



Ernest Evans Davidson Photograph Collection (R1320)

Collection Number: R1320

Collection Title: Ernest Evans Davidson Photograph Collection

Dates: 1925-1940

Creator: Davidson, Ernest Evans, 1881-1941

Abstract: The Ernest Evans Davidson Photograph Collection contains the personal and family photographs of Ernest Davidson of Clay County, Missouri. Images include family photographs, scenes of family vacations in Althea, Missouri, and on the North Fork of the White River.

Collection Size: 0.2 cubic foot
(8 folders, 92 photographs)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research, but is 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] *Ernest Evans Davidson Photograph Collection* (R1320); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The papers were purchased by the State Historical Society of Missouri from The Treasure Chest on February 23, 2009 (Accession No. RA1433).

Processed by: Processed by Erin Smither, March 17, 2015. Revised by Kathleen Seale, January 14, 2019.

Historical Note:

Ernest Evans Davidson was born in February 1881 to James O. and Ella M. (Campbell) Davidson in Clay County, Missouri. He worked as an attorney, bank president, and gentleman farmer. The Davidson family lived and owned land in Clay County, a mill in southeast Missouri, and a ranch in Texas. Ernest's wife, Etta May Beeman, was raised in Ottawa, Kansas. The couple married on September 6, 1911 in Kansas City, Missouri. She graduated from St. Mary's College and was very active in Kansas City society. The Davidsons had two children, James Campbell and Ella Mary Davidson. Senator Harry S. Truman aided young James in procuring a job as the doorman for the House of Representatives in Washington D.C. According to his obituary, he escorted Margaret Truman to White House galas while her father was president. James C. Davidson became a successful attorney and later moved to Springfield, Missouri. Ernest Davidson died on February 14, 1941 in Kansas City, Missouri.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order into eight folders.

Scope and Content Note:

The photograph collection contains an album with snapshot views of the Davidson family home in Clay County, their friends and family, and images of different vacations. The bulk of the images consist of a vacation to Friend's Mill near Althea, Missouri on the North Fork of the White River in 1927. During their vacation to Althea, a cousin, John Campbell Evans, his wife Edna C. Evans, and their children joined the family. The Evans family lived in West Plains, Missouri. Also of note are views of the Friend's Mill and the Lake of the Ozarks in 1933.

Container List:

f. 1-8	Photograph Album
Box 001 f. 1	Photocopies of albums original order, no date
f. 2	Trip to Friend's Mill, 1927
f. 3	Althea, Missouri and Friend's Mill, 1927
f. 4	Trip to Friend's Mill, 1933
f. 5	Trip to the Lake of the Ozarks, 1933
f. 6	Davidson home, 1929
f. 7	Etta Davidson's bridge club, 1929-1931
f. 8	Family and friends, 1925-1940

Index:

Index Term	Folder	Image
Althea (Mo.)	1, 3	Yes
Clay County (Mo.)	1, 6, 8	Yes
Davidson, Ella, 1915-1996	1-2, 8	Yes
Davidson, Ernest Evans, 1881-1941	1-2, 4, 8	Yes
Davidson, Etta May Beeman, 1883-1947	1-2, 7-8	Yes
Davidson, James C., 1913-2007	1, 8	Yes

Index Term	Folder	Image
Evans, John Campbell, 1879-1963	1, 4	Yes
First Christian Church (Kansas City, Mo.)	8	Yes
Friend's Mill (Ozark County, Mo.)	1-3	Yes
Howell County (Mo.)	1-3	Yes
Lake of the Ozarks (Mo.)	5	Yes
Missouri--Travel and description	1	Yes
Springs--Missouri	3	Yes
Waddell family	8	Yes