

## Finding Aid to the Red River Valley Questers Records

### Red River Valley Questers, 1985-2017

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3.25 Linear Feet

MSS 3027

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### OVERVIEW

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

**Provenance:** Donated by Charlotte Griffith in 2017 (Acc. 2017-053irs).

**Property rights:** The Institute for Regional Studies owns the property rights to this collection.

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**Citation:** [Identification of item]. Red River Valley Questers Records (MSS 3027), Institute for Regional Studies, North Dakota State University, Fargo.

### History

The purpose of the Quester organization is to educate through research and study. The organization donates funds to the preservation of memorials and historic buildings, used for charitable and educational purposes. The Questers donated funds to help in the preservation of the Fargo Theater, in Fargo, North Dakota, and the Comstock House, in Moorhead Minnesota.

The first meeting of four members of the organization in Fargo was held at Sue Heng's residence on Tuesday, April 9, 1985. The club's motto "It's fun to search and a joy to find" is found on items throughout the collection.

Jessie Elizabeth Bardens started the first Questers Club in Philadelphia by calling a meeting of her friends for a showing of antiques in 1844. It took off and women seemed interested in learning more about antiques so they formed a club in Fargo. A national annual convention allows for tours and programs on the historically significant attractions of the convention. The national program also encourages members from all chartered clubs to share knowledge of antiques by writing a study paper to be placed in their library.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The **Red River Valley Questers Records** consists of six different series: Founding Documents, Minutes, Annual Directory, Booklets, Letterhead, and Scrapbooks.

The **Founding Document Series** consists of the chapter’s history, policies, by laws and paper guidelines.

The **Minutes Series** consists of the chapter’s meeting minutes from the years 1985-2009, and attendance sheets.

The **Annual Directory Series** consists of programs detailing the years of the organization, including lists of the members, officer lists, and activities done over the years.

The **Booklet Series** consists of two booklets of the organization, the “Jessie Elizabeth Bardens Memorial Library Catalog”, and “The Questers: Articles of Incorporation & International by Laws”.

The **Letterhead Series** consists of letterhead with the Questers logo.

The **Scrapbook Series** consists of four scrapbooks showing the places the members went to, their programs, and their antiquing weekends

**BOX AND FOLDER LIST**

**Box/Folder      Content**

1/1                  Finding aid

**Founding Document Series**

1/2                  Charter, 1993, 1997, 1998, 2008

1/3                  Questers’ History, 1985, 1990

**Minutes Series**

1/4                  Meeting Minutes, 1985-1996

1/5                  Meeting Minutes, 1990-2009

**Annual Directory**

1/6 Annual Directories, 1998-2016

**Booklets**

1/7 Jessie Elizabeth Bardens Memorial Library Catalog, 1994

1/8 The Questers: Articles of Incorporation & International By-Laws, 2010

**Letterhead**

1/9 Letterhead, undated

**Scrapbooks**

2 Scrapbook, 1999-2007

3 Scrapbook, 1988-1999

4/1 Scrapbook, 1987-1991

4/2 Scrapbook, 2008-2016