



Waldemar M. Dressel Papers (R1490)

Collection Number: R1490

Collection Title: Waldemar M. Dressel Papers

Dates: 1946-1986

Creator: Dressel, Waldemar

Abstract: The Waldemar M. Dressel Papers contain publications, photographs, and maps from his years working for the U.S. Bureau of Mines based in Rolla, Missouri.

Collection Size: 0.5 cubic feet
(19 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research, but is store partially offsite. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center – Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Waldemar M. Dressel Papers* (R1490); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Wally Dressel Jr. on August 31, 2017 (Accession No. RA1640).

Processed by: Processed by Kathleen Seale, November 21, 2017

Historical Note:

Waldemar ‘Wally’ M. Dressel was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on May 11, 1921. He attended the Missouri School of Mines graduating with a degree in mining engineering in 1943. He went on to work for the United States Bureau of Mines for 35 years. Early on, he received a temporary

War Service Appointment with the Bureau's Metallurgical Branch Station in Rolla. He also served as the State Liaison Officer for Missouri and was the administrator at the Rolla research center. The Secretary of the Interior granted him the Department of Interior Meritorious Service Award in 1980.

Wally married Laura Blanche Long (1925-2017) on October 9, 1943 in St. Louis, Missouri. Together they had two children. Laura passed away in April 2017 at the age of 91 in Rolla, Missouri. Wally passed away on October 21, 2017, at the age of 96.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following two series:

Personal Papers
Maps

Scope and Content Note:

Personal Papers

This series includes an album that contains photographs from Dressel's time working at the Rolla research center. Notable photographs include Rolla Bureau of Mines staff photographs from 1955, 1957, 1968, 1971, and 1979. Folders 3 and 4 contain the following Report of Investigations written by staff from the Rolla research center, including Dressel. Folders 10-12 contain the personal research Dressel conducted on the properties of various elements and minerals. This includes their usage, different methods of extracting them, and advancements in equipment related to their extraction and processing.

Maps

In this series, folders 16-19 are oversize maps. Wally Dressel used the maps while working for the Bureau of Mines. Many of the maps have notations and additions added by Dressel during his survey work. Folder 19 contains an aerial view of Rolla from 1968, Earthquake hazards map of southeast Missouri, geological maps showing mining and mineral resources for Jasper and Newton Counties. The geological maps also show the location of rural schools including Garden Dell, Cedar Bluff, Coon Foot, High Point, Mineral, Tower of Light, Gregg, Viewbank, Prairie Hill, Twin Grove, Stone, Whitehall, Burton, Liberal, Pleasant Valley, Underwood, and Prairie Flower along with small towns throughout Jasper and Newton Counties.

Container List:

f. 1-14	Personal Papers
Box 001 f. 1-2	Album – Bureau of Mines, 1955-1979
f. 3	Bureau of Mines – Report of Investigations, 1952-1961
f. 4	Bureau of Mines – Report of Investigations, 1975-1986
f. 5	Bureau of Mines – Information Circular, 1928, 1970, 1976, 1985
f. 6	Report of Investigations – Field Test, 1960, 1962
f. 7	Minerals in the Economy of Missouri, 1979

- f. 8 Reclamations of Diamond Grinding Wheels, Springfield, Massachusetts, 1968
- f. 9 Bureau of Mines – Practices in Fire Assaying, 1982
- f. 10 Research – Gold, 1979-1983
- f. 11 Research – Diamonds, 1944-1968
- f. 12 Research – Miscellaneous, 1969
- f. 13 Correspondence, 1967-1971
- f. 14 Phelps County Tourist Map, reprint, 1945
- f. 15-19 **Maps**
 - f. 15 General Highway maps – Maries, Iron, and Franklin Counties, 1930-1950
 - f. 16 Survey and county maps with field notes, 1932-1967
 - f. 17 Survey and mine maps – Jasper County, 1982
 - f. 18 Topographical maps – Kansas and Missouri, 1983
 - f. 19 Oversize maps, 1919-1993

Index:

Index Term	Folder	Image
Dressel, Waldemar, 1921-2017	1-19	Yes
Franklin County (Mo.)	15-16, 18	
Iron County (Mo.)	16, 18	
Jasper County (Mo.)	17, 19	
Maries County (Mo.)	15	
Mines and mining - Missouri	1-19	
Phelps County (Mo.)	1-7, 13-14	
Rolla (Mo.)	1-7, 10-14, 16	
United States. Bureau of Mines.	1-13, 16-19	
Webb City (Mo.)	17	