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1357

Davis, Paul Grant (1901-1990), Papers 1908-1988
.5 cubic feet, (17 folders)

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at research@shsmo.org.

INTRODUCTION

These are the personal papers of Paul Grant Davis consisting of correspondence, photographs, and papers relating to his work in the insurance business.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Marianne Miller on 17 May 2016 (Accession No. RA1627).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Paul Grant Davis (1901-1990) was born May 9, 1901 to Charles E. Davis (1873-) and Mabel Grant (1877-). He was born in Cabool, Missouri then lived in Oklahoma for a number of years before returning and attending Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Missouri in 1919. Initially, Grant took part in the family lumber business, the Grant-Davis Lumber Co. After his marriage to Era Marie Taylor (1901-1991) on June 30, 1924, he went into the insurance business. He was a partner in the Burger-Davis Insurance Agency before representing Home Insurance Agency as an independent agent. Grant and Era had two daughters and were active members of their community. He was even invited to dine at the executive mansion in Columbia, Missouri during the Hearnes administration and received a number of Christmas cards from Missouri political families.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The papers have been divided into the following series:

Correspondence

Newspaper clippings

Images

Insurance business

Miscellaneous

The **Correspondence** series are arranged by recipients and contains letters addressed to Mr. Grant Davis from various family members and friends spanning the years from 1917 to 1987. They included information pertaining to the Grant-Davis Lumber Company, deed transfers, and family life. These include letters from his father Charles Davis talking business. The letters addressed to Ms. Era Taylor (maiden name)/Mrs. Grant Davis are from family and friends and deal with the daily comings and goings. The letters addressed to both Mr. and Mrs. Grant Davis range from letters from the children talking about school and friends catching up on local news. The

miscellaneous correspondence includes letters and postcards addressed to Ms. Patty Davis, Grant and Era's daughter, Mrs. Estella Hughes, Grant's aunt, Carolyn Newport, the Davis' other daughter, Mark Newport, her husband, and E.C. Hughes.

The **Newspaper clippings** series contains clippings concerning Missouri State sports, book club, the Sorosis club, family wedding announcements, and obituaries. It also includes an advertising clipping for the Burger-Davis Insurance Agency.

The **Images** series is separated into those that have dates and/or names and those with no identifying features. All of the photos are a mix of candid and studio headshots. Those that are identified are of family members, including some more professional photographs of Carolyn Davis c. 1946. This series also includes negatives of Patty Davis.

The **Insurance business** series includes papers pertaining to Grant Davis' insurance business, along with three insurance manuals used by the Burger-Davis Insurance Agency. There are also assorted academic papers, notices, and announcements pertaining to the family.

The **Personal Papers** contains a yearbook for the Sorosis club from 1965-1966, local business advertisement including one for the Grant-Davis Lumber Company. P.G. Davis' great-grandfather, Silas W. Grant started the company in 1886. Silas' son Paul S. Grant took over the business and was joined by P.G. Davis' paternal grandfather Charles E. Davis.

See also R0109 Grant-Davis Lumber Company, Records, 1882-1949.

FOLDER LIST

f. 1-5	Correspondence
f. 1	Mr. (P.G.) Grant Davis, 1917-1919
f. 2	Mr. Grant Davis, 1921-1974
f. 3	Ms. Era Taylor/Mrs. Grant Davis, 1924-1978
f. 4	Mr. and Mrs. Grant Davis, 1943-1988
f. 5	Miscellaneous, 1908 -1977
f. 6	Newspaper clippings, 1924, 1948, 1966-1987, n.d.
f. 7-8	Images
f. 7	Photographs, 1946-1987, n.d.
f. 8	Negatives – Patty Davis, n.d
f. 9-12	Insurance business, 1919-1968
f. 9	A Manual for Fire Insurance Agents, 1937
f. 10	Agent's Automobile Guide, 1947
f. 11	Agent's Fire Insurance Manual, 1947
f. 12	Burger-Davis Insurance and Grant Davis Insurance Agency, 1968, n.d.
f. 13-17	Personal Papers
f. 13	Academic, 1919, 1922, 1923, 1946
f. 14	Sorosis club yearbook, 1965-1966
f. 15	Church bulletins and pamphlets, 1955-1978
f. 16	Amendments to the Springfield City Charter booklet, 1968

f. 17	Advertisements, pamphlets on school buses, Missouri Counselor circular, 1971, n.d.
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INDEX TERMS

Subject	Folder
Burger-Davis Insurance Agency	1, 9-12
Davis, Carolyn	3-4, 6-7,
Davis, Charles	
Davis, Era	1-7, 13-14
Davis, (Paul) Grant	1-17
First Baptist Church – Springfield	15
Grant Avenue Church, 1972	15
Hughes, Estella	3-4
Insurance business – Missouri – Springfield	1, 9-12
Sorosis Club – Missouri – Springfield	3, 13-14
Springfield (Mo.)	7, 12-17
Taylor, Era	1-17
Wentworth Military Academy, Lexington, (Mo.)	1, 7