

Finding Aid to the Wallace E. Petrie Papers

Petrie, Wallace E., 1862-1916

Wallace E. Petrie Family Papers, 1885-1957

.4 linear ft.

Collection number: Mss 801

[Biography](#)

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OVERVIEW

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

Provenance: Donated by Frances Petrie Hanson, Linton, N.D. 1956 (Acc. 801)

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Citation: [Identification of item]. Wallace E. Petrie Papers, MS 801, Institute for Regional Studies, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

BIOGRAPHY

Wallace Emmons Petrie was born December 27, 1862, at Fulton, New York to Frederic Petrie II, a descendent of William Petrie, a famous Revolutionary War surgeon. At the age of 12, he moved with his parents to Michigan and later received business training at Valparaiso University. In 1885 he went West in Groton, (South) Dakota then in 1886 went to Emmons County, (North) Dakota, where he filed on a homestead near Dry Lake and in 1893 established a ranch on East Beaver Creek near Linton. When Mr. Petrie came to Emmons County, he was accompanied by his two sisters, Annie and Laura (Cash), who homesteaded near Winchester, taught school, and with two heifers, started what later became the famous Petrie sisters' Ranch. In 1889 they bought the Bumstead store in Winchester, with Annie also serving as postmistress until they sold their stock in 1899 to Wallace who had started the W.E. Petrie Store in

Linton. In 1910 Mr. Petrie built a larger modern store, next to the old store, which continued in business until 1953.

On November 30, 1886, in Bismarck, Mr. Petrie married a Michigan teacher, Eva Kyes, born June 12, 1866 at Landsdowne, Ontario, Canada. They had eight children, Harry, Fred, Frances (Hanson), Hazel (Pappenhagen), Laura (Gardner), Florence (Paul), Emmons and Dorothy. On November 25, 1916 Mr. Petrie died, and Mrs. Petrie on July 18, 1953. Both are buried in the Linton Cemetery.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Wallace Petrie family papers consist of correspondence and subject files. In the [Correspondence](#) are several letters from Frances Hanson to Leonard Sackett of the Institute.

The [Subject Files Series](#) contains an article, "Dakota Steers Made World Records," (1917) about the Petrie sisters' ranch, and educational material including a 1904 Miner County, South Dakota examination, 1906 North Dakota final examinations, and an article in the North Dakota Teacher, 1931, "Magazines in Rural Schools," by Frances Hanson. An October, 1905 copy of the Emmons County Advocate, the November, 1934 Jubilee issue of the Emmons County Record, and a publication, Emmons County at the North Dakota Industrial Exposition (1911), all contain history and information about Emmons County. The Emmons County Record (November, 1904) contains selection information. Experiences and Observations in Central Dakota by Orange Judd (1885) describes the settlers in Dakota Territory, and relates experiences of homesteaders, including women, as well as giving information on homesteading.

Of interest is the 1932 Pageant of FIDAC - Federation Interalliee des Anciens Combattants (International Federation of Veterans of the Allied Countries). There is a notebook containing old medical remedies (1840-1900), and a set of newspaper articles with histories of Kintyre and Hazleton, pictures of the 1952 Linton flood, an obituary on Charles Coventry and an article on General Grants' death (1885). There are also newspaper articles concerning the Petrie family and miscellaneous items including a theme on Linton past, Ninette Lowater, the Articles of Faith of the Volney, New York Congregational Church, and Petrie Store items.

SEPARATIONS RECORD

The following non-manuscript items have been removed from the Wallace Petrie Papers and sent to the section indicated.

Photographs (Institute Photograph 95)

- 14 scenes in Linton, including buildings, street scenes, 1917 fire, snow plows, immigrants 22 Petrie family

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Contents
1/1	Biographical information, and Finding aid
1/2	Correspondence , 1956-57

Subject Files Series

- 1/3 "Dakota Steers Made World Record," 1917
- 1/4 Educational Materials, 1899-1906, 1931
- 1/5 *Emmons County Advocate*, 1905
- 1/6 *Emmons County at the North Dakota Industrial Exposition*, 1911
- 1/7 *Emmons County Record*, 1904
- 1/8 *Emmons County Record*, Jubilee issue, 1934
- 1/9 *Experiences and Observations in Central Dakota*, Judd, 1885
- 1/10 FIDAC Pageant, 1932
- 1/11 Medical remedies, 1890-1900
- 1/12 Miscellaneous material
- 1/13 Newspaper articles - history obituaries
- 1/14 Newspaper articles - Petrie family