These are newspaper clippings, maps, miscellaneous items, and photographs pertaining to lead mining and related railroad development in the Old Lead Belt, principally of St. Francois and Madison counties in southeastern Missouri. The material is arranged in topical and biographical series.

The Hill collection is the result of a thirty-year avocational interest in the history of the Old Lead Belt. Commodore Perry Hill, Jr., was a native of the area. He was employed for many years by the St. Joseph Lead Company. His interest in history began with research into his own genealogy, but it soon grew to embrace the early history of the Mineral Area. Around 1945, Hill was given an extensive collection of back issues of the Farmington News, which he found to be filled with items on the history of the area and its mining industries. He began a collection of clippings, cutting out the items individually and then arranging them by topic. He supplemented the clippings with information gleaned from county records and secondary sources, and data from office manuals and equipment price lists of the mining companies, which he also collected. Hill was a virtual almanac of Lead Belt history, and was, in his later years, a frequent correspondent and arbiter of historical details for area newspapers. He died at Bonne Terre, Missouri, on 31 August 1983.

The Hill collection has five parts: topical files of newspaper clippings; biographical files of newspaper clippings; pamphlets and printed material; mining company records; and photographs.

The clipping files are the most extensive sections of the collection, especially for the years 1900-1935, although some clippings date to 1885. The best-documented subjects are: mining and mining firms; railroad development, particularly the Mississippi River & Bonne Terre Railroad and the Houck lines; industrial accidents and fatalities; and the history of St. Francois County and its towns and villages. The biographical files include obituaries, wedding announcements, and notes on many residents of St. Francois County.

The printed material pertains almost entirely to the St. Joseph Lead Company and its subsidiaries. There are parts lists for Sullivan drills, St. Joe shovels, and Goodman locomotives, all of which were widely used in the Lead Belt. There are also agreements between the mining and railroad companies and operating locals of labor unions, office manuals, and railroad rulebooks and timetables.

The photograph file consists of 91 black-and-white prints of mining scenes and equipment. Many are original prints, and negatives accompany most. Many are views made by Robert Arnoldi of Flat River, who apparently made most of the well-known photographs of the area of turn-of-the-century vintage. Only about a quarter are dated, but Hill provided identification for most of them. There are views of underground and surface operations from several different mines and featuring different types of equipment. Operations of the Doe Run Lead Company, the Federal Lead Company, and the St. Joseph Lead Company are represented in the photograph collection.
Madison counties in southeastern Missouri. The material is arranged in topical and biographical series.

Section I (Folders 1-69): Topical file, 1885-1982.

Newspaper clippings, maps, and miscellaneous notes on mining and mining companies, local history, industrial accidents, railroad development, and county and municipal business. Arranged chronologically under each topic.

Section II (Folders 70-89): Biographical file, 1885-1970.

Newspaper clippings of obituaries, wedding announcements, and biographical notes. Arranged alphabetically. An index of surnames is available.


Mining equipment parts lists, printed labor agreements, and railroad timetables.


Missouri Metals Corporation and St. Joe Minerals Corporation.

Section V (Photographs 1-91): Photograph file, ca. 1890-ca. 1940.

Black-and-white photographs, almost all of which appear to be copies of views of mining scenes by Lead Belt photographer Robert Arnoldi. There are also views of a re-enactment of lead smelting at Cresswell's furnace in northern Washington County. Most of the prints have accompanying negatives.

Folder and Photograph Descriptions

Folders 01-29: Mining and mining companies, 1885-1982.

F. 01 General history, lead mining and markets, 1885-1997.
F. 02 Catherine Lead Company, 1900-1937.
F. 03 Central Lead Company, 1891-1907.
F. 04 Columbia Lead Company, 1891-1907.
F. 05 Desloge Mining Company, 1885-1936.
F. 06 Doe Run Mining Company, 1886-1914.
F. 07 Doe Run mining company, 1915-1937.
F. 08 Federal Lead Company, 1900-1908
F. 10 Granite Mining, 1885-1915.
F. 11 Herculaneum, Missouri, smelter, 1910-1933.
F. 12 Mine La Motte, Missouri, 1885-1939.
F. 14 National Lead Company, 1900-1934.
F. 15 St. Francois Lead Company, 1909-1914.
F. 16 St. Joseph Lead Company, 1883-1913.
F. 19 St. Joseph Lead Company, Map of domestic water lines...in the towns of Leadville, St. Francois, and Taylortown, 1940.
F. 22 Miscellaneous mining companies and named tracts, “A” – “L”.
F. 23 Miscellaneous mining companies and named tracts, “M” – “W”.
F. 25 Prospecting in the Lead Belt, 1885-1936.
F. 26 Mine equipment, 1903-1926.
F. 27 Mine shaft data, c1966.
F. 28 Labor relations and strikes, 1900-1939.
F. 29 Wages, 1901-1934.


F. 30 Doe Run mines, 1901-1931.
F. 31 Federal mines, 1900-1939.
F. 32 National mines, 1902-1930.
F. 33 St. Joseph Lead Company mines, 1939.
F. 34 Accidents at miscellaneous mines, 1885-1939.
F. 35 Railroad accidents, 1893-1926.

Folders 36-44: Railroad development in southeast Missouri, 1885-1965

F. 36 Houck railroad lines, 1900-1929. (Includes material on the Cape Girardeau Northern, the Saline Valley, and the St. Louis, Memphis & Southeastern railroads, and the purchase of these lines by the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway.)
F. 37 Illinois Southern Railroad, 1900-1934.
F. 38 Iron Mountain Railroad/St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern/Missouri Pacific Railroad, 1885-1933.
F. 39 Mississippi River & Bonne Terre Railroad, 1900-1913.
F. 42 St. Francois County Railroad Company, 1886-1929.
F. 43 Southern Missouri Railroad, 1901-1903.
F. 44 Miscellaneous railroads, 1886-1965.


F. 45 St. Francois County Court, general business, 1886-1936.
F. 46 St. Francois County business: roads, 1885-1933.
F. 47 St. Francois County business: bridges, 1885-1930.
F. 48 Bonne Terre, Missouri, 1885-1930.
F. 50 Desloge, Missouri, 1901, 1918.
F. 52 Farmington, Missouri, 1885-1929.
F. 53 Flat River, Missouri, 1900-1980.
F. 54 Rivermines, Missouri. Plat of the Doe Run Lead Company’s subdivision of…Rivermines 1928
F. 55 Miscellaneous towns, 1886-1953.


F. 56 Businesses, 1885-1953.
F. 57 Churches, 1886-1952 (Includes cemeteries.)
F. 58 Schools, 1885-1927.
F. 59 Post offices, 1886-1937.
F. 60 Crime, 1886-1930.
F. 61 Dooley-Harris feud, 1900-1907.
F. 62 Lead Belt Riot of 1917.
F. 63 Prohibition and bootlegging, 1908-1930.
F. 64 Weather conditions, 1886-1930.
F. 65 Societies, associations, and clubs, 1885-1939.
F. 66 Masonic Lodge, 1885-1923.
F. 67 Land transfers, St. Francois County, Missouri. Clippings and notes by Commodore Perry Hill, Jr.
F. 69 Miscellaneous topics, 1905-1934.

Folders 70-89: Biographical file, 1885-1970. (Organized alphabetically.)

F. 70 “A”
F. 71 “B” – “Boyer”
F. 72 “Bradley” – “Byington”
F. 73 “C”
F. 74 “D”
F.75 “E: - “F”
F. 76 “G”
F. 77 “H”
F. 78 “I” – “K”
F. 79 “L”
F. 80 “Mc”
F 81 “M”
F. 82 “N” – “P”
F. 83 “Q” – “R”
F. 84 “S”
F. 85 “T”
F. 86 “V”
F. 87 “W” – “We”
F. 88 “Wh” – “Woodward”
F. 89 “X” – “Z”


F. 91 Waukesha Motor Company, engine parts list, 1927.
F. 92 Goodman Locomotive Company, parts catalog, 1927.
F. 93 St. Joe shovel, illustrated parts list, 1938.
F. 94 Sullivan core drill parts list, 1942.
F. 99 St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company. Transportation Department, rulebook, 1957.
F. 100 St. Joe Headframe (four issues)
  v. 18, #3 Winter 1981; v. 18, #2 Summer 1982; v. 18, #3 Autumn 1982; v. 19, #4 Winter 1982
F. 103 Jefferson County, Missouri. Clippings of historical articles compiled by Mrs. Katherine Schneider, n.d.
Volumes 1-3: Mining company records, 1917-1972
Missouri Metals Corporation and St. Joe Minerals Corporation

Vol. 1: Missouri Metals Corporation, Time Book, March 1917
Vol. 3: St. Joe Minerals Corporation, Mining Department equipment inventory, 1964-1972

Photograph File, ca. 1890-1940. (unless otherwise noted, photographs are undated.)

01. National Lead Company, mill and shaft No. 1.
02. Doe Run Lead Company, shaft No. 4.
03. View toward the rear of the St. Joseph Lead Company mill at Bonne Terre. Shows the carpenter shack, Congregational Church, and other buildings.
04. Photograph from a lithograph, Desloge Lead Company mines.
05. Group of miners with sunshine torches and lunch boxes.
06. Group of miners with Shanklin carbide lamps.
07. Doe Run Lead Company, calcine furnaces at Doe Run, Missouri.
08. “H.R. Ameling, Diamond Drill Contractor,” shown beside a Longyear oscillating steam drill.
09. Flat River Hardware and Furniture Company, advertising photograph, c1930.
12. Doe Run Lead Company Mill No.2, Doe Run, Missouri, 1903.
13. Central Lead Company Shaft No. 1, 1903 (Federal Lead Company Shaft No. 6).
14. Doe Run Lead Company power plant at Rivermines, Missouri.
17. Doe Run Lead Company Shaft No. 3, Flat River, Missouri.
18. Miller Brothers Store, Flat River, Missouri, advertising photograph.
21. Flat River Hardware Company, grand opening celebration with mule-drawn wagon and sample merchandise.
22. Union Electric power plant, Flat River, Missouri.
23. Reuter Milling Company, Flat River, Missouri (see also photograph #26.)
25. Sullivan class “BD” diamond drill, “Missouri Type”
26. Reuter Milling Company (see also photograph #23).
27. J. F. Puttman, tailor, Farmington, Missouri.
28. Baptist Church, Flat River, Missouri.
29. Underground view of miners at work.
30. Federal Lead Company Mill No. 4.
31. Miner’s lanterns.
32. Federal Lead Company, view showing headframe, conveyor, boiler and engine houses.
33. Photograph of a painting by Alvin Hasse showing an unidentified two-story frame building, possibly a church, a school, or a boarding house.
34. Columbia Lead Company Shaft No. 1 (Later Doe Run “Red Onion”).
35. Doe Run Lead Company Mill No. 3, West Elvins, Missouri, 1917.
36. Commercial Lead Company mill and machine shops.
37. Federal Lead Company, mill and water tower.
39. Desloge Consolidated Mining Company concentrating plant and smelter, 1903.
40. Photograph of a drawing of the Tucker building in Flat River, Missouri, 1905.
42. View of the rear of the Bonne Terre mill, c1913.
43. Federal Lead Company Shaft No.1.
44. Underground view at unidentified mine.
45. Desloge Consolidated Lead Company mill, 1908.
46. Sketch of proposed layout of Doe Run Lead Company Mill No. 2, 1908.
47. Federal Lead Company concentrating plant, 1908.
48. Y.M.C.A. building.
49. St. Joseph Lead Company buildings at Bonne Terre showing the offices of the Mississippi River & Bonne Terre Railroad and the Bonne Terre Farming & Cattle Company, the Miner’s Bank, and the general store. c1914.
50. St. Joseph Lead Company smelter at Herculaneum, Missouri.
51. View of a re-enactment of lead jigging by hand at Cresswell’s Furnace, Washington County, Missouri.
52. View of lead mining by hand. A re-enactment at Cresswell’s Furnace, Washington County, Missouri.
53. Sullivan class “BD” diamond drill, “Missouri Type”
54. Unidentified blacksmith or wagon repair shop with six individuals posed in front.
55. View of a re-enactment of lead smelting at Cresswell’s Furnace in Washington County, Missouri.
56. Unidentified church building.
57. Mine La Motte, Madison County, Missouri, old concentrating mill.
58. Ellison steam-driven diamond drill with a group of six unidentified individuals.
59. St. Joseph Lead Company 2-6-0 narrow-gage railroad locomotive and gondola.
60. St. Joseph Lead Company, interior of mill showing crushers.
62. Doe Run Lead Company machine shop, interior view.
63. Same subject as No. 62, different view.
65. Unidentified mine buildings and headframe.
66. Desloge Consolidated Lead Company Shaft No. 3
67. Mine La Motte smelters and calcine furnaces showing 0-6-0 railroad locomotive.
68. Mine La Motte Shaft No. 2.
69. Unidentified buildings.
70. Mine La Motte Lead & Smelting Company Shaft No. 4.
71. Ruins of unidentified four-stack furnace.
72. Unidentified mine buildings.
73. Unidentified, possibly Mine La Motte.
75. Doe Run Lead Company carpenter shop, interior view.
76. Doe Run Lead Company Mill No. 2.
77. Photograph of a drawing by Alvin Hasse showing an unidentified school or church building.
78. Miner’s Supply Company, exterior view of building. (No print, negative only. *SEE also photograph No. 83.).
79. Desloge Consolidated Lead Company mill at Desloge, Missouri.
80. Longyear gasoline engine diamond drill, c1940.
82. Columbia Lead Company Shaft No. 4 at Esther, Missouri.
83. Miner’s Supply company, exterior view of building. *SEE also photograph No. 78).
84. Photograph of the F. P. Graves mineral collection at Doe Run, Missouri, c1894.
85. Derby Mining Company Shaft No. 2. (Later Federal Lead Company Shaft No. 2).
86. Ellison steam-powered diamond drill.
87. Doe Run Lead Company mill and Shaft No. 1, Doe Run, Missouri.
88. Ellison steam-powered diamond drill.
89. Photograph of the F.P. Graves Indian artifact collection at Doe Run, Missouri, c1894.
90. Bequette Brothers Livery Service, Flat River, Missouri, c1920.
91. Railroad section crew on handcar at Herculaneum, Missouri, 1916. (No negative with this print).
**Index to Biographical Files, folders 70-89**

Most of the clippings in the biographical files are obituaries, but there are also wedding and anniversary announcements and miscellaneous personal notes. Maiden names are given in parentheses.

**Folder 70**
- Adams, Matilda B. (Ruth)
- Adams-Patton
- Albert, Sarah (McHenry)
- Alexander Family — Miscellaneous notes
- Amburgey, Mr. & Mrs. M.D.
- Anderson, Rena (Bentley)
- Antoine, Francis
- Armon, Margaret Emily (House)
- Asburn, William c.
- Asbury, Samuel L.
- Aubuchon, Antha
- Aubuchon, Mrs. Ellis (Pratte)

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- Bader, Mrs. Mary Mae E.
- Baker, Andrew H.
- Baker, Mrs. Fannie (Rekop)
- Baker, Jacob – Last will entered in probate.
- Baker, Mrs. Essie
- Bangert, John
- Barker – Melroy
- Barker-Haile
- Barnhouse, Carico J.
- Barroll, Edward C.
- Barrow-Simms
- Barry, Frances I. (Parks)
- Barry, Isaac W.
- Barton, Albert H.
- Beal, Mr. & Mrs.
- Bean, Columbus
- Bean, John
- Bean, Mrs. Lucinda
- Bean Family Reunion
- Belken, Charles
- Belknap, Mary Ann
- Bell, Steve
- Bell, Mr. & Mrs. F. K.
- Bell, Mrs. Stephen (Josephine Lyons)
- Bender, M. J.
- Benham, Peter A.
- Bennett, William
- Bennick-Withers
- Bequette, Mrs. Jennie (Thomure)
- Bequette, Lewis H.
- Berry, Samuel
- Bess, Mrs. A. J. (Joe Ellen Minter)
- Besson, Leonidas H.
- Bilharz, Blanche
- Bilharz, Oscar
- Bird, James Wesley
Bisby, Jane Ambrose
Black, David M.
Blackwell, William Jr.
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Blake, Ross
Blanton, Charles Henry
Blanton, James
Blanton, Mary Ann
Blanton, Geraldine
Blanton, Ida
Blomeyer, Mr. & Mrs. Lewis
Bloom, Benjamin Daniel
Blue, Moses H.
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Bower, Lasathene Miller
Bowles, Rachel I. (Bartley)
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Bradley, John L.
Bradley, Julia Ann (Poston)
Bradley, Kathryn (Maloy)
Braham, Dr. J. V.
Braham-Graves
Brand, Charles A.
Brand, Mattie Ellen (Boyd)
Brand, W. E.
Brawn, Catherine
Bray, William
Brenon, Jean Gaspard
Brenon-Peppers
Brent, Lillian (Scott)
Briley, Mrs. Harvey
Brewer, James E.
Brewer, Robert James
Bryson, Minerva Griffith (Burks)
Buchanan, Augustus
Buchanan, Elba Rebecca
Buchanan, Emily (Byington)
Buchanan, Mrs. Louisa
Buckley, Daniel roebuck
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Bunte-Chaka
Burch-Emmett
Burks, Amanda Celestial (Marshall)
Burks, Charles
Burks, Mary “Aunt Polly”
Burns, Joseph Edward
Burns, Mrs. Mary A.
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Byington, Cora Rachel (Davis)
Byington, Letha Ann (Richardson)
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Carrow, Zena C.
Carson, William F.
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Chandler, Mrs. John L.
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Charles, Catherine (McCormack)
Clardy, Martin L.
Clay, Voleny C.
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Cloud, Edward R.
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Cole, Mrs. Cerro Gordo
Coleman, Roy Lawrence
Cole, Oral Leslie
Collier-Black
Comins, W. H.
Conner, John M.
Conrad, Wallace A.
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Conway, Rebecca (Orten)
Conway, Virgil
Cook, Margaret (Buchanan)
Cook, Harriet (Yount)
Corbett, A.S.E.
Counts, Mary (Miller)
Counts, Thomas Pleasant
Counts, William Haden
Courtway, Ferdinand
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Craft, John H.
Craft, Ida (Humphrey)
Crader, Jake
Crawley, Sam
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Crow, W. E. “Doc”
Crowder, Emma (Wisdom)
Crutcher, W. F.
Cundliff, Fannie
Cundliff, Narcissa Dee
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Cunningham, Sarah A.
Cunningham, William
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Davis, James Rankin
Davis, Luke
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Dearing, Louis (Johnson)
Decker, Stella (Hurt)
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DeGrant, Artimissa (Crunkleton)
DeGuire, Willis L.
Denman, Nettie Lawrence
Derque, Joe
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Desloge, John M.
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Dillard, Helen (Lee)
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Dix, John
Donaldson, Thomas Otto
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Dooley, John
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Doss, William F.
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Eggerman, Daisy Lee
Eichor, Mary A.
Elser, Forest C.
Elser, Louisa Elizabeth (Ruh)
Elvins, Jesse M.
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Estes, William G.
Evans, Catherine
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Evans, Eliza
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Ferguson, Mary
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Flannery, Nancy
Fleming, Frank
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Fox, Robert
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Fraser, George M.
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Gidley, Bertha
Gidley, Charles Gerhard
Gidley, Peter
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Halter, J. H.
Halter, Martha (Taylor)
Hampton, George W.
Hand, Samuel P.
Haney, Mary (Simpson)
Haney, Sam
Hardin, Louis Morgan
Hardin, Louisa (Bean)
Harrington-Clay
Harris, Mary Etta (Motley)
Harris, Laurel Bryan
Hart, John B.
Hart, Sarah Jane (Walker)
Hatcher, Martha Frances
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Hawn, Ettie (Moore)
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Helber, Edwin J.
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Hendrickson, William Riley
Hendrix, Sarah Ann
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Herod, Barney
Herod, Mary Frances (Carrow)
Hibbitts, Harve
Hibbitts, James K.
Hicks, William E.
Higinbotham, Howard
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Highley, J. D.
Highley, Mary J.
Highley, Melissa Jane
Highley, Otis Eunin
Highley, Rusha Elenora (Moon)
Highley, Sarah Jane
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Hill, Eugene McCormack
Hill, James Tyler
Hill, John
Hill, Lucy (Crow)
Hill, Will Hartman
Hill, Mr. & Mrs. W. R.
Hobbs, William James
Hobbs, Mattie (Bean)
Hobbs, Robert F.
Hoffman, Ruth (Pirkey)
Holloway, Jessie
Holdman, Elmira (Long)
Hohl, Mr. & Mrs. John L.
Holler, Ed
Homes, Lizzie (Fowler)
Hopkins, Jeremiah
Horn, Matilda (Patterson)
Hoskins-Miller
Hoskins, Benjamin Arthur
House, Cordelia (Wishon)
House, Della Mae
House, Samuel
House, Lisbon Adam
House Family Reunion
House, George W.
Howlett, Nathaniel H.
Hubbard, Melvin Monti
Hudson, Dora (McHenry)
Huff, Ruth (Ebeling)
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Hunt, Allen
Hunt, Cora Eliza
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Jenkerson, Sarah Jane (Blades)
Jinkerson, George W.
Johnson, Alice
Johnson, Gust Niles
Johnson, Josiah C.
Johnson, L. G.
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Jones, Dwight Arven
Jones, Jonathan Wyman
Karsch, John A.
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Keay, Mr. & Mrs. John
Keay, William
Kehrman, John
Keith, Mrs. John
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Kindead, Nicholas Andrew
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Knapp, Lulu Evans
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Lassource, “Uncle” John
Laws, Leonard D.
Lawson, Malinda (Robinson)
Layne, Sarah A.
Lee, Mary Ann (Hawkins)
Lee, Charles
Lenz, Perry
Lester, T.H.G.
Linville, Martha (Pirtle)
Linza, Nancy Emaline (Forshee)
Loar, Henry C.
Locke, Andrew J.
London, John C.
London, Leora (Evans)
Long, Albin
Long, Isabella (Murphy)
Long, Otto
Lodholz, John
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McCarty, Maggie (Harris)
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McCarver, Aaron F.
McCord, Mr. & Mrs. Lowell
McCormack, Beatrice A. (Barsotti)
McCormack, George Moody
McCormack, Lottie
McCormack, Martha A.
McCormack, Mildred Josephine
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McCormack, Watson
McCormick, Perry B.
McCormick-Highley
McCoy, David G.
McCoy-Mostiller
McCreary-Hunt
McCreary, Alice (Turley)
McDaniel, Candacy (Smith)
McDaniel, Edward
McEnroe, Matt
McFadden-Poston
McFarland, Edward W.
McFarland, George L.
McFarland, Margaret Ann
McFarland, Mary (Hibbitts)
McFarland Family Reunion
McGee, Nancy Alice (Landereth)
McHenry, Amanda (Merrill)
McHenry, Elam
McHenry, Marvin
McHenry, Merrill C.
McHenry, Milton
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