



B.F. Stevenson Family Collection, 1884-1979

COLLECTION 47

## Champaign County Historical Archives

**Compiled by:** Sherrie Bowser

**Creator/Corporate name:** Stevenson Family.

**Inclusive Dates:** 1884-1979.

**Physical Description:** 1 box, (0.5 linear feet).

**Provenance:**

Items in this collection were donated to the Champaign County Historical Archives in October 2012.

**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.

**Historical Note:**

Benjamin Franklin Stevenson (January 12, 1863 - February 21, 1939), a native of Urbana, IL, was a prominent business and civic leader. He was the son of Elisha and Nancy Keeler Stevenson who relocated to Urbana, IL in 1854 from Highland County, Ohio. He was one of thirteen children. His obituary lists him as the oldest grocer in continuous business operating a store on South Race Street for 37 years. He married Lucia Ketterman (February 11, 1863 - June 7, 1948) of St. Joseph, IL on May 1, 1883 and they had 2 children, Ethel C. Stevenson (June 21, 1889 - September 10, 1979) and Chester E. Stevenson (August 11, 1885 - April 10, 1971). B.F. Stevenson was an avid golfer and member of the organizing party for the Urbana Golf and Country Club. He was also instrumental in the creation of Urbana Elks Lodge 991.

Ethel Stevenson remained at the family home, 305 West Illinois Street, until her death in 1979. She attended Virginia College in Roanoke, VA. The small woman's college was founded in 1893 by William Anderson Harris. It closed in January 1930 due to the Great Depression.

**Scope and Content Note:**

Collection contains obituaries, newspaper articles, ephemera, and photographs relating to B.F. Stevenson and his family. Also present is a scrapbook and loose photographs from Ethel Stevenson's time at Virginia College in the early 1900s.

**Arrangement:**

Collection is arranged alphabetically by folder title.



The Urbana Free Library

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**Names:**

Ketterman, Lucia  
Stevenson, B.F.  
Stevenson, Benjamin F.  
Stevenson, Benjamin Franklin  
Stevenson, Chester E.  
Stevenson, Ethel C.  
Stevenson Family  
Stevenson, Lucia

**Subject Terms:**

Stevenson Family

**Genre Terms:**

Photographs  
Scrapbooks

**Container List:**

**Box 1**

Folder 1: B.F. Stevenson, 1884-1939 and undated  
Folder 2: Chester Stevenson, 1971 and undated  
Folder 3: Chicago Musical College, 1916-1917  
Folder 4: Ethel Stevenson, 1931-1979 and undated  
Folder 5: Family history  
Folders 6-9: Family photographs, undated (4 folders)  
Folder 10: Lucia Stevenson, 1948 and undated  
Folder 11: Postcards, 1955 and undated  
Folder 12: Resources available at Champaign County Historical Archives  
Folder 13: Views Virginia College (Roanoke, VA), undated  
Folder 14: Scrapbook and loose photographs taken at Virginia College (Roanoke, VA)