

Finding aid for the DuMond papers Collection 019

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

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111 Library Street NE

Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503

616-988-5400

localhis@grpl.org

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Summary Information

Repository	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Title	Frank Lee DuMond papers
Date [inclusive]	1926-1978
Extent	4.48 Linear feet Ten boxes
Language	English
Abstract	<p>Frank Lee DuMond (1898-1989) was the curator of education (1923-1932) and director (1932-1964) for the Grand Rapids Public Museum. This collection includes correspondence, published papers and notes and photographs reflecting his wide interests in conservation, as well as his professional activities. Additionally, he was a research historian and active in numerous Grand Rapids, Kent County and Michigan organizations, including serving on the boards of directors of the Historical Society of Michigan, the Kent County Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre and the Salvation Army Advisory Board. Some non-Grand Rapids & Michigan materials reflect DuMond's interest in Abraham Lincoln and other national topics.</p>

Biographical/Historical note

Frank L. DuMond (1898-1989) was born in West Hurley, New York. In 1916 he received his high school diploma from Ulster Academy in Kingston, New York. After his days at Ulster, he entered Cornell University. In the five years he was at Cornell he earned a Bachelor of Science and a master's degree in forestry. After his years at Cornell, he obtained a graduate fellowship at Yale University to conduct research, and received a master's degree in forestry from Yale.

While at Cornell and Yale he spent summers working in a sawmill, lumber camp, and as a fire warden in Lolo National Park in Western Montana. In the Cornell Forestry Camp, in the Adirondacks, he helped fight a ground fire. He also worked as a timber cruiser in the High Sierras, in the California and United States Forest Service. He left the Forest Service after six months, with the rating of forest ranger. At Yale, his summer days were spent in a Boy Scout camp in Maine, working as the camp naturalist and ScoutMaster.

After graduating he became an instructor in forestry extension at Cornell for one year when he learned about an opening at the Kent Scientific Museum (which in June 1925 became the Grand Rapids Public Museum). In 1923 he became curator of education for the museum. He held that position until 1932, when he was made acting director. After two years in that job he became director, a position he held for 31 years, until he retired in 1965.

Aside from his duties in connection with the museum, he served on the boards of directors of the Historical Society of Michigan, the Kent County Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre, and the Salvation Army Advisory Board. He was president of the Michigan Audubon Society for five years and is a past president of the Grand Rapids Camera Club and the Midwest Conference.

He is an honorary life member of the Midwest Museum Conference, as well as of the Grand Rapids Museum Association, Grand Rapids Engineer Club and Grand Rapids Historical Society. In 1952 the Dwight Lydell Chapter of the Izaak Walton League named him its "Man of the Year in Conservation." In 1964 he received the Distinguished Service Award of the Grand Rapids Rotary Club and was named Ne gah - nee, which means "One - in - the - lead", by the Chippewa Tribe of Mt. Pleasant. And in 1966 he received the Historical Society of Michigan's Award of Merit.

A prolific writer, DuMond published "Tall Tales of the Catskills," "An Introduction to the Birds of Michigan," 47 articles in "Normal Instructor & Primary Plans," published by Owen; five articles in the Camp Fire Girls Magazine, and three articles published in the American Association of Museums Museum News. For six years he wrote a regular Sunday feature for the Grand Rapids Herald and for six months, in 1933, he was editor of the junior department of the Michigan Sportsman Magazine.

In 1926 Frank married Margaret (Margie) Claire Thomas, who was born in Charlotte, Michigan, and majored in biology at what is now Western Michigan University. They had four children, Robert, Marion, Carolyn, and David.

Scope and Contents note

The bulk of the collection includes notes, correspondence & documents on Grand Rapids, East Grand Rapids, and Michigan topics. However, there are currently a number of publications & folders in the collection reflecting DuMond's larger & national interests. The notes, pamphlets, and programs consist of background information on topics pertaining to forestry, archaeology, geology, biology, history, and music.

There are annual reports, exhibit notes, and general notes that describe the history and operation of the museum. The papers and photographs are most valuable in tracing the history of Grand Rapids and the Grand Rapids Public Museum. The history of the city is portrayed through the booklets, history notes, magazine articles, newspaper clippings, newspaper column - "Those Were The Days", pamphlets, and photographs and arranged alphabetically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department October 1986

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Frank DuMond, 1986. Accession number 1980.032 (8/11/2009), 1986.055.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

Coll. 233 includes a letter from DuMond related to the dedication of an historical marker honoring the Furniture Industry in Grand Rapids. This is a found item, which may have come from the former library person to which the letter is addressed, or may actually have been received with this collection and become separated during usage.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Grand Rapids Public Museum.

Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

Personal Name(s)

- DuMond, Frank Lee, 1898-1989

Pictorial Index

Apiarists - b.9,f.158

Bunk houses - b.9,f.160

Fire engines - b.9,f.161

Grand Rapids Public museum - b.9,f.157

Griffon, The - b.9,f.154

Hotels - b.9,f.166

Lakeside club - b.9,f.159

Lumbering - b.9,f.160

Milk wagons - b.9,f.163

Museums - b.9,f.157

Norton mounds - b.9,f.162

People. Apsey, John - b.9,f.153
People. Beecher, Henry Ward - b.9,f.166
People. Blaine, James G. - b.9,f.166
People. Evarts, William H. - b.9,f.166
People. Groups - b.9,f.156
People. Harletta, Mrs. Ralph - b.9,f.164
People. Lincoln, Abraham - b.9,f.166
People. Sumner, Charles - b.9,f.166
People. Young, George - b.9,f.163
Railroad stations - b.9,f.166
Ships - b.9,f.154
U.S. Hotel (Saratoga Springs, NY) - b.9,f.166
Washington (DC) depot - b.9,f.166
Windmills - b.9,f.155

Series I. Annual Reports

Collection Inventory**Series I. Annual Reports****Scope and Contents note**

This series contains note of transmission, history of Grand Rapids, act creating The Art and Museum Commission, G. R. Scientific Museum History, financial statements, reports, rules governing the museum, order of business, and illustrations in regards to the Art and Museum Commission. Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
Art & Museum Commissioners May 1918	1	1
Notes 1920-64	1	2

Series II. Biographical Notes**Scope and Contents note**

This series contains biographical information on Ruth Abrams, former librarian in the Michigan Room at the Grand Rapids Public Library. They are most valuable in describing her retirement days. No arrangement.

	Box
Frank Dumond biographical information, Added 1/19/2005	9
	Box
	Folder

Series III. Booklets

Ruth Abrams 1957	1	3
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Series III. Booklets**Scope and Contents note**

This series consist of booklets covering various topics such as: Abraham Lincoln, Grand Rapids, Michigan, printing, museum workers, and the furniture market. It contains the following titles: Lincoln, In Appreciation of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Museum Workers Notebook, The Kensington Runestone, The Awakening of Steve Randall, The Torchlight of Human Progress, and Wings of Wisdom. Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
Abraham Lincoln	1	4
In Appreciation of Grand Rapids	1	5
Michigan	1	6
Museum Workers Notebook	1	7
The Kensington Runestone	1	8
The Awakening of Steve Randall / Ben Dean 1913	1	8
The Torch light of Human Progress-Wings of Wisdom	1	9

Series IV. Certificates

Series V. Correspondence**Scope and Contents note**

This series contains the Certificate of Commendation that Frank DuMond received from the Historical Society of Michigan, for his services to the Society as Trustee from 1951-1954. No arrangement.

	Box	Folder
Certificate of Commendation - Historical Society of Michigan	1	10

Series V. Correspondence**Scope and Contents note**

Consists of letters from patrons and associations pertaining to the museum services, DuMond projects, services to the community, paper presented, Museum collections, the museum centennial, and the operation of the museum. Most valuable in tracing the services of the museum and DuMond's work are incoming and outgoing letters from H.L. Ward, librarian from the Detroit Public Library; Ludlon Bull, Associate Director at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; Michigan National Bank; Uhl, Bryant, Snow & Slawson, Attorneys at Law; Mrs. Glendon A. Richards; Brown & Gregg, Attorneys at Law; P. A. Herbert, Professor of Forestry at Michigan State College; Henry W. Corning, Trustee at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Michigan Audubon Society; War Man Power Commission; Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences; Steve Nisbet; Ada Fuller and Jessie Stevenson; City of Grand Rapids Special Auxiliary Patrol Squad; Messmore Kendall; Ray Cannon; Michigan State College; and Henry Mastens. Arranged chronologically.

	Box	Folder
Aug 9, 1929-Dec 11, 1957	1	11
May 2, 1934-Jul 24, 1951	1	12
Sep 2, 1964-Mar 9, 1978	1	13

Series VI. Exhibit Notes

Grand Rapids Museum Centennial	1	14
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Series VI. Exhibit Notes**Scope and Contents note**

This series contains research notes in regards to some of the exhibit collections that were held in the Museum. Most valuable in describing the history of the following: Whale, Mastodon, Columbian Peace Plow, East Grand Rapids Graffiti, East Grand Rapids History, Historical Dioramas, Gaslight Village, Gray Wolf - Timber Wolf, Horology (Time Keeping), Tobacco, and War Memorial. Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
Columbian Peace Plow	1	15
Historical Dioramas	1	16
East Grand Rapids Graffiti	1	17
East Grand Rapids History Exhibit	1	18
Gaslight Village	1	19
Gray Wolf - Timber Wolf	1	20
Horology (Time Keeping)	1	21
Mastodon	1	22

Series VII. History Notes

Tobacco	1	23
War Memorial	1	24
Whale, Mastodon	1	25

Series VII. History Notes**Scope and Contents note**

This series contains history notes pertaining to Grand Rapids and the surrounding community, Michigan, Shrine Temple, Grand Rapids Public Museum, and American historical figures, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Most valuable in tracing the history of the following topics: Early Grand Rapids, East Grand Rapids, Furniture Industry, Ghost Towns in Kent County, Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids Audubon Club, Grand Rapids Historical Commission, Grand Rapids Industry, Grand Rapids Museum Association, Grand Rapids Public Museum, Grand Rapids Riding Club, Indian Burial Mounds and Culture, Kent County Centennial farms, Kent County Historical Landmarks, Kent Scientific Museum, Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, History of Michigan, Calkins Law Office, and the Saladin Shrine Temple. Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
Early Grand Rapids	2	26
East Grand Rapids	2	27
Furniture Industry	2	28
Ghost Towns, Kent County	2	29

Series VII. History Notes

Grand Rapids	2	30
Grand Rapids & Area	2	31
Grand Rapids Audubon Club	2	32
Grand Rapids Historical Commission	2	33
Grand Rapids History	2	34
Grand Rapids Industry	2	35
Grand Rapids Museum Association	2	36
Grand Rapids Public Museum	2	37-40
Grand Rapids Public Museum	3	41-3
Grand Rapids Public Museum Budget Figures	3	44
Grand Rapids Public Museum Expansion Plan	3	45
Grand Rapids Public Museum Scrapbook 1911-1964	3	46
Grand Rapids Riding Club	3	47
Grand Rapids Riding Club	10	48

Series VIII. Lecture Series

Indian Burial Mounds and Culture	3	49
Kent County's Centennial Farms	3	50
Kent County Historical Landmarks	3	51
Kent Scientific Museum	3	52
Lincoln, Abraham	3	53
Michigan	3	54
Michigan History	3	55
Michigan Horse Show Association	10	56
Saladin Shrine Temple	3	57
The Calkins Law Office	3	58
Washington, George	3	59
Series VIII. Lecture Series		
Scope and Contents note		

Series IX. Magazine Articles

This series consists of notes pertaining to the Grand Rapids Museum Association Lecture Series. The lecture series includes: "Grand Ma", "Why Not Grand Rapids", "Nature - Film Lectures", and "This Amazing World". No arrangement.

	Box	Folder
Grand Rapids Public Museum	4	60

Series IX. Magazine Articles**Scope and Contents note**

Contains notes pertaining to the history of Grand Rapids and Michigan. Most notable are the articles from the Peninsular Club Magazine, in regards to the history of Grand Rapids and the surrounding community. Furthermore, there is an article about the quasquicentennial of Rockford, Michigan. Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
East Grand Rapids	4	61
Grand Rapids Public Museum History	4	62
Michigan	4	63
Peninsular Club Magazine, "History of G. R."	4	64
Quasquicentennial: Rockford, Michigan	4	65

Series X. Maps

Series XI. Newsletters**Scope and Contents note**

Contains maps pertaining to Metropolitan Grand Rapids, and the Shrine Temples in the United States. Most notable Grand Rapids maps are the following: Grand Rapids: Points of Interest in and around the city, official map of Grand Rapids, annexation map of Grand Rapids and Environs, Visitors map of Grand Rapids, and the surveyed map of August 28, 1833 by Chas Barnes. Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
Grand Rapids	4	66
Shrine Temples	4	67

Series XI. Newsletters**Scope and Contents note**

Contains the Grand Rapids Historical Society newsletters from March 25, 1969 - May 25, 1971. The newsletters contain information about the minutes of the meetings, speakers, newsworthy historical notes, and committees. No arrangement.

	Box	Folder
Grand Rapids Historical Society	4	69

Series XII. Newspaper Clippings**Scope and Contents note**

Contains newspaper clippings pertaining to the history of Grand Rapids and the surrounding community, state of Michigan, Grand Rapids Public Museum, and clippings in regards to Abraham Lincoln. Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
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Series XIII. Newspaper Column-"Those Were the Days"

Abraham Lincoln	4	70
History of East Grand Rapids	4	71
History of Kent County	4	72
Indian Burial Mounds and Culture	4	73
Grand Rapids	4	74
Grand Rapids Area	4	75
Grand Rapids Furniture Museum	4	76
Grand Rapids History	4	77-9
Grand Rapids Public Museum	4	80-1
Grand Rapids Public Museum History	4	82
Grand Rapids Riding Club	5	83
Michigan	5	84

Series XIII. Newspaper Column-"Those Were the Days"**Scope and Contents note**

Series XIV. Notes

Newspaper column by Gordon Harrington. Most valuable in tracing the history of old Grand Rapids. Moreover, there are issues that pertain to historical events and figures in American history. No arrangement.

Box **Folder**

Newspaper Column - "Those Were Days"

5

85

Series XIV. Notes

Scope and Contents note

Contains general background notes on several topics. Most valuable in covering the following: archaeology, honey bee tree, insects, inventions, Jemex Indians, leather tanning, lighting, North American Indians, spiders, termite control, ticks, trees in Michigan, weeds, and whaling. It provides background knowledge on the following museums: Blandford Nature Center, Grand Rapids Furniture Museum, and Grand Rapids Public Museum. Moreover, it provides background information on the Grand Rapids Historical Society, and Michigan Historical Society. In addition, it includes the minute book of the Art and Museum Commission. Arranged alphabetically.

Box **Folder**

Archaeology

5

86-7

Archaeology - Coffinberry Chapter

5

88

Blandford Nature Center

5

89-90

Grand Rapids Furniture Museum

5

91

Grand Rapids Historical Society

5

92

Series XIV. Notes

Grand Rapids Public Museum	5	93
Grand Rapids Museum Mural	5	94
Grand Rapids Museum Layout	5	95
Honey Bee Tree	5	96
Insects	5	97
Inventions	5	98
Jemex Indians	6	99
Leather Tanning	6	100
Lighting	6	101
Lighting - History	6	102
Michigan Historical Society	6	103
Minute Book of Art & Museum Commission	6	104
Museum Conferences	6	105
Museum and Popular Culture	6	106

Series XV. Pamphlets

North American Indians	6	107
Old Residents Association of Grand River Valley	6	108
Other Museums	6	109
Public Museum Addition Plan	6	110
Public Museum Services	6	111-2
Spiders	6	113
Termite Control	7	114
Ticks (Dog)	7	115
Trees In Michigan	7	116
Weeds	7	117
Whaling	7	118
Wholesale Dealers	7	119

Series XV. Pamphlets**Scope and Contents note**

Series XV. Pamphlets

This series contain pamphlets which cover various topics in relation to the Museum, and the history of Grand Rapids. Most valuable in covering the history of Grand Rapids are the following: A Historical Guide of Grand Rapids New 0-Wash-Ta-Nang Club, Glacial Grand River: Michigan; Grand Rapids and Michigan Grand Rapids As It Is, 1888, Grand Rapids: Its Points of Interest (Illustrated, 1897), Heritage Hill Historic Homes Tour, Mr. Garfield Talks on Early Grand Rapids, Old Mills, and One Hundred Years of Printing in Grand Rapids. Those most valuable in covering the history of the state are the following: History of Great Lakes Transportation, Indian Trade Silver Ornaments in Michigan, Michigan and the Old Northwest and Western Michigan: Colonial Period. And, those pamphlets that cover topics in relation to the museum are the following: A Century of Music in America, A Visit to the Whaling Museum, Blue Book, Common Insects of the Flower Garden, Directions for Collecting and Preserving Insects, Independence: National Historical Park Project, Preserving the Design for Americans, and Romance and History of Time. In addition, there is a pamphlet which relates to forestry; Big Trees of California. Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
A Century of Music In America	8	120
A Historical Guide of Grand Rapids	8	121
A Visit to the Whaling Museum	8	122
Big Trees of California	8	123
Blue Book, Mich. Horse Show Assoc	8	124
Common Insects of the Flower Garden	8	125
Directions for Collecting and Preserving Notes Insects	8	126
Glacial Grand River: Michigan	8	127

Series XV. Pamphlets

Grand Rapids and Michigan	8	128
Grand Rapids As It Is 1888	8	129
Grand Rapids: Its Point of Interests 1897	8	130
Heritage Hill Historic Homes Tour	8	131
History of Great Lakes Transportation	8	132
Independence: National Historical Park Project	8	133
Indian Trade Silver Ornaments in Michigan	8	134
Michigan and the Old Northwest	8	135
Garfield Talks on Early Grand Rapids	8	136
New O-Wash-Ta-Nong Club	8	137
Old Mills	8	138
One Hundred Years of Printing in Grand Rapids	8	139
Preserving the Design for Americans	8	140
Romance and History of Time	8	141

Series XVI. Papers

Western Michigan History: Colonial Period	8	142
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Series XVI. Papers**Scope and Contents note**

Papers that contain information about the history of Grand Rapids Public Museum, and information on topics pertain to the fields of science and culture. Most valuable in covering the history of Grand Rapids and the Public Museum are the following: "A Narrative History of the Grand Rapids Public Museum, 1854 - 1970", "History of Museums", and "The New Grand Rapids Public Museum". Papers pertaining to culture and science includes "Science As An Aid to Post - War Reconstruction", and "The Carnegie Study of the Arts of the United States". Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
A Narrative History of the Grand Rapids Public Museum, 1854 - 1970	9	143
History of Museums	9	144
Science As An Aid to Post - War Reconstruction	9	145
The Carnegie Study of the Arts of the U. S.	9	146
The New Grand Rapids Public Museum	9	147

Series XVII. Paper Presentations**Scope and Contents note**

Papers that were read at various clubs and associations includes: "A Plan For Popularizing the Muskegon County Museum", "A Plan of Exploitation for the Grand Rapids Public Museum", "Adventures in

Series XVIII. Photographs

Community Cooperation", "The Museum - Focal Point for Youth", and "Wares Museums Have to Sell". Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
A Plan For Popularizing the Muskegon County Museum	9	148
A Plan of Exploitation For the Grand Rapids Public Museum	9	149
Adventures In Community Cooperation	9	150
The Museum - Focal Point For Youth	9	151
Wares Museums Have To Sell	9	152

Series XVIII. Photographs**Scope and Contents note**

Photographs pertaining to the history of Grand Rapids, and museum exhibits. It includes the following: John Apsey; Drawing by Rowley Murphey; East Grand Rapids Grade School, 1910; Grand Rapids Public Museum; Honey Bee trees; Lakeside Club - Reeds Lake; lumber camp scene; Mastodon; San Ildefonso Pueblo; land oil burners; Farwell, Michigan Archaeological Society members, June 20, 1930; Milkman - George Young - 1930s; Mrs. Ralph Sasser Harletta, 1958; Previewing Topographic Relief map of Grand Rapids; and the Wreck of the Steamer' Walk - in - the - Water, 1821. Arranged alphabetically.

	Box	Folder
Apsey, John (1 total 9/99)	9	153

Series XVIII. Photographs

Drawing by Rowley Murphey (1 total 9/99)	9	154
Dutch Windmills (1 total 9/99)	9	155
East Grand Rapids Grade School (1 total 9/99) 1910	9	156
Grand Rapids Public Museum (3 photos, 9/99)	9	157
Grand Rapids Public Museum (4 negatives 9/99)	9	157a
Honey Bee Trees (10 total 9/99)	9	158
Lakeside Club - Reeds Lake (1 total 9/99)	9	159
Lumber Camp Scene (2 total 9/99)	9	160
Mastodon, Whales, San Idle Fonso Pueblo, lard oil burners, Farwell (14 total 9/99)	9	161
Michigan Archaeological Society Members, Norton Mounds (1 total 9/99) June 20, 1930	9	162
Milkman, George Young (1 total 9/99) 1930s	9	163
Ralph Sasser Harletta (1 total 9/99) 1958	9	164
Museum Negatives – Index (1 total 9/99)	10	165

Series XIX. Photographic Prints

Topographic Relief Map of G.R. (1 total 9/99)	9	166
The wreck of the Walk-in-the-Water (1 total 9/99) 1821	9	167

Series XIX. Photographic Prints**Scope and Contents note**

Contains prints pertaining to American historic figures and places, and European royalty figures. In addition, there are miscellaneous prints: Morning Chimes, A Kiss for Papa, Just Nine Pounds, Little Daisy, and Christ Walking on the Sea. No arrangement.

	Box	Folder
American Historical Figures and Places (13 total 9/99)	9	168
European Royalty Figures (7 total 9/99)	9	169
Morning Chimes, A Kiss For Papa, Just Nine Pounds, Little Daisy, Christ Walking on the Sea (5 total 9/99)	9	170

Series XX. Programs**Scope and Contents note**

Programs in regards to Musicals from 1903-1923. In addition, there are programs in regards to the Memorial Day of 1879, and the dinner given by the citizens of Grand Rapids, Michigan to the Honorary Commercial Commissioners from Japan, September 29, 1909. Arranged alphabetically.

Box **Folder**

Series XXI. Miscellaneous

Dinner given by the Citizens of Grand Rapids, Michigan to the Honorary, Commissioners from Japan September 29, 1909	9	171
Memorial Day 1879	9	172
Musicals May 29, 1903 - April 6, 1923	9	173
Series XXI. Miscellaneous		
Scope and Contents note		
Various notes and programs. No arrangement.		
	Box	Folder
Miscellaneous - Notes & Programs	9	174
Miscellaneous historical notes & program information including Invitation, List of Early Automobiles Companies in GR, Cable Car history, 100 Years of Service by the Gas Company, Historical Notes taken from Old Kent Bank Diary, 1933, 1980.032 Added 8/11/2009	9	175