



DETROIT ANNIVERSARIES COLLECTION

DETROIT CENTURY BOX

December 31, 1900

Accession Number: 2001.061

Size:	1 linear foot
Number of Boxes:	2
Box Numbers:	ANNV-1-A to ANNV-1-B
Object Numbers:	2001.061.001 to 2001.061.196

DETROIT ANNIVERSARIES COLLECTION

DETROIT CENTURY BOX

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- ARRANGEMENT:** Organized and catalogued with a finding aid prepared by Detroit Historical Museum employee, Eric Dalton, in June, 2012. The Detroit Historical Society uses *PastPerfect* museum software for its records database. All items in the database are assigned a 10-digit number in the format, 0000.000.000. Consequently, items listed in the Series Box List section of this finding aid are shown as object numbers. The finding aid format was updated in June, 2015.
- ACCESS & USE:** Opened to researchers and other interested individuals in June, 2012, without restriction except where physical condition precludes use.

BACKGROUND

HISTORY of COLLECTION

This collection includes letters, envelopes, pictures, photos, and other documents that were placed in a century box/time capsule at the Detroit City Hall on December 31, 1900. The letters were written by various citizens of the city in order to give some insights about present conditions and to offer some thoughts about the future for citizens of upcoming generations. The time capsule was opened at 11:20 pm on New Year's Eve, December 31, 2000, at Orchestra Hall by Mayor Dennis Archer as part of the 300th anniversary celebration (1701-2001) of the founding of the city.

In December, 1900, the Mayor's secretary, Clarence A. Cotton, compiled a list of the century box/time capsule contents. This list (object number 2001.061.105), certified by the Mayor's office, is included in the file for the Mayor, William C. Maybury, and it shows the names of the citizens who had been requested to write letters as well as the subjects that had been assigned to each of them. A total of 56 subjects/names were recorded on the list. When the century box contents were cataloged in March - June, 2012, the writer's names were checked against the 1900 list. Their names and assigned subjects are summarized on the following pages along with the object numbers that were given to each of the submitted items.

The following names **were** shown on the 1900 list, but no letters were found in the box from these persons:

Rt. Rev. Thomas F. Davies
Clarence M. Hayes
Edward W. Pendleton.

Clarence M. Hayes and/or his associates, F. H. Holt and Frederick A. Goodrich, did handwrite some technical details on the verso of a photographic portrait of the Mayor. Possibly, this information was intended to be the portraiture exhibit for his assigned subject, a *Dissertation on Modern Photography With Two Exhibits, One Portraiture and One Exterior*. The collection also included an exterior photograph of City Hall, but it did not show the photographer's name or any other information. Possibly, this photograph was intended to the exterior exhibit. The portrait photo is included in the file for Mayor William C. Maybury and the City Hall photo is included in a separate miscellaneous file at the end of the collection.

The following names **were not** shown on the 1900 list, but letters and/or envelopes were found in the century box from these persons:

Herbert J. Greville
William C. Houghton
Fred J. Schulte.

TIMELINE of COLLECTION

- 1900 – On or about midnight, December 31st, William C. Maybury, Mayor of Detroit, deposited letters and artifacts from various Detroit citizens into a time capsule box (Century Box) at City Hall. The box was sealed and stored at City Hall.
- 2000 – At 11:20 PM, December 31st, Dennis Archer, Mayor of Detroit, opened the Century Box at Orchestra Hall as part of the New Year's Eve/New Year's Day celebration in Detroit. New Year's Day, January 1, 2001, began the 300th anniversary year of the founding of the city in 1701.

CONTENTS

SCOPE and CONTENTS NOTES

Physical Description

The collection contains a variety of letters, envelopes, business cards, photographs, newspaper articles, and one coin. All of the items are housed in folders in two archival boxes except for the century box/time capsule. This container is stored separately as object number 2001.061.001.

Series Description

Items are filed in the following series:
I. Contributing Writers

Editorial Description

As prepared by the Mayor's secretary, the various assigned subjects and writers are listed as follows (with general category topics added):

Arts

Donaldson, John M., *Rise of Architecture in Detroit*
Griffith, Armond H., *What Detroit has Accomplished in Art*
Hayes, Clarence M., *Dissertation on Modern Photography with Two Exhibits**
Whitney, Bertram C., *Short History of Theatricals in Detroit, 1800 to 1901*
York, Francis L., *History and Prophecy of Music in Detroit*

City Government

Barrie, Robert, *Our Legislative City Government*
Blades, Francis A., *Our Financial City Government Statement of Appropriations, City of Detroit*
Hurlbut, Myrtle P., *The Parks and Boulevards of Detroit, 1900*
Maybury, William C., *Greeting by the Mayor of Detroit*
Ingram, Frederick P., *Public Lighting of Detroit – Past, Present and a Prophecy for the Future*
Pendleton, Edward W., *The Water Supply of Detroit**
Police Commissioners, *The Police Department of Detroit*
Municipal Manual of the City of Detroit, 1900-1901

Commerce

Baldwin, Orrin R., *Merchants and Manufacturers Exchange*
Carson, William, *Board of Trade*
O'Brien, Michael W., *Banking in Prospective in Detroit*
Russell, George H., *Banking Interests, Statements, Officers and Directors of Detroit Banks*
Warner, Carlos E., *The Chamber of Commerce*

Education

Jacobs, Charles H., *The Detroit High School Scholarship Fund*
Marschner, Edward F., *Progress of Public Education in Detroit*
Martindale, Wales C., *Public Schools in Detroit*

Ethnic Heritage

St. Andrew's Society, *Greetings to the Descendants of Early Scotchmen of Detroit*
Simons, David W., *The Jewish People in Mercantile, Social and Professional Life in Detroit*
Straker, D. Augustus, *The Past, Present and Future of the Colored Race in Detroit*
Willemin, Desire B., *Foundation of Detroit by the French*

General Prophecy

Scripps, James E., *A Prophecy for Detroit as a Metropolis*

Journalism

Cobb, Frank I., *The Newspapers of Detroit*
Quinby, William E., *Progress of Journalism in Detroit*
Schermerhorn, James, *Newspapers Now and Then*

Labor

Boyd, David A., *The Labor Movement in Detroit up to Date*
Greville, Herbert J., *Sentiment of Labor*
McLeod, Malcolm J., *Condition of Labor Men of the City of Detroit*

Law

Russell, Alfred, *The Detroit Bar*

Manufacturing

Dwyer, Jeremiah, *Growth of Detroit's Manufactories during the 19th Century*
Freer, Charles L., *Possibilities of Detroit as a Manufacturing Center*
Stearns, Frederick, *Growth of Manufacturing Pharmacy in Detroit during the 19th Century*

Medicine

LeSeure, Dr. Oscar, *Growth of Homeopathic Practice in Detroit*
McGraw, Dr. Theodore A, *Progress of Surgery in the 19th Century*
Stephenson, Dr. Samuel S., *The Future of Biopathy*
Stewart, Dr. Morse, *Recollections of Practice of Medicine in Detroit*

Mementos

Houghton, William C., *Letter to Future Family*
Martin, Capt. Francis, *Signature of Capt. Francis Martin, the Oldest Man in Detroit*

Real Estate

Abbott, Edwin W., *Suburbs of Detroit of 1900*
Burton, Clarence M., *Real Estate Titles in Detroit, Past, Present and Future*

Religion

Blitz, Louis, *The Jewish People in Detroit in the 19th Century*
Cotton, Clarence A., *The Denominational Churches in Detroit*
Davies, Rt. Rev. Thomas F., *A Retrospect of the Churches in Detroit**
Foley, Rt. Rev. John S., *The Roman Catholic Church in Detroit*
Knott, Annie M., *Growth of Christian Science in Detroit*

Social Life, Civic and Charitable Organizations

Arnold, Rev. Charles L., *The Arnold Home for the Aged and Hospital for Incurables*
Miller, Mrs. Sidney Trowbridge, *Detroit's Social Life*
Moody, George T., *A Retrospect - Y.M.C.A.*
Post, Dr. James A., *Associated Charities in Detroit – Past, Present and Future*
Stoddard, Florine Smith, *Young Women's Christian Association [Y.W.C.A.]*
Teichner, Mrs. Jacob F., *Hebrew Homes and Charities in Detroit*

Women

Chittenden, Irene Williams, *The American Mother of the 19th Century*
Moran, Mrs. John V., *The American Mother in Detroit*
Patterson, Pamela A., *The Growth of the Women's Club Movement*
Skinner, Sara M. P., *Women's Suffrage – Retrospect and Prophecy*

*missing (or never received) items as mentioned previously in the History of Collection section

Although each of the above general category topics could be arranged to form an archival series, it seemed more likely that researchers would first be interested in the name of the writer and second in the subject. Consequently, this finding aid arranges all of the files alphabetically by the writer's last name rather than create a series arrangement by subject.

The following two items are not attached to any particular subject and are filed in two Miscellaneous file folders at the end of box, ANNV-1-A, after the file for York, Francis L.:

2001.061.181, photograph of City Hall, c.1900

2001.061.182, Indian Head penny, 1900.

SERIES BOX LIST

SERIES I: Contributing Writers

The names of writers who contributed letters and/or other items to the Century Box are listed alphabetically by last name. The occupation of the writer is also listed (if given) as well as the assigned subject.

Box ANNV-1-A

Abbott, Edwin E. (folder 1)
Owner, E. W. Abbott Real Estate and Insurance
Suburbs of Detroit of 1900
2001.061.098 Letter
2001.061.099 Envelope
2001.061.100 Booklet
2001.061.101 Envelope

Arnold, Rev. Charles L. (folder 2)
Arnold Home for the Aged and Hospital for Incurables
2001.061.029 Letter
2001.061.030 Envelope

Baldwin, Orrin R. (folder 3)
President, American Harrow Company
President, Merchants and Manufacturers Exchange
Merchants and Manufacturers Exchange
2001.061.002 Letter
2001.061.003 Envelope
2001.061.004 Card, Business
2001.061.005 Paper, letterhead
2001.061.006 Roster
2001.061.007 Paper, Letterhead
2001.061.008 Card, Business
2001.061.009 Chart, Genealogy
2001.061.010 Print, Photographic

Barrie, Robert (folder 4)
 President, Detroit Common Council
Our Legislative City Government
 2001.061.012 Letter
 2001.061.013 Envelope

Blades, Francis A. (folder 5)
 Controller, City of Detroit
Our Financial City Government
 2001.061.021 Letter
 2001.061.022 Envelope
 2001.061.023 Booklet

Blitz, Louis (folder 6)
 Proprietor, Detroit City Glass Works
*The Jewish People in Detroit in the 19th Century and
 Their Relations to Social, Commercial and Religious Life*
 2001.061.076 Letter
 2001.061.077 Envelope

Boyd, David A. (folder 7)
 Statistician, Council of Trades and Labor Unions
The Labor Movement in Detroit up to Date
 2001.061.034 Letter
 2001.061.035 Envelope
 2001.061.036 Magazine (article)

Burton, Clarence M. (folder 8)
 Abstract Office
Real Estate Titles in Detroit - Past, Present and Future
 2001.061.084 Letter
 2001.061.085 Envelope

Carson, William (folder 9)
 President, Detroit Board of Trade
The Board of Trade
 2001.061.014 Letter
 2001.061.015 Envelope
 2001.061.016 Roster
 2001.061.017 Newspaper (article)
 2001.061.018 Newspaper (page)
 2001.061.019 Handbill, political
 2001.061.020 Picture

Chittenden, Irene Williams (folder 10)
The American Mother in the 19th Century
 2001.061.025 Letter
 2001.061.026 Envelope

Cobb, Frank I. (folder 11)
Lead Editorial Writer, Detroit Free Press
The Newspapers of Detroit
2001.061.027 Letter
2001.061.028 Envelope

Cotton, Clarence A. (folder 12)
Mayor's Secretary
The Denominational Churches in Detroit
2001.061.062 Letter
2001.061.063 Envelope

Davies, Rt. Rev. Thomas F.
A Retrospect of the Churches in Detroit

Donaldson, John M. (folder 13)
Architect, Donaldson & Meier Architects
Rise of Architecture in Detroit
2001.061.086 Letter
2001.061.087 Envelope
2001.061.088 Envelope

Dwyer, Jeremiah (folder 14)
President, The Michigan Stove Company
Growth of Detroit Manufactories During the 19th Century
2001.061.056 Letter
2001.061.057 Paper, Letterhead
2001.061.058 Envelope
2001.061.059-.061 Card, Business (3)

Foley, Rev. John S. (folder 15)
Bishop, Roman Catholic Diocese of Detroit
The Roman Catholic Church in Detroit
2001.061.068 Letter
2001.061.069 Envelope
2001.061.070 Report, Annual

Freer, Charles L. (folder 16)
Capitalist
Possibilities of Detroit as a Manufacturing Center
2001.061.078 Letter
2001.061.079 Envelope
2001.061.080 Letter
2001.061.081 Envelope

Greville, Herbert J. (folder 17)
Ex-President of the Trades and Labor Council
2001.061.082 Letter
2001.061.083 Envelope

Griffith, Armond H. (folder 18)

Director, Detroit Museum of Art

What Detroit has Accomplished in Art

- 2001.061.037 Letter
- 2001.061.038 Envelope
- 2001.061.039 Card, Business
- 2001.061.040 Card, Business
- 2001.061.041 Advertisement
- 2001.061.042 Picture
- 2001.061.043 Postcard
- 2001.061.044 Brochure

Hayes, Clarence M.

Photographer, C. M. Hayes & Company

Dissertation on Modern Photography with Two Exhibits, One Portraiture and One Exterior (see handwritten text on verso of photograph in mayor's file, Maybury, William C.; also see photograph of City Hall in file at the end of box ANNV-1-B)

Houghton, William C. (folder 19)

Alderman, 8th Ward, Detroit Common Council

- 2001.061.031 Letter
- 2001.061.032 Envelope
- 2001.061.033 Card, Business

Hurlbut, Myrtle P. (folder 20)

Secretary & General Manager, Commissioners of Parks and Boulevards

The Parks and Boulevards of Detroit, 1900

- 2001.061.089 Letter
- 2001.061.090 Envelope
- 2001.061.091 Card, Business
- 2001.061.092 Booklet
- 2001.061.093 Booklet
- 2001.061.094 Announcement
- 2001.061.095 Map

Ingram, Frederick F. (folder 21)

President, Public Lighting Commission

Public Lighting of Detroit – Past, Present and a Prophecy for the Future

- 2001.061.050 Letter
- 2001.061.051 Envelope
- 2001.061.052 Report, Annual
- 2001.061.053 Card, Business
- 2001.061.054 Card, Business
- 2001.061.055 Envelope

Jacobs, Charles H. (folder 22)

Vice President and Managing Director,

Buhl Stamping Company

The Detroit Scholarship Fund, 1900-2000

- 2001.061.064 Letter
- 2001.061.065 Envelope

Knott, Annie M., C.S.D. (folder 23)
Doctor of Christian Science
Growth of Christian Science in Detroit
2001.061.071 Letter
2001.061.072 Envelope

LeSeure, Dr. Oscar, M.D. (folder 24)
Physician
Growth of Homeopathic Practice in Detroit
2001.061.073 Letter
2001.061.074 Envelope
2001.061.075 Envelope

McGraw, Dr. Theodore A., M.D. (folder 25)
Surgeon
The Progress of Surgery in the Nineteenth Century
2001.061.102 Letter
2001.061.103 Envelope

McLeod, Malcolm J. (folder 26)
President, Trades Council
Condition of Labor Men of the City of Detroit
2001.061.108 Letter
2001.061.109 Envelope
2001.061.110 Picture
2001.061.111 Card, Union
2001.061.112 Card, Union
2001.061.113 Card, Union

Marschner, Edward F. (folder 27)
President, Board of Education
Progress of Public Education in Detroit in the 19th Century
2001.061.045 Letter
2001.061.046 Envelope
2001.061.047 Envelope
2001.061.048 Roster
2001.061.049 Envelope
2001.061.194 Letter

Martin, Francis (folder 28)
Captain, Revenue Marine
*Signature of Capt. Francis Martin, the Oldest Man in Detroit,
Who Was Born in June, 1800, and Has Lived In Three Centuries*
(contributed by Mrs. Gilbert B. Seymour)
2001.061.066 Paper, Writing
2001.061.067 Card, Calling
2001.061.187 Envelope

Martindale, Wales C. (folder 29)
Superintendent of Public Schools
Public Schools in Detroit
2001.061.096 Letter
2001.061.097 Envelope
2001.061.192 Picture
2001.061.193 Booklet

Box ANNV-1-B

Maybury, William C. (folder 30)
Mayor, City of Detroit
*Greeting by the Mayor of Detroit, 1901, and Generation
to the Mayor of Detroit A.D. 2001 and Generation*
2001.061.104 Letter
2001.061.105 Certificate
2001.061.106 Envelope
2001.061.107 Print, Photograph
2001.061.195 Booklet
2001.061.196 Booklet

Miller, Mrs. Sidney Trowbridge (folder 31)
Detroit's Social Life
2001.061.154 Letter
2001.061.155 Envelope

Moody, George T. (folder 32)
President, Detroit Y.M.C.A.
A Retrospect – Y.M.C.A.
2001.061.114 Letter
2001.061.115 Envelope
2001.061.116 Newsletter

Moran, Mrs. John V. (folder 33)
The American Mother in Detroit
2001.061.183 Letter
2001.061.184 Envelope

O'Brien, Michael W. (folder 34)
President, Peoples Savings Bank
Banking in Prospective in Detroit
2001.061.122 Letter
2001.061.190 Envelope

Patterson, Pamela A. (folder 35)
The Growth of the Women's Club Movement
2001.061.117 Letter
2001.061.118 Envelope

Pendleton, Edward W.
The Water Supply of Detroit

Police Commissioners (folder 36)
(George W. Fowle, Ralph Phelps, Jr., Marvin M. Stanton, Homer Warren)
Police Department of Detroit

2001.061.160 Letter
2001.061.161 Letter
2001.061.162 Letter
2001.061.163-.171 Pictures (9)
2001.061.172 Envelope

Post, Dr. James A., M.D. (folder 37)
Secretary, Detroit Association of Charities
Associated Charities in Detroit – Past, Present and Future

2001.061.011 Letter
2001.061.024 Envelope
2001.061.185 Report, Annual

Quinby, William E. (folder 38)
President, Detroit Free Press
The Progress of Journalism in Detroit

2001.061.119 Letter
2001.061.120 Envelope
2001.061.121 Paper, Writing

Russel, George H. (folder 39)
President, State Savings Bank
Banking Interests, Statements, Officers and Directors of Detroit Banks, 1900

2001.061.125 Letter
2001.061.126 Statement, Financial
2001.061.188 Envelope
2001.061.189 Booklet

Russell, Alfred (folder 40)
Lawyer
The Detroit Bar

2001.061.123 Magazine (article)
2001.061.124 Envelope
2001.061.139 Letter

St. Andrew's Society (folder 41)
Greetings to Descendants of the Early Scotchmen of Detroit

2001.061.146 Letter
2001.061.147 Envelope

Schermerhorn, James (folder 42)
 Editor, TO-DAY Newspaper
Newspapers Now and Then
 2001.061.127 Letter
 2001.061.128 Envelope
 2001.061.129 Card, Business

Schulte, Fred J. (folder 43)
 Deputy Receiver of Taxes
 2001.061.186 Envelope

Scripps, James E. (folder 44)
 President, The Evening News Association
A Prophecy for Detroit as a Metropolis
 2001.061.130 Letter
 2001.061.131 Envelope
 2001.061.132 Newspaper (article)

Simons, David W. (folder 45)
 Owner, D. W. Simons & Company
The Jewish People in Mercantile, Social, and Professional Life in Detroit
 2001.061.142 Letter
 2001.061.143 Envelope

Skinner, Sara M. Philleo (folder 46)
Woman's Suffrage – Retrospect and Prophecy
 2001.061.144 Letter
 2001.061.145 Envelope

Stearns, Frederick K. (folder 47)
 President, Frederick K. Stearns & Co.
The Growth of Manufacturing Pharmacy in Detroit During the 19th Century
 2001.061.135 Letter
 2001.061.136 Envelope

Stephenson, Dr. Samuel S., M.D. (folder 48)
 Physician
The Future of Biopathy
 2001.061.133 Letter
 2001.061.134 Envelope

Stewart, Morse, M.D. (folder 49)
 Physician
Recollections of Practice of Medicine in Detroit
 2001.061.137 Letter
 2001.061.138 Envelope

Stoddard, Florence (Florine) Smith (folder 50)
Member of the Board of Managers, YWCA
Young Women's Christian Association
2001.061.148 Letter
2001.061.149 Envelope
2001.061.150 Brochure

Straker, D. Augustus (folder 51)
Lawyer
The Present, Past, and Future of the Colored Race in Detroit
2001.061.156 Letter
2001.061.157 Envelope

Teichner, Mrs. Jacob F. (née Fannie Freedman) (folder 52)
Recording and Corresponding Secretary,
Detroit Ladies Society for the Support of Hebrew Women and Orphans
Hebrew Homes and Charities in Detroit
2001.061.140 Letter
2001.061.141 Envelope

Warner, Carlos Edgar (folder 53)
Lawyer and President of the Chamber of Commerce
The Chamber of Commerce
2001.061.158 Letter
2001.061.159 Envelope

Whitney, Bertram C. (folder 54)
Manager, Detroit Opera House
Short History of Theatricals in Detroit, 1800 to 1901
2001.061.173 Letter
2001.061.174 Paper, Letterhead
2001.061.175-.178 Picture (4)
2001.061.179 Envelope
2001.061.180 Envelope

Willemin, Desire B. (folder 55)
Correspondence Secretary, Franco-American Club
Foundation of Detroit by the French
2001.061.151 Letter
2001.061.152 Envelope

York, Francis L. (folder 56)
Organist, Christ Church
History and Prophecy of Music in Detroit
2001.061.153 Letter
2001.061.191 Envelope

Miscellaneous (folders 57, 58)
2001.061.181 Print, Photographic (Detroit City Hall, c.1900)
2001.061.182 Coin (Indian head penny, 1900)

KEY WORDS/SEARCH TERMS

Bi-Centenary Box
Bicentennials
Century Box
Detroit Anniversaries