

C Van Ravenswaay, Charles (1911-1990), Collection, 1820-1971  
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#### INTRODUCTION

Material relating to the Trigg family of Boonville, MO; the papers of Harvey Bunce, Cooper County civic leader and vice-president of the Tebo and Neosho Railroad; and Charles Van Ravenswaay's correspondence and research notes on various families, institutions, historic sites and events in Cooper and Howard Counties, and miscellaneous material related primarily to Boonville, MO.

#### DONOR INFORMATION

The collection was donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Charles Van Ravenswaay on 13 July 1978 (Accession No. 2175). An addition was made on 29 January 1985 by Charles Van Ravenswaay (Accession No. 2553).

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Charles Van Ravenswaay was born August 10, 1911, in Boonville, Missouri. He attended Washington University in St. Louis where he received his B.A. in 1933 and his M.A. in 1934. His long career as a museum executive began in 1946 when he became director of the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis. In 1962 he moved from Missouri to Massachusetts where he assumed the position of president of Old Sturbridge Village until 1966. Then in 1966 he became director of the Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum in Wilmington, Delaware, a position he held until his retirement in 1976.

Van Ravenswaay's lifelong interest in the social history of Missouri and his study of the early architecture and crafts of the region culminated in 1977 in *The Arts and Architecture of German Settlements in Missouri: A Survey of a Vanishing Culture*, which was published by the University of Missouri Press.

#### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection is organized into three major sections. The first is composed of Van Ravenswaay's correspondence from the late 1930s and early 1940s, when he was secretary of the Historical Society of Howard and Cooper Counties, and of notes on sites, figures, events, and architecture primarily related to Cooper and Howard Counties.

The papers of the Trigg family of Boonville comprise the second section. Dr. William Hodge Trigg's 1834 diary describing his journey from Gallatin, Tennessee, to Boonville, Missouri, is of particular significance.

The third section includes the papers of Harvey Bunce, civic leader, founder of Bunceton, Missouri, and vice-president of the Tebo and Neosho Railroad Company.

#### FOLDER LIST

f. 1-25 Correspondence and Notes. Correspondence and research notes concerning individuals and families of Cooper, Howard, and other

Missouri counties; domestic, public, and commercial architecture; churches and cemeteries; schools; reminiscences of the Civil War and life in nineteenth century Boonville and other Missouri towns; and miscellaneous histories and documents.

- f. 1-6 Correspondence, 1936-1953.
- f. 7 Notes primarily concerning architecture in Ste. Genevieve and Boonville, Missouri, history of the Howard House, a nineteenth century hotel in Fayette, Missouri, and a typescript of a ledger from Jacob Wyan's Boonville store, 1819-1822.
- f. 8 Tombstone inscriptions from Boonville, Missouri, cemeteries.
- f. 9 Minute Book, Boonville Baptist Church, 1841-1875.
- f. 10-12 Reminiscences of R.T. Kingsbury include the Civil War, slavery, and daily life in Franklin, Missouri. Typescripts of life and death dates and names from the family Bible of the Robertson and Potter families.
- f. 13 Programs from the Kemper and Taylor Institute, 1860s.  
Description of 1858 May Day celebration at Glasgow Female Seminary. Typescript of the history of the Central College Museum. Fielding Institute newspaper, *The Chaplet of Thought*, 1858.
- f. 14 Reminiscences of Adelphai College.
- f. 15 Compilation of names and occupations of graduates of Boonville Public Schools, 1879-1915.
- f. 16-17 Typescript of Cooper County Circuit Court records for 1819-1821 and 1825.
- f. 18 Descriptions of central Missouri and history of Cooper and Howard Counties from early nineteenth century newspapers. Photocopy of the *Missouri Intelligencer*, 1829. List of owners of taxable property in Howard County, 1817.
- f. 19 Reminiscences of Dr. Redmon include information on Wade Hampton Howard, John Sampson, General Joseph Shelby, "Order Number 11" refugees, George Cockrell, John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, the overland mail, Bill Anderson, Jesse James, and Charles Brownlee.
- f. 20 Early history of Waverly, Missouri.
- f. 21 Civil War memoirs of W.G. Pendleton. "Boonville: the First Land Battle of the Civil War," off print.
- f. 22 History of the Boonslick Salt Manufacturing Company.
- f. 23 Typescript of "Early Post Roads and Post Offices in Ray and Clay Counties," by E.L. Pigg.
- f. 24 Auction notices, 1971.
- f. 25 Miscellaneous.
- f. 26-35 Trigg Family. The materials in this section were removed from a scrapbook and have been arranged in the following order: diary of William Hodge Trigg, family correspondence, genealogical materials and estate papers of the Trigg-Wyan family, clippings, and

- miscellaneous.
- f. 26 Diary of William Hodge Trigg, 1834.
  - f. 27-29 Correspondence, 1872-1925, concerned with family matters and genealogy.
  - f. 30-31 Genealogical records of the Trigg-Wyan and Hall families.
  - f. 32-34 Clippings include obituaries and Boonville sketches and reminiscences.
  - f. 35 Materials concerning the Boonville Presbyterian Church. Rules and regulations of the "Boonville Silver Grays," 1864.
  - f. 36-72 Harvey Bunce Papers
    - f. 36-64 Correspondence and legal and financial documents including deeds, land grants, estate inventories, letters of administration, wills, promissory notes, and receipts collected by Harvey Bunce, Public Administrator of Cooper County. Arranged in chronological order.
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      - f. 37 1840-1849
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      - f. 41-57 1860-1869
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    - f. 65-72 Financial records and estimates of work done and materials delivered on the northeastern extension of the Tebo and Neosho Railroad. Miscellaneous correspondence and financial and legal documents of other railroad companies.
      - f. 65-71 Tebo and Neosho Railroad Company financial records, 1870-1871.
      - f. 72 Boonville, St. Louis, and Southern Railroad Company; Missouri Pacific Railway Company; and Osage Valley and Southern Kansas Railroad Company.

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