

Guide to the Larkin Collection

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Special Collections
Benjamin F. Feinberg Library
SUNY Plattsburgh
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

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Revised by
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Introduction

The Larkin Collection is a small collection of genealogical and historical materials dealing with the Larkin, Griffith, Macamber, Mosher, Hoag, Vaughan, Warren, Robinson, and other related families of Clinton County and the Grand Isle, Vermont area. The collection deals mostly with the genealogical history of the area, but also includes significant coverage of local history. The documents were collected by Orrel Towne Larkin between 1891 and 1946. Mr. Larkin was a druggist who owned and conducted a pharmacy at 1 Bridge Street in Plattsburgh.

Loren N. Larkin, Orrel Towne's Great Grandfather, was originally from Stanford, Connecticut. He served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He married Christina Cutler and had eight children. During this time he moved to Brandon, Vermont. From Brandon he moved to Plattsburgh where he bought an unsettled plot of land on the Old Military Turnpike, nine miles north of the city. One of Loren Larkin's children was Elam Larkin. He served in the War of 1812 along with his three brothers, John, Ira, and Hiram. Elam married Lucy Robinson and two of their children, Lorenzo Dow and Lucius, are represented in the collection. Lorenzo Dow was Orrel Towne's father. Lorenzo married twice--first to Agnes Mason and then to Julia Griffith. In his first marriage to Agnes Mason he produced three children: Arron M, Adelina, and Martha. In his second marriage to Julia Griffith he produced five children: Henry G., A. B., Lucy, Joanna, and Orrel Towne. Orrel Towne married Mary Peck and they had three children; Laura, Hanford, and Ruth.

Orrel Towne was a member of the local historical society, a founding member of the Y.M.C.A., a member of the War of 1812 society, and a strict Methodist. Signatures of some prominent people such as John D. Rockefeller can be found in his prescription receipts. The prescriptions date from 1891, the opening of O.T.'s store at 1 Bridge Street, to Dec. 1906, when the store burned.

Addie Shields, the Clinton County Historian, with the help of Randolph Larkin, O.T.'s grandson, retrieved the collection from the attic of 1 Bridge Street. The collection includes information regarding the family farm in Bridgeport, the iron ore industry, and local Quakers.

Lorenzo Dow's wife, Julia Griffith, was a Quaker from Grand Isle, Vermont. The collection dates from 1890 to 1948, when O.T. died, but topics of interest in the collection date back to the 1700s.

The collection was given to the Special Collections by Addie Shields. There are four other copies in existence: one at the Clinton County Historical Association, one in the Plattsburgh Public Library, one is owned by Randolph Larkin, and one in the office of the Plattsburgh City Historian. Only the SUNY Plattsburgh Special Collections copy includes the hotel registers and the two books in Box One, Series Two (Item 5) and Box One, Series Three (Item 4).

Background Sources in Special Collections

- Allen, Helen A. et. al. *Clinton County; A Pictorial History*. Plattsburgh, N.Y.: Donning Co., 1988.
- Sullivan, Nell Jane Barrett and David Kendall Martin. *A History of the Town of Chazy, Clinton County, N. Y.* Burlington, VT.: George Little Press, 1970.
- The Souvenir Industrial Edition of Plattsburgh, 1897*. Plattsburgh, N.Y.: The Corner-Stone Book Shop, 1978.

Contents

Box 1:

Series 1: Larkin Genealogical History

- 1/1/1: Loren N. Larkin
- 1/1/2: Elam Larkin
- 1/1/3: Lucy Robinson and Robinson Family History
- 1/1/4: Eleazer Williams
- 1/1/5: Lucius Larkin
- 1/1/6: Lorenzo Dow Larkin
- 1/1/7: Mason
- 1/1/8: Julia Griffith
- 1/1/9: O.T. Larkin
- 1/1/10: O.T. Larkin Family
- 1/1/11: Mary Larkin
- 1/1/12: Ruth Larkin
- 1/1/13: Hanford Larkin
- 1/1/14: Larkin Crest

- 1/1/15: Peck Family
- 1/1/16: Rice Family
- 1/1/17: Caroline Larkin Baker
- 1/1/18: Larkin Miscellaneous

Box 1:

Series 2: A History of Peru Friends Griffith, Hoag, Macamber, and Mosher Families

- 1/2/1: Griffith Family, Photo and History
- 1/2/2: Seth Griffith
- 1/2/3: Mosher Macamber Genealogy
- 1/2/4: Hoag Genealogy
- 1/2/5: Book: *A History of Peru Friends and the Griffith, Hoag, Macamber and Mosher Families: Friends of Grand Isle and Peru*

Box 1:

Series 3: A Collection of Historical Notes Concerning Warren, Marshall, and Allied Families

- 1/3/1: Warren Personal 1938
- 1/3/2: Building a Family Tree; Area History
- 1/3/3: Marshall Family History
- 1/3/4: Book: *A Collection of Historical Notes Concerning Warren, Marshall and Allied Families*

Box 2: Miscellaneous

- 2/1: Page Seed Company
- 2/2: Rice Seed Company
- 2/3: Woodruff Seed Company
- 2/4: Miscellaneous Seed Company Info.
- 2/5: Iron Ore Information
- 2/6: Articles and Stories by O. T. Larkin
- 2/7: Y. M. C. A.
- 2/8: Temperance
- 2/9: War of 1812 Society
- 2/10. Historical Society
- 2/11. Sermons and Religious Materials
- 2/12. Mrs. Benjamin Wetherwax
- 2/13. Ann Rodgers
- 2/14: Vaughan
- 2/15: The Mohawk Hudson River Humane Society
- 2/16: Mcgregores Store
- 2/17: Miscellaneous
- 2/18: Account Book: Humane Society and Store

Boxes 3-14: Bound Volumes: Hotel Registers (Pharmacy Receipts)

Box 3: 1891-1892

Box 4: 1892-1893

Box 5: 1893-1894

Box 6: 1894-1896

Box 7: 1896-1898

Box 8: 1898-1899

Box 9: 1899-1901

Box 10: 1901-1902

Box 11: 1902-1903

Box 12: 1903-1904

Box 13: 1904-1905

Box 14: 1905-1906