New on the Shelves
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“New on the Shelves” is a list of recent additions to the collections of the State Historical Society of Iowa. It includes manuscripts, audio-visual materials, and published materials recently acquired or newly processed that we think might be of interest to the readers of the Annals of Iowa. The “DM” or “IC” at the end of each entry denotes whether the item is held in Des Moines or Iowa City.

Manuscripts

Belknap, Horace. Journal. 1 vol., 1850. Journal kept by Iowan Horace Belknap—a Yale-educated physician and minister—documenting his overland journey from Grandview (Louisa County) to California during the 1850 gold rush. Belknap provides an account of the logistics of his wagon train; wildlife, botanical specimens, and geological features observed; Native American encounters; communities visited; local history and lore obtained; and the general challenges of the expedition. DM.

Des Moines Metropolitan Transit Authority. Records. 46 ft., ca. 1885–1960. Records of the Des Moines Metropolitan Transit Authority, including deeds, contracts, correspondence, minutes, publications, reports, and various legal documents. DM.

DeTar, Josiah. 4 Documents, 1863. Civil War letters of Josiah DeTar of the 6th Iowa Infantry, Co. E. [Addition to collection.] DM.

Emerick, Billie Edward and John W. Papers. 51 documents, 1 photograph, 1 badge, 1941–1945. Letters and official documents related to the World War II service of Des Moines brothers Billie Edward Emerick, a U.S. Marine taken prisoner on Wake Island in December 1941, and John Emerick, a U.S. Navy electrician’s mate, who perished in a torpedo attack on the submarine U.S.S. Corvina in 1943. The collection includes brief postcards Billie Emerick sent to his family while a prisoner of war at Fukuoka, Japan. DM.

Harlan, Aaron W. Papers. ½ ft., ca. 1844–ca. 1900. Papers of Aaron W. Harlan, pioneer resident of Croton (Lee County), including letters; his journal of a steamboat trip from Muscatine to St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1881; his original poem about the Civil War Battle of Athens, Missouri; ephemera; and photographs. DM.

Hughes, Lenore and Eddythe. Papers. ¼ ft., 1920s. Two notebooks kept by Lenore Hughes while a student at the Queen City College of Dressmaking and Tailoring, Des Moines, ca. 1920; and a scrapbook of Eddythe Hughes related to her education at Des Moines College and the Queen City school. Several photos of Des Moines College (University) are included.
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Iowa Quilters Guild. Records. 1 ft., 1982–2009. Newsletters, programs, and member rosters of this guild. DM.


Smith, Donald “Smokey.” Papers. 2 ft., 1940s–1970s. Documents, ephemera, and photographs relating to the career of Donald “Smokey” Smith (Des Moines), nationally known country western music performer, radio personality, and concert promoter. DM.

Volk, Douglas. Papers. 36 documents and one black-and-white photograph, 1912–13. Correspondence of artist Douglas Volk concerning his commission to paint a mural (The Coming of the White Man) for the Polk County Courthouse. Includes correspondence with Des Moines designer D. J. Linane and artists Russell Cowles and Charles Atherton Cumming; contracts and specifications for the mural; and an interior photo of the courthouse showing the space where the mural was to be installed. DM.

Audio-Visual Materials


Automobile culture. 1 photo album (21 black-and-white photographs), 1911. Photo album containing 21 photos documenting a 1911 automobile tour by an unidentified Iowa family as they visit roadside attractions, camp, picnic, and perform maintenance on their vehicle. DM.

Des Moines—Manufacturing. 5 black-and-white photographs, 1940s. Fire and security personnel of the Des Moines Ordnance Plant, ca. 1942; Marquette Cement Manufacturing Company, 1940. DM.

Iowa Postcards. 24 lithographic postcards, ca. 1910–1940s. Postcard views of Iowa communities: horse barn on Iowa State Fairgrounds (Des Moines); Lee County Courthouse (Ft. Madison); First Methodist Church (Mt. Pleasant); chapel (Fayette); Union Park Electric Company station and cars, Chautauqua event, steamers on the Mississippi River (Dubuque); Warden Arcade (Fort Dodge); various views (Decorah). DM.

Iowa Stereographs. 13 stereographs, 1880s–1890s. Views of Iowa State Capitol, Soldiers and Sailors Monument, depot (Radcliffe), Iowa Building at the World Columbian Exposition, railroad cut (Iowa City), and Buffalo Bill Cody Wild West Show parade (Des Moines). DM.

Klein, Henry. 20 35mm color slides, 1950. Klein’s views of Des Moines during 1950 flooding. DM.

Sims, Ronald. 33 prints, 74 black-and-white negatives, 1950s–2000s. 15 35mm slides. Photography by Sims documenting changes to the Des Moines urban landscape following various demolition and construction projects. DM.

Published Materials


Biography of a Steamboat Captain: John Van Dyke and His Family from Ulster, Pennsylvania to Keokuk, Iowa, by Nancy Van Dyke-Dickison. N.p., 2011. 101 pp. IC.


The Colored School Controversy in Davenport, Iowa: News Articles and Minutes of City Board of Education Meetings, 1858–1860, compiled by Craig Klein. N.p., 2006. 23 pp. IC.


The Enigma of Theresa Dolezal Feldwert and the Black Angel, by Timothy C. Parott. 2nd ed. Iowa City, 2010. 54 pp. IC.


*The Iowa Prison System*, by Fred E. Haynes. Iowa City: State University of Iowa, 1954. 79 pp. IC.


*Log of World War II: A Pacific Naval Diary*, by Vincent Evo DeCook; edited by Kenneth W. Huck. Bloomington, IN: XLibris, 2010. IC.


A Place to Grow: Remembering an Iowa Childhood, by Carolyn Swartz Buckbaum. Chicago: History Works, 2009. 204 pp. Growing up Jewish in Des Moines during the Great Depression and World War II. DM, IC.


The Rebirth of Iowa’s Trout Streams: A Success Story, by Bill Kalishek et al. Des Moines: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 2007. 11 pp. IC.


The Tallgrass Prairie Center Guide to Prairie Restoration in the Upper Midwest, by Daryl Smith et al. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press for the Tallgrass Prairie Center, 2010. xxi, 301 pp. IC.
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This Enduring Gift: A Flowering of Fairfield Poetry; 76 Poets Who Found Common Ground in One Small Prairie Town, edited by Freddy Niagara Fonseca. Fairfield: 1stWorld Publishing, 2010. IC.


A True Pioneer Story: Memories of a Pioneer Girl, by Mary Ann Maulsby Mills; edited by Karlene Kingery. Ames, 2010. xv, 103 pp. An account of the pioneer experiences of the Maulsby family between 1836 and 1843, including their migration by wagon from Indiana to Washington County, Iowa, in 1836. DM, IC.


The University of Iowa Museum of Natural History: Window to the World, by Cindy Opitz. Iowa City: University of Iowa, 2010. v, 59 pp. IC.

