

Finding aid for the North Park Annexation papers Collection 411

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Biographical/Historical note</u>	4
<u>Scope and Contents note</u>	4
<u>Collection Inventory</u>	6
<u>Series I. Annexation Process</u>	6
<u>Series II. North View School District</u>	6
<u>Series III. North Park School District</u>	6
<u>Series IV. Election and Voters</u>	7
<u>Miscellaneous</u>	8
<u>Series V. Newspaper Clippings</u>	8

Summary Information

Repository	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Title	North Park Annexation Papers
Date	1960
Extent	0.5 Linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	<p>The North Park School District was established in 1860 and would last until it was annexed to the city of Grand Rapids in 1960. Grand Rapids attempted to annex North Park two different times in 1956 and 1958, both times the residents of North Park voted against annexation. Then in February, 1960 North Park voted to consolidate with the North View School District. Another election was held on August 2nd, 1960, and North Park officially left the North View School District and joined the city of Grand Rapids on September 17th, 1960 as a result.</p>

Biographical/Historical note

North Park was established in 1860 when a quarter acre was purchased by Daniel C. Lamberton for twenty-dollars. The boundaries of North Park span from the Grand River to the West, 4 Mile Rd. to the North, 3 Mile Rd. to the South and as far as one-half mile East of Lamberton Lake. The first North Park schoolhouse was purchased in 1862 and lasted until 1908 when a new school building was built in 1909.

Grand Rapids attempted to annex North Park two different times before it was voted through in 1960. The first was in 1956 and the next was in 1958, both voted against annexation for the same reasons; the issue of taxes. That same issue was at hand during the 1960 elections. The people who were supportive of the annexation to Grand Rapids argued that it would be financially better for North Park residents to be annexed by Grand Rapids instead of consolidating with North View High School in order to be taken out of the school debt of the North View school bond picture. North Park officially joined the city of Grand Rapids on September 17th, 1960 after North Park residents voted favorably August 2nd.

Scope and Contents note

The North Park Annexation Collection is broken up into five series, which are based on subject matter.

Series I: Annexation Process includes two files consisting of information on previous school district taxes and an Annexation Committee letter from a different school district as a reference to annexation. Series II: North View School District consists of documents related to the North View and North Park School Districts pro-consolidation arguments and Series III: North Park School District is a collection of documents in relation to the pro-annexation arguments of the 1960 election. Series IV: Election and voters consists of different documents on the election as a whole, such as an instruction manual, a list of the challengers, and precinct boundaries. This series also contains various documentation on the election voters and records of their tax information. The last series, Series V: Newspaper Clippings contains a variation of news clippings dating from March to September of 1960. There is a miscellaneous file containing an anniversary card.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Series I. Annexation Process

Collection Inventory

Series I. Annexation Process		
	Box	Folder
School District Taxes, 1959	1	1
Michigan Oak Annexation Committee Letter	1	2
Series II. North View School District		
	Box	Folder
North View School District Proposals	1	3
North View Consolidated School Board	1	4
School District Consolidation Report	1	5
North Park School District Letter/Report	1	6
Series III. North Park School District		
	Box	Folder
Benjamin Buikema Letter	1	7

Series IV. Election and Voters

Annexation Procedures For North Park Residents	1	8
North Park Annexation Committee	1	9
Annexation Petition	1	10
Annexation Advertising	1	11
Michigan Veterans Facility Letter	1	12
North Park Annexation Expenses	1	13
Series IV. Election and Voters		
	Box	Folder
Election Instruction Manual	1	14
Voters Tax Information	1	15
Educational Voting Information	1	16
Voter Records	1	17
Election Challengers	1	18
Jack Burt Notes	1	19

Miscellaneous

Jack Burt: Proponents of Consolidation	1	20
Precinct Boundaries	1	21
Bruce Ambrose, "Those Nine Intrepid Rebels"	1	22
Miscellaneous		
	Box	Folder
Anniversary Card	1	23
Series V. Newspaper Clippings		
	Box	Folder
Newspaper Clippings March 1960	1	24
Newspaper Clippings April 1960	1	25
Newspaper Clippings May 1960	1	26
Newspaper Clippings June 1960	1	27
Newspaper Clippings July 1960	1	28
Newspaper Clippings August 1960	1	29
Newspaper Clippings September 1960	1	30

Series V. Newspaper Clippings

Newspaper Clippings Dates Unknown

1

31