

Henry D. Perky Papers (1843-1914, 2004-2007)

Accession number 2019.19

Worcester Historical Museum

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Creators

Perky, Scott S.

Perky, Marian.

Holecek, James A.

Related Materials

Collection has two glass jars containing shredded wheat prototypes dated September 26, 1940. It is currently on display in the Worcester Historical Museum Reading Room..

Size

2 boxes.

Forms of Material

Photographs, Correspondence, Journal, Publications.

Language

English

Processed by

Rebecca Sasseville, May-August 2019 with the assistance of Librarian Wendy Essery.

Scope and Content

Henry D. Perky Collection contains photographs, many of the Perky family, historical research done by James A. Holecek, information about The Oread Institute, Steel Car Company and The Natural Food Company, and a series on his son Scott H. Perky.

Provenance

This collection was donated to Worcester Historical Museum without limiting conditions by Scott S. Perky and Marian Perky on March 22, 2019.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged by format and topic. Photographs and Correspondence may be included with topical series. Items are arranged in folders with respect des fonds.

Biographical Note

Henry Drushel Perky was born in Mt. Hope, Ohio on December 7, 1843. He served in The Civil War and was honorably discharged in 1862. He married Susanna Melissa Crow and had one son Scott Henry Perky. Perky was affiliated with the Steel Car Company in 1890s. He is the

Series II: Oread Institute Dates: 1898-1907.
Extent: 2 folders.
Description: Contains newspaper articles. Warranty Deed for the Oread Institute in Worcester. October 1901 issue of *The Oread*, application to attend Oread (in Maryland) in 1904, a catalog for Oread published for the 1904-1905 school year - within this catalog lists graduates from Worcester's Oread Institute from 1899-1904. A catalog for Oread's School of Agriculture, Manufactures and Commerce. A cookbook with shredded wheat as the primary ingredient put together by Harriet A. Higbee, the superintendent at Worcester's Oread Institute's New Era Cooking School.

Series III: The Natural Food Company Dates: 1893-1914, undated.
Extent: 1 folder.
Description: Newspaper articles, unused company letterhead, travel guide to Niagara Falls published by Shredded Wheat Co, a booklet containing copies of Henry Perky's shredded wheat patents.

Series IV: Steel Car Company Dates: 1890-1891, undated.
Extent: 1 folder.
Description: Contains photographs of railroad trains, Perky's stock certificate for Steel Car Company,

Series V: Correspondence Dates: 1884-1901, 1947-1949, undated.
Extent: 1 folder; 1 journal.
Description: Journal contains copies of Perky's handwritten correspondence from March 1884-July 1884. Papers in the journal are thin and fragile. Letters are addressed to Scott Perky, Henry Perky and Mr. Perky. This series contains a holiday card from aviator Orville Wright.

Series VI: Scott Perky Materials Dates: 1880-1906, 1948, undated.
Extent: 1 folder.
Description: Contains photographs, materials about his time at Cornell, and correspondence.

Series VII: Perky Family Research Dates: 2004-2007, undated.
Extent: 1 folder.
Description: Folder of hand and typewritten research about the Perky family. Some of the research was done by James A. Holechek. Contains a self-published history of Filston Manor, Perky's home at the time of his death. Contains photographs and correspondence from Holechek to Perky descendants.

Series VIII: Miscellaneous Dates: 1863, 1897, 1901, 1904, undated.
Extent: 1 folder.
Description: Contains speeches, Apple Acre menu, newspaper articles, passenger list, a copy of H.D. Perky's military discharge certificate (original is isolated from collection due to

preservation concerns), a brass embossing stamp of H.D. Perky and a stamp containing an unknown poem.

Container List

Box 1	Folders 1-3	Series I: Photographs
Box 1	Folders 4-5	Series II: Oread Institute
Box 2	Folder 6	Series III: The Natural Food Company
Box 2	Folder 7	Series IV: Steel Car Company
Box 2	Folder 8-9	Series V: Correspondence
Box 2	Folder 10	Series VI: Scott Perky Papers
Box 2	Folder 11	Series VII: Perky Family Research
Box 2	Folder 12	Series VII: Miscellaneous