

Grand Rapids History & Special Collections

Archives

GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Finding Aid for the

Ryskamp Brothers, Inc. Records

Collection # 031

May 2007 version

Abstract

Ryskamp Brothers, Inc. Records include correspondences, account books, journals, cash books, day books, ledgers and sale books pertaining to Ryskamp Bros. Store, a paint and hardware business in Grand Rapids, Michigan from 1890 until 1974. Documents in this collection cover the years from ca. 1890 to 1957. Correspondences and business records are valuable in providing financial background and detail information on the store's business. The firm was founded by three brothers, Jacob, Cornelius and William Ryskamp. All three were born in the Netherlands, and emigrated to Grand Rapids in 1881.

Collection #: 031

Accession #: 1986.553

Donor: Frank Ryskamp

Span dates: 1890-1957

Processor: Original Processor, Bruce Lee Siebers, February 1987.

Boxed for move, R. Mayne, Feb. 15, 2000. Box Summary, Marcella Beck,
August 23, 2000.

Size: 10 cu.ft.

Box Summary/Location Summary

Box No.	Description of Contents	Box Description
1	correspondence/records	Cubic
2	records 1903-1907	Cubic
3	records 1907-1912	Cubic
4	records 1912-1915	Cubic
5	records 1915-1930	Cubic
6	records 1930-1946	Cubic
7	records 1946-1955	Cubic
8	cash books/day books	Cubic
9	ledgers/sales books	Cubic
10	sales books 1906-1916	Cubic
11	sales books 1916-1926	Cubic
12	sales books 1926-1942	Cubic

Processing note

The papers and records were contained in deteriorating card board boxes. Generally, the collection was in fair to good condition. The papers and records are arranged chronologically within their series. The procedures used in preserving the collection consisted of the following: removing dust and dirt from ledgers and books by using a vacuum and document cleaning pad, removal of paper clips and staples, and placing the correspondences into acid-free folder and box. Some of the business ledgers were sprayed with Lysol to control mold and mildew.

History/Biography

Ryskamp Bros. Inc. was a paint and hardware business in Grand Rapids, 1890-1974. The firm was founded by three brothers, Jacob, Cornelius and William Ryskamp. All three were born in The Netherlands, and had emigrated to Grand Rapids in 1881. They were active in the paint and decorating business until their retirements. Social activities of the men centered on their charter membership of Sherman Street Christian Reformed Church. William was also a member of Eastern Ave. Christian Reformed Church, where he served as organist for several years. The store is last mentioned in the 1974 city directory.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of two series, Correspondences, and Business Records. The correspondences and business records provide financial background and detail information regarding the store's business. Some of the more interesting letters are to: Ferris Institute (1906), Douma Brothers (1906), Board of Public Works (1907), Denison, Dykema & Co. (1909), Sanitary Plumbing Co. (1909), Pulte Plumbing & Heating Co. (1909), and Automobile Repair & Supply Co. (1911). Business records consist of day books, cash books, sale books, and account journals; containing information regarding accounts, sales, debits and credits, business transactions.

Contents

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	Correspondence, Oct 1906 - Dec 1915.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Vol.</u>	<u>Description</u>
		Account Journals
1	1	Nov 30, 1890-Sep 25, 1901.
	2	Jul 18, 1894-Apr 4, 1896.
	3	Apr 6, 1896-Jun 20, 1898.
	72	jun 21, 1898-Dec 29, 1900.
	73	Apr 8, 1901-Nov 2, 1901.
	4	Nov 4, 1901-Jun 13, 1902.
	5	jun 14, 1902-Apr 17, 1903.0
2	6	Apr 17 to Nov 7, 1903.
	74	Nov 9, 1903-Jun 24, 1904.
	75	Jun 25, 1904-Mar 17, 1905.
	7	Mar 18-Jul 27, 1905.
	76	Jul 27, 1905-Apr 16, 1906.
	8	Apr 23, 1906-Apr 8, 1907.
	9	Apr 9-Jul 23, 1907.
3	10	Jul 23, 1907-Mar 3, 1908.
	11	Mar 3-Jun 22, 1908.
	12	Jun 23, 1908-Feb 5, 1909.
	77	Feb 6, 1909-Jun 14, 1909.
	78	Jun 15, 1909-Jan 19, 1910.
	13	Mar 9-Jul 13, 1911.
	79	Jul 14, 1911-Mar 8, 1912.
4	80	Jun 11, 1912-Oct 18, 1912.
	14	Oct 18, 1912-Apr 11, 1913
	15	Apr 11-Jun 30, 1913.
	16	Jun 30-Nov 18, 1913.
	17	Nov 19, 1913-Apr 20, 1914.
	18	Apr 20-Jun 5, 1914.
	19	Jun 5-Aug 26, 1914.
	20	Aug 26, 1914-Feb 26, 1915.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Vol.</u>	<u>Description</u>
Account Journals		
5	21	Feb 26-Jun 16, 1915.
	22	Jul 21, 1921-Mar 2, 1922.
	23	Mar 3-Aug 14, 1922.
	24	Aug 15, 1922-Mar 29, 1923.
	25	Mar 30-Aug 28, 1923.
	26	Nov 12, 1923-Jan 6, 1938.
	27	Nov 8, 1927-Jun 26, 1928.
	28	Jan 13-Sep 22, 1930.
6	29	Sep 23, 1930-Oct 19, 1931
	30	Oct 20, 1931-Oct 4, 1933
	31	Jun 13, 1935-Nov 12, 1936.
	81	Jan 10, 1938-Jan 5, 1954.
	32	1941-1957.
	33	Apr 22, 1942-Oct 4, 1944.
	34	Oct 5, 1944-Nov 13, 1946.
7	35	Nov 14, 1946-Aug 3, 1948.
	36	Aug 4, 1948-Jun 14, 1949.
	37	Jun 15, 1949-Apr 29, 1950.
	82	Jan 15, 1954-Dec 28, 1955.
Cash Books		
	38	Mar 10, 1910-Apr 12, 1913.
	39	1913-1941.
	40	1913-1947.
	41	Sep 12, 1924-Dec 29, 1926.
	42	Dec 30, 1926-Jul 5, 1930.
8	43	Jul 7, 1930-Dec 5, 1935.
	44	May 14, 1938-Apr 27, 1940.
	93	Apr 25, 1940-May 109 1945.
	45	May 10, 1945-Oct 6, 1951.
	46	Oct 9, 1951-Dec 31, 1955.

Day Books		
8	47	Sep 28, 1893-Jul 17, 1894.
	48	Sep 27, 1897-Mar 25, 1898.
	49	Mar 30, 1898-May 5, 1899.
	50	May 6, 1899-Apr 6, 1900.
9	51	Apr 23, 1900-Apr 6, 1901.
Ledgers		
9	52	Jan 1, 1891-Jan 1896.
	53	1899-1905.
	90	1907-1908.
	91	1909.
	92	1910.
	94	Nov 18, 1899-1903.
Sale Books		
	83	Jan 2, 1901-Mar 2, 1903.
	84	Mar 4, 1903-Jan 20, 1905.
10	85	Apr 16,-Aug 23, 1906.
	86	Jan 20-Mar 10, 1910.
	54	Mar 10-Jul 19, 1910.
	55	Jul 19, 1910-Mar 9, 1911.
	87	Mar 8-Jun 11, 1912.
	88	Jun 17, 1915-Dec 20, 1915.
	56	Dec 21, 1915-May 25, 1916.
11	57	May 25-Nov 6, 1916.
	58	Nov 7, 1916-May 8, 1917.
	89	May 8, 1917-Nov 20, 1917.
	59	Nov 21, 1917-Jul 2, 1918.
	60	Apr 7-Sep 22, 1919.
	61	Jul 2, 1918-Apr 7, 1919.
	62	Sep 22, 1919-May 19, 1920.
	63	May 15, 1925-Jan 11, 1926.
12	64	Jan 12, 1926-Jul 27, 1926.
	65	Jul 27, 1926-Apr 21, 1927.
	66	Apr 22-Nov 8, 1927.
	67	Jun 26, 1928-Apr 30, 1929.
	68	Apr 30, 1929-Jan 13, 1930.
	69	Dec 6, 1935-Apr 25, 1940.
	70	Nov 13, 1936-May 13, 1938.
	71	Apr 29, 1940-Apr 21, 1942.