

Finding aid for the 32nd Michigan Infantry, Company H papers Collection 005

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department

July 1990

111 Library Street NE

Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503

616-988-5400

localhis@grpl.org

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Summary Information

Repository	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Title	United States Army 32nd Michigan Infantry Company H papers
Date [inclusive]	1895-1971
Extent	1.3 Linear feet Two boxes
Language	English
Abstract	<p>The United States Army 32nd Michigan Infantry Company H Papers include records, correspondence, and other documents of this unit, which was part of the National Guard. Research indicates that the unit was mobilized in May 1898 during the Spanish-American War, but due to transportation problems never got to the action and was mustered out in October of that same year. The Company's membership resided primarily in Grand Rapids, Michigan and began holding reunions in 1908. Papers of the annual reunions during the 1940s are also included.</p>

History

Company H was part of the 32nd Michigan Infantry National Guard Unit. In May 1898 the company was mustered into federal service. Due to U.S. War Department mismanagement, the unit suffered from numerous transportation problems and was only able to get as far as Tampa, Florida by the time hostilities in Cuba ended. The unit mustered out of federal service in October 1898.

The unit's members began holding annual reunions in 1908. During the late 1930s and 1940s John Schouten took charge of organizing these reunions.

For biographical information on donor & unit member John Schouten, see Coll. 090.

Scope and Contents note

Contains a scrapbook of newspaper clippings of the company activities during 1895 and 1896. The units federal service in 1898 is documented through payroll records, mustering in and mustering out records, correspondence, vouchers, furlough and expenditures kept by Captain Covell. The payroll records contain name, rank, enlistment date, and pay data.

The bulk of the reunion material appears to have been collected by John Schouten, and consists of correspondence about the annual reunions and missing or deceased members. Also included are some financial records of the reunions and a handful of photographs.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department July 1990

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Accession Numbers: 1984.004, 1986.193; Donor: John Schouten

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

Coll. 090. John H. Schouten Photograph Collection, and including Michigan National Guard / Custer Guard documents.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- United States Army. Michigan Infantry, 32nd. Company H.

Geographic Name(s)

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History

Personal Name(s)

- Schouten, John H, 1870-1961

Subject(s)

- Spanish-American War, 1898

Papers

Collection Inventory

Papers		
	Box	Folder
Muster rolls 1898	1	1
Miscellaneous payroll records and papers 1898	1	2
Correspondence, A-S 1898	1	3
Correspondence, T-W 1898	1	4
Reunion Correspondence, A-J 1939-1949	1	5
Reunion Correspondence, K-R 1938-1944	1	6
Reunion Correspondence, S-W 1938-1943	1	7
Miscellaneous reunion papers 1942-1971, n.d.	1	8
Miscellaneous manuscript materials, accompanying book: '32nd Infantry Division, World War II.' Formerly M940.5425.B58it. This book is shelved with the Local History Book Collection. [March. 26, 2001]	1	9
vol. 1 Roster Company H 1898-1944	2	2

Images

vol. 2 Annual Encampment Michigan National Guard 1901	2	3
vol. 3 Meeting Minutes 1942	2	4
vol. 4 Company Funds ledger [1898]	2	5
vol. 5 Scrapbook 1895-1896	2	6
Images		
	Box	Folder
5-2-1.1 [Practice drill, Fall 1897] L-R: George Bowen, Ergensinger, Hugh Kaufman, Unknown, Tracy	2	1
5-2-1.2 Ergensinger, William J., Capt, Sheriff's Reserve Adjutant.	2	1
5-2-1.3 to 5-2-1.8 Set of 6 snapshots, June 14, 1942. San Fernando, Calif., including Harry Holdeman, George Jacobs, Karl Folosth, Frank Schuman, Charles Strickland	2	1
5-2-1.9 and 5.2.1.10 Group of men squatting, in uniform, with bare bottoms, landscape in background.	2	1
5-2-1.11 Postcard: The Cut, North Entrance Bagnell Dam Highway, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. 27. Bagnell Dam Highway, Missouri, 1944.	2	1