

McLean County Museum of History

Suicides Collection

Processed by
JoAnna Mink
Spring 2014

Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1850s to Present
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	Contains copies of newspaper articles and obituaries, most from <i>The Daily Pantagraph</i>

Scope

The collection includes copies of newspaper articles and obituaries where the cause of death is listed as suicide. Articles are about suicides committed by persons in McLean County or committed elsewhere by McLean County residents.

Box and Folder Inventory

- Folder 1: 1850s-1870s**
- Folder 2: 1880s**
- Folder 3: 1890s**
- Folder 4: 1900-1909**
- Folder 5: 1910s**
- Folder 6: 1920s**
- Folder 7: 1930s**
- Folder 8: 1940s-1950s**
- Folder 9: 1960s-Present**

Name	Date of Article	Location	Method
Houseman, John	September 30, 1857	Bloomington, county jail	Hanging
Giddings (no first name given)	April 20, 1860	Farm near Towanda	Hanging
Misner, Carrie	September 1, 1864	Bloomington ?	Poison
James R. Kidd	Jan. 26, 1871	near Kappa	Unspecified
Liston, Perry	June 26, 1872	Farm of David Smalley Pleasant Hill	Gun
Mohneke, August	July 7, 1873	Bloomington	Gun
Gilleland (or Gillan), James	May 28, 1874	Cleveland, Ohio	Pocket knife
Melcher, Ermina	June 18, 1875	Bloomington	Hanging
Hendricks, Fred	June 22, 1877	rural Bloomington	Gun (murder / suicide)
Pike, Katherine	Nov. 20, 1877	Weston	Walked in front of train
Eich, Cornelius	Nov. 8, 1878	Dale Township	Revolver
Bishop, Luther	Nov. 19, 1878	Old Town Township	Revolver
McCoy, Milo	May 24, 1879	Towanda	Walked in front of train
Brinschettler, Henry	April 14, 1881	Gridley	Knife / Razor
Barnes, Ben	Aug. 23, 1881	Bloomington	Arsenic
Greenwaldt, Peter	Feb. 14, 1882	Bloomington	Gun
Du Boise, Frank L.	April 21, 1882	Danvers	Gun
Chrisman, Josephine	February 27, 1883	Bloomington	Poison (overdose morphine)

O'Neil, Philip	May 21, 1883	Bloomington	Gun
VanDruver, D. B.	Oct. 23, 1883	Charleston, Missouri	Pistol
Doolittle, Walter	Jan. 24, 1884	Bloomington	Gun
Laufer, John	July 4, 1884	Gridley	Gun
Thrasher, Mrs. Philip	July 31, 1884	Saybrook	Strychnine
Trow, William	August 4, 1884	Bloomington	Strychnine
Ling, Louie	Feb. 24, 1885	Bloomington	Poison
On, Long	Feb. 24, 1885	Bloomington	Poison
Burns, Milton	March 6, 1885	Le Roy	Gun
Miller, Minnie	May 31, 1885	Bloomington	Poison
Irvin, Henry	Oct. 24, 1885	Briscoe, Iowa	Axe / Spike
Adams	Nov. 18, 1885	Bloomington	Morphine
Okaerson, Louis	Jan. 15, 1886	Nebraska	Knife
Pitt, Annie	Feb. 26, 1886	Bloomington	Poison
Tessman, Ferdinand	Oct. 6, 1886	Bloomington	Gun
McBean, Isaac	April 1, 1887	Bloomington	Hanging
Mahan, Isaac S.	April 11, 1887	Lexington	Knife
Freese, Frederick	June 11, 1887	Bloomington	Poison
Halderman, John	March 12, 1888	Bloomington	Drowning
Carlock, John G.	April 29, 1888	College Hill, Ohio	Hanging
Reasoner, John P.	May 9, 1888	Bloomington	Gun
Freeman, Mrs. Peter	May 10, 1888	Bloomington	Drowning
Abbott, Benjamin R.	April 15, 1889	Bloomington	Carbon Monoxide
Leipfritz, Mrs. C.	June 2, 1890	Stanford	Overdose
Dunn, Richard	July 14, 1890	Bloomington	Overdose
McMillen, Fannie C.	Sept. 22, 1890	Bloomington	Poison
Cheney, Lorena	June 25, 1891	Bloomington	Poison
Ballard, Dr. Charles E.	March 5, 1892	Bloomington	Gun
Bunn, Mrs. John	May 30, 1892	Near Arrowsmith	Poison
Holcomb, James B.	June 17, 1892	Bloomington	Hanging
Swineheart, S. T.	July 4, 1892	Stanford	Hanging
Harkness, Mrs. Isaac	May 3, 1893	Bloomington	Poison
Simms, Harry	Nov. 3, 1893	Danvers	Poison

Lewin, H. T.	February 24, 1894	Bloomington	Gun
Dever, George W.	March 1, 1894	LeRoy	Gun
Appell, Charles J.	March 19, 1894	Bloomington	Hanged
Swearinger, John	April 23, 1884	Bloomington	Cut throat with knife
Smith, David	May 13, 1894	Bloomington	Railroad (run over)
Doxsee, Alice	July 20, 1894	Bellflower	Poison (fox glove)
Brittin, U. John	Feb. 12, 1895	Saybrook	Hanging
Bierbrower, Bert	March 7, 1895	Anchor	Gun
Staubus, Stephen	February 17, 1896	Dry Grove Township	Knife
Nutt, James	June 8, 1897	Rural Gridley	Gun
Hayes, Michael	October 28, 1897	Bloomington	Hanging
Homuth, Arthur	No. 3, 1898	Bloomington	Gun
Swaim, Anthony	March 29, 1899	Bloomington	Gun
Johnson, Claire	June 23, 1899	Normal	Gun
Burrows, Nellie	June 25, 1899	Fulton	Drowning
Thomas, Will K. (or Wm Chesley)	August 24, 1899	Normal	Revolver
Arnold, William G.	Dec. 12, 1899	Bloomington	Gun
Maquire, John	Dec. 4, 1899	Bloomington	Knife
Zingmeyer, Rudolph H.	January 20, 1900	Illinois River / Pekin	Drowning
Sample, James	Feb. 28, 1900	Chenoa	Overdose
Herring, Jacob	March 26, 1900	Near Bloomington	Gun
Natzius, Carl	July 14, 1900	Bloomington	Hanging
John W. Randt	May 31, 1901	Bloomington	Poison
Reese, T. J.	June 21, 1901	Normal	Fire
Crawford, William F.	Feb. 11, 1902	Bloomington	Gun
Stanson, Katie	Aug. 21, 1902	Bloomington	Carbonic Acid
Staub, George	Nov. 25, 1902	Bloomington	Poison
Behling, Fred	Feb. 2, 1903	Bloomington	Hanging
Schultz, Fred	June 26, 1903	Gridley	Gun
Ronna, David	Jan. 12, 1904	Anchor	Hanged
Weber, Alexander	Mar. 16, 1904	Bloomington	Gun
Dietz, George	Mar. 19, 1904	Chicago	Poison
Bliss, Charles E.	Sept. 22, 1904	Sedalia, MO	Poison

Parkhurst, Frances	Sept. 30, 1904	Danvers	Drowning
Cunningham, Matthew R.	Oct. 25, 1904	Bloomington	Gun
Bartz, Charles	July 27, 1905	Bloomington	Hanging
Brooks, William	Oct. 19, 1905	Bloomington	Gun
Myers, Sara (Birdsell)	Aug. 22, 1906	Bloomington	Poison
Powderly, Matt	March 1, 1907	Bloomington	Gun
Reisch, Joseph	March 2, 1907	South of Bloomington	Interurban (run over)
Grizzell, John	June 13, 1908	LeRoy	Gun
Thun, Charles	Sept. 14, 1908	Bloomington	Hanging
Hester, Mrs. A. M.	Jan. 22, 1909	Colfax	Chloroform
Kuehine, Fred	April 9, 1909	Bloomington	Gas
Roeder, John C.	Nov. 6, 1909	Bloomington	Gun
Hostetler, James C.	Aug. 6, 1909	Bloomington	Poison (acid)
Calhoun, Clinton	Aug. 13, 1909	Danvers	Interurban (run over)
Busby, John	Aug. 16, 1909	Weston	Knife
Keys, William	Aug. 20, 1909	LeRoy	Gun
Gates, Thomas	Mar. 23, 1910	Shirley	Revolver
Wright, William	March 28, 1910	Bloomington	Stepped in front of train
Schwenn, Chris	May 25, 1910	Bloomington	Drowning
Hutson, Frank	Nov. 16, 1910	Colfax	Gun
Friedrich, Chris	Nov. 17, 1910	Bloomington	Gun
Hunt, Cora	July 10, 1911	Bloomington	Poison (carbolic acid)
Hagaman, Effie	April 8, 1912	Chenoa	Poison (carbolic acid)
Stillman, Albert	December 27, 1912	El Paso	Poison (carbolic acid)
Knabel, Morris	July 13, 1911	Los Angeles	Gun
Sears, John F.	Sept. 12, 1911	Bloomington	Poison
Sharpe, Edward	Sept. 14, 1911	Bloomington	Gun
Colling, Frank	November 27, 1911	Peoria	Carbolic Acid
Rexroat, Mrs. George	November 28, 1911	Bloomington	Carbolic Acid
Tuggle, Howard T.	March 20, 1912	Kansas City	Poison
Stillman, Albert	Dec. 27, 1912	El Paso	Poison
Tisdale, Millard F.	Dec. 30, 1912	McLean	Gun
Sweetenham, W.T.	Feb. 15, 1913	Bloomington	Interurban Line (run over)

Burke, Byron	March 25, 1913	Bentown Road	Shotgun
Abbey, Benjamin	June 10, 1913	Cropsey	Carbolic acid
Ploense, Mrs. Ernest	Sept. 30, 1913	Bloomington	Hanging
Tyson, Albert	Oct. 2, 1913	McLean	Poison
Burns, W. E.	June 5, 1914	Lane	Poison
McMillim, Dwight	Oct. 29, 1914	Downs	Poison
Long, Sevilla	Nov. 10, 1914	Bartonville	Hanging
Graves, George	Dec. 1, 1914	Heyworth	Poison
Neuhauser, William	February 15, 1915	Gridley	Hanging
Unknown (buried at Poor Farm)	May 24, 1915	3 miles east of Bloomington	Big Four R.R. (run over)
Tilbury, Oliver	Aug. 24, 1915	Towanda	Hanging
Bromwell, Charles B.	Dec. 11, 1915	Honolulu, HA	Gun
Klinger, Wesley	Dec. 28, 1915	Danvers	Hanging
Cornell, Jessie	March 17, 1916	Bloomington	Gas
Kenney, Agnes	Oct. 2, 1916	Chenoa	Poison
Hill, Mackl	Nov. 22, 1916	Bloomington	Gun
Otto, Fred E.	March 30, 1917	Bloomington	Gas
King, Elba	June 12, 1917	Bloomington	Poison
Lee, Jennie T.	Oct. 26, 1917	Danville	Poison
Eberle, Henry	Dec. 12, 1917	Bloomington	Inhaling gas
Vandegraft, Andrew	Feb. 9, 1918	Gridley	Gun
Terry, David A.	April 28, 1918	LeRoy	Poison
Grethey, Anna	Sep. 30, 1919	Bloomington	Gas asphyxiation
Crosse, George	May 28, 1920	Bloomington	Gun
Littner, Jess	May 29, 1920	Bloomington	Gun
Locke, Thomas	June 27, 1920	Hudson	Gun
Pollard, Adam	Feb. 24, 1921	Bloomington	Gun
Yoder, Len	Oct. 17, 1921	Bloomington	Gas
King, Lucy.	Oct. 17, 1921	Normal	Poison
Strain, Charles	Feb. 13, 1922	Bloomington	Gun
Hatchew, John	March 21, 1923	Columbus, OH	Gun
Moreland, Lester E.	March 22, 1923	Bloomington	Gun
Iben, William	March 26, 1923	Bloomington	Hanging

Hunter, Len	April 16, 1923	Bloomington	Hanging
Kahle, Walter	April 15, 1924	Lexington	Gun
Campbell, H.B.	June 2, 1924	Bloomington	Poison
Pietsch, John J.	June 24, 1924	Bloomington	Gun
Wilson, Stephen A.	Oct. 13, 1924	Danvers	Gun
Strohmeier, Matilda	Oct. 27, 1924	Bloomington	Gas
Hayward, Eugene G.	Jan 15, 1925	Lexington	Gun
Burris, Walter	July 14, 1926	Saybrook	Gun
Myers, Clarence	Oct. 22, 1926	LeRoy	Gun
Schwarzman, Albert	Jan. 15, 1927	Normal	Gun
Bane, Ivan	April 4, 1927	Arrowsmith	Poison
Laurine, John S.	May 27, 1927	Bloomington (Highland Park)	Gun
Waldron, Iva J.	June 4, 1927	Bellflower	Hanging
Barnes, Ellen	June 6, 1927	Bloomington	Poison (chloroform)
Hobson, Arthur	June 25, 1927	Bloomington	Gun
Brown, Eugene C.	August 3, 1927	Bloomington	Gas asphyxiation
Crist, Mabel	Aug. 17, 1927	Normal	Acid
Tick, Annette	October 17, 1927	Chicago	Drowning
Ochs, Herman	Dec. 26, 1927	Bloomington	Poison
Harris, Charles	May 21, 1928	Bloomington	Gun
Pasley, Mrs. Clifford	June 12, 1928	Girard	Walked in front of Train
Medina, Henry	Dec. 27, 1928	Bloomington	Gun
Freeman, Mildred	July 25, 1929	Bloomington	Gas
Freeman, Margaret aka Freimuth, Margaret	July 30, 1929	Bloomington	Gas
Petree, Horace	March 20, 1930	Rural Saybrook	Gun
Flesher, H. E.	May 2, 1930	Lexington	Hanging
McGuire, Lawrence	Sept. 2, 1930	Funks Grove	Hanging
Sycle, Lee J.	Sept. 2, 1930	Bloomington	Gun
Ernst, Carl	Sept. 10, 1930	Bloomington	Gun
Noble, Ottie, L.	Nov. 19, 1930	Bloomington	Gas
Wooldridge, Evalena	Jan. 16, 1931	McLean	Gun
Armstrong, William F.	July 1, 1931	Stanford	Gun

Pietsch, Herman A.	June 1, 1932	Bloomington	Carbon Monoxide
Smith, Thornton	Sept. 16, 1932	Pontiac, IL	Gun
Olmstead, Effa	Jan. 7, 1933	Bloomington	Hanging
Schultz, Gladys Ethel	Feb. 6, 1933	Bloomington	Gas
Snedaker, O.J.	Sept. 3, 1933	Normal	Gun
Skaggs, John R.	Oct. 6, 1933	Bloomington	Gun
Doner, Grant	Oct. 11, 1933	Bloomington	Razor blade to wrists
Lutz, Hazel	Jan. 23, 1934	Bloomington	Gas
Penn, Charles	January 22, 1935	Bloomington	Razor
Dotson, Jerry M.	March 1, 1935	LeRoy	Gun
Franks, Arthur E.	May 9, 1936	Bloomington	Gas
Sutton, John	Nov. 18, 1936	Bloomington	Gun
Adams, Muriel	Aug. 31, 1937	Heyworth	Shotgun
Smith, Glenn W.	Sept. 27, 1937	Bellfower	Gun
Brown, Edward S.	Dec. 25, 1937	Bloomington	Gun
Hutson, Lytle	Aug. 29, 1939	Lexington	Gun
Means, L. Y.	Nov. 27, 1939	Saybrook	Gun
Robinson, William	July 29, 1940	Bloomington	Gun
Bornder, William August	Feb. 16, 1942	Lexington	
Brown, Harry	Dec. 1, 1942	Normal	Gas
Myers, Charles Henry	December 2, 1942	LeRoy	Hanging
Brigham, W. P.	March 28, 1943	Bloomington	Gun
Murray, R. K.	Dec. 9, 1947	Bloomington	Gun
Stahly, Harold	Dec. 27, 1955	Carlock	Gun
Becker, Cecil T.	May 17, 1956	Normal	Gun
Carver, Grover	Sept. 5, 1958	Normal	Gun
Peck, J. W.	June 22, 1961	Bloomington	Gun
Claudon, Ivan L.	April 22, 1980	Lexington	Hanging
Flynn, Patrick A.	Aug. 4, 1986	Bloomington	Gun
Coone, Robert	July 29, 1987	Bloomington	Hanging
Brown, Matt	April 11, 2005	Bloomington	Gun
Ford, Joanne	January 26, 2007	Bloomington	Fire
Adelman, Colleen	November 12, 2010	Bloomington	???

Butler, Carrie L.

August 17, 2013

Bloomington

Jumped

MISCELLANEOUS

In Memoriam for Wedwick, Steven (d. Dec. 18, 2010) “Suicide – When Someone is too Bruised to be Touched” *Pantagraph*,
December 18, 2011