



Lewis Family
Collection, 1901-1979

Collection 351

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Shalini Smith, June 2022
Creator/Corporate name: Lewis Family
Inclusive Dates: 1901-1979
Physical Description: 6 boxes, (6 linear feet).
Language: English

Provenance:

The Lewis Family Collection is comprised of two donations by Susan Frobish. The materials were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives in February, 2021 and July, 2021.

Access:

The records are accessible to the public within applicable copyright restrictions and limited to use at the Champaign County Historical Archives of The Urbana Free Library.

Biographical Note:

The Lewis Auditorium at The Urbana Free Library was named in memory of Charles Dean Lewis, Lora Dean Lewis, and Sylvia Opal Lewis.

Charles Lewis, was born in Urbana to Lora Dean and Sylvia Opal Lewis. He attended Urbana area schools Thornburn, Leal, and Urbana High. He graduated from high school with honors in 1957. For higher education, he attended the University of Illinois, where he received a B.S. degree in accountancy and graduated with honors in 1961. He also received his C.P.A. certificate. He later graduated from the University of Illinois College of Law and was admitted to the Illinois bar. In 1974, he once again graduated from the University of Illinois, this time with a Master's degree in accounting.

His professional life include teaching at St. Cloud State College in Minnesota and later working as a faculty member at Purdue University. Through his career, he taught both accountancy and business law. Furthermore, he was considered an authority in the field of tax and accounting law in addition to working as a tax accountant for Swift & Company and Price Waterhouse & Company. In addition, he was the author of a large number of published articles which were featured in professional journals.

A frequent patron of The Urbana Free Library, he died February 28, 2002. He bequeathed a major part of his estate to The Urbana Free Library Foundation upon his death, which was to be used for library expansion.

Lora Dean Lewis, often seen written as L. Dean Lewis, was born 1904 in Chanute, Kansas and died August 26, 2000. He met his wife while they both attended high school in Chanute, Kansas. **Sylvia Opal Browning**, often referred to as Opal, was born 1903 in Milo, Missouri and died December 16, 1979. She and L. Dean were married in 1927. L. Dean, who graduated from the University of Kansas Medical



Lewis Family
Collection, 1901-1979

Collection 351

School, became a staff physician at the University of Illinois. In 1963, Dr. Lewis retired from his job as an associate professor emeritus.

The Lewis family lived in a home on McCullough Street in Urbana, which they moved to in 1938. L. Dean and Opal Lewis resided in the same home until their deaths.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains photographs, documents, publications, and small artifacts that are of relevance to the Lewis family.

Arrangement:

This collection is arranged into two series:

Series 1: Family Photographs

Contains photographic materials that pertain to the Lewis family and other connected families.

Series 2: Ephemera

Contains documents, publications, and other papers, as well as small artifacts.

Names Terms:

Albrecht Family
Anspaw Family
Brown Family
Browning Family
Browning, Sylvia Opal
Budd Family
Carson Family
Faye Family
Freeman Family
Glaze Family
Granger Family
Griller Family
Harrison Family
Hindsley Family
Knapp Family
Lang Family
Lewis, Albert
Lewis, Charles
Lewis Family
Lewis, Ida
Lewis, L. Dean
Lewis, Lora Dean
Lewis, Opal
Lewis, Sylvia Opal
Lewis, Vesta



Lewis Family
Collection, 1901-1979

Collection 351

McClouy Family
McCreight Family
Moore Family
Myers Family
O'Harra Family
Smith Family
Tillotson Family
Warrick Family
Winds Family

Container List:

Box 1

Series 1: Family Photographs

Envelope 1: Albrecht Family
Envelope 2: Anspaw Family
Envelope 3: Brown Family, 1936-1957
Envelope 4: Brown Family
Envelope 5: Browning Family, 1923-1959
Envelope 6: Browning Family
Envelope 7: Budd Family
Envelope 8: Carson Family, 1964-1965
Envelope 9: Faye Family, 1952-1977, undated
Envelope 10: Freeman Family
Envelope 11: Glaze Family, 1927, undated
Envelope 12: Granger Family
Envelope 13: Griller Family
Envelope 14: Harrison Family, 1971
Envelope 15: Hindsley Family
Envelope 16: Knapp Family, 1931-1963, undated
Envelope 17: Lang Family
Envelope 18: Lewis, Albert
Envelope 19: Lewis, Charles, 1940-1945
Envelope 20: Lewis, Charles
Envelope 21: Lewis, Charles
Envelope 22: Lewis Family, 1920-1979
Envelope 23-27: Lewis Family
Envelope 28: Lewis Family Photo Set, 1941, undated
Envelope 29: Lewis Family Photo Set
Envelope 30: Lewis, Ida
Envelope 31: Lewis, L. Dean, 1920-1963
Envelope 32: Lewis, L. Dean
Envelope 33: Lewis, Opal, 1936, undated
Envelope 34: Lewis, Vesta



Lewis Family
Collection, 1901-1979

Collection 351

Envelope 35: Locations, 1937-1951
Envelope 36: McClouy Family
Envelope 37: McCreight Family
Envelope 38: Moore Family
Envelope 39: Myers Family, 1973-1974
Envelope 40: O'Harra Family, 1965
Envelope 41: Photographs featuring multiple families, 1940-1945
Envelope 42: Photographs featuring multiple families
Envelope 43: Smith Family
Envelope 44: Tillotson Family, 1965
Envelope 45: Turkey Run, 1938-1939, undated
Envelope 46: Unidentified Photo Set
Envelope 47: Unidentified Photo Set
Envelope 48: Unidentified Photos, 1928-1967
Envelopes 49-52: Unidentified Photos
Envelope 53: Warrick Family
Envelope 54: Winds Family

Box 2

Series 1: Family Photographs, cont.

Oversized Photographs, 1927, undated

Box 3

Series 2: Ephemera

Folder 1: Art
Folder 2: Awards and Diplomas, 1920-1952, undated
Folder 3: Cards, 1955-1978, undated
Folder 4: Charles Lewis Elementary School Materials, 1945-1946, undated
Folder 5: Charles Lewis High School Materials, 1953-1957
Folder 6: Charles Lewis Thornburn Jr. High Materials, 1951-1953
Folder 7: Charles Lewis University of Illinois Materials, 1957-1962, undated
Folder 8: Church Materials 1952-1977, undated
Folder 9: Commencement and Graduation, 1915-1926
Folder 10: Correspondence, 1921-1973, undated
Folder 11: Funerals and Memorials 1949-1978, undated

Box 4

Series 2: Ephemera, cont.

Folder 1: Military, 1942-1943
Folder 2: Newspaper clippings, 1901-1979, undated
Folder 3: Newspaper clippings
Folder 4: Publications, 1922-1964
Folder 5: Purdue University Materials, 1965



The Urbana Free Library

210 West Green Street • Urbana, Illinois 61801 • 217-367-4057 • urbanafreelibrary.org

Lewis Family
Collection, 1901-1979

Collection 351

Folder 6: "The Tattler," 1923
Folder 7: Uncategorized Items, 1957-1970, undated
Folder 8: University of Illinois Event Booklets, 1958-1964
Folder 9: Urbana High "Echo" Newspaper, 1956-1957
Folder 10: Weddings and Anniversaries, 1920-1975

Box 5

Series 2: Ephemera, cont.

Oversized Rolled Materials, 1913-1939

Box 6

Series 2: Ephemera, cont.

Scrapbook, 1931-1944, undated