

# **Finding Aid for the Ray Lewis Badgley Papers Collection 080**

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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

July 1988

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## Table of Contents

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<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Biographical/Historical note</u> .....	4
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	4
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	4
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	6
<u>Series I. Personal Papers, 1896-1919</u> .....	6
<u>Series II. Business Papers, 1889-1919</u> .....	7
<u>Series III. Photographs, n.d.</u> .....	9

## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
<b>Title</b>	Ray Lewis Badgley papers
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1889-1919, n.d.
<b>Extent</b>	1.75 Linear feet Four boxes
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>Ray Lewis Badgley (1878-1958) worked in his father's agricultural implements store in Lake Odessa, Michigan and then as a sales agent and District Manager for International Harvester Company, based in Grand Rapids, Michigan. His papers document a twenty year segment (1889-1919) of his career. They contain personal and business correspondence, financial records of the Badgley Implement Co. (circa 1894-1909), order books, sales agreements, time payment schedules, catalogs and sales information letters from International Harvester (1906-1919). Also included are a few items on the various fraternal organizations Badgley joined to facilitate his traveling sales business. The papers also document Badgley's personal finances and his tenure as Odessa Township Treasurer.</p>

## **Biographical/Historical note**

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Ray Lewis Badgley (1878-1958) was born in Lake Odessa, Ionia County, Michigan. His father, Lewis Badgley, owned the L. Badgley Agricultural Implements firm in Lake Odessa located at 638 4th Street, Lake Odessa. Ray Badgley joined the firm during the 1890s. One of the agricultural suppliers that the Badgley firm represented was International Harvester Company. The Badgley firm's district included southwestern lower Ionia County, southeastern lower Kent County and northern Barry County.

In 1906 Badgley joined the International Harvester Company as a bonded sales agent. His district included Barry, Allegan, Kent, Ottawa, Muskegon, Newaygo and Mason Counties. His base was at Grand Rapids, the second largest city in the state. By 1909 his sales work was so extensive that he sold the Lake Odessa implement company. In 1912 he became Assistant District Manager for International Harvester's Grand Rapids Office and three years later was appointed district manager. He remained with the firm until retirement in 1938.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department July 1988

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition note**

Leonard Blauskamp, 1979, accession number 00-000

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Corporate Name(s)**

- Badgley Implement Co.
- International Harvester Company.

**Geographic Name(s)**

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

**Personal Name(s)**

- Badgley, Ray Lewis, 1878-1958

**Subject(s)**

- Agricultural machinery industry -- Michigan -- History
- Odessa (Mich. : Township)

## Series I. Personal Papers, 1896-1919

## Collection Inventory

## Series I. Personal Papers, 1896-1919

## Scope and Contents note

These document his finances, membership in fraternal organizations including the United Commercial Traveler's of America, resolution of his father's estate, insurance policies on his home and car, and a limited amount of correspondence.

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Bank books, 1896-1909	1	1
Correspondence, 1894-1919	1	2
Fraternal organizations, 1904-1918	1	3
Insurance policies, 1911-1918	1	4
Lewis Badgley estate, 1918	1	5
Miscellany, 1903-1919	1	6
Promissory notes, 1909-1910	1	7
Receipts, 1910-1919	1	8

**Series II. Business Papers, 1889-1919****Series II. Business Papers, 1889-1919****Scope and Contents note**

The business papers document the financial history of the Badgley Implement firm in Lake Odessa and Badgley's years as sales agent for International Harvester. The series contains little on his business life after he was promoted, but it does contain a folder of correspondence and two catalogs of implements and their prices.

**Badgley Implement Company, 1894-1909**

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Contracts, receipts, 1904-1909	1	10
Bank drafts, 1899, 1905-1906	1	11
Order Book, 1905	1	12
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Volume</b>
Order book, 1902 (glued into a Northern Refrigerator Co. catalog) Day Book	1	1
<b>Day book</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Volume</b>
1894-1996	1	2
1899-1900	1	3

## Ledger

1900-1901	1	4
1901-1903	2	5
1903-1904	2	6
<b>Ledger</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Volume</b>
1894-1895.	2	7
1896-1899.	2	8
1901	3	9
<b>International Harvester Company, 1906-1919</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Contracts, correspondence, 1909-1919	3	1
<b>Order books</b>		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
1908-1909	3	2
1910	3	3



**Series III. Photographs, n.d.**

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1911	3	4
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Sales information, price correspondence, 1917	3	5
Price lists, 1906-1917	3	6
Catalogs, 1912, 1915	4	7
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Odessa Township Treasurer's papers, 1889-1905	4	8
<b>Series III. Photographs, n.d.</b>		
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
The photographs are duplicate portraits of Badgley.		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
People. Badgley, Ray Lewis (2)	4	9