

David Doss Collection on Sparrow-Kroll Lumber Company

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Finding aid written in English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

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Summary Information

Repository: Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

Title: David Doss Collection on Sparrow-Kroll Lumber Company

Identifier: MS-965

Date: 1895-1913

Physical Description: 0.01 cubic feet (1 folder)

Container Information: Sc_box 6, Folder: 15 (Mixed Materials)

Overview

Collection, 1895-1913, of newspaper clippings and photographs pertaining to the Sparrow-Kroll Lumber Company of Kenton, Michigan.

Language of Materials

English

Preferred Citation

MS-965, David Doss Collection on Sparrow-Kroll Lumber Company, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

Conditions Governing Access

Available for use in the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections.

Conditions Governing Use

Various copying restrictions apply. Guidelines are available from Michigan Technological University Archives & Copper Country Historical Collections.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

Collection, 1895-1913, of newspaper clippings and photographs pertaining to the Sparrow-Kroll Lumber Company of Kenton, Michigan. The materials consist of a cabinet card picture of the company's general store and copies of contemporary newspaper clippings on members of the Sparrow family and lawsuits faced by the company.

Historical Note

The Sparrow-Kroll Lumber Company was established by Edward Wheeler Sparrow and William Kroll in 1895. Sparrow, a wealthy investor and bank president who resided in Lansing and New York, had turned his attention to the pine forests of southern Houghton County in 1891. With Sparrow's funds and under his direction, Kroll--a homesteader in the area--spent four years evaluating and acquiring substantial timber lands near Kenton on which to build his partner's newest enterprise. After the incorporation of the company, Sparrow assumed the position of president, ruling his empire from a distance; Kroll took on the responsibilities of manager, supplying practical expertise in lumbering and operation of the company sawmill, constructed on the East Branch Ontonagon River in 1895.

The Sparrow-Kroll Lumber Company loomed large in the tiny town of Kenton. Settlers turned to a company-owned general store for their provisions, for it was the only such facility in town. Kroll served as postmaster and a member of the Duncan Township board. Various other family members filled additional management positions at the mill and store.

In 1909, the Sparrow-Kroll Lumber Company shuttered its mill in Kenton. Kroll left Houghton County in 1910 to pursue a new investment for Sparrow in the vicinity of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and Spokane, Washington.

Edward W. Sparrow died in 1913, and William Kroll passed away in 1928.

Processing History

Emily Riippa, 7/28/2017

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Controlled Access Headings

- Clippings (Information artifacts)
- Kenton (Mich.)
- Lumber and lumbering -- Michigan -- Upper Peninsula
- Photographs
- Sparrow, Edward W. (Edward Wheeler), 1846-1913