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Collection 349
Pine Grove Farm Collection
c.1904-c.1923

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History

Pine Grove Farm was a 50-acre poultry farm owned by Andrew H. Ashton, located off Princeton Avenue. Some receipts list the business address as 1275 Princeton Avenue.

Scope and Content Notes

This collection contains mostly receipts from local companies with whom the Pine Grove Farm conducted business. Also included are other business records such as cancelled checks, land surveys, and tax records. There are a handful of personal records such as medical bills and receipts for household items such as food and furniture. The businesses represented were mainly from the Trenton area, however there are receipts from states as close as Pennsylvania and as far as Ohio. Persons researching the history of business in Trenton will find this a good collection for learning which businesses were in operation during the time period, as well as which businesses catered to the farming industry in the area.

Series Description

Series I: Financial Records, 1910-1923

This series features checks made out to different businesses by A.H. Ashton, as well as promissory notes, many of which have the signature ripped off signifying that the debt was paid.

Series II: Receipts

This series is divided into sub-series by business name when there were enough receipts to create its own subseries. Singular receipts are filed in the General (Local) and General (Not Local) folders, alphabetically by business name.

A: General, Local – This subseries contains receipts from a plethora of different businesses around the Trenton area, including M.C. Mulligan & Son, who sold lime, coal, and black powder; David Lawshe who owned the Lehigh and Schuylkill Coal Company at 436 Calhoun Street; and Hutchinson’s Coal Yard at the corner of New Willow Street. There are also a number of receipts from Samuel Lederer & Son, who specialized in the manufacturing of complete fertilizers for all crops. Other businesses included printers, office equipment, grain and silo filling, coal and wood dealers, poultry feed, blacksmiths, and farm machinery. The folder contains some receipts where the business cannot be ascertained.

B: General, Not Local – This subseries includes receipts from companies mostly outside the Trenton area that did business with the Farm. There are multiple receipts from companies in Ohio, such as the Franklin Paint Company and the Parker Refining Company, both based in Cleveland. The Cyphers Incubator Company in Buffalo, N.Y. supplied brooders and poultry supplies, while the Pomona United Nurseries in Dansville, N.Y. supplied plants and trees. This folder also contains a 1-page list of Pomona’s stock.

C: John M. Ashton, 1904-1909 – Seller of grain, feed, hay, and straw

D: Baugh & Sons Company, 1904-1923 – Farm suppliers based in Philadelphia

E: Crozer Coal Company, 1913-1918 – Located on North Warren Street, Trenton

F: DeBlois Tire & Rubber Company, 1913-1922

G: J.A.H. Delp & Son, 1904-1921 – Agricultural equipment, Pennington & Frazier Streets

H: D.P. Forst & Company, 1918-1919 – Wholesale grocer, selling mainly milk and corn meal to the Farm

I: Gross Brothers, 1918-1922 – Seller of flour, feed, hay, and straw

J: Samuel Heath Company, 1911-1922 – Seller of lumber and building materials

K: Wm. H. Ivens’ Sons Company, 1910-1913 – General engineers and machinists

L: Martin C. Ribsam, 1904-1923 – Seedsman, florist, dealer in garden and farming implements

M: Levi B. Risdon Milling Company, 1905-1918

N: Satterthwaite’s Seed & Hardware, 1906-1923 – Specialized in agricultural and horticultural implements and seeds of all kinds. Also includes an envelope with a receipt, dated 2 August 1921, postmarked 31 October 1921, with a fence brochure.

O: J.E. Stevenson Company, 1905-1910 – Specialized in lumber, coal, wood, salt, flour, feed, hay, and grain

P: Stults Brothers, 1906-1920 – Seller of hay, grain, straw, and feed of all kinds

Q: Taylor Provision Company, 1904-1907 – Specialized in livestock and fertilizers

R: A. Thompson & Company, 1905-1917 – Flour mill located on South Warren Street

S: Toman Brothers Company, 1910-1923 – Electrical contractors and wholesale and retail dealers in automobiles, bicycles, electrical supplies, guns, and fishing tackle

T: Trenton Grain & Hay Company, 1906-1921 – Located on North Montgomery Street

U: F.E. Weeden & Company, 1907-1912 – Dealt with contractors' supplies, paints, oils, glass, stoves, and ranges; located on North Warren Street

V: Freight Bills – This subseries documents the transactions between various freight companies such as the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Philadelphia & Reading Railway and the Farm

W: Newspapers – This subseries contains receipts for what appear to be advertisements taken out in local newspapers, including the Trenton Sunday Advertiser, Trenton Times, and Trenton Evening Times

X: Vehicles – This subseries contains receipts for automobile parts and repairs from multiple different repair businesses, including the Robert C. Manning Company on State Street, the Howard Cycle Company on North Broad Street, and the Barber & Hearnen Automotive Electricians on South Warren; see also Subseries F: DeBlois Tire & Rubber Company and Subseries S: Toman Brothers Company.

Series III: Property Taxes and Surveys

This folder contains the tax records from the City of Trenton (1906-1916) and Township of Ewing (1909-1921), as well as receipts from various land surveyors. Also included is an agreement between A. Howton Ashton and wife, and Charles A. Brock and wife for a right of way on New Willow Street (December 1920).

Series IV: Insurance

This series contains receipts from real estate and insurance brokers, including Ashton & Pratt (1908-1913)

Series V: Personal Papers

This series contains material related to the Ashton family as opposed to the operation of the Farm. Two folders contain receipts for household purchases such as food, plates, and furniture,

and receipts for medical visits. A third folder contains material related to A.H. Ashton's membership in the Patriotic Order Sons of America, Washington Camp, No. 6 (1912-1921).

Container List:

Box / Folder / Contents

- 1 / 1 / Financial Records, Checks
- 1 / 2 / Financial Records, Promissory Notes
- 1 / 3 / Receipts, General (Local)
- 1 / 4 / Receipts, General (Not Local)
- 1 / 5 / Receipts, John M. Ashton
- 1 / 6 / Receipts, Baugh & Sons Company
- 1 / 7 / Receipts, Crozer Coal Company
- 1 / 8 / Receipts, DeBlois Tire & Rubber Company
- 1 / 9 / Receipts, J.A.H. Delp & Son
- 1 / 10 / Receipts, D.P. Forst & Company
- 1 / 11 / Receipts, Gross Brothers
- 1 / 12 / Receipts, Samuel Heath Company
- 1 / 13 / Receipts, Wm. H. Ivens' Sons Company
- 1 / 14 / Receipts, Martin C. Ribsam
- 1 / 15 / Receipts, Levi B. Risdon Milling Company
- 1 / 16 / Receipts, Satterthwaite's Seed & Hardware
- 1 / 17 / Receipts, J.E. Stevenson Company
- 1 / 18 / Receipts, Stults Brothers
- 1 / 19 / Receipts, Taylor Provision Company
- 1 / 20 / Receipts, A. Thompson & Company
- 1 / 21 / Receipts, Toman Brothers Company
- 1 / 22 / Receipts, Trenton Grain & Hay Company
- 1 / 23 / Receipts, F.E. Weeden & Company
- 1 / 24 / Receipts, Freight Bills
- 1 / 25 / Receipts, Newspapers
- 1 / 26 / Receipts, Vehicles
- 1 / 27 / Property Taxes and Surveys
- 1 / 28 / Insurance
- 1 / 29 / Personal Papers, Receipts, Household
- 1 / 30 / Personal Papers, Medical
- 1 / 31 / Personal Papers, Patriotic Order Sons of America, Washington Camp, No. 6

Provenance

Several of the folders in this collection had been created prior to 2015 and were filed in the "M[ini] A[rchives]-Business" collection. These folders retain their labelling. It is assumed that the entire collection was received from the family.