



Finding Aid for

FRANK CAMPSALL RECORDS SERIES, 1887-1991 (BULK 1920-1935)

SE007

(Accessions 291 and 292)

Finding Aid Published: March 2012



Electronic conversion of this finding aid was funded by a grant from the Detroit Area Library Network (DALNET)
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OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center
The Henry Ford
20900 Oakwood Blvd
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ACCESSION NUMBER: 291 and 292

CREATOR: Campsall, Frank Charles, 1884-1946

TITLE: Frank Campsall records series

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1887-1991

BULK DATES: 1920-1935

QUANTITY: 19.2 cubic ft. and 8 oversize boxes

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English.

ABSTRACT: Frank Campsall served as personal secretary to Henry Ford. His papers contain records on the various interests, activities and properties of Henry Ford, including a large subseries concerning the Wayside Inn in Massachusetts.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The series is open for research.
- COPYRIGHT:** Copyright has been transferred to The Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).
- ACQUISITION:** Ford Motor Company Archives donation, 1964
- RELATED MATERIAL:** Related material held by The Henry Ford:
Part of the Personal topics subject file subgroup, which includes:
- Water Power and Real Estate records series, Accessions 288 and 289
 - Non-automotive interests and activities records series, Accessions 62
 - General personal records series, Accession 23
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 291 **or** 292, Frank Campsall records series, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Accession 292 processed by Ford Motor Company Archives staff, May 1964 and reprocessed by Benson Ford Research Center staff in August 2007. Accession 291 processed by Benson Ford Research Center staff in July 1978.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Original collection inventory list for Accession 292 prepared by Ford Motor Company Archives staff, May 1964 and updated by Benson Ford Research Center staff in August 2007. Inventory list for Accession 291 prepared by Benson Ford Research Center staff in July 1978.
- Finding aid prepared by Elyssa Bisoski, March 2012, and published in March 2012.
- Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Frank Campsall, personal secretary to Henry Ford, began his career with Ford Motor Company in 1912 in the purchasing department of the Highland Park plant. Over the next 34 years he became Ford's trusted friend and confidant. His job was to oversee the details of a multitude of Ford personal interests, and he often traveled with the Fords when they vacationed at their homes in Fort Myers, Florida, and Ways, Georgia. Campsall was born on January 2, 1884, in Essex, Ontario, Canada and moved with his family to Detroit at an early age. He died at a Savannah, Georgia, hospital on March 16, 1946.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Frank Campsall records series consists of four subseries. The **Wayside Inn, Sudbury, Mass. records subseries**, 1903-1938 (11.6 cubic ft.), Accession 292, is the largest group of material on a single topic and is divided into correspondence, history and subject subseries. The bulk of the correspondence is between Campsall and E. J. Boyer, manager of the Inn. Its research value lies in the fact that the Wayside Inn was Ford's first broad attempt at historic restoration and, according to William Greenleaf, author of a book on Ford philanthropies, the experience may have "led directly to his conception of the plan for Greenfield Village." Contained in the correspondence files are detailed daily reports on the progress of restoration projects as they are undertaken, often including blueprints and drawings. Concurrently, Ford agents, most notably W. W. Taylor, were searching the New England countryside for antiques with which to furnish the Inn. Established dealers such as Israel Sack and the Boston Antique Shop also provided descriptions and prices on pieces they had for sale. A real effort was made to secure items which had belonged to the Howe family whose home the Inn had been for four generations preceding 1866. In addition, historical material was gathered about the Inn and the surrounding area as well as the Howe family itself. Photographs collected of the Inn include both contemporary views from the 1920s and historic views. Ford purchased the Wayside Inn in 1923, remodeled and restored it, and reopened for business in February 1924. Over the next few years he purchased much of the adjoining property, reconstructed three old mills, and dammed a stream to provide waterpower. He also opened a boy's trade school in which he tested some of his educational and dietary ideas. The fact that menus were sent to Dearborn for his (and Mrs. Ford's) approval is an indication of the depth of involvement of the Ford office in the details of the Wayside Inn operations.

Within the Wayside Inn records subseries, the History subseries is made up of a file Campsall evidently kept separate from the correspondence file. It contains little more than duplicates of letters and reports. The Subject subseries includes photos and printed material about the Inn, old-fashioned dance material, correspondence regarding the mill and power plants and legal information about the case of Sturdevant vs. Ford regarding water rights.

The extent of Campsall's involvement with Ford interests and a measure of his responsibility within the Ford organization is evidenced by the variety of material found in the **Henry Ford activities records subseries**, 1887-1991 (4.8 cubic ft.), Accession 292. He kept a file on properties Ford had acquired such as those in Savannah, Georgia and La Belle, Florida and on

those being considered in Stratford, Virginia. In addition, he held records pertaining to the Dearborn Country Club, the Henry Ford Hospital, the Fords' trip to England in 1928 and Ford's search for former students and teachers of the Scotch Settlement School. Campsall's file also contains voluminous guest lists, invitations and replies for the regularly scheduled old-fashioned dances. In 1991, a document containing a proclamation of the City of Richmond Hill, honoring Henry Ford, was added to the subseries.

The **Henry Ford trips and interests records subseries**, 1912-1947 (2.4 cubic ft.), Accession 292, is made up of material which may or may not have been gathered by Frank Campsall. Pieces displaying his distinctive handwriting style may be easily established as his, but the origin of most printed material remains in doubt. Those items that can be definitely ascribed to Campsall are so identified in the finding aid. Materials on topics of interest include a folder of correspondence and publications regarding the Peace Ship (1915), a list of gift cars given by Henry Ford from the 1920s to the 1940s, letters written to Ford regarding his repudiation of anti-Semitism (1927) and his resistance to unions (1937), clippings and correspondence regarding the death of Ford pilot Harry Brooks who was flying a Ford Flivver airplane off the coast of Florida in 1928, two scrapbooks that contain receipts, Spanish language clippings and correspondence documenting a couple's multi-year Model T tour of South America (1930-1935), brief correspondence with Mahatma Gandhi (1941), bits of information relating to Ford's firing of C. E. Sorensen, a codicil to Ford's will (1944), plus a reconstructed sketch (1944) and materials list for Ford's first gasoline engine.

The **Blueprints, drawings, newspapers and printed material subseries**, 1895-1947 (0.4 cubic ft. and 8 oversize boxes), Accessions 291 and 292, includes blueprints and drawings for the Wayside Inn (many from the engineering firm of Lockwood, Greene & Co.), Ford's property at Savannah, Georgia, the Dearborn Country Club, Dearborn Realty and Construction's Maloney Subdivision (now known as the Ford Homes Historic District) and miscellaneous blueprints which include his first gasoline engine. Newspaper clippings cover the topics of Ford's 75th and 78th birthdays, Edison's death and Ford's death.

SUBJECT TERMS

Names, Personal and Corporate

Ford, Henry, 1863-1947
Brooks, Harry, 1902-1928
Edison, Thomas A. (Thomas Alva), 1847-1931
Ganghe, Mahatma, 1869-1948
Howe family
Sack, Israel, 1883-1959
Sorensen, Charles Emil, 1881-1968
Sturdevant, Joseph L.
Dearborn Country Club
Dearborn Realty and Construction Company
Ford Homes Historic District (Dearborn, Mich.)
Henry Ford Farms
Henry Ford Hospital
Oscar II (Ship)
Scotch Settlement School
Wayside Inn (Sudbury, Mass.)
Henry Ford Peace Expedition (1915-1916)

Subjects

Anti-Semitism
Dance
Labor unions
Mills and mill-work
Voyages and travels
Water-power

Geographic

La Belle (Fla.)
England
Richmond Hill (Ga.)
Savannah (Ga.)
South America
Stratford (Va.)
Sudbury (Mass.)

Genre or Form

Blueprints (reprographic copies)
Clippings
Photographs
Postcards
Publications
Scrapbooks

CONTAINER LIST

Box no. **Description**

ACCESSION 292

Box 1

Subseries I: Wayside Inn

Correspondence and reports

1922

January - August, 1923

September - December, 1923

January - March, 1924

April - May, 1924

June, 1924

July - August, 1924

Box 2

September, 1924

October, 1924

November, 1924

December, 1924

January - February, 1925

March - April, 1925

Box 3

May, 1925

June, 1925

July, 1925

August, 1925

September, 1925

Box 4

October, 1925

November, 1925

December, 1925

January, 1926

February, 1926

March, 1926

Box 5

April, 1926

May, 1926

June - July, 1926

August, 1926

September, 1926

October, 1926

Box 6

November, 1926
December, 1926
January, 1927
February 1-17, 1927
February 18-28, 1927

Box 7

March 1-15, 1927
March 16-31, 1927
April 1-15, 1927
April 16-30, 1927
May, 1927
June, 1927

Box 8

July, 1927
August, 1927
September, 1927
October, 1927

Box 9

November, 1927
December, 1927
January, 1928
February, 1928
March, 1928
April - May, 1928

Box 10

June, 1928
July 1-19, 1928
July 20 - August, 1928
September, 1928
October - November, 1928
December, 1928
January, 1929

Box 11

February, 1929
March, 1929
April, 1929
May, 1929
June, 1929
July, 1929
August, 1929

September, 1929

Box 12

October, 1929
November - December, 1929
January, 1930
February - March, 1930
April, 1930
May, 1930

Box 13

June - July, 1930
August - September, 1930
October, 1930
November - December, 1930
January - February, 1931
March - April, 1931
May - June, 1931

Box 14

July - August, 1931
September - October, 1931
November - December, 1931
January - February, 1932
March - April, 1932
May - June, 1932

Box 15

July - August, 1932
September, 1932
October, 1932
November, 1932
December, 1932
January, 1933
February, 1933
March, 1933
April, 1933

Box 16

May, 1933
June, 1933
July, 1933
August, 1933
September, 1933
October, 1933
November - December, 1933

January - February, 1934
March - April, 1934

Box 17

May - June, 1934
July - August, 1934
September - October, 1934
November - December, 1934
January - February, 1935
March - April, 1935
May - June, 1935
July - August, 1935
September - October, 1935
November - December, 1935
1936
1938

Box 18

History file
January - March, 1925
June - August, 1925
September - December, 1925
January - March, 1926
May - June, 1926

Box 19

July - September, 1926
October - December, 1926
January - February, 1927
March - April, 1927
May - June, 1927
July - August, 1927

Box 20

September - October, 1927
November - December, 1927
January - March, 1928
April - June, 1928
July - September, 1928
October - December, 1928
January - February, 1929

Box 21

March - April, 1929
May - June, 1929
July - August, 1929

September - October, 1929
November - December, 1929
January - February, 1930
March - May, 1930
June - August, 1930
September - November, 1930
December, 1930

Box 22

January - March, 1931
April - June, 1931
July - September, 1931
October - November, 1931
December, 1931
1932 (entire)
January - February, 1933
March - April, 1933
May - June, 1933
July - August, 1933
September - October, 1933

Box 23

November - December, 1933
1934 (entire)
Antiques
I. Sack, 1923-1925
Photographs, 1924-1935
Clippings
1923-1924
1925
1926
1927
1928
1929-1930
1931-1934 and undated
Drawings and prints, miscellaneous, circa 1925
History
Alterations and remodeling
Clippings, 1893, 1925-1930
How(e) family
In Sudbury, 1639-1861
Genealogy

Box 24

Photos and engravings
Printed materials

Published articles, 1868-1936

Inventories

1923-1924

1925-1926

1927, 1930

Books, 1923

Mill and power plant

Correspondence

1924

Box 25

1925-1927

Photographs, 1924-1927

Printed materials, 1924-1927

Old fashioned dance

May 7, 1926

January 18, 1927 (2 folders)

May 26, 1928 (2 folders)

November 16, 1928

Box 26

Photographs

1923-1925

1926

1927

1928

1929

1930

1931

1932

1933-1934

1935

Undated

Postcards sold at Wayside Inn, 1920s-1930s

Printed materials

1924-1925

Box 27

1926-1927

1928

1929-1930

1931

1932

1933

Box 28

1934-1936
Undated
Road construction, 1926-1927
Sales analyses, 1924-1928
Sturdevant vs. Ford
Correspondence, 1931-1938
Bill of complaint, 1931
Brief, 1931
Geological report and exhibit, 1931

Box 29

Early history
Deeds and receipts, 1745-1797
Muster rolls, 1776-1778
Sudbury, Massachusetts, 1650-1775
Farm cropping plans, 1934
Inventory, 1928
Legal documents (copies)
1923-1926
1930-1931
Miscellaneous, undated
Reports, miscellaneous, 1930-1931
Sturdevant vs. Ford, 1931-1932 (2 folders)
Wayside Market cost sheets, 1932

Box 30

Subseries II: Ford activities

Savannah, Georgia properties
Correspondence
February - April, 1925
May - December, 1925
1926-1930
1937-1942
Clippings, 1925-1933 and undated
Inventories, undated
Photographs, 1925-1928
Printed materials, 1925-1930
Report on industrial and port facilities of Savannah, 1934
Proclamation of City of Richmond Hill, 1991

Box 31

LaBelle, Florida property, 1925
Stratford, Virginia - property
Correspondence
December 1929 - January 1930

February - May, 1930
June 1930 - May 1931
Clippings, 1930
Printed materials - Robert E. Lee
Virginia tourist booklets
1932-1937

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1932-1937
Guides and miscellaneous, 1937
Virginia - printed materials, 1927-1936
Dearborn Country Club
Organization and bylaws, 1925
Minutes, 1927-1932
Correspondence
1925
1926-1929
Membership
1925

Box 33

1926
1927
1928-1932
Reports, 1925-1928
Dining room reports, April 1929 - April 1932
Construction projects, 1925-1930
Construction specifications, 1929

Box 34

Financial, 1925-1932
Bulletins and programs, 1927-1929
Miscellaneous
Stratford, Virginia property - deeds (copies), 1929-1930
Scotch Settlement School
History
Correspondence, 1922-1926
Student teacher lists, 1890s
Student activities
Photographs
Miscellaneous
Student records, compiled 1924

Box 35

Henry Ford Hospital
Bylaws and Articles of Association, 1930

Minutes and policy statements, 1926-1927
Correspondence,
 1926
 January - February, 1927
 March - April, 1927
 May - September, 1927
 October - December, 1927
 1928
 1929-1930
Reports, 1928-1930
Clippings, 1925-1927
Printed materials, 1924-1931
Preliminary study: expansion program, 1946

Box 36

Old fashioned dances - guest lists
 Dearborn group
 1925
 1926
 1927
 1928
 1929
 1930-1931
 Undated
 Grosse Pointe group
 1927 - January 1928
 February - November, 1928

Box 37

 December 1928 - September 1929
 October 1929 - December 1930
 1931-1932
 Clippings, 1926
 Miscellaneous
Mailing list (on 3x5 cards)
Dance invitations
 1928-1932
 1934-1938
 1938-1943

Box 38

Henry Ford Farms
 Shipping notices
 October 1923 - May 1924
 June - October, 1924
 October 1924 - January 1925

February - April, 1925
May - June, 1925

Box 39

July - August, 1925
September - December, 1925
Receiving slips
January - April, 1924
May - September, 1924

Box 40

October - December, 1924
January - April, 1925
May - August, 1925

Box 41

September 1925 - January 1926
Wayside Inn - ephemera
Award of Appreciation presented to Ford from Iron Mountain Chamber of
Commerce, 1940

Box 42

Subseries III: Various Ford trips, interests, and activities

Albany Pool lands in Michigan's Upper Peninsula
Correspondence and clippings, 1912
Survey maps, 1912
Gift of cars made by Henry Ford, 1912-1941
Clippings - miscellaneous, 1914-1944
Peace Ship - correspondence and list of participants, 1915-1916
Income tax - correspondence, 1923-1924
Proposed Henry Ford Life Insurance Company, 1925
Frank Campsall scrapbook, 1925
Ford repudiation of anti-Semitism
Letters
May 14 - July 7, 1927

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July 8, 1927 (2 folders)
July 9, 1927
July 10-11, 1927
July 12-18, 1927
July 19-31, 1927
August 1927 - April 1928
Clippings, 1927

Box 44

Trip to England, 1928
Correspondence
 September 1927 - April 19, 1928
 April 20-28, 1928
 April 29 - May 4, 1928
Invoices and lists of purchases
Frank Campsall expenses
Passport applications, 1928 and 1930
Refuse utilization plan for London
Newspaper clippings
Travel information and brochures
Miscellaneous
Harry Brooks death
 Correspondence, 1928-1929
 Clippings, 1928
Frank Campsall miscellaneous file, 1929-1944

Box 45

Magazine subscription list, 1930s-1940s
Frank Campsall scrapbook, 1930
Model T tour of South America - scrapbook
 Volume 1, 1930-1933
 Volumes 2-4, 1933-1935
Henry Elton Macomber - prophecies, 1932
Birthday greetings - Ford to Franklin Roosevelt, 1935-1945
Ford resistance to unions
 Letters
 February 12 - April 7, 1937
 April 8, 1937
 April 9, 1937

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April 10-11, 1937
April 12-13, 1937
April 14-17, 1937
April 18-30, 1937
May 1-22, 1937
May 23-31, 1937
June 1-15, 1937
June 16 - September 25, 1937
Clippings and miscellaneous, 1937

Box 47

Ford's 75th birthday - correspondence and clippings, 1938
Recorded customer complaint, 1941

Mahatma M. K. Gandhi - correspondence and printed materials, 1941-1942
"Forty Years" gift copies - correspondence, 1943
Frank Campsall
 Correspondence
 C. E. Sorensen fired, 1944
 Codicil to Henry Ford's will, 1944
 Telephone notes, 1944
Ford's first gasoline engine
 Sketches and background information, 1944
 Material list (compiled 1944)
Radio talk - Pettengill, 1947
Henry Ford - portraits and photos
Miscellaneous printed materials
Form letters

Box 48 (oversize)

Subseries IV: Blueprints, drawings, newspapers and printed materials

Wayside Inn
 Blueprints and drawings
 Dining room addition, 1927
 Interior of inn, 1924-1926 and undated
 Land acquisitions, 1923-1934
 Land, Framingham, Massachusetts, 1906-1929

Box 49 (oversize)

 Land under cultivation, 1931-1932
 Mill and power plant, 1924-1932
 Mill pond and dam site, 1923-1932 and undated
 Miscellaneous, 1896, 1922-1929 and undated

Box 50 (oversize)

 Outbuildings, 1931-1933 and undated
 Roads and bridges, 1927-1932
 Clippings, 1895, 1930 and undated
 Sales reports and summaries, 1927-1931
 Miscellaneous, 1895, 1927-1931

Box 51 (oversize)

 Savannah, Georgia properties
 Architectural drawings, 1926-1937
 Blueprints - land acquisitions, 1921-1935
 Maps, 1911-1926 and undated

Box 52 (oversize)

 Stratford, Virginia and LaBelle, Florida properties - road and plat maps, 1922-1936

Henry Ford Hospital - blueprints and cost reports, 1915, 1926-1927
Dearborn Country Club - blueprints and drawings, 1924-1929
Miscellaneous blueprints and drawings (including first gasoline engine), 1913-1944
Natchez, Mississippi - "Pilgrimage Edition," 1939
Certificates, awards and portraits, 1928-1947

Box 53 (oversize)

Newspapers

Ford's 75th birthday

Detroit News, July 24, 26, 31, 1938

Detroit Free Press, July 24, 27-28, 30-31, 1938

Detroit Times, July 24, 29-31; August 1, 1938

New York Times magazine section, July 24, 1938

Dearborn Press, July 21; August 4, 1938

Dearborn Independent, July 22 and 29, 1938

Ford's 78th birthday

Detroit Times, July 29, 1941

Detroit News, July 29, 1941

Edison's death

Detroit News, Oct. 19-21, 1931

Detroit Times, Oct. 19-21, 1931

Box 54 (oversize)

Ford's death

Detroit Free Press, April 8-11, 1947

Detroit News, April 8-11, 1947

Detroit Times, April 8-10, 1947

ACCESSION 291

Box 1

Subseries IV: Blueprints, drawings, newspapers and printed materials

Dearborn Realty and Construction Company, Maloney Subdivision
correspondence, 1914-1927

Index to map and blueprints (wooden card file)

Box 2 (oversize)

Wayside Inn

Sketches and plans of the mill, bridge and land at Wayside Inn, October 1923

Plans of the lower dam, canal and mill site; flowage survey of lower ponds; and
lower mill site and brook, October 1923

Mill blueprints; preliminary plan of land in Sudbury-Marlborough-

Framingham, Massachusetts owned by Henry and Clara Ford, 1923-1924

Dearborn Realty and Construction (Maloney Subdivision)

Folder 1

Full-size detail of rear porch cornice (void 1919)
Section and elevation of porches for houses C and D
Porch section for house A; elevation of balustrade for house A; cornice
section and elevation for house B
Cupboards and clothes chutes for houses A, B, C and F
Full-size detail of rear porch water table (void 1919)
Full-size detail of east cornice
Full-size detail of flower box

Folder 2

Re-subdivision of part of J.B. Maloney Subdivision of part of military
reserve
Type A house: front elevation, bathroom, opening into clothes chute,
second floor plan, basement plan, first floor plan (5 drawings)
Type B house: second floor framing plan
Type C house: front elevation, second floor plan, basement plan, first floor
plan (4 drawings)
Type D house: kitchen cupboard
Type F house: first floor plan, basement plan (2 drawings)
Type G house: side elevation, basement plan, first floor plan (3 drawings)
Trellis number 2
Detail of blinds (A, B, D, F houses)
Trellis plan
Detail of chimney and chimney cap and detail cement porch coping caps