

Alexander, M. Clair, Diary

M. Clair Alexander Diary

1880



Title Statement

Alexander, M. Clair, DiaryM. Clair Alexander Diary, 1880 Ms.1988.102

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Profile Description

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Revision Description

2020-08-26	Finding aid notes updated to new department standards. juliags
2021-04-21	LM Rozema added missing notes for an unprocessed collection, added FA title, added FA date from EAD, and added component with instances previously attached to collection level.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1988.102

Unit Date

1880

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

Diary of Major Clair Alexander (1858-1933), a carpenter in North Easton, Massachusetts, and later a carpet cleaner in Brockton, chronicling daily work life as a carpenter as well as social events in North Easton, Massachusetts.

Creator

Alexander, M. Clair

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

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 M. Clair Alexander Diary was purchased by Special Collections and University Archives in 1988.

Processing Information

The processing and description of the M. Clair Alexander Diary commenced and was completed in May, 2021.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], M. Clair Alexander Diary, Ms1988-102, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Major Clair Alexander was born in Nova Scotia, Canada, May 3, 1858. He appears in the 1871 Canadian census among the children living in the Annapolis home of Sarah Alexander. Alexander immigrated to the United States ca. 1875; in the 1880 census, 22-year-old carpenter Clair Alexander appears as a resident in the Easton (Bristol County), Massachusetts, home of his brother-in-law, Simeon French. By 1910, Alexander was living in Brockton (Plymouth County), Massachusetts with niece Lucy Taylor and several lodgers. The census for that year records his occupation as carpet cleaner. Alexander continues to be listed as a resident of Brockton through 1930. Major Clair Alexander died in Brockton in 1933.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of a single diary maintained by M. Clair Alexander, a young man living in North Easton, Massachusetts, and working as a carpenter in 1880. In entries that grow more brief and sporadic as the year progresses, Alexander documents the weather, his daily carpentry work, social activities and local events. In the back of the diary are entries for Alexander's cash accounts.

Keywords

Diaries

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Description of Subordinate Components

Diary

Unit Date 1880

folder 1