MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS
Edwin William Stephens Collection

Abstract: Artifact and publications related to Stephens’ time as Chairman of the State Capitol Commission

Extent: 3/4 cubic feet

Physical Description: Paper and metal trowel

Location: Missouri State Archives; Stacks

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Alternative Formats: JPEG images of the ephemera

Access Restrictions: No special restrictions

Publication Restrictions: When citing the newspaper clippings, patrons must cite the original source (the paper), then courtesy of the Missouri State Archives

Preferred Citation: [item description], [date]; Edwin William Stephens Collection, Record Group 998.006; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

Acquisition Information: Gifts; Accession #1972-0004 and #1975-0054


HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Edwin William Stephens (1849-1931) was a well-known newspaper publisher in Columbia, Boone County, Missouri. He also was Chair of the Capitol Commission during the planning and construction of Missouri’s new Capitol Building after a 1911 fire destroyed the previous one. He attended the capping of the dome on December 5, 1916 as part of his Commissioner duties.
ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Related Collections

MS013 Theodore Lacaff Diaries
MS027 Thomas Garfield Cooper Photograph Collection
MS066 Peter Herman Rackers Photograph Collection
MS111 Ralph Miller Capitol Fire Photograph Collection
MS163 Blanche Leach Capitol Dedication Scrapbook
MS268 New Capitol Day Collection
MS313 Van Gundy Photograph Collection
MS314 Tom Sater Capital City Collection
MS321 James C. Worth Photograph Collection
MS441 Alfred A. Speer Capitol Collection
RG395 State Capitol Commission Board
RG395 State Capitol Commission Board Photographs
RG395.2 Missouri State Capitol Commission
RG395.2 Missouri State Capitol Commission Photographs
RG396 Capitol Decoration Commission


Additional External Resources

SERIES

Books, 1913-1931

Scope and Content

Stephens’ family donated four books: three personal and the fourth that concerns his work on the Capitol Commission Board.

Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Contents</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td>Specifications of the Missouri State Capitol: Contract, Bond and Specifications for the Construction of the Superstructure, Including the Plumbing, Drainage and Water Supply, the Heating and Ventilation, the Electric Work, the Elevators and the Vacuum Cleaning System of the Missouri State Capitol at Jefferson City, MO by Tracy and Swartwout architects</td>
<td>08/15/1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scrapbook of Stephens’ death announcements and his family’s correspondence concerning his death</td>
<td>05/02/1931 &amp; forward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OB2</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scrapbook presented to Edwin W. Stephens by the citizens of Columbia at a dinner given by them in honor of his 70th birthday at the Daniel Boone Tavern</td>
<td>01/28/1919</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SERIES

Ephemera, 1916

Scope and Content

This is one of the trowels used in capping the Capitol dome. The underside of the trowel is rusted. For photographs of the ceremony, see RG395 State Capitol Commission Photographs. Photographs of the trowel itself are available on Manuscript DVD #1 in the Reference Room.

The trowel was put on display in the Capitol Rotunda on January 4, 2017 as part of the 100th anniversary of the dome capping (12/5/2016) celebration. The celebration was organized by the State Capitol Commission. The box also includes the signage used for the 100th anniversary exhibit.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11A</td>
<td>none</td>
<td></td>
<td>The trowel E.W. Stephens used during the dome capping ceremony. It is engraved, “This trowel was used by E.W. Stephens Chairman of the Missouri State Capitol Commission Board in laying the capstone of the dome of the State Capitol on December 5, 1916.”</td>
<td>12/05/1916</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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