

Inventory of the

Bertha Glidden Bradt
DeKalb, Illinois

Collection

In the

Regional History Center

RC 46

INTRODUCTION

Mr. Charles W. Bradt donated the Bertha Glidden Bradt Collection to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on October 19, 1978.

Property rights in the collection are held by the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. There are no restrictions on access to the collection. Copies of original poetry (Box 2, Folders 14-16) will be made from photocopies filed with the collection.

Linear feet of shelf space: 5
Number of containers: 4 + 1 volume
Number of genealogical volumes: 1135
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 46

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Bertha Glidden Bradt Collection contains textual and pictorial records relating to Bradt family genealogy and history dating 1830-1954, the Glidden family manuscripts, and materials from S.E. Bradt's role in the development of Illinois highways. More than 1,000 volumes are included with the collection and are located in the reading room. A complete listing of the volumes can be found in the Shelflist.

The Bradt family records contain personal items belonging to Mrs. S.E. Bradt and the correspondence and notes documenting her genealogical research project. Included among these materials are research correspondences, research notes and materials tracing specific family names such as the Dunmore, Frazier, Ling, and Luckhurst lines as well as the Dutch lines and a small group of related families from Cumberland County, New Jersey. Also included in the collection are book catalogs and printed genealogical materials, two guest books from Mrs. S.E. Bradt's birthday celebrations, and European heraldry prints and oversized prints and black and white photographs.

Contained in the Glidden family manuscripts is correspondence from various members of the Glidden family, approximately two hundred poems written by J.W. Glidden, and Carlos Glidden's 1892 typewriter patent. Box 3 contains five journals of poetry and daily entries by J.W. Glidden, a scrapbook of his published poems, and the original plate of his well known portrait. Box three also holds 183 photographs, 3 tintypes, 1 glass plate negatives, and a negative plate of the Bradt and Glidden families.

Box 4 contains 3 scrapbooks, 3 folders, and 1 photo album of records documenting S.E. Bradt's affiliation with various business associations and his participation in the Good

Roads Movement in Illinois. A copy of the original legal agreement forming the Bradt-Shipman business partnership is also contained in this series.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

Bertha Glidden Bradt, the daughter of Josiah Willard and Mary Glidden, was born in DeKalb, Illinois, on December 17, 1866. After finishing in local secondary schools she graduated from the Teachers College at Normal, Illinois, and married Samuel Ellsworth Bradt on December 23, 1890. They had four children: Marian, Andrew, Elizabeth, and Charles.

Mrs. S.E. Bradt was an active member in the Methodist Women's Association of the Rock River Conference. She also held office in the Home Economics department of the Women's Club of DeKalb and Illinois. In 1922 Mrs. Bradt began her genealogical research endeavors and compiled family histories on lines of Bradt, Sweet, Simmons, Glidden, Hurd, and McConnell. Bertha Glidden Bradt died in 1953.

Samuel Ellsworth Bradt was born on October 22, 1861 to Andrew and Amy Ann Bradt. He began a business career in 1879 at the DeKalb firm of Bradt and Shipman, manufacturers of gloves and mittens. He soon became a leading figure in the community, pioneering the work of many civic and business enterprises. Mr. Bradt was secretary and manager of the DeKalb Building and Loan Association from 1885 to 1935 and president of the First Trust and Savings Bank of DeKalb from 1905 to 1933. He also contributed a considerable amount of time to the local Board of Education and the local and state Chambers of Commerce.

His chief area of interest was Illinois Highway finance and construction. He is credited by many as the leading force behind the development of the Illinois state highway system. From 1913 to 1917 he served as a member of the State Highway Commission under Governor Dunne. From 1917 to 1921 he served as a State Superintendent of Highways under Governor Lowden. In 1922 Samuel E. Bradt retired from his position as State Superintendent devoting most of his time to banking, but still participating in all road meetings in the middle west. Years after his death on March 15, 1938, S.E. Bradt continued to be honored for his participation in local and state activities.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Bradt Family	Heraldry
DeKalb	Poetry
Diaries, 1840-1869	Roads
Diaries, 1870-1909	Tintypes
Glidden Family	
Good Roads Movement	

COLLECTION INVENTORY

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	1	Bertha Bradt's personal items and letters, 1902-1953
	2-8	Bertha Bradt's correspondences, 1923-1953
	9-16	Bradt family genealogy research (non-specific), 1923-1954
	17-23	Bradt family genealogy research (specific), Dunmore, Frazier, Ling, Luckhurst, New Jersey families, Dutch line, 1923-1954
Oversize	1 volume	Genealogy Album
2	1a	Bertha Glidden Bradt correspondence with DAR and other Genealogical groups, 1923-1949
	1-2	Printed genealogical materials, 1898, 1940-1952
	3-4	Printed histories, 1912-1953
	5	Book catalogs, 1951-1953
	6	Royalty pictures, n.d.
	7-9	Heraldry, n.d.
	10-11	Bertha Bradt's birthday guest books, 1936-1946
Oversize Drawer 2, Folders 4 and 5		Heraldry prints (147) Photographs (14): Charles Bradt, n.d., Andrew Bradt Family, n.d., Samuel Bradt, n.d. (2), J.F. Glidden, n.d. (2), J.F. Glidden's 90th Birthday Party, 1903 (2), Elva Bush, n.d. (2), Herbert Fay, n.d., T. Hopkins, n.d., William Ellwood House, n.d., Unidentified Group Shot, n.d.
2	12-13	J.W. Glidden's correspondence, 1849-1904
	14a,b-16a,b *	J.W. Glidden's poetry, 1859-1880
	17	Willard & J.W. Glidden, 1841-1900
	18	Carlos Glidden, typewriter patent, 1892
	19	Samuel Sweetland deeds, Oneida City, NY, 1830-1859
3	4 volumes	J.W. Glidden's personal journals, poetry and daily entries, 1845-1865
	1 volume	J.W. Glidden's published poetry scrapbook, 1837-1875
	1 volume	Nora A. Smith, Friendship Book, 1877-1883
	1 roll	White Genealogy

* a's are original documents

b's are photocopies, **only these may be photocopied**

<u>BOX</u>	<u>FOLDER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	4
	<u>Envelopes</u>		
3	1	Valentines	
	2	Glass Plate Negative, Bertha Glidden Bradt, n.d. (1)	
	3-16	Photographs, Bradt/Glidden Family and Friends, 1851-1939 (183)	
	17	Tintypes, Bradt/Glidden Family and Friends, n.d. (3)	
	18-19	Negative plate, J.W. Glidden (1), S.E. Bradt (1)	
		Panoramic Photographs (2):	
		“A Study of Brick Pavement Construction of County Highways” by Engineers and Members, 11 th Annual Meeting, National Paving Brick Manufacturers Association, September 9-11, 1914	
		Lake Shore Brick Road?, September 12, 1915	
4	1	S.E. Bradt’s personal items, 1916-1935	
	2	S.E. Bradt, “Good Roads Movement,” 1930-1938	
	3	Bradt and Shipman partnership agreement, 1892	
		Scrapbooks:	
	2 volumes	S.E. Bradt, Illinois Highway Improvement materials, 1904-1952	
	1 volume	Black and white photographic prints of Illinois road construction, 1913-1921	
	1 volume	S.E. Bradt’s affiliations, 1899-1953	

A partial listing of photographic prints (b/w)/tintypes found in the Bertha G. Bradt Collection.

Adams, Allie	Green, Walter
Barton, Professor ____	Gurler, George
Bradt, Bertha Glidden	Haish, Mrs. Jacob
Bradt, Marion	Hinman, Glidden
Bradt, Samuel	Hinman, Walker
Bohrer, Jacob	Howard, Frank
Bush, Elva Glidden	McConnell, James
Coon, Emily	McEvery, Annie
Cunningham, ____	Metcalf, Mrs. Thomas
Curls, J.L.	Morris, Amy
Curls, Mrs. J.L.	Parson, Leonard
Duffy, Margaret	Parson, LuLu
Effingen, Robert	Parson, Swen F.
Ellwood, Mrs. Isaac L.	Plake, Lena
Fay, Mrs. ____	Pritchard, Jessie
Gildemeister, Theda	Pritchard, Libbie
Glidden, Abigail	Pritchard, Rhoda
Glidden, Annie	Rankin, Mrs. S.W.
Glidden, Cora	Rankin, Sam
Glidden, Edna	Robbins, Warren
Glidden, J.W.	Robinson, Tracy
Glidden, Mrs. J.W.	Robinson, W.
Glidden, John	Ryburn, ____
Glidden, Joseph F.	Sanborn, Mrs. ____
Glidden, Lizzie	Sanborn, Ellwood
Glidden, Lucinda	Scott, John
Glidden, Mabel	Sweet, Carrie H.
Glidden, Ms. Mary	Sweet, Rouse
Glidden, Minnie	Switzer, Cora
Glidden, S.P.	Switzer, Donald
Glidden School	Switzer, Joseph A.
Glidden, Willie	Warne, John
Goode, Carrie	Warne, Mrs. John