River Recorder, Spring, 1985, V. 29
- Series 2, Vital Records
 - Folder 1, Davis Burial Ground
 - Item 1, Survey, Davis Burial Ground, Spring 1994
 - Item 2, Page from unknown book of tombstone inscriptions, undated
 - Item 3, Tombstone symbolism sheet, undated
 - Folder 2, Huron Place burial ground
 - Item 1, Copy of inscriptions by William Connelley, 1980
 - Folder 3, Riverview Cemetery
 - Item 1, Name index, Bonner Springs, KS, compiled by Jeffrey Keath, October, 1992
- Series 3, Organization
 - Folder 1, Daughters of the American Colonists, Mary Ball Washington Chapter, KCMO
 - Item 1, Membership roster, 1964-67
 - Folder 2, First United Methodist Church
 - Item 1, Membership, August, 1976
 - Folder 3, Kansas City Area Archivists
 - Item 1, Membership directory, 1993 -1994
 - Folder 4, Knights of the Golden Circle
 - Item 1, History of, undated
 - Folder 5, National Society United States Daughters of 1812
 - Item 1, Newsletter, July, 1965, V. 40:1
 - Folder 6, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Independence Chapter
 - Item 1, Brochure, Confederate Flag, 1961
 - Item 2, Membership roster, 1964-66
 - Item 3, Breakfast program, 1965
 - Item 4, Membership roster, 2003
 - Item 5, Marker dedication, July 10, 2005
 - Item 6, Membership roster, 2005
 - Item 7, Membership roster, 2006
 - Item 8, Membership roster, 2007-2008
- Series 4, Military History
 - Folder 1, Confederate Pension Roll, Missouri
 - Item 1, Confederate States of America, Missouri pension roll, undated



- Folder 2, MO Confederate States Infantry, Company 10
 - Item 1, Roster and Battles, 1942
- Folder 3, MO State Militia
 - Item 1, Article, Missouri Historical Review, July, 1975, 69:4
 - Item 2, Book chapter copy on border warfare, undated
- Folder 4, Paw Paw Militia
 - Item 1, History, typed, undated
 - Item 2, Article, Missouri Historical Review, Summer, 1968, V. 62:4
- Series 5, Miscellaneous
 - Folder 1, Miscellaneous, Article, Civil War Letters
 - Item 1, Article on Civil War Letters, Kansas City Star, August 14, 1938, 3 copies
 - Folder 2, Miscellaneous, Stories
 - Item 1, "Old Wire Road" by Paul Butler, undated
 - Item 2, Typed manuscript, "Log House History Preserved" by Elizabeth Rogers Jones, June 10, 1986
 - Item 3, Article, Lee's Summit Journal, January 28, 1987
- Series 6, Correspondence
 - Folder 1, Letters, Bald Knobbers
 - Item 1, Letter, March 1, 1886
 - Item 2, Letter, March 11, 1886
 - Item 3, Letter, March 11, 1886
 - Item 4, Letter, March 12, 1886
 - Item 5, Letter, March 15, 1886
 - Item 6, Letter, March 27, 1886
 - Item 7, Letter, May 10, 1886
 - Item 8, Letter, May 10, 1886
 - Item 9, Letter, May 10, 1886
 - Item 10, Letter, March 15, 1886
 - Item 11, Letter, March 4, 1886
 - Item 12, Letter, March 20, 1886
 - Item 13, Letter, May 12, 1886
 - Item 14, Letter, June 11, 1886
 - Folder 2, Statements, Bald Knobbers
 - Item 1, Various citizen statements, circa 1886
 - Folder 3, Correspondence – Hall Family
 - Item 1, Copies of letters, some undated, from 1841 to 1868
 - Item 2, Transcribed typed letters from Jacob Hall, 1849-1852
- Series 7, Photographs
 - Folder 1, Miscellaneous Photographs
 - Item 1, Mary Regina and Thomas Nicolas Gerhart, circa 1860
 - Item 2, Andrew and Justina Gerhardt, circa 1870
 - Item 3, Mary Regina Gerhart, circa 1890
 - Item 4, Thomas Nicholas Gerhart, circa 1890
 - Item 5, Nicholas, Mary, and Josephine Heinen, circa 1890
 - Item 6, William Gerhardt, circa 1897
 - Item 7, Marie Meistrell, Thomas Gerhart, Ollie Smith, Nannie Meistrell, and Eleuer Surlume, 1897



Item 8, Marie Meistrell, Thomas Gerhart, Allie Smith, Nannie Meistrell and Eleuer Sevillung, July 18, 1897

Item 9, Joseph Peter Muth and Sophia Mary Regna Gerhardt, June 7, 1899

Item 10, Alphonse Muth, circa 1900

Item 11, Mary Baily Gerhart and Anne Mary Gerhart, circa 1900

Item 12, Katherine and Sophie Murth, Rose Iller, Louis Gerhardt, circa 1900

Item 13, Rose Gerhardt and John Miller, circa 1900

Item 14, Regina and Laura Gerhardt, circa 1900

Item 15, Ida, Joseph and William Gerhardt, circa 1900

Item 16, Conrad Gerhardt, circa 1930

Item 17, Group Photo, Extension College, June 1935

Item 18, Martha (Pat), Gussie, Frankie, and Elizabeth, October 1979

Item 19, Headstones, Mary and Louisa Walker, undated

Item 20, Headstones, Walker family, undated

Item 21, Headstones, W. N. and J. P. Walker, undated

Series 8, Legal documents

Folder 1, Allen, John

Item 1, Dissolution of business, March 6, 1868

Folder 2, Kickbusch, Johann

Item 1, Police report, May 26, 1880

Rights and Access

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use by appointment.

Physical Access

Most records within this collection are housed in file folders.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

Materials in the collection are mainly in English. One item in German.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

This collection was donated by Catherine Burr.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected for this collection.

Existence and Location of Originals

Originals owned by the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Notes

The following sources were consulted during the preparation of the biographical history:

- FamilySearch.org. (no date). *Massachusetts, Births, 1841-1915*. Retrieved from <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/FXDZ-S4F>
- FamilySearch.org. (no date). *United States Social Security Death Index*. Retrieved from <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/JT54-9PN>
- FamilySearch.org. (no date). *Massachusetts, Marriages, 1841-1915*. Retrieved from <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/N4DB-HQR>
- FamilySearch.org (no date). *United States Census, 1910*. Retrieved from <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/M2K6-5B4>
- FamilySearch.org (no date). *United States Census, 1930*. Retrieved from <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/XQ5K-XBT>