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Frank Wilbur Padfield
Scrapbook, 1892-1949

Collection 398

Champaign County Historical Archives

Compiled by: Cassandra Parsons, June 2025

Creator/Corporate Name: Frank Wilbur Padfield

Inclusive Dates: 1892-1949

Physical Description: 2 boxes, (1.7 linear ft)

Language: English

Provenance:

The Frank Wilbur Padfield Scrapbook was donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives in September 2023.

Access:

These 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.

Harmful Language in Archives:

The Champaign County Historical Archives at The Urbana Free Library is committed to developing inclusive collections that capture the diverse history of our communities. However, some language used in our collections and collection descriptions may be outdated or harmful. Please refer to our statement on [Harmful Language in Archives](#) to learn how we are addressing language concerns in our collections.

Biographical Note:

Frank Wilbur Padfield (1879-1947) was born in Yates City, Illinois, and was the son of James Robert and Josie Johanna Nelson Padfield. Padfield grew up in Beloit, Wisconsin, and lived in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Richmond, Indiana; Charleston, Illinois; Danville, Illinois; and Champaign, Illinois. Padfield moved to Champaign County in 1902 and attended the University of Illinois, earning a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1907. Padfield was an apprentice at Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company from 1907 to 1908 in Pittsburgh and at Estimator General Building Construction in Urbana, IL from 1908 to 1917. Padfield also worked for the Kuhne-Simmons Construction Company as a general contractor. He married Grace Amanda Leasure (1882-1959) on August 18, 1907. The couple had three daughters, Marjorie Helen (1909-1992), Wilma Irene (1911-?), and Alta Marie (1914-1994). Frank Padfield lived at 604 West Clark Street, Champaign, and 707 West Green Street, Champaign, IL. He was living at the Green Street address with his wife, Grace, when he died in 1947.

Scope and Content Note:

This scrapbook includes pasted postcards, newspaper clippings, photographs, personal correspondence letters, school ephemera, and mementos from 1892 to 1949 relating to F.W. Padfield and his family. Many of the items in the scrapbook have become dislodged over time. These loose materials have been gathered and organized by type into folders. The scrapbook has been digitized to enhance accessibility and reduce wear and tear over time.



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Related Material:

The scrapbook has been scanned and placed in the Champaign County Historical Archives Digital Preservation Files, D145 Frank W Padfield Scrapbook.

Subject Terms:

Green St (Champaign), West, 707
Postcards
Scrapbooks
Travel

Name Terms:

Padfield, Frank Wilbur
Padfield, Grace Amanda
Padfield, Marjorie Helen
Padfield, Alta Marie

Container List

Box 1

Folder 1: Ephemera, 1940 and undated
Folder 2: Identification documents, 1918-1934
Folder 3: Newspaper clippings, 1947-1949
Folder 4: Photographs, Seneca, Illinois, War Homes, 1946
Folder 5: Postcards, 1934-1947 (with writing)
Folder 6: Postcards, undated (blank)
Folder 7: Travel, Black Hills, South Dakota, undated
Folder 8: Travel, Colorado and Colorado Springs, 1947
Folder 9: Travel, Ephemera, undated

Box 2

Folder 1: University of Illinois, Class of 1907, 1907 and 1922
Folder 2: Eta Kappa Nu Certificate, 1907
Scrapbook, 1892-1949