

Christmas G. Evans Family Papers, 1853-1977

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Evans, C. G.(Christmas Gift), 1840-1915
Title	Christmas G. Evans Family Papers
Dates	1853-1977 (inclusive) 1853 1977
Quantity	1 linear feet of shelf space
Collection Number	MC 323
Summary	C.G. Evans was a Helena, Montana, lumber and feed dealer. Papers include correspondence (1867-1947) to various members of the Evans, Bellis, and Scott families; minor financial items, and miscellany. The bulk of the collection consists of subject files on several of the business enterprises in which Evans and his family were involved, including General Mines, Inc.; Hartwell, Jurgens, and Company; Helena Milling Company; McClellan Creek Lumber Company; Sanford and Evans; and Helena real estate properties.
Repository	Montana Historical Society, Research Center Archives Montana Historical Society Research Center Archives 225 North Roberts PO Box 201201 Helena MT 59620-1201 Telephone: 406-444-2681 Fax: 406-444-5297 mhslibrary@mt.gov
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Biographical Note

Christmas Gift Evans was born on Christmas Day, 1840, at Deerfield in Oneida County, New York, the son of Owen and Catherine (Morris) Evans. In 1862 he traveled to San Francisco by way of Panama. After a year of placer mining he returned home. In April 1864 he again headed west, this time across the plains to Montana. En route he met John B. Sanford, who would be his lifetime business partner. The partners settled in Helena and initially mined along Ten Mile Creek and Nelson Gulch. In partnership with J.W. Hartwell and others they built a ditch bringing water from Ten Mile Creek to Helena. Hartwell, Evans, and Sanford also established a lumber mill on Ten Mile Creek. In 1867 they established the first grist mill in the area, located 11 miles northeast of Helena at the entrance to the canyon on Prickly Pear Creek. The mill originally operated under the name Hartwell, Jurgens and Company and was also known as the Standard Flour Mills. Under the name Sanford and Evans, the partners were involved in a lumber, coal, feed, flour and farm implement business; various mining enterprises; a steam sawmill in Lump Gulch; and Helena real estate. After the death of the partners, the business continued as Sanford-Evans Inc. C.G. Evans married Margaret Graham in 1880. She died in 1894. On May 23, 1896, he married Bertha Bellis, a native of Liverpool, England. They had two children: Margaret Carlisle Evans (b. 1897) and Lewis C. Evans (b. 1901). Margaret married William

D. Scott in 1921. Lewis married a woman named Agnes. After Evans' death, Bertha continued to be involved with a number of his enterprises, especially the real estate.

Content Description

Papers include correspondence (1867-1947) to various members of the Evans, Bellis, and Scott families, including a letter (1867) from John Bellis to his wife in Liverpool, England; letters from the Evans' daughter-in-law Agnes Evans; World War I letters from William D. Scott to his parents, and reminiscent letters from the Storey family of Staveley, England. The bulk of the collection consists of subject files on several of the business enterprises in which Evans and his family were involved, including General Mines, Inc. (1935-1962), re the Little Lillie and Winter mines; Hartwell, Jurgens, and Company (1868-1870), including a ledger for the flour mill on Prickly Pear Creek; Helena Milling Company (1914-1927), including lists of stockholders, financial statements, a mortgage, and a financial journal; McClellan Creek Lumber Company (1921-1923) including a financial statement, promissory notes, and an agreement to sell the sawmill equipment; Sanford and Evans (1868-1884) including log delivery books, time books, and a small account book; and Helena real estate properties (1894-1899, 1921-1977) including rental ledgers, tax statements, abstracts of title, etc. to property along Benton Avenue and Lawrence Streets. There are also minor financial records; miscellany, including Margaret Evans' scrapbook (1916-1917) from University of California at Berkeley; two patents; Charles Bellis' memorandum book; and a speech by Bertha Evans; and clippings.

Administrative Information

Arrangement

by series

Acquisition Information

Acquisition Information:
available upon request

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection

Biographical Materials

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1 / 1	Biographical and genealogical information (includes biographical sketches of C.G. Evans and John B. Sanford; marriage licenses of John Bellis and Mary Carlisle, Christmas G. Evans and Bertha Bellis, and William D. Scott and Margaret	1853-1940

Container(s)	Description	Dates
	C. Evans; obituaries of Margaret Evans, Bertha Evans, Mary S. Scott; history of Evans family name)	

Incoming Correspondence

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1 / 2	Scattered to various family members (includes John Bellis to wife; John O. Bellis; C.G. Evans; Agnes Evans; Charles W. Helmick re Little Lilly Mine; Kit McCulloch, William D. Scott re World War I; Storey family of Staveley, England)	1867-1947

Financial Records

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1 / 3	Bertha Evans financial papers	1920-1930
1 / 4	Christmas G. Evans Estate final account	1917
1 / 5	John B. Sanford Estate tax statement re Omega and M.S. Mine)	1925
1 / 6	William D. Scott tax statements re Omega and M.S. Mine)	1933-1970

Subject Files

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1 / 7	General Mines Inc. (includes incorporation data, employee stock deal, assay reports, land ownership plat)	1935-1940
1 / 8	General Mines Inc. (includes tax statements re Little Lillie and Winter mines)	1936-1962

Container(s)	Description	Dates
1 / 9	Hartwell, Jurgens, and Company (re history of flour mill on Prickly Pear Creek)	1906
1 / 10	Hartwell, Jurgens, and Company (ledger)	1868-1870
1 / 11	Helena Milling Company (includes incorporation data, list of stockholders, financial statements, correspondence, insurance policies, mortgage, description of machinery)	1914-1927
1 / 12	Helena Milling Company (financial journal)	1914-1921
1 / 13	Helena Milling Company (stock certificate book)	1914-1919
2 / 1	Helena real estate (includes rent accounts)	1894-1899
2 / 2-3	Helena real estate (includes rental property ledgers)	1921-1950
2 / 4	Helena real estate (includes rental property journal: also includes final expenses for Bertha Evans)	1939-1941
2 / 5	Helena real estate (includes rental property taxes)	1977
2 / 6	Helena real estate (includes abstract of title, deeds, and plat maps to property along Benton Avenue)	1871-1932
2 / 7	McClellan Creek Lumber Company (includes incorporation data, financial statement, promissory notes, agreement to sell sawmill equipment, correspondence)	1921-1923
2 / 8	McClellan Creek Lumber Company (includes bills of lading, orders, etc.)	1922-1923
2 / 9	Sanford and Evans (account book)	1871-1872
2 / 10	Sanford and Evans (log delivery books)	1882-1883, n.d.
2 / 11-12	Sanford and Evans (time books: Ten Mile Mill, Hartwell and Company contract at steam mill, unidentified)	1868-1873, 1880-1884

Miscellany

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
2 / 13	Charles Bellis memorandum book (includes items about his sea voyages)	1873
2 / 14	Bertha Evans speech re economic potential of Montana	1916
2 / 15	Margaret C. Evans scrapbook re activities at University of California, Berkeley	1916-1917
2 / 16	Helena Cemetery Association lot purchase	1894
2 / 17	F.E. Scott patent for coffee percolator	1946
2 / 18	Margaret C. Evans Scott address book, birthday book	n.d.
2 / 19	William D. Scott and Lawrence E. Hoffman invention: unattended fish-catching rig	1961
2 / 20	Miscellaneous (includes Helena Capital Committee railroad pass, theater programs, sheet music)	1894, 1922, n.d.

Clippings

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
2 / 21	Miscellaneous (includes advertisement for Sanford and Evans coal, Helena High School graduation photo and article, photo of World War I enlistees from Lewis and Clark County, Sanford Wilson Company incorporation, Sanford-Evans-Scott house on Benton)	1915-1920, 1975, n.d.

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Flour-Mills

Lumber trade--Montana

Geographical Names :

World War, 1914-1918--Correspondence

01/07/2003

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