



Mountain Grove Academy Collection (R0800)

Collection Number: R0800

Collection Title: Mountain Grove Academy Collection

Dates: 1889-1896

Creator: Mountain Grove Academy (Mountain Grove, Mo.)

Abstract: The Mountain Grove Academy Collection contains one advertisement card, undated and five programs for academy-sponsored events. The programs mostly consist of commencement information which includes date, time, a list of graduates, the active principal and other pertinent ceremony reportage. The outlying program is for a student musical and oration performance held in 1889.

Collection Size: 0.1 cubic foot
(1 folder)

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 offsite. 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. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Mountain Grove Academy Collection* (R0800); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The collection was purchased by the University of Missouri from Ambrosia of Idaho on May 28, 2002 (Accession No. RA872). An addition was purchased on February 14, 2005, from Vicki Atkinson (Accession No. RA1113).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Mountain Grove Academy Collection can be found in the following collections:

[*William Henry Lynch Papers*](#), (R0202)

[*William H. Lynch Diaries*](#), (C1153)

[*Ransom B. Lynch Journals*](#), (R1518)

[*Paul McDonald Robinett, "Education in Mountain Grove, Missouri, 1835-1913" Collection*](#), (C2930)

Processed by: Processed by Mark C. Stauter on August 1, 2002. Revised by Ashley Weaver, on January 7, 2025.

Historical Note:

The original tract of land that the Mountain Grove Academy was built on was sold to Simeon W. Phillips of Lebanon Missouri by Francis and Sarah Holt for 20.00 dollars on August 14, 1857. Phillips constructed a two-and-one-half-story frame building, to serve as an Academy on his land. The school grounds became a part of the area locals would eventually call the "Old Town" after the opening of a townsite on the right-of-way of the Gulf railroad track that went in in 1881. Phillips opened his academy in 1858, then called Phillips Academy. The start of the Civil War abruptly ended the area's need for education. Different military groups in Missouri stayed in the school building during and after the Civil War until about 1870.

By 1873, an education committee was formed in Mountain Grove, called the Mountain Grove Academy Association, the association purchased the old Phillip's School and the land it stood on for about 1,200 dollars on April 18, 1873. The school was bought and sold many times over the next decade but by 1881; after the town began growing when the railroad came to Mountain Grove, the community need for a school was revitalized, the association reconstituted, and a new school building was built. The Mountain Grove Academy became a renowned education center in the Ozarks, offering both public and private sessions in the picturesque setting of Mountain Grove. Professor Lynch took stewardship of the academy in 1887. This collection has programs for events held during this period of the Academy's history. For a full report of the history of the Mountain Grove Academy (Mountain Grove, Missouri) please see the collection written by Paul Robinett, "Education in Mountain Grove, Missouri, 1835-1913," (C2930) it contains photographs and a comprehensive overview of education in Mountain Grove, Missouri from 1835-1913.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in chronological order.

Scope and Content Note:

The earliest program in this collection is for literary exercises at Mountain Grove Academy on June 13, 1889; these exercises include musical performances and oral recitations by attending students. The commencement programs are from 1890, 1891, 1894, and 1896; the earliest three programs were created when the school was under the direction of William H. Lynch. Lynch served as principal at the Academy from 1887-1894. Listed in the programs are the names of those who delivered the valedictorian and baccalaureate addresses each year and information about musical performances and student recitals. All commencement celebrations were held in June, and the last in the collection was held in 1896, at the Opera House in Mountain Grove,

Missouri, the principal in 1896 was L. S. Griffin; this program lists all graduating individuals and the same information about graduation ceremonies as the previous year's programs.

The advertisement card is undated but appears to be from around the same period. The principal listed is W. L. Oliver, a portrait of the principal W. L. Oliver and an illustration of Mountain Grove Academy are on one side, a picturesque view of Mountain Grove, Missouri is on the other. The advert reads, "Mountain Grove High School and Academy," is a "thoroughly practical and progressive," school located in "the Gem of the Ozarks."

Container List:

Box 001 f. 1 Collegiate event programs and one Mountain Grove Academy advert, 1889-1896.

Index:

Index Term	Folder	Image
Adelman, C.	1	
Adelman, Carrie	1	
Anderson, Cora	1	
Appleby, A. B.	1	
Bailey, Arthur H.	1	
Baker, Minnie	1	
Beaty, William	1	
Bennett, Minnie	1	
Bentley, Macie	1	
Billups, Joseph H.	1	
Blanchard, C. A.	1	
Bowman, George	1	
Bowman, William A.	1	
Braselton, S. R.	1	
Brown, Thomas B.	1	
Burton, Lee	1	
Callaghan, Eula	1	
Campbell, Theodora A.	1	
Candler, W. S.	1	
Cater, Lola	1	
Chilton, Thomas W.	1	
Collier, Arthur F.	1	
Cox, Alice	1	
Davis, James C.	1	
Davis, James C. B.	1	
Dewitt, M. B.	1	

Index Term	Folder	Image
Dodson, William T.	1	
Douglas, Bettie	1	
Douglas, Hattie	1	
Douglas, James A.	1	
Duggan, Chrissie	1	
Duke, Nora	1	
Durham, Virgil	1	
Dyer, W. K.	1	
Ellis, Mary A.	1	
Foster, H. B.	1	
Foster, James E.	1	
Garner, Ernest	1	
Gaskill, Hosea J.	1	
Geiger, Mary	1	
Giffin, Curtis	1	
Giffin, Della	1	
Giffin, L. S.	1	
Green, Dovie	1	
Green, Meda	1	
Grimes, Alberta	1	
Gulley, P. N.	1	
Hawkins, Andrew J.	1	
Herndon, Christopher	1	
Herndon, Grace	1	
Horn, Daisy	1	
Horn, Ida	1	
Hughes, Clarence	1	
Hughes, Zada	1	
Hull, Maggie	1	
Hull, Myrtle	1	
Johnson, Eloise	1	
Jones, Delia	1	
Jones, Reuben M.	1	
Locke, Gertrude	1	
Lovan, Leander	1	
Lynch, Florence	1	
Lynch, Maud	1	
Lynch, William H.	1	
McDonald, J. E.	1	
McElyea, Geneva	1	

Index Term	Folder	Image
McMahan, William T.	1	
Merriam, Mabel	1	
Merwin, J. B.	1	
Mitchell, Arthur	1	
Mitchell, Attie	1	
Mitchell, Columbus M.	1	
Moore, Nettie	1	
Mosher, Mamie	1	
Mountain Grove Academy (Mountain Grove, Mo.)	1	
Mountain Grove High School and Academy (Mountain Grove, Mo.)	1	
Nash, W. H.	1	
Nevatt, Charles	1	
Nichols, Mansfield	1	
Oliver, W. L.	1	Yes
Olson, Helena	1	
Perkins, Dove	1	
Perkins, Madison	1	
Petyt, Zilla	1	
Piland, Mary A.	1	
Pulse, Effie	1	
Raney, William P.	1	
Reed, Estelle	1	
Reed, Findley	1	
Reed, Leland	1	
Reynolds, Belle	1	
Robertson, Anna	1	
Robertson, Cora	1	
Robertson, Ethel	1	
Robertson, Eva	1	
Robertson, Minnie	1	
Roper, Una	1	
Rowden, Alice	1	
Rudd, Drura	1	
Rudd, Jennie L.	1	
Rudd, William E.	1	
Rudd, Zula	1	
Schofield, Don	1	
Schofield, L.	1	
Schofield, Ray	1	

Index Term	Folder	Image
Schofield, Vietta	1	
Schools--Missouri--Mountain Grove	1	
Schools--Missouri--Wright County	1	
Schools--Records and correspondence	1	
Sechrist, Ira C.	1	
Smalley, Leonard	1	
Snodgrass, Laura	1	
Steelsmith, Clifton	1	
Steger, Mary	1	
Steger, Mildred	1	
Stephens, Lewis	1	
Stiff, E.	1	
Thompson, Will L.	1	
Treloar, W. M.	1	
Upton, Ettie	1	
Vincent, Leta	1	
Wade, C. R.	1	
Wallace, Ada	1	
Wells, Edith	1	
Williams, Addie	1	
Williams, Cleora	1	
Williams, Jesse	1	
Williams, Matilda	1	
Williams, Reuben	1	
Wilson, Henry S.	1	
Winningham, James O.	1	
Workman, Laura	1	
Workman, Melissa	1	
Wright County (Mo.)	1	
Wyatt, Maggie	1	