



## **Doug Berlin Collection (R1513)**

**Collection Number:** R1513

**Collection Title:** Doug Berlin Collection

**Dates:** 1858-1995

**Creator:** Berlin, Doug J., 1946-

**Abstract:** The Doug Berlin Collection contains research materials about specific places and/or people in Missouri, mostly Phelps County, Missouri, or in some way Phelps County-related. This research was gathered by Berlin from various archives and used to write articles published in the Phelps County Focus between 2017 and 2022. In addition to Berlin's local history research, a scrapbook of information about the Rolla Optimist Club is also available in this collection.

**Collection Size:** 2 cubic feet  
(38 folders, 1 volume)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research but may be stored off-site. This collection is available at [the State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center- Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [rolla@shsmo.org](mailto:rolla@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Doug Berlin Collection* (R1513); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

**Donor Information:** The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Doug Berlin on August 19, 2022 (Accession No. RA1723).

**Related Materials:** Additional materials related to the Collection Title can be found in the following collections:

[Robert May Papers](#), (R1537)

[Charles Henry Hardin Letter](#), (C2079)

[Charles Henry Hardin Papers](#), (C0111)

[Missouri Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb Report](#), (C2080)

[Phil M. Donnelly Papers](#), (C2151)

**Processed by:** Processed by Gibson Tschappler, September 15, 2023; revised by Ashley Weaver, May 21, 2025.

### **Biographical Note:**

Doug Johnson Berlin was born in April of 1946. He moved to Rolla, Phelps County, Missouri, in the mid-1980s. He was married to Dorothy Lee Spencer (1951-2015) for 38 years. The couple had two children and were both active in the local communities. Doug Berlin has been involved with the Phelps County Geological Society for most of his adult life. He researched many businesses, family lines, and institutions in middle Missouri, with a specific focus on Phelps County. His research was often published in either a monthly history column for the *Rolla Daily News* (now the *Phelps County Focus*) or in the *Quarterly Journal* for the Phelps County Genealogical Society.

Berlin was also actively involved in the local chapter of the Optimist Club. He became an Optimist in 1971 and held several official and unofficial offices for the organization. Most notably, he was the president of the Rolla Optimist Club from 1975 to 1976, Lt. Governor of Zone 22 from 1976-1977, and the unofficial club photographer for several years after that.

### **Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following 2 series:

Research Material  
Scrapbook

### **Scope and Content Note:**

#### **Research Material**

This series contains research materials about specific places and/or people in Missouri, mostly Phelps County, Missouri, or in some way Phelps County-related. This research was gathered by Berlin from various archives and used to write articles published in the Phelps County Focus. Only a portion of the research folders contain drafts of the articles, several do not. Berlin had published local history articles in the *Rolla Daily News* for quite some time and continued to do so once the newspapers changed hands again in 2017 and became known as the *Phelps County Focus*. The research materials found in this collection are from articles researched for and/or published by the *Phelps County Focus* between 2017 and 2022.

#### **Scrapbook**

This series consists of materials that pertain to the Rolla Optimist Club. Berlin was president of the Optimists from 1975-1976, Lt Governor Optimist for Zone 22 from 1976-1977, and he also

served as the club photographer in an unofficial capacity for many years. This scrapbook was compiled during the years that Berlin was president of the Rolla Optimist Club.

### Container List:

### Research Materials

- |         |       |   |
|---------|-------|---|
| Box 001 | f. 1  | Springdale Academy research, 1869-1898  |
|         | f. 2  | Phelps County Lunatics research & statistics, no date   |
|         | f. 3  | Record of Graduates & Former Pupils of the Deaf & Dumb School, Fulton, Missouri, no date                                  |
|         | f. 4  | Missouri School for the Blind, legislative reports, 1861-1913   |
|         | f. 5  | Beulah State Bank, legislative reports, 1911-1924   |
|         | f. 6  | Beulah State Bank, additional research & article, published by Doug Berlin for the Phelps County Geological Society, 2019 |
|         | f. 7  | Tobacco Industry in Phelps County research 1861-1908  |
|         | f. 8  | Trachoma Hospital, Rolla, Missouri, 1923-1957   |
|         | f. 9  | Rolla High School, history & locations, 1858-1979   |
|         | f. 10 | Rolla's First Golf Club & Course, 1916-2017   |
|         | f. 11 | Buckland Mine, 1869-1915  |
|         | f. 12 | Phelps County Clerk Scandal, 1898   |
|         | f. 13 | The Tiffany House, 1860-1866  |
|         | f. 14 | Henry H. Hohenschield, Rolla's Architect, 1881-1913   |
|         | f. 15 | A case against the Rolla Board of Education Treasurer for embezzlement, 1873-1879   |
|         | f. 16 | A Scholar's Life: Joseph Wayne Barley, 1873-1954  |
|         | f. 17 | Western Conservatory of Music, Rolla, Phelps County, Missouri, 1882-1888, 1907-1919                                       |
|         | f. 18 | Proposed railroads, early charters & land deeds, St. James, Missouri, 1869-1909   |
|         | f. 19 | Former Sheriff charged with Murder, 1859-1905   |
|         | f. 20 | The Rolla Stockyards, 1867-1944   |
|         | f. 21 | Frazier Brothers Wagon Co., 1876-1902   |
|         | f. 22 | Flint's Mill, grist mill near Newburg, 1855-1889  |
|         | f. 23 | Rolla Silver Fox Farm, 1931-1940  |
|         | f. 24 | Phelps Butter & Cheese Manufacturing Co., 1884-1891   |
|         | f. 25 | Filmore Taylor "Uncle Phil" Hancock, 1851-1944  |
|         | f. 26 | Alhambra Grotto Recreation Park, 1931-1970  |
|         | f. 27 | The Bishop Theatre, 1860-1881   |
|         | f. 28 | Hamilton Lenox's Octagon House, 1859-1943   |
|         | f. 29 | The Ku Klux Klan in South Central Missouri, 1920s   |
|         | f. 30 | Firefighting in Rolla, Phelps County, Mo. 1857-1910   |
|         | f. 31 | Proposed reservoir at Arlington, Mo., 1938-1973   |
|         | f. 32 | Phelps County World War One memorial, installation, and relocation information, 1923-1995                                 |
|         | f. 33 | Margaret McCaw Lloyd's campaign for Phelps County Sheriff, 1968   |
|         | f. 34 | Zinc cemetery monuments in Phelps County, Mo., no date  |
|         | f. 35 | Higher education in Phelps County before the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy was founded, 1867-1870               |

- f. 36 Orphans Agricultural Home, research on a citizen collective incorporation meant to help the children orphaned by the Civil War, 1866-1899
- f. 37 Research on the Dr. Pepper Company & their bottlers and distributors in Rolla, Missouri, 1885-1950.
- f. 38 United States District Court at Rolla, Mo., 1911-1920

## Scrapbook

Box 002 v. 1 Rolla, Missouri, Optimist Club Scrapbook, 1975-1976

## Index:

Index Term	Folder	Image
Adams Cemetery (Phelps County, Mo.)	34	
Andrae, Alexander (1832-1899)	13	
Architect-designed public buildings--Missouri	14	Yes
Barley, Joseph Wayne (1873-1954)	6	Yes
Baumeister, Frank A. (1860-1898)	7	Yes
Bell, L. B.	6	
Berlin, Doug, 1946-	1-39	
Beulah State Bank (Phelps County, Mo.)	5-6	
Bishop Sr., Edmund Ward (1820-1895)	27, 36	
Black--History (Phelps County, Mo)	25	Yes
Bond, Christopher S. (1939-2025)	39	
Buckland, Thomas A. (1815-1887)	11	
Cisterns--Missouri--Rolla	30	
Creameries--Missouri	24	
Embezzlement--Missouri--Phelps County--19 <sup>th</sup> century	12, 15	
Frazier, Jesse (1850-1907)	21	
Frazier, Morris Frank (1853-1939)	21	
Frazier, Noah Henry (1856-1884)	21	
Freemason--Missouri--History	26	
Fur trade--Missouri--History--19th century	23	
Golf--Missouri--Rolla--History	10	
Grist mills (Phelps County, Mo.)	22	
Harrison, John Pryor (1856-1910)	12	
Historical monuments (Rolla, Mo.)	32	Yes
Hotels--Missouri--1860-1870	13, 26	Yes
James, William (1823-1912)	11	
Koch, Edmund J. (1872-1933)	7	
Ku Klux Klan--Missouri--Rolla--1920-1930	29	

Index Term	Folder	Image
Lang and Wilson Cigar Factory (Rolla, Mo.)	7	
Lenox, Epsey Viola (1871-1902)	34	
Lenox, Hamilton (1804-1865)	28	
Logan, James R.	19	
Meramec Iron Works (St. James, Mo.)	11	
Miller, Chestine (1833-1905)	19	
Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy (Rolla, Mo.)	7, 16	Yes
Missouri School of Mines Golf Links (Rolla, Mo.)	10	
Missouri State Bank (Jasper, Jasper County, Mo.)	5	
Missouri State Legislature	3-4	
Missouri State Lunatic Asylum #1 (Fulton, Mo.)	2	
Missouri State Lunatic Asylum #2 (St. Joseph, Mo.)	2, 12	
Missouri State Lunatic Asylum #3 (Nevada, Mo.)	2	
Murphy, Arthur P. (1870-1914)	38	Yes
Music conservatory--Missouri--19 <sup>th</sup> century	17	
Noedel, Larry	15-16	
Optimist Club (Rolla, Mo.)	39	
Optimist Club--Optimist International Oratorical Contest	39	Yes
Ozark Iron Works (Arlington, Mo.)	11, 26	
Phelps County Seminary (Rolla, Mo.)	35	
Phelps County--Missouri	1-39	
Powell, John D.	39	Yes
Quarterly, Phelps County Genealogical Society (Rolla, Mo.)	6	
Railroads--Missouri--St. James and Little Rock Railroad	18	
Relfe Spring--Missouri	1	
Reservoirs--Missouri	31	
Resorts, Missouri--Hunting & Fishing	26	Yes
Rolla Building (Missouri S&T Campus, Rolla, Mo.)	9	
Rolla College (Rolla, Mo.)	35	
Rolla Country Club (Rolla, Mo.)	10	Yes
Rolla Tobacco Works (Rolla, Mo.)	7	
Schoolcraft, Henry Rowe (1793-1864)	1	Yes
South Missouri Musical Conservatory (Rolla, Mo.)	17	
Springdale Academy (1859-1898)	1	Yes
Stockyards--Missouri--Phelps County--History	20	
Sturgeon, William Zadock (1851-1919)	6	
Tiffany, Ezra (1835-1909)	13	
Tobacco companies--Missouri--Rolla	7	
Wagons--United States--History--19 <sup>th</sup> Century	21	