

Lantz, Jacob W., Papers

Jacob W. Lantz Papers

1908-1944



Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1975.003

Unit Date

1908-1944

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

This collection contains the correspondence and account books of Jacob W. Lantz, proprietor of a general store in Smythe County, Virginia, and manager of local properties owned by the Lobdell Car Wheel Company.

Creator

Lantz, Jacob W., 1868-1940

Extent

1.5 Cubic Feet 3 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Jacob W. Lantz Papers were donated to Special Collections in 1975.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Jacob W. Lantz Papers commenced and was completed in May, 2012.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Jacob W. Lantz Papers, Ms1975-003, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Jacob Wissler Lantz, son of Jacob and Elizabeth Lantz was born October 21, 1868, at Lantz's Mills (Shenandoah County), Virginia. In his early years, Lantz moved to Max Meadows (Wythe County), Virginia and entered business with his uncle, Jacob H. Wissler. On April 8, 1896, Lantz married Clara Virginia Keesling, daughter of Emory S. and Emmaline (Derting) Keesling, of Cedar Springs (Smyth County), Virginia.

Lantz served in various capacities managing the local properties of the Lobdell Car Wheel Company until 1895, when he established the Cedar Springs Company, a general mercantile store. He also owned a flour mill in nearby Grayson County, engaged in the real estate and private banking businesses, and served as a director of the First National Bank of Rural Retreat, Virginia. Lantz apparently resumed managing the Lobdell properties in the 1930s.

A member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Lantz served for several years as President of the Virginia Sunday School Association. He also had a longstanding interest in the history of the Lantz family and in 1931 self-published *The Lantz Family Record*. Jacob Lantz died on March 16, 1940.

Scope and Content

This collection contains papers of Jacob W. Lantz, proprietor of a general store in Cedar Springs (Smyth County), Virginia. The collection contains correspondence, financial documents, and account books.

The correspondence relates largely to Lantz's business affairs, particularly the management of his store and the local properties of the Lobdell Car Wheel Company. Together with correspondence between Lantz and various suppliers, the general store folder includes receipts and promotional material. The Lobdell Car Wheels Company file consists mostly of correspondence between Lantz and company secretary Howard L. Seaman but also includes correspondence with others, all relating to local property management issues. A folder devoted to Lantz's personal financial interests includes (among other things) letters from various relatives seeking loans. Among the correspondence also are personal letters, several relating to Lantz's church activities. A separate folder contains correspondence and notes relating to Lantz's interest in his family's history.

Most of the account books in the collection are unidentified. Among the volumes is an account book apparently kept by a shoe cobbler during the early 20th century. Other ledgers in the collection seem to detail the income and expenditures of mercantile and produce businesses. Also included are a set of ledgers providing a detailed general store inventory from 1938 to 1942.

Related Archival Materials

See the Lobdell Car Wheel Company Account Books, Ms1940-019, also at the Virginia Tech Special Collections and University Archives.

Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South
Smyth County (Va.)

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Description of Subordinate Components

Personal Correspondence

Unit Date 1935-1936, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Lantz Genealogy

Unit Date 1926-1936, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Personal Financial

Unit Date 1934-1936, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Cedar Springs Company

Unit Date 1934-1936, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Lobdell Car Wheel Company

Unit Date 1930-1936, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5-7 (folder)

Double-Entry Ledger

Unit Date 1908-1912

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Cobbler Accounts Book

Unit Date 1913-1914

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Monthly Account Balances Journals

Unit Date 1935-1941

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Sales Books

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 1-6 (folder)

Unit Date 1938

Unit Date 1941

Unit Date Jan-Jun 1943

Unit Date Jul-Dec 1943

Unit Date Jan-Jun 1944

Unit Date Jul-Dec 1944

Cash Book

Unit Date 1939-1941

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Produce Sales and Expenditures

Unit Date [1940]-1943

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Store Inventories

Unit Date 1938-1942

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 2-6 (folder)