



Mantua Historical Society
Mantua, Ohio

Finding Aid Draft 1

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Title: Mantua Historical Society Archival Collection

Creator: Mantua Historical Society

Dates: 1804-2011

Location: 4196 Twinsburg Warren Road, Mantua, OH 44255

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Mantua Historical Society was incorporated as a 501c(3) non-profit organization on May 19, 1975 with a mission to preserve, share and educate the community about the history of Mantua Village and Mantua Township, Ohio. Mantua Township and Village in Portage County, Ohio, formed from portions of land known as the Connecticut Western Reserve and incorporated in 1898. The Connecticut Western Reserve was surveyed by the Connecticut Land Company, a group of 52 men led by Moses Cleaveland. Settlers arrived in Mantua Township in 1798, including Abraham Honey, the first European settler to establish a home in Mantua. The area was developed into present-day Mantua Township and Mantua Village, the latter developed in the 1840s as Mantua Station - A stop on the Cleveland and Mahoning Valley Railroad. The home of the Mantua Historical Society and Museum, the Township Town Hall, was constructed between 1836-1840, and was once used as a school for the growing population. The Mantua Center Green where the Township Town Hall was constructed was donated by Hezekiah Nooney Sr., and was important to both the social and commercial interests of the township.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF COLLECTION

The Mantua Historical Society archival collections include records from the Mantua Center School (listed on the National Register) and Mantua Township School, dating back to as early as 1888; the newspapers *The Mantua Record* (later *Record-News*) and the *Record Courier*, ranging from 1913-1985; First National Bank of Mantua business records; records of President James A. Garfield, who preached at the Mantua Center Christian Church in the Historic District; Daughters of America records; Mantua Council records, a variety of photographs and documents denoting Mantua life as far back as the mid-nineteenth century; maps of Mantua and the early Western Reserve; blueprints for various buildings; and family scrapbooks and Bibles, among other materials. These records provide us insight into the heritage of the individuals who settled and resided along our region of the Western Reserve, and serve as a connection between the community and their past.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COLLECTION

The collection is organized into the following series and subseries:

Series I: Mantua Family Scrapbooks

- Alger
- Stamm
- Whaley
- Unknown

Series II: Mantua Family Photo Albums

- Alger
- Cann
- Carlton
- Unknown

Series III: Mantua Family Bibles

- Bidlake
- Durff-Pierce
- Plum
- Unknown

Series IV: Organizational Minute Books, Ledgers, Membership & Other Records

- Mantua Center Garden Club (1964 - 2011)
- Mantua Junior Women's League (1967 - 87)
- Mantua Ladies' Cemetery Assoc. (1901 - 92)
- Mantua Center School Alumni Assoc. (1837 - 1997)
- Mantua Chapter of the Daughters of America (1956 - 70s)
- Mantua Tread and Trail Campers & Hikers (1965 - 90)
- Mantua Dry Goods (1804 - 1932)
- Mantua Literary and Social Club (1963 - 77)
- Samuel Moore Company & Union (1946 - 2019)
- L.J. Rhodes Dry Goods (1827 - 35)

Series V: Maps, Blueprints and Oversized Documents

Series VI: Literature

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Access: This collection of Mantua Historical Society is open to researchers by appointment.

Preferred Citation: Researchers are requested to cite the collection by name in all footnotes and bibliographic references.

Property Rights: Mantua Historical Society owns the property rights to this collection.

Copyrights: The copyrights possessed by the donor in this collection have been dedicated to the public. Consideration of all other copyrights is the responsibility of the researcher.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

To request materials, please note the location and box numbers below.

SERIES I – MANTUA FAMILY SCRAPBOOKS

Box 1	Title/Description	Date
Scrapbook - unnamed	Red Velvet Photo Album w/ "Album" Embellishment, Unnamed	n.d.
Scrapbook – unnamed	Repurposed book for scrapbook	n.d.
Scrapbook – unnamed	Green velvet scrapbook with floral embellishment	n.d.

Box 2	Title/Description	Date
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	1961-2
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	1963
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	1964-5
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	1965-67

Box 3	Title/Description	Date
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	1966-68
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	1967-69
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	1969-70
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	1970-72

Box 4	Title/Description	Date
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	8/1972 – 6/1974

Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	1974-75
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	2/1976 – 9/1976
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	8/1978 – 9/1981

Box 5	Title/Description	Date
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	6/1981 – 2/1983
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	1982-83
Scrapbook – Wilma Whaley	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings about Mantua	10/1983 – 3/1985

Box 6	Title/Description	Date
Scrapbook – Alger	5 scrapbooks – need details	Various

Box 17	Title/Description	Date
Scrapbook – Stamm	Kathleen Stamm Havener – Black scrapbook w/ gold flower	1944-54
Scrapbook – Stamm	Donated by Geraldine Stamm – White scrapbook w/ gold writing	1975
Calendar	Stamm Contracting calendar	1978

Box 20	Title/Description	Date
Scrapbook – unnamed	No cover	1946-60
Scrapbook – unnamed	Green cover	1974-89

Box 22	Title/Description	Date
Scrapbooks – Gloria Parker	Black scrapbook w/ vine	Various

Last revision: 1/29/2022

Alger	embellishment, green scrapbook, brown scrapbook w/ gold, unbound scrapbook	
-------	--	--

SERIES II – MANTUA FAMILY PHOTO ALBUMS

Box 7	Title/Description	Date
Photo Album – unnamed	Red velvet scrapbook w/ floral embellishment, Cleveland area photos	n.d.

Box 12	Title/Description	Date
Photo Album – Cann	Wood Front Green Velvet on Back “Cann” Family	n.d.

Box 13	Title/Description	Date
Photo Album – Merritt Carlton	Red velvet, “Merritt Carlton” written on inside cover, Kent photos	n.d.

Box 14	Title/Description	Date
Photo Album – Blanche Alger	Green Velvet Floral Embossed “Floral” Embellish	n.d.

SERIES III – MANTUA FAMILY BIBLES

Box 8	Title/Description	Date
Family Bible – Plum	Bible of George Plum	1877

Box 9	Title/Description	Date
Family Bible – Bidlake	Bible of Daniel Bidlake – grandfather of Summer Bidlake	1848

Box 10	Title/Description	Date
Family Bible – Unknown	Bible of E.W.	n.d.

Box 11	Title/Description	Date
Family Bible – Durff-Pierce	Bible of Durff-Pierce family with newspaper clippings and photos	1884

Box 19	Title/Description	Date
Family Bible – Plum	Albert and Eunice Plum wedding gift	1873

SERIES IV – ORGANIZATIONAL MINUTE BOOKS, LEDGERS, MEMBERSHIP & OTHER RECORDS

Box 15	Description	Date
Mantua Center Garden Club	Scrapbook	1992 - 2002
Mantua Center Garden Club	Scrapbook	2003
Mantua Center Garden Club	Mantua Center Garden Club Treasurer's report (Bound)	1964 - 69
Mantua Center Garden Club	Mantua Center Garden Club Treasurer's report (Bound)	1969 - 75
Mantua Center Garden Club	Mantua Center Garden Club meeting minutes	2002 - 2011
Mantua Center Garden Club	Certificate for Women's Community Award to Mantua Center Garden Club from Akron Beacon Journal	1967

Box 16	Description	Date
Mantua Center Garden Club	Scrapbook	1964 - 71
Mantua Center Garden Club	Scrapbook	1967
Mantua Center Garden Club	Scrapbook	1972 - 92
Mantua Center Garden Club	Mantua Center Garden Club guest book	1967 - 83

Box 21	Description	Date
Tread and Trail Campers and Hikers	Plaque	N.d.
Tread and Trail Campers and Hikers	Tread and Trail Campers black book of attendance records	N.d.
Tread and Trail Campers and Hikers	Tread and Trail Campers and Hikers meeting minutes book	1965 - 90

Box 23	Description	Date
Ladies Cemetery Association Record Book	Red and brown book with design including meeting minutes and treasury information (dues, etc.)	1911 - 37

Box 24	Description	Date
Ladies Cemetery Association Record Book	Grey book with red corners that includes meeting minutes and treasury/membership information	1939 - 69

Box 25	Description	Date
Ladies Cemetery Association Minute Book	Black leather (rubber-banded)	1907
Ladies Cemetery Association Minute Book	Black and red record book of meeting minutes	1923 - 31
Ladies Cemetery Association Minute Book	Black and red record book of meeting minutes	1931 - 38
Ladies Cemetery Association Record Book	Grey book with red corners and black design including meeting minutes and membership dues/treasury	1956 - 76
Ladies Cemetery Association Minute Book	Grey book of minutes	1976 - 89
Ladies Cemetery Association Record Book	Black book with red corner with information about individuals who have passed away, includes some poems	1958 - 92

Box 26	Description	Date
Ladies Cemetery Association Treasury Reports	Treasurer's record book, brown with black detailing	1937 - 51
Ladies Cemetery Association Treasury Reports	Blue and green record book of treasury reports	1951 - 76

Ladies Cemetery Association Treasury Reports	Dues book (treasury)	1901 - 16
Ladies Cemetery Association Treasury Reports	Dues book (treasury)	1916 - 22

Box 27	Description	Date
L.J. Rhodes Dry Goods	Ledgers	1827-35

Box 28	Description	Date
Mantua Center High School Alumni Association	Reunion Meeting Book	1889-1920
Mantua Center High School Alumni Association	District 8 Clerks Book of Mantua, Portage Co., OH	1837-77
Mantua Center High School Alumni Association	3-ring notebook of meeting minutes	1912-43
Mantua Center High School Alumni Association	3-ring notebook of meeting minutes	1951-97

Box 29	Description	Date
Mantua Potato Festival	Cookbook, bake-off books, notebooks	To 1974

Box 30	Description	Date
Mantua Literary and Social Club	Red book of meeting minutes	1963-74
Mantua Literary and Social Club	Blue book of meeting minutes	1974-77

Box 31	Description	Date
Daughters of America (D of A)	4 banners, 20 sashes, 6 pins	1956-70s

Box 32	Description	Date
Daughters of America (D of A)	Misc. photos, book	1956-70s

Box 33	Description	Date
Samuel Moore Company & Union	Newsletters and misc. photos	1946-2019

Box 34	Description	Date
Samuel Moore Company & Union	3 T-shirts and 1 hat	1946-2019

Box 35	Description	Date
Mantua Dry Goods	4 ledgers (financial & inventory)	1800-1920

Box 36	Description	Date
Mantua Dry Goods	Ledgers, account book, store ledger	1804-1932; 1936-64

Box 37	Description	Date
Mantua Jr. Women's League	2 scrapbooks, 1 cookbook	1967-87; 1990

SERIES V – MAPS, BLUEPRINTS AND OVERSIZED DOCUMENTS

SHELF AA

Tube 1	Title/Description	Date
Plat Map	Plat map of Mantua Village, including Crestwood School	1986?

Tube 2	Title/Description	Date
Diploma	Mantua High School (Crestwood)	June 1893

Tube 3	Title/Description	Date
Ledger	Bid ledger for the building of the Mantua Village School by the Board of Education	1929

Tube 4	Title/Description	Date
Plat Map	Plat map of town centers, including Mantua Station, Mantua Township, Shalersville, Hiram, etc.	n.d.

Tube 5	Title/Description	Date
Map	Possible reproduction of a colonial map (in french) by Penn Prints NY	n.d.

Tube 6	Title/Description	Date
Blueprint	Restoration of Mantua Township Town Hall (preliminary blueprints, second round of updated blueprints, third round of final blueprints)	1977

Tube 7	Title/Description	Date
Map	Western Reserve/Firelands map	1826

Tube 8	Title/Description	Date
Map	Portage County roadmap	1971

Tube 9	Title/Description	Date
Plat Map	Mantua Water Works denoting main pipe distribution (donated in 1978)	1936

Tube 10	Title/Description	Date
Plat Map	Mantua Township	1973

SERIES VI – LITERATURE

Box 18	Title/Description	Date
Patent	Elmer Pfaff patent book	1958
Book	Rediscovering Mantua by Elmer Pfaff	1985