

# WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street  
Worcester, Massachusetts

## ARCHIVES

Erik Tamm  
Letters

2001.08

Processed by William F. Carroll, C.A.  
February 2001

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Series		Page	Box
	Collection Information	3	
	Historical/Biographical Notes	4	
	Scope and Content	4	
	Series Description	4	
1	Biography	5	1
2	Letters	6	1

### Collection Information

Abstract : Erik Tamm, Swedish iron worker, spent 1898-1899 at Washburn & Moen in Worcester learning the iron and steel business in United States. Later he became President of Swedish iron manufactures. Letters home during his stay in Worcester (most in Swedish) provide insight into his life and experiences here.

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository.

Preferred Citation : Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Gift of Per Tamm, Osterby, Sweden, January 2001.

MARC Access : Collection is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings (lcsb, aat, tgm, gmgcp)

Tamm, Erik, 1873-1944 – Letters.

Tamm, Erik, 1873-1944 – Biography.

Swedes – Massachusetts – Worcester.

Swedish iron and steel workers – Massachusetts – Worcester.

Iron industry and trade – Sweden.

Iron industry and trade – Massachusetts – Worcester.

Washburn & Moen Co. (Worcester, Mass.)

### **Historical/Biographical Notes**

Erik Tamm was born in Osterby, Sweden, in 1873, site of one of the most important iron works in the country. His father was President of Osterby Bruk, a major iron works. He received a degree in metallurgy in 1895, spent several months in Germany studying German iron works, then came to the United States to work at Washburn & Moen in Worcester to learn more about the iron industry. He entered the iron industry in Sweden on his return, and became president of Ramnas Bruk, an iron manufactory owned by his uncle, and later president of other iron manufactories. Tamm married in Sweden, and had three children. He died in 1944.

### **Scope and Content**

The collection comprises transcripts of letters (most in Swedish) written to his parents in Osterby, Sweden, during 1898-1899, by Erik Tamm while in the United States to learn the iron and steel manufacturing industry. Also included is biographical information written by his grandson, Per Tamm, a newspaper article ca. 1899 with biographical information of Erik Tamm, and digitized images of Tamm from photographs ca. 1898.

### **Series Description**

Series 1: Biography. Includes photograph (digitized image) of Tamm. (2 items)

Series 2: Letters. Includes 34 letters written in Swedish, one in English, and transcript of clipping relating to Erik Tamm. (25 p.)

Erik Tamm Letters  
2001.08  
Series 1, Biography

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2001.08.1.1a-b	Erik Tamm, ca. 1898 : digitized image / Jan. 17, 2001. 2 copies.
1	1	2001.08.1.2	Biographical information of Erik Tamm, 1873-1944, written by his grandson, Per Tamm, ca. 2001.

---

Erik Tamm Letters  
2001.08  
Series 2, Letters

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	2	2001.08.2.1	Letters written by Erik Tamm to his parents in Sweden, July 1898-June 1899, while in Worcester, Mass., employed at Washburn & Moen; 34 letters, all except one written in Swedish, and a transcript of a newspaper article about Tamm's employment and life in Worcester. Transcripts, 34 letters. 25 p.