

## Finding Aid to the Amenia and Sharon Land Company Records

### Amenia and Sharon Land Company

Amenia and Sharon Land Company records, 1856-1967

60 linear ft.

Collection number: Mss 134

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[History](#)

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### OVERVIEW

**Links:** History of Amenia and Sharon Land Company manuscript, by William C. Hunter

**Access:** The collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Institute.

**Provenance:** Donated by H.L. Chaffee and Robert B. Reed, 1953 (Acc. 134); L.F. Chaffee, 1971 (Acc. 1875); Faye Chaffee, 1982 (Acc. 2082 & 2084); Ken McIntyre, 1982 (Acc. 2085).

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**Citation:** [Identification of item]. Amenia and Sharon Land Company, MS 134, Institute for Regional Studies, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

### SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Amenia and Sharon Land Company represent the most complete set of records for a North Dakota bonanza farm that have survived. The records were deposited in the Institute by members of the Chaffee family over a span of twenty years. Inventories of the early records were compiled by William C. Hunter, and in early 1990s the records were processed incorporating all the accessions. The records have been organized into eight series: Historical research, Personal correspondence, Business correspondence,

Estate and personal legal papers, Amenia & Sharon Land Co. general business records, Other related companies general business records, Amenia & Sharon Land co. business records, and Other related companies business records. Within each series the records have been organized alphabetically by the name or type of record. Oversize ledgers are listed on the box & folder listing, however they are stored separately due to their size.

The [Historical Research Series](#) includes handwritten and typed drafts of the history of the Amenia & Sharon Land Company, compiled by William C. Hunter. He was a long-time professor of history at NDSU and later became the curator for the Institute for Regional Studies. In addition are his research files of documents, notes and information used in writing the history. In addition there are general research files on the Chaffee and Reed families as well as information regarding Amenia, N.D.

The [Personal Correspondence Series](#) consists primarily of Chaffee family letters spanning from 1840 to 1965. Of particular note is the early family letters of Eben Whitney Chaffee (1840-1900), and H.F. Chaffee and wife Carrie (H.F., 1887-1911 and for Carrie, 1913-1945). There are quite a number of poignant letters between H.F. and his wife Carrie as well as back to family in Connecticut. In addition there are letters of William Guy Sr. (1920-1942), Robert Reed (1923, 1933-1942) Walter R. Reed (1849-1939), as well as the Togood family (Carrie Chaffee's maiden name).

The [Business Correspondence Series](#) consists primarily of the correspondence of Herbert L Chaffee and is organized alphabetically, spanning from 1896 to 1966, although most dates from the 1940s to 1960s. Some correspondents have been broken out and placed in their own file. In addition there are small series of correspondence for Chaffee-Miller Milling Co., H.F. Chaffee Company, The John Miller Company, and the Miller-Chaffee-Reed Company.

The [Estate and Personal Legal Papers Series](#) contains mostly of estate related documents for members of the Chaffee family. Of note are those for Herbert F. Chaffee who died on the sinking of the Titanic.

The [Amenia & Sharon Land Company General Business Records Series](#) contains the basic, general documents related to the company including articles of incorporation, minutes, by-laws, and annual reports. The Legal Business Records Subseries contains chattel mortgage documents, farm contracts spanning from 1882 to 1942, mortgage documents, and warranty deeds.

The [Other Related Companies General Business Records Series](#) contains the general business records such as incorporation documents, by-laws, meeting minutes and certain legal documents for companies that were subsidiaries or affiliated with the Amenia & Sharon Land Company. The files are arranged alphabetically by the name of the company. Among the major companies represented include the Amenia Elevator Company, Chaffee-Miller Land Company, Chaffee-Miller Milling Company, H.F. Chaffee Company, John Miller Company, Miller-Chaffee-Reed Company, and Wanotan Land Company. Consult the Box and Folder List for a complete listing.

The [Amenia & Sharon Land Company Business Records Series](#) contains the core business records for the company. They are organized alphabetically by the type or name of the document. It includes financial journals and ledgers, grain statements, insurance documents, inventories, mileage records,

payroll records, seed journals, stocks, tenant records, time sheets, and vouchers. Researcher should consult the Box and Folder list for specific holdings and time periods covered.

The [Other Related Companies Business Records Series](#) contain primarily the financial ledgers, journals, statements, etc. for the many business subsidiaries and related companies of the Amenia and Sharon Land Co. The files are arranged in alphabetical order by the name of the company. This series does include certain business files for individual members of the Chaffee family. Consult the box & folder listing for specific companies included. Included are records of Amenia Garage, Amenia Telephone Company, Chaffee-Miller Land Company, Chaffee-Miller Milling Company, John Miller Company, Miller-Chaffee-Reed Company, Red River Valley Land and Investment Company and Wanotan Land Company. The Chaffee family business records include for Lester F. Chaffee, H.L. Chaffee, and Carrie T. Chaffee.

**BOX AND FOLDER LIST**

<b>Box/Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>
1/1	Finding aid
<b>Historical Research Series</b>	
1/2	Manuscript of the History of the Amenia and Sharon Land Co. - Unpublished (W.C. Hunter)
1/3	Research Material for History of the Amenia and Sharon Land Co. (W.C. Hunter)
1/4	Research Material for History of the Amenia and Sharon Land Co. (W.C. Hunter)
1/5	Chaffee Family Genealogy
1/5a	Chaffee & Reed family material, and on Amenia, N.D.
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1/6	Chaffee, Eben Whitney- 1840-1888
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1/8	Chaffee, Carrie T.- 1913-1923
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2/2	1925-1926
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2/4	1932-1945
2/5	Chaffee, Herbert F.- Nov. 1886 & April-July, 1887

3/1 August-October, 1887 (photocopies)  
 3/2 November-December, 1887 (photocopies)  
 3/3 1888, 1894 (photocopies)  
 3/4 April-July, 1887 (original)  
 3/5 August-December, 1887 (original)  
 3/6 1888, 1894 (original)  
 3/7 1892-1907  
 4/1 1910-1911  
 4/2 Christmas Lists, 1910-1911  
 4/3 Titanic Survivor's Protective Committee, 1912  
 4/4 *Ye Booke of Remembrance*, 1903-1909  
 Chaffee, Herbert L. from Eben W. Chaffee-  
 4/5 1942-1950  
 4/6 1951-1956  
 4/7 1957-1961  
 Chaffee, Herbert L.-  
 5/1 "The Chaffee Farmer", 1942-1960  
 5/2 to Frances B. Chaffee, 1953-1954  
 5/3 to Gertrude B. Chaffee, 1956-1965  
 5/4 to Jane (Mrs. Eben W. Chaffee), 1961-1966  
 5/5 to Lester F. Chaffee, 1953-1966  
 5/6 to Rollo N. Chaffee, 1943-1952  
 5/7 "The Tittle Whit" (Rosemary), 1949-1960  
 5/8 Christmas Cards, Lists, 1946-1967  
 5/9 General Correspondence, 1957, 1963  
 Garland, Saralou C. - "The Ephemeris"-  
 5/10 1947-1952  
 5/11 1953-1957  
 5/12 1957-1965  
 "The Screech"-  
 6/1 1945-1950  
 6/2 1951-1955  
 6/3 1956-1960  
 6/4 1961-1964  
 6/5 1965  
 Chaffee, James S., 1889-1890  
 Chaffee, Lester F., 1924-1942  
 Guy, William (Sr.)-  
 7/1 1920-1929  
 7/2 1930  
 7/3 January-August, 1931  
 7/4 September-December, 1931  
 7/5 January-May, 1932  
 7/6 June-December, 1932

7/7	January-June, 1933
8/1	July-September, 1933
8/2	October-December, 1933
8/3	January, 1934
8/4	February-December, 1934
8/5	January-November, 1935
8/6	1936-1937
9/1	1938
9/2	1939-1942
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9/3	1922-1925
9/4	1926-1930
9/5	1931-1933
9/6	1934-1963
9/7	Mead, J.F., 1887-1888
9/8	Owens, Florence Reed, 1954-1965
10/1	Reed, Robert, 1923, 1933-1942
	Reed, Walter R.-
10/2	1849-1911
10/3	1912-1914
10/4	1915-1925
10/5	Letterpress Book, 1918
11/1	1926-1939
11/2	Genealogy, 1915, 1926
11/3	Scrapbook, 1878-1937
11/4	Works of the Reed family, N.D.
	Stroud, Peter E.-
11/5	September 1914
11/6	October 1914-1936
11/7	1940-1944
11/8	Toogood family, 1853, 1882, 1905-1906, 1909

**Business Correspondence Series**

	Chaffee, Herbert L.-
12/1	Correspondence A, 1953-1966
12/2	Amenia Cemetery Association, 1896, 1928, 1931, 1935, 1954, 1957
12/3	Amenia Elevator Company, 1903-1906, 1921, 1942
12/4	Amenia Seed and Grain Company, 1953-1966
12/5	Amenia Telephone and Telegraph Company, 1953-1964
12/6	Anderson, C.J., 1936-1945
12/7	Applications, 1939-1943
12/8	Automobile Logs, 1952-1960
12/9	Corr. B, 1953-1966

12/10	Badger Shooter's Supply, 1945-1953
12/11	Badlands Writer's Workshop, 1964
12/12	Becket and Wagner, 1959-1960
12/13	Boulay, Anderson, Waldo & Company, 1952-1953
12/14	Burdick, Usher L. and Quentin N., 1957, 1964-1965
12/15	Corr. C, 1951-1967
12/16	Cashier's Correspondence, A-K, 1917-1921
12/17	Cashier's Correspondence, L-Z, 1917-1921
13/1	Cass County, 1952-1964
13/2	Cass County Historical Society, 1956-1958
13/3	Cass County National Farm Loan Association, 1942-1946
13/4	Churches, 1959-1965
13/5	Civil Defense, 1958
13/6	Corn, 1945-1947
13/7	Cripe, Paul L., 1944-1966
13/8	Crop and Weed Sheets, 1951-1965
13/9	D, 1945, 1952-1966
13/10	Drache, Hiram, 1960-1961, 1964
13/11	Drains and Easements, 1945-1961
13/12	E, 1957, 1960, 1964, 1966
13/13	Erb, Omar, 1957-1966
13/14	F, 1952-1965
13/15	Fargo Rifle Club, 1949-1963
13/16	Farm Contracts, 1918-1943
13/17	Federal Land Bank, 1930-1947
13/18	Flax, 1945, 1963
13/19	Fornes, Monroe, 1945-1966
13/20	Franke, Raymond, 1945-1948
13/21	G, 1942-1963
13/22	Ground Observer Corps, 1956-1959
13/23	Guns, 1953-1960
14/1	H, 1952-1964
14/2	Holgerson, Clarence, 1944-1962
14/3	Hunting, 1946-1963
14/4	Hunting Stories, 1952-1953, 1964
14/5	I, 1945-1960
14/6	J, 1953-1960
14/7	Johnson, Oscar K. Jr., 1952-1959
14/8	K, 1952-1964
14/9	L, 1957-1965
14/10	Langworthy, Dorothy C.- 1943-1946
14/11	1947-1953
14/12	1954-1965

14/13	M, 1951-1965
14/14	Masons, Shriners, 1952-1965
15/1	N, 1952-1965
15/2	N.D. Agricultural College and Experiment Station, 1944-1947
15/3	North Dakota Rifle and Pistol Association, 1952-1963
15/4	North Dakota State Departments, 1942-1965
15/5	North Dakota Summer Small Bore Rifle League, 1947
15/6	Northwest Farm Managers Service, 1952
15/7	O, 1954-1965
15/8	O.A. Olson Poetry and Notes, no dates
15/9	P, 1953-1965
15/10	Pearson, Bernard, 1952-1960
15/11	Priewe, J.W., 1952-1967
15/12	The Prudential Life Insurance Company of America, 1942, 1954-1963
15/13	Q, 1946, 1965
15/14	R, 1952-1966
15/15	Reed, Walter R., 1935-1936
15/16	S, 1953-1966
15/17	Schafer, Joe, 1944-1963
15/18	Sell, Alfred, 1944-1957
	Sheyenne Valley Rifle League-
16/1	1951-1953
16/2	1954-1955
16/3	Short, Don L., 1958-1964
16/4	Sinz, William P., Jr., 1945-1965
16/5	Sons of the American Revolution, 1954-1966
16/6	Speeches, 1956-1960
16/7	Stroud, Peter E.
16/8	T, 1952-1966
16/9	Taxes, 1960-1966
16/10	Tracey, Thomas H., 1954
16/11	U, 1949-1963
16/12	Ueland, Mandius, 1944-1948
16/13	United States Departments, 1932-1965
	United States Department of Agriculture-
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17/3	V, 1955-1966
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17/5	Wattam, Vogel, Vogel, Bright, and Peterson, 1965-1966
17/6	WDAY, 1958-1959
17/7	Wells on farms, 1918-1928
17/8	Y and Z, 1959, 1961

17/9 Young, Milton R., 1948-1964  
 17/10 Zieske, George W., 1944-1957  
 Chaffee-Miller Milling Company-  
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 17/13 The H.F. Chaffee Company, 1914-1916  
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 18/2 July-December, 1930  
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 18/5 1932  
 18/6 Sell, Emma, 1930-1932  
 18/7 The Miller-Chaffee-Reed Company, 1908-1917

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19/1 Chaffee, Amanda F. - Estate of, 1911  
 19/2 Chaffee, Betsey A. - Estate of, 1919, 1925-1926  
 Chaffee, Carrie T.-  
 19/3 Estate of, 1931-1948  
 19/4 Last Will and Testament, 1931  
 Chaffee, Eben W.-  
 19/5 Estate of, 1892-1911  
 19/6 Last Will and Testament, 1892  
 Legal Documents-  
 19/7 1858, 1877-1904  
 19/8 1913, 1921-1933  
 19/9 Notes to Walter R. Reed, 1895  
 19/10 Chaffee, Florence and Lester - Estates of, 1913-1919  
 Chaffee, Herbert F.-  
 19/11 Estate of, 1912-1913  
 20/1 Last Will and Testament, ca. 1910  
 20/2 Legal Documents, 1883-1936  
 20/3 Chaffee, Herbert L. - Last Will and Testament, 1928  
 20/4 Chaffee, Lester F. - Legal Documents, 1922-1933  
 20/5 Higgins, Adele, and Sidney - Legal Documents, 1922-1942

**Amenia & Sharon Land Company General Business Records Series**

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 21/2 1921-1922

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	Articles of Incorporation-
22/1	1911, 1915, 1920
22/2	Wisconsin, 1898
22/3	By-Laws, 1892, 1911, 1921
22/4	Appointment of Eben W. Chaffee - Authorized Agent, 1888
22/5	Corporate Existence and Franchise - Connecticut and N.D.
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22/6	1880, 1888, 1890-1892
22/7	1893-1894
22/8	1895-1896
22/9	1897-1899
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25/2	1901-1904
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25/5	1900-1930
25/6	Bills of Sale, 1879-1926
	Chattel Mortgages, General—
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26/4	Brown, B.M. and L.L. Butterfield, 1907-1912
26/5	Clough, Frank, 1906-1917

26/6	Evenson, Martin, 1912-1918
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26/12	Johnson, Gust, 1908-1918
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26/14	Landert, John, 1914-1918
26/15	Lee, J.W., 1911-1913
26/16	Liljedahl, Christ, 1903-1913
26/17	Lofgren, Ole P., 1906-1910
26/18	McDonagh, Albert, 1913-1926
26/19	Miller, W.S., 1907-1913
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28/2	N-Z, 1910-1911
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31/1	Farm Contracts, 1879-1888
31/2	Homestead certificates, 1880-1906
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34/3	Power of Attorney, 1874-1912
34/4	Trustee - J.R. Guernsey, List of Property, 1916-1934
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35/2	Articles of Incorporation, 1904, 1907
35/3	Legal Documents, 1903-1906, 1921
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35/4	1902-1910
35/5	1912-1919
35/6	Record Book, 1902-1926
	Amenia Livestock Company-
35/7	Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, 1901
36/1	Legal Documents, 1901-1910
36/2	Record Book, 1901-1905
	Amenia Telephone Company-
36/3	Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, 1916
36/4	Legal Documents, 1916-1931
	The Ameron Farms Company-
36/5	Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, 1928
36/6	Legal Documents, 1928-1932
36/7	Meeting Minutes, 1935
36/8	The Boston Stock and Grain Company - By-laws
	Chaffee, Carrie - Legal Documents-
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36/10	1927-1928
37/1	1929-1931
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37/5	Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, 1902
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37/7	Legal Documents, 1902-1912
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 Crescent Elevator Company-  
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 39/3 Dayton Farmers Elevator Company - Articles of Incorporation, ca. 1912  
 39/4 Ellsworth Burying Association - Articles of Incorporation, 1860  
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 40/7 "Reasons for the Organization of the H.F. Chaffee Company"  
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**Amenia and Sharon Land Company Business Records Series**

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61/1	Grain In Weights, 1915

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