

Sangamon Valley School District Collection

Collection #4.002

Finding Aid prepared by Tina Horve, Graduate Intern



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COLLECTION SUMMARY

Collection Number: 4.002

Collection Title: Sangamon Valley School District Collection

Dates: 1859-1967

Size: 3 boxes (2 linear feet)

Creator/Collector: Sangamon Valley School District

Acquisition Information: Sangamon Valley CUSD #9, donated in 2020

Accruals: Accruals are not expected

Custodial History: Donated by Sangamon Valley School District administration

Languages: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: Local History Room, Archives and Special Collections Department, Decatur Public Library, Decatur, Illinois.

Processed by: Tina Horve, Graduate Intern, 2022

Conservation Notes: Not applicable

RIGHTS AND ACCESS

Physical Access Restrictions

None

Technical Access Restrictions

None

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INFORMATION FOR RESEARCHERS

Preferred Citation

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Related Collections

None

Separated Material

None

Published Descriptions

None

Location of Originals

Not applicable

Location of Copies

Not applicable

Publication Note

Not applicable

Subject Headings

Sangamon Valley School District, Macon County IL, Niantic IL, Harristown IL, rural schools

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The Sangamon Valley School District is a public school in Macon County, Illinois, serving the Niantic, Harristown and nearby rural communities. The first schoolhouse was built in Niantic in prior to 1858. Additionally, many one-room schoolhouses existed in the rural Niantic area from the late 1800s until the late 1940s.

In May 1920, district elections led to the formation of the Niantic Community High School District 150, with initial board of education members, J. E. Clinton, Carl W. Pritchett, Roy Pope, Rolla Dragstrum and J. B. Faris. In 1924, construction work on a new high school building commenced, with the building opening for students in 1925.

Due to changes in school funding, demands for better education, better school transportation, and diminishing numbers in rural schoolhouses, high school districts began to integrate the rural one-room schoolhouses into larger Community Unit Districts. The Niantic Community Unit District was voted on and authorized in December 1947. The unit district began operation in July 1948 with a \$10.5 million assessed value and enrolling 486 students in grades 1-12. The schools included in the district consolidation were Niantic, Harristown, and the county schools of Burkey, Acom, West Stringtown, Wells, East Springtown, Dingman, Bend, Westfield, Union, Hill, and Maple Grove.

For more information on the formation of the Sangamon Valley School District and the historic one-room schoolhouses in the Niantic-Harristown area, see *Rural Schools of Macon County*, Macon County Historical Society, 1978 or *Niantic Centennial: July 16-17, 1954* [book]. Prairie State Tribune, 1954.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains documents and record books from the Sangamon Valley School District, including records from the one-room schoolhouses that were incorporated into the district. The collection is 2 linear feet and includes historical information on the school district.

The collection was donated by Sangamon Valley School District administration in 2020. There did not appear to be any sort of order to the collection, so it was organized with the researcher in mind.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

I. Organization History

This series contains organizational information about the Sangamon Valley School District, including various land purchases, construction projects.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
History of the School System	Box 1	FF 1
Legality of the School System		FF 2

II. District Schools

This series contains record books and other materials from historic schools in the Sangamon Valley School District

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Dingman School – School Board Record Book, April 1905-April 1914		FF 3
Dingman School – School Board Record Book, April 1916-April 1927		FF 4
Dingman School – Loose Items from School Board Record Book, April 1916-April 1927		FF 5
Dingman School – Blank Forms		FF 6
Dingman School – Certificates of Levy, 1930-1935		FF 7
Dingman School – Correspondence and Notes, 1918-1935		FF 8
Dingman School – Financial Papers, 1920s		FF 9

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Dingman School – Financial Papers, 1930s		FF 10
Dingman School – School Census, 1932, 1934, 1935		FF 11
Dingman School – Teaching Contract of Mary Foster, 1930, 1932, 1933, 1934		FF 12
Dingman School – Loan Clearinghouse Subscription Forms		FF 13
East Stringtown School – Student List, 1918-1943		FF 14
Maple Grove School – Loose Items from School Board Record Book, 1859-1939		FF 15
Niantic School – Loose Items from School Board Record Book, 1867-1888		FF 16
Niantic School – School Board Record Book, August 1896-August 1888		FF 17
Niantic School – School Board Record Book, October 1937-July 1946		FF 18
Niantic School – Loose Items from School Board Record Book, October 1937-July 1946		FF 19
Niantic School – School Board Record Book, July 1946-June 1948		FF 20
Niantic School – Loose Items from School Board Record Book, July 1946-June 1948		FF 21
Niantic School – Teacher Classroom Workbook, 1891	Box 2	FF 1
Niantic-Harristown High School – School Board Record Book, April 13, 1954-April 8, 1955		FF 2
Niantic-Harristown High School – Class Reunion, 1967		FF 3
Niantic-Harristown School District Record Book, November 1955-October 1956		FF 4
Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1914		FF 5
Union School – Student Listing, 1883-1949		FF 6

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Union School – Student Listing, 1916-1936		FF 7
Westfield School – School Board Record Book, April 1921-April 1946		FF 8
Westfield School – Township Treasurer’s Statement, 1936-1943		FF 9
Westfield School – Financials, 1940s		FF 10

III. Oversized Materials

This series contains oversized collection materials.

Folder Name	Box #	Folder #
Township Treasurer’s Account Book, Township 16, Year Ending June 30, 1920	Box 3	FF 1
Township Treasurer’s Account Book, Township 16, Year Ending June 30, 1926		FF 2
Township Treasurer’s Account Book, Township 16, Year Ending June 30, 1927		FF 3
Maple Grove School – School Board Record Book, 1859-1939		FF 4
Niantic School – School Board Record Book, 1867-1888		FF 5