

# Missouri State Archives

## Finding Aid [998.006]

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### MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

#### Edwin William Stephens Collection

*Abstract:* Artifact and publications related to Edwin William Stephens's 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 trowel

*Access Restrictions:* None

*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

*Processing Information:* Processing completed by EW on 12/06/2016. Updated by EW on 08/23/2019 and 03/23/2021.

### 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

Ball, Jeffrey L. The Missouri Murals: A History of the Decorations for the State Capitol.  
University of Missouri-Columbia Dissertation: 1997. Call No. R 725.11 B2101

Edelman, Nancy. The Thomas Hart Benton Murals in the Missouri State Capitol: A Social History of the State of Missouri. Jefferson City: Missouri Department of Natural Resources, 1978. Call No. R 759.13 Ed276

The Missouri State Capitol: A Collection of Information about Its Architectural Design.  
Jefferson City: Missouri Senate, 1979. Call No. R 725.11 M6918

### Additional External Resources

Priddy, Bob and Jeffrey Ball. The Art of the Missouri Capitol: History in Canvas, Bronze, and Stone. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2011.

## BOOKS, 1913-1931

*Arrangement:* By size, then chronological

### Scope and Content

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

### Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	1	16	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	08/15/1913
	1	17	A Verbatim Report of the Addresses and Other Proceedings at the Banquet Given in Honor of the Seventieth Anniversary of the Birth of the Honorable E.W. Stephens, at the Daniel Boone Tavern, Columbia, Missouri, January 28, 1919 by Howard B. Lang	01/28/1919
	2	none	Scrapbook of Stephens's death announcements and his family's correspondence concerning his death	05/02/1931 & forward
	OB2	none	Scrapbook presented to Edwin W. Stephens by the citizens of Columbia at a dinner given by them in honor of his 70 <sup>th</sup> birthday at the Daniel Boone Tavern	01/28/1919

## EPHEMERA, 1916

*Arrangement:* N/a

### 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 100<sup>th</sup> 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 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibit.

### Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	11A	none	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."	12/05/1916