

Swande Godell Collection

MS-585

Finding aid prepared by Elizabeth Russell, revised by Rachael Bussert.



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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections

3/12/2010

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Summary Information

Repository	Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections
Creator	Godell, Swande N., 1899-1979
Title	Swande Godell Collection
Date [inclusive]	1912-1978
Extent	0.96 cubic feet 2 manuscript boxes (1 legal and 1 letter size), 1 map folder
Language	English
Language of Material	English and Finnish
Mixed materials [Folder]	12 R
Mixed materials [Box]	1-2
Abstract	Collection, 1912-1978, of Swande Godell of Chassell, Michigan. Includes biographical and genealogical material as well as personal and business correspondence, field notebooks, logging camp account books and Chassell Lumber Company records.

Preferred Citation

MS-585, Swande Godell Collection, Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections, Houghton, Michigan.

Biography

Swande N. Godell was born April 2, 1899, in Kavia, Finland. He emigrated with his family in 1901 and settled in Watton, Michigan. Shortly after grade school he became employed in logging. He served as a forest ranger in Baraga County for a short time and in 1934 was employed by the U.S. Forest Service. He was later promoted to chief of service in the Ontonagon district. He was then employed by the Chassell Mill which he managed from 1941 to 1957. From 1958 to 1962 he worked for the Wood Development Corporation and the Hutula Company in the Sidnaw district. In 1962 he joined the Horner Flooring Company of Dollar Bay as a lumber buyer. Mr. Godell retired in 1972; however he was active in the community, including the Masonic Lodge No. 218 in Houghton, the Copper Country Shriners Club, the Chassell Lions Club, the Hancock Salvation Army Board and St. Joseph's Hospital Board. He was a charter member and director of the Timber Producers Association as well as the Northern Hemlock and Pine Association and was a member of the Northern Lumber Industry Advisory Council. Godell also served on the Houghton County Selective Service Board, served as chairman of the Republican Party of Houghton County for two years, served on the Chassell Strawberry Festival Organizational Committee, and was a member of the Chassell school board. Mr. Godell passed away in 1979.

Collection Scope and Content Summary

This collection consists of biographical and genealogical material about the Godell family as well as personal and business correspondence, field notebooks, logging camp account books and Chassell Lumber Company records.

Arrangement

The Swande Godell Collection is arranged into three series, 1. Godell Family Papers, 2. Swande Godell Civic Activities, and 3. Lumbering.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections 3/12/2010

Revision Description

This collection was processed as a part of the NHPRC funded Detailed Processing project. 7/06/2012

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.

Acquisition

One box containing biographical and genealogical material as well as personal and business correspondence, field notebooks, and Chassell Lumber Company records were donated to the Michigan Technological University Archives and Copper Country Historical Collections on June 27, 1979 by Marie Fowler. An additional accession of five folders consisting of records from the Chassell Lumber Company, the Chassell Lions Club, Finn Fest 1976, Lake States Logging Congress, as well as a plot of Covington, Michigan, and camp account books were donated by Marie Fowler on July 4, 1980.

Related Materials

Separated Materials

One folder of photographs relating to lumbering and firefighting were placed in the Historical Photograph File, a map of Chassell, Michigan was added to the map collection, Strawberry Festival booklets were sent to cataloging and are in the Archives' book collection, and printed brochures were placed in the Copper Country Vertical File.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Chassell Lumber Company.
- Lions International. District 10 (Chassell, Mich.).
- Timber Producers Association.

Family Name(s)

- Godell family

Genre(s)

- Account books
- Correspondence
- Field notes
- Genealogies

Geographic Name(s)

- Chassell (Mich.)
- Houghton County (Mich.)

Subject(s)

- Lumber and lumbering--Michigan--Upper Peninsula

Collection Inventory

Series I, Godell Family Papers 1912, 1923; 1955-1978 (Bulk, 1955-1978)

Scope and Contents

Documents created by and about members of the Godell family including newsprint, notes and sketches of Adventure Mine, correspondence from Finland, a plot of Covington Michigan, and Marie Fowler's essay, "My Community as I Would Like to See It."

	Box	Folder
Notes and Sketches of Adventure Mine 1912	1	1
State of Michigan Supreme Court Record, August Gadell 1923	1	2
Biographical Materials 1955; 1962-1972	1	3
Godell Family Clippings 1974, 1975, Undated	1	4
Godell Family Genealogy 1975	1	5
Correspondence from Finland 1958-1978	1	6
"My Community as I Would Like to See It," Marie Godell Undated	1	7
		Folder
Plat of Covington, Michigan Undated		12 R

Series II, Swande Godell Civic Activities

Series II, Swande Godell Civic Activities 1947-1958; 1975-1976**Scope and Contents**

Documents relating to Swande Godell's participation in civic activities including records from the Chassell Lions Club, Finn Fest, and the Finnish American Bicentennial Festival as well as a certificate from the Hootin Hankenany Committee.

	Box	Folder
Lions Club 1947, 1951, 1958	1	8
Lions Club Speech Undated	1	9
Hootin Hankenany Committee Certificate 1975	1	10
Finn Fest 1976	1	11
Finnish American Bicentennial Festival 1976	1	12

Series III, Lumbering 1931-1978

Scope and Contents

Records from Swande Godell's career in the lumber industry including fire reports from Houghton County, land examination books, records from the Chassell Lumber Company, camp account books, correspondence relating to the Wilderness Act and Rare II, programs from the Lake States Logging Congress, and correspondence concerning Swande Godell's retirement dinner.

	Box	Folder
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Series II, Swande Godell Civic Activities

Fire Reports, Houghton County 1931	1	13
Land Examination Books 1937-1944	1	14
Chassell Lumber Company Agreement & Correspondence 1932-1948	1	15
Chassell Lumber Company 1939-1956	1	16
Godell Retirement & Recognition Dinner 1972	1	17
Lake States Logging Congress 1966, 1969, 1977	1	18
Wilderness Act, Correspondence Statements 1978	1	19
Expense and Credits Ledger 1939	2	1
Camp Account Book 1 1939	2	2
Camp Account Book 2 1939-1940	2	3
Saw Book 1943-1948	2	4
Saw Book 1949-1955	2	5
Saw Book Summary 1956	2	6
Chassell Lumber Company (1 of 2) 1954-1957	2	7

Series II, Swande Godell Civic Activities

Chassell Lumber Company (2 of 2) 1957-1960	2	8
Chassell Lumber Company Accounts Circa 1957	2	9