



Parnell Family Collection (SP0090)

Collection Number: SP0090

Collection Title: Parnell Family Collection

Dates: 1835-1981

Creator: Parnell Family

Abstract: The Parnell Family Collection consists of photographs and personal papers of the Parnell family, as well as related families including the Moore, Thompson, and Wilson families of Taney County, Missouri. The collection also contains early images of Taney and Stone County towns and landscapes.

Collection Size: 1.5 cubic feet
(26 folders, 361 photographs, 1 oversize box)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield](https://www.shsmo.org/research-center-springfield). If you would like more information, please contact us at springfield@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Parnell Family Collection* (SP0090); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Springfield].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Kim Chamberlin on August 23, 2023 (Accession No. SPA0123).

Alternate Forms Available: Folders fourteen through twenty-two are available online at <https://shsmo.org/collections/digital>

Processed by: Processed by Haley Frizzle-Green, September 26, 2023

Biographical Note:

James Madison Parnell was born in Flippin, Arkansas, on March 5, 1848. He married Sarah Springer in 1869 and the couple had fourteen children, only nine of which survived into adulthood. In 1894, the Parnell family moved to Kirbyville in Taney County, Missouri, where James, along with his two sons Samuel and Benjamin "Albert," opened a general store. By 1907, Samuel and Albert bought the Kirbyville store from their father and opened a second mercantile store in Branson, Missouri, called "Parnell Brothers Store." The Branson fire of 1912 destroyed the Parnell Brothers Store, along with 20 other businesses. In January of 1913, Samuel and Albert rebuilt their store which was located on the north side of the square. Today, the building still stands in downtown Branson. After his sons bought the business, James Parnell spent his retirement at his home near Lake Taneycomo. He died on January 7, 1918, and was interred next to his wife Sarah at Edwards Cemetery in Kirbyville.

David Newton Parnell was born on December 2, 1890, in Boone County, Arkansas, to James and Sarah (Springer) Parnell. After moving to Kirbyville with his family, he attended the Draughon's Business College in Springfield, Missouri. In 1911, he moved to Branson where he built a craftsman-style bungalow near Lake Taneycomo. He was cashier for the Bank of Branson for 23 years and served as chairman for Victory Loan of Taney County. David married Edna Lee Moore on April 23, 1911, and the couple had two sons, David and Hobart. David died on December 2, 1940, and was interred at Edwards Cemetery in Kirbyville.

Edna Lee Moore was born on November 3, 1889, in Taney County, Missouri, to Isaac Newton Moore and Elizabeth Jane Wilson. Edna had nine siblings: Mary, Susie (Thompson), Abbie (Parrish), Bettie (Ellison), Walter, Zackariah, Lula (Brown), Lydia (Ellison), and Ada (Awbery). The Moore family was one of the first pioneer families in Taney County. They lived on a farm near Moore's Ferry on the White River, near present-day State Highway K. Edna Moore moved to Branson with her husband David Parnell in 1911, and was a member of the Branson Chapter No. 299 Order of the Eastern Star. When David died in 1940, she moved to Steeleville, Missouri, with her son Hobart. Edna died on April 23, 1984, and was interred next to her husband at Edwards Cemetery in Kirbyville.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following three series with two subseries:

Parnell Family Papers

Photographs

Family Photographs

Missouri Photographs

Oversize

Scope and Content Note:**Parnell Family**

This series consists of materials related to the Parnell Family including postcards and newspapers, as well as an autograph book with entries addressed to Edna Parnell. This series also contains pins worn by members of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Missouri Bankers Association, in addition to a button from the Woman's Roosevelt Memorial Association. This series is arranged by subject and then chronologically.

Photographs

This series contains two subseries, Family Photographs and Missouri Photographs. The Family Photographs subseries consists of photographs of the Moore, Parnell, Thompson, and Wilson families of Taney and Stone counties. This subseries also contains a folder of unidentified families and individuals. The Wilson family photographs contain several tintypes produced between the 1830s and the 1880s. The Missouri Photographs subseries includes early photographs of Missouri towns such as Branson, Forsyth, Hollister, Kirbyville, Rockaway Beach, and Reeds Spring. In addition, this subseries contains images of southwestern Missouri schools, the White River Valley Railroad, and locations from Harold Bell Wright's *Shepherd of the Hills* in Taney County. Both subseries are arranged by subject and then chronologically.

Oversize

This series consists of oversize items including Moore family records which list marriages, births, and deaths. This series also includes an oversize photograph of the Wilson family, a Sanborn map of Thompson's Addition in Branson, Missouri, and blueprints of an unidentified house. This series is arranged by subject.

Container List:

f. 1-4		Parnell Family
Box 001	f. 1	Edna Parnell papers, 1908-1909
	f. 2	Pins and buttons, no date
	f. 3	Postcards, 1938-1981
	f. 4	Newspapers, 1940-1981
f. 5-22		Photographs
Box 001	5-13	Family Photographs
	f. 5-7	Moore family, 1870-1962, no date
	f. 8-10	Parnell family, 1895-1973, no date
	f. 11	Thompson family, 1900, no date
	f. 12	Wilson family, circa 1830-1880, no date
	f. 13	Unidentified, 1900-1950, no date
	f. 14-22	Missouri Photographs
	f. 14	Branson, 1908-1914
	f. 15	Forsyth, 1907
	f. 16	Hollister, no date
	f. 17	Kirbyville, 1907
	f. 18	Parnell family home, 1912
	f. 19	Rockaway Beach, no date
	f. 20	Schools, 1907-1959
	f. 21	Shepherd of the Hills, no date
	f. 22	Stone County, no date
f. 23-26		Oversize
	f. 23	Family records, no date
	f. 24	House blueprint, no date
	f. 25	Thompson's Addition plat map, no date
	f. 26	Wilson family photograph, circa 1890

Index:

Index Term	Folder	Image
Awbery, Ada Margaret Moore, 1887-1983	5-7	Yes
Bank of Branson (Branson, Mo.)	8, 14	Yes
Bee Creek School (Kirbyville, Mo.)	20	Yes
Blueprints	24	
Boats and boating	14-15, 19	Yes
Boone County (Ark.)	8, 17	Yes
Branson (Mo.)	8, 14, 18, 20, 25	Yes
Branson High School (Branson, Mo.)	20	Yes
Bridges--Missouri	14, 16, 21	Yes
Cedar Creek (Mo.)	6	Yes
College of the Ozarks (Point Lookout, Mo.)	20	Yes
Continental Hotel (Kansas City, Mo.)	3	Yes
Dams--Missouri	15	Yes
Drury University (Springfield, Mo.)	20	Yes
Ellison family	6-7, 16	Yes
Farms and farming--Missouri	13, 19, 21	Yes
Fires--Missouri--Branson	14	Yes
Forsyth (Mo.)	15	Yes
Grapes--Harvesting	16	Yes
Gretna (Mo.)	14	Yes
Hollister (Mo.)	16	Yes
Hotel Governor (Jefferson City, Mo.)	3	Yes
Johnboats	14	Yes
Kirbyville (Mo.)	8-10, 17, 20	Yes
Lake Hamilton (Ark.)	3	Yes
Missouri Bankers Association	2	
Missouri Pacific Railroad Company	16	Yes
Moore family	5-7, 23	Yes
Moore, Elizabeth Jane Wilson, 1846-1923	5-7, 12	Yes
Moore, Isaac Newton, 1846-1925	5-7	Yes
Moore, Jacob T., 1854-1923	5-6	Yes
Moore, Milton Harvey, 1837-1878	5-6	Yes
Moore, Walter Isaac, 1877-1964	6	Yes
Morrill, Levi, 1837-1926	19	Yes
Mules--Missouri	18-19	Yes
Notch (Mo.)	19	Yes
Order of the Eastern Star	2	

Index Term	Folder	Image
Parnell Brothers Store (Kirbyville, Mo.)	17	Yes
Parnell family	1, 4, 8-10, 15, 17, 20-23	Yes
Parnell, Benjamin Albert Sr., 1883-1970	8-10	Yes
Parnell, David Newton, 1890-1940	4, 8-10, 15	Yes
Parnell, David Thomas, 1913-1915	9	Yes
Parnell, Edna Lee Moore, 1889-1984	1, 3, 5-7, 9-10	Yes
Parnell, Hobart Lee, 1916-1990	9-10, 20	Yes
Parnell, James Madison, 1848-1918	8	Yes
Parnell, Robert M.	10	Yes
Parnell, Samuel Tilden, 1876-1958	8-10	Yes
Parnell, Sarah Ann Springer, 1848-1906	8	Yes
Parrish family	6-7	Yes
Point Lookout (Mo.)	3, 20	Yes
Powersite (Mo.)	15	Yes
Railroads--Missouri	14, 16, 21	Yes
Railroads--Ties	16	Yes
Reeds Spring (Mo.)	21	Yes
Rockaway Beach (Mo.)	18	Yes
Ross family	19	Yes
Schools--Missouri	20	Yes
Shepherd of the Hills Homestead (Branson, Mo.)	19	Yes
Steelville Ledger	4	
Stone County (Mo.)	21	Yes
Stonework--Missouri	22	Yes
Swan Creek (Mo.)	15	
Taney County (Mo.)	5-21, 25	Yes
Taneycomo, Lake (Mo.)	3, 14	Yes
Thompson family	11	Yes
Thompson, Charles Marion, 1872-1940	11	Yes
Thompson, Isaac M., 1898-1993	11	Yes
Thompson, Suzie L. Moore, 1870-1957	6-7, 11	Yes
Turkey Creek (Mo.)	16	Yes
Westminster College (Fulton, Mo.)	3	Yes
White Oak School (Cedar Creek, Mo.)	20	Yes
White River (Ark. And Mo.)	14-16	Yes
White River Leader	4	
White River Valley Railroad	14, 16, 21	Yes
Wilson family	12, 23, 26	Yes
Wilson, Alexander, 1811-1896	12	Yes

Index Term	Folder	Image
Wilson, Cassie	12	Yes
Wilson, Ida Leona Saling, 1869-1937	12, 26	Yes
Wilson, James Hayden, 1867-1947	12	Yes
Wilson, Jefferson Davis, 1863-1946	12, 26	Yes
Wilson, Mary Kidwell, 1823-1906	12	Yes
Wilson, Matilda Jane Moore, 1851-1935	5-7	Yes
Young Men's Christian Association (Hollister, Mo.)	16	Yes