

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

MANUSCRIPT RECORD

MS 033

O. A. Abbott family papers

Correspondence, clippings, diary, etc.; 1861-1980

HISTORICAL NOTE

Both Othman Ali Abbott and Elizabeth Meleta Griffin were raised as abolitionists, believing slavery to be a national sin. As a young Illinois farm boy, he once walked 10 miles to town and back at night to hear a popular anti-slavery orator. Elizabeth a, Quaker, wore black on the day in 1859 when John Brown, the fanatical abolitionist, was hanged for treason, captured and tried after he and his followers had seized the Federal arsenal at Harper's Ferry in Virginia.

O. A. Abbott was born at Hartley, Canada on September 19, 1842. The family later lived in DeKalb County, Illinois.

At age 19, Othman Abbott enlisted as a private in Company I, Ninth Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, and emerged four years later as a first lieutenant, twice wounded in battle. His wounds would never allow him to farm again. As his younger brother, Marcus, also a Civil War vet, once joked: "The rebel who shot you at Nashville spoiled a good farmer to make a poor lawyer." In fact, had it not been for a small diary that Othman carried in a breast pocket of his military blouse during the 1864 Battle of Nashville (Tenn.), this career would have never materialized. The rebel bullet, no doubt somewhat spent, struck the diary and was deflected away from Othman's heart. It did, however, crash into his ribs, a serious but not fatal strike. Lizzie lost her only brother and three of her cousins in the war.

Lt. Abbott was discharged from the Union Army October 31, 1865. After the war, Othman read law in the office of an attorney in his hometown of Belvidere, Illinois, and had passed the bar. Then he and his brother Marcus headed for California in 1867.

West of the new railroad town of Grand Island, the military had closed the road in face of Indian hostilities. He returned to Grand Island, which he felt had looked promising, and became the town's first practicing attorney. Brother Marcus went on to California, but returned to Hall County where he became a successful farmer south of Wood River.

Elizabeth Griffin was born in DeKalb County, Illinois, on January 20, 1845. Lizzie was a product of Rockford (Ill.) Female Seminary (now Rockford College), and became a school teacher. Once described as a "woman of sparkling wit, mental brilliance and indefatigable energy," she took up the cause of woman's suffrage with steadfast devotion. She had met Othman while attending high school in Belvidere, but romance did not blossom until his return visit to Illinois after locating in Nebraska. They were married February 9, 1873. At the time of her marriage to Othman Abbott, she was a highly regarded high school principal.

When the Nebraska legislature submitted to voters a woman's suffrage amendment to the state constitution in 1882, Lizzie, by now an officer in the Nebraska Woman's Suffrage Association, and Othman worked for its passage. But the issue was defeated at the polls.

The Grand Island suffragettes still had funds left over from the local campaign and wanted to continue the fight. Lizzie, more practical, realized that while suffrage would eventually come, the time was not right. She persuaded the local group to put the money to another good use, the creation of a public library. Her view prevailed, and the city's first public

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

library was opened in the office of attorney Henry Clifford. Lizzie was a member of the Grand Island library board for 48 years, 17 of those years as the board's president.

Other causes championed by Lizzie included the first public park in Grand Island, the Soldiers and Sailors Home (today's State Veterans Home), and the Grand Island Women's Club.

Othman, or "O. A." Abbott as he was formally identified, was once described as a "man of outspoken, vigorous and independent opinion throughout his career." In politics, he was a staunch Republican. Informally, he was often known as "Governor" Abbott, a fitting sobriquet considering that he became Nebraska's first lieutenant governor, 1877-1879 under Governor Silas Garber, who was frequently absent from the state leaving Othman as acting governor.

Perhaps, more notable, Othman was one of only nine men elected to both the state's constitutional conventions of 1871 and 1875, helping shape the state's structure of government. He held the office of Hall County attorney in the early days, and when Grand Island was incorporated as a town in late 1872, he was the first to sign the petition, a document which he had been appointed to draw up. Dedicated to education, he not only helped to construct the town's first public schoolhouse but also became the school's first teacher. And he served several terms on the Grand Island school board. In 1872, he was chosen to complete an unexpired term in the State Senate.

A devoted member of the G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic), that once formidable fraternity of Union Army veterans of the Civil War, he was popular among his old comrades.

In his law practice, he specialized in land litigation, and his widely-acclaimed expertise in this field took him over much of Nebraska. As early as April of 1871 Abbott was advertising as a land agent, selling both farmland and city lots. Some of the town lots were in Arnold & Abbott's Addition to Grand Island. Abbott continued to serve as a land agent for the Burlington & Missouri Railroad as late as February 1884. In 1884 his business partner was a Mr. C. Breckenridge.

Othman and Lizzie had two daughters and two sons. The daughters, Edith and Grace, became pioneering luminaries in social welfare and education, winning national acclaim. Edith (1876-1957) became the first woman dean of a graduate school at an American university, the University of Chicago's graduate school of social service administration. Grand Island's Edith Abbott Memorial Library honors her name.

Grace (1878-1939) is now enshrined in Nebraska's Hall of Fame and was once a strong candidate for the office of Secretary of Labor. In the 1917-1934 period, she was associated with the U.S. Children's Bureau, Department of Labor, and became bureau chief in 1921. She later joined her older sister at the University of Chicago as professor of public welfare administration. Grand Island's Grace Abbott Park is named in her honor.

The two sons, O. A. Abbott Jr. (1874-1954), known as "Ottie," and Arthur G. Abbott (1880-1969), followed their father and chose legal careers. Both became prominent Grand Island lawyers. Ottie, who found his legal calling as a court reporter, 11th judicial district, was a four-term mayor of Grand Island, three consecutive terms, 1927-1932, and again, 1939-1940.

Of the four children, only Ottie married. His wife, Ella Bartenbach, was a daughter of George Bartenbach, founder of Grand Island's Bartenbach Opera House. Wed in 1910, they had one child, Charlotte. Ella died in 1918, a victim of an influenza epidemic that swept the nation. Ottie never remarried.

The 62-year-old partnership of Othman and Lizzie ended with his death in June, 1935. She lived on until 1941, dying at the age of 93. The couple's only grandchild, Charlotte, died in

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

March of 1988, aged 74. The family home, constructed in 1884, was auctioned off in 1976 to benefit the Edith Abbott Memorial Library in Grand Island. Following the donation of many items to the Stuhr Museum, the house was demolished.

Much of this information was gleaned from O. A. Abbott's Recollections of a Pioneer Lawyer, published by the Nebraska State Historical Society in 1929, and the manuscripts of his daughter, Edith.

Edith Abbott served as assistant principal for Grand Island high school for several years until her resignation in July 1899. She attended Brownell Hall in Omaha and graduated from the University of Nebraska in 1901 and later received a Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago (1905). She taught in the Lincoln high school in 1902.

Her mother's concern for the oppressed, her interest in progressive ideas and social reform, her pacifist beliefs, and her commitment to the rights of women were significant influences in Grace Abbott's development.

Grace Abbott graduated from Grand Island College in 1898 and then studied at the University of Nebraska (post graduate degree in 1903). For eight years she taught in the Grand Island high school before leaving Nebraska to pursue graduate study at the University of Chicago. There she lived at Hull House where she gave spirited leadership in improving the working conditions of women and men, in advancing the right of women to suffrage, and in directing the newly founded and innovative Immigrants' Protective League.

In 1916 Grace Abbott went to Washington, D.C., where she administered the first federal child labor legislation. Her farsighted work in devising a method of collaborative federal-state-local relationships laid the groundwork for today's pattern of federal and state cooperation in social welfare.

In 1921 Grace Abbott was appointed by the President of the United States to the position of Chief of the U.S. Children's Bureau. Today she is best known for her dynamic direction of this agency during its "glory days" of the 1920s and 1930s. She directed wide-ranging investigations of the conditions of child life; she gained national and international distinction in relation to problems of child labor, infant and maternal health, the juvenile courts, the development of social services, and the formulation and enactment of a system of social security. She was the American representative to the League of Nations Advisory Committee on Traffic in Women and Children and to the International Labor Organization where her influence was impressive.

Grace Abbott left Washington in 1934 to become Professor of Public Welfare Administration at the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration where her sister, Edith, was Dean and in her own right a distinguished scholar and public welfare reformer. Until her death in 1939 Grace Abbott continued to provide distinguished leadership in the advancement of national and international social welfare. She was the recipient of numerous honorary degrees and special awards in recognition of her notable career.

On October 13, 1978, a bust of Grace Abbott, internationally known social worker and social reformer, was placed in the Nebraska Hall of Fame in the State Capitol. This event occurred a few short weeks before the hundredth anniversary of her birth.

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

DESCRIPTION

Correspondence

- 1870-1929 [several relating to Mrs. O. A. Abbott's involvement with the Women Suffrage Association; copy of letter dated March 10, 1883 from Nebraska State Historical Society]
- 1880-1960
- 1970-1980

Manuscripts

- Civil War diary, 1864
- Ledger; Plains Indian art; originally journal of C. W. Jackson, 1866 [M1988-178-1]
- Speeches, 1890-1906 [75-31-49]
- Grace Abbott biography by Edith Abbott [L1984-52-2; L1984-52-3; L1984-52-4, L1984-52-5; L1984-52-6 to L84-52-14]
- Sophonisba (Preston) Breckinridge biography [L84-52-1]

Printed matter

- 1890s
- News clippings, 1920s-1930s [L1983-63-4; 1964-8-3; L1983-152-32]
- Hall of Fame clippings, 1974-1978 [L83-152-6 to 29; M84-108-7 to 8]
- Death and illness, newsclippings, 1939 [L83-152-1 to 4; M84-108-9]
- Miscellaneous [auction sale bill]
- Woman suffrage leaflets: 1889, 1890, 1893, 1895 [M85-95-1]
- News clippings; O.A. Abbott family home, 1970-1980

- Book; "The Family Tree of John Abbott," 1964
- Obituary-memorial service card for Arthur Abbott, 1969
- Materials by or about Grace Abbott, 1929-1978 [L83-152 30 to 39; M84-108-10 to 21]
- Children Bureau reports, 1923-1930 [M84-126-1 to 12]
- Christmas cards [some with drawing of Abbott house] [1988-9]
- Calling card; Mrs. Othman A. Abbott
- Announcement, wedding; Mr. and Mrs. George Thummel, September 3, 1873 [with envelope] [1964-12-2]
- Announcement, wedding; Mr. and Mrs. George Thummel, March 18, 1891
- Books; "The Soldiers Pocketbook," 1861 [hymns, prayers, conduct]; "Soldiers Friend," 1865 [from U.S. Sanitary Commission]
- Card, matriculation; Arthur Abbott, Grand Island College; September 6, 1899 [found in book 1971-0023-206]
- Card; from Mr. and Mrs. Warren F. Thummel, Clarinda, Iowa [1964-12-1a with envelope (-1) and (-2) calling card for Eda Hepburn
- Invitation; welcoming home at Liederkrantz Hall of Dr. C. W. Towar and wife; November 19, 1878 (with envelope) [1964-12-4]
- Poster; officers and orators of the N. C. O. A., 1900-1901 (including A. G. Abbott)
- Illustration; Hull House courtyard, Chicago [P1985-0052-002]

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

- Newsletter; S. S. A. [University of Chicago]; Edith Abbott Memorial Issue; December 1957 [1962-0303-004]
- Booklet; South Dakota Children's Aid [L1983-0152-035]

Business records

- Legal papers: jury lists, 1870s, etc. [1962-350-2]
- Fee book, clerk of district court; 1868- [1962-350-1] [oldest entries by John Wallichs]

Miscellaneous

- Miscellaneous
- Scrapbook of Charlotte Abbott (many foreign postcards) [1975-31-70] (includes shipboard list from travels to Europe in 1925)
- Drawings of a cat

Personal business records

- Estate of Arthur Abbott
- Deposit receipt; Citizens' National Bank; May 15, 1885 [1973-17-2]

Scrapbook contents [1986-78-1] [over 140 photographs removed for preservation and filed in Abbott collection] contents of scrapbook grouped by page number, 2 pages per folder:

- Pages 1-2:
 - letter from Nebraska State Historical Society, 1980
 - family tree chart/program from family dinner, 1939
- Pages 3-4:
 - typewritten family tree
 - letter/genealogy on School for the Blind, 1929
- Pages 5-6:
 - handwritten family tree
- Pages 7-8:
 - report cards for Belvidere union school, 1859-1860
 - newspaper clipping (reprint of 1927 story)
- Pages 9-10:
 - State of Illinois certificate documenting O. A. Abbott's Civil War service,
 - 1926
 - note on Civil War diaries, relating existence of 4 diaries at one time
- Pages 11-12:
 - handwritten note relating to O. A. Abbott book
- Pages 13-14:
 - handwritten note about family letters
 - xerox copy of letters from 1870, 1872
 - newspaper clipping with reprint of early Grand Island view, 1974
- Pages 15-16:
 - envelope, 1873
 - newspaper clipping "Fire Destroys Empty House" with handwritten note
 - marriage invitation; St. Peter's Church; O. A. Abbott/Lizzie Griffin, 1873

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

- calling card, Lizzie Griffin
- Pages 17-18:
 - letter from O. A. Abbott to Lizzie; July 7, 1872
 - letter from O. A. Abbott to Lizzie; September 11, 1872
- Pages 19-20:
 - handwritten note for portrait of O. A., Jr.
 - booklet on 100th anniversary of Ashlar Lodge with note from Bayard Paine
 - envelopes with letterhead of O. A. Abbott as insurance agent
 - certificate of election of O. A. Abbott as lieutenant governor; 1876
- Pages 21-22:
 - invitation with envelope; opening ceremonies of the International Exhibition at Philadelphia; April 2, 1877
 - invitation with envelope; reception for 15th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. George E. Wilson; July 23, 1877
 - campaign ribbon of O. A. Abbott
 - letter to Lizzie Abbott from Mary Holmes; August 30, 1883
 - promissory note, O. A. Abbott to C. F. Bentley; August 7, 1882
- Pages 23-24:
 - engraving of Abbott house
- Pages 25-26:
 - invitation; social hop at opera house; April 10, 1885
- Pages 27-28:
 - invitation for David Ackerman's 9th birthday; November 27, 1888
 - invitation with envelope for Mabel Moore's 7th birthday; June 1
 - handwritten note about Gahan family
 - calling card, for Edith Abbott's 4th birthday; September 25
 - invitation for O. A. Abbott's 10th anniversary; September 13 [1883]
 - card; "Compliments of Vina and June Gahan"
 - cards, for Grace Abbott's "fifth anniversary;" November 17, 1883
- Pages 29-30:
 - subscription card/bylaws of Western Unitarian Sunday School Society, 1882
 - invitation with envelope; second annual Knights of Labor ball; December 17, 1886
 - memorial card for Mrs. Emeline Griffin; January 1, 1887
- Pages 31-32:
 - program; first annual reunion of 9th Illinois Cavalry; 1886
 - program; seventh annual reunion of 9th Illinois Cavalry; 1892
 - program; eleventh annual reunion of 9th Illinois Cavalry; 1896
 - handwritten note on 9th Illinois reunions
- Pages 33-34:
 - program for dance at fifth annual reunion of 9th Illinois Cavalry; 1890
 - handwritten note about dance program
 - letter from John Hoffman, secretary to the governor, to Mrs. O. A. Abbott; July 6, 1886 [invitation to national conference]
- Pages 35-36:

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

- letter from Grand Island Public Library to Mrs. O. A. Abbott; May 30, 1888
- postcard from Grand Island Public Library to Mrs. O. A. Abbott; May 27, 1888
- invitation for fifth anniversary of Fred Wiebe; September 5, 1889
- invitation for reception with the Bakers and Hanafords; February 20, 1889
- invitation with envelope for wedding of Ralph Horth; August 8, 1888
- handwritten note on Horth family
- invitation with envelope for wedding of Achille Howells; June 20
- Pages 37-38:
 - invitation with envelope for wedding of Ralph Breckenridge; September 19, 1888
 - petition of Hall County voters for women's right to vote; ca. 1882 [separate pages for men and women; includes Maggie Mobley]
 - handwritten note about petition
- Pages 39-40:
 - invitation to O. A. Abbott house; February 6, 1890
 - campaign card of O. A. Abbott for district judge; ca. 1890
- Pages 41-42:
 - invitation with envelope for wedding of William Pearne to Adda Laine; December 16, 1893
 - handwritten letter from O. A. Abbott, Jr., to Mrs. O. A. Abbott, Sr.; October 2, 1890 [xerox copy]
 - handwritten note about letter from 1890
- Pages 43-44:
 - commencement program for Grand Island High School; 1895
 - commencement program for Grand Island High School; 1896
- Pages 45-46:
 - letter; Capt. Geo. Roeder to Adjutant General, Nebraska National Guard; request for discharge of A. G. Abbott on parents' objection; May 10, 1898
 - special order; Adjutant General, Nebraska National Guard; discharge of Arthur Abbott on parents' objection; May 10, 1898
 - small U. S. flag, cloth
- Pages 47-48:
 - advertising card for Milwaukee Dime Museum
- Pages 49-50:
 - letter from Department of the Interior to O. A. Abbott; March 17, 1899
 - letter from U. S. Patent Office to O. A. Abbott acknowledging his registration as an attorney; October 27, 1900
 - campaign poster; O. A. Abbott for county judge
 - campaign card; O. A. Abbott for county judge
- Pages 51-52:
 - campaign posters; "Save Old Court House Square Vote "NO"
 - handwritten note about National Guard items
 - typewritten paper; "John Brown: The Radical" [apparently written by G. Abbott, 1901]
- Pages 53-54:
 - commission of O. A. Abbott, Jr., as officer in Grand Island Home Guards; by Gov. Keith Neville; May 22, 1918

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

- Pages 55-56:
 - calling cards of Mrs. O. A. Abbott
 - handwritten notes on family items donated to Stuhr Museum
 - postcard [not used or postmarked]
- Pages 57-58:
 - invitation with envelope for wedding of O. A. Abbott, Jr., to Ella Bartenbach; September 14, 1910
 - handwritten German prose from Johannes Thiessen
 - newspaper clippings with illustrations of Bartenbach Opera House and Hall County courthouse; 1910
 - cards; eleventh judicial district; with court terms for 1914
 - cards; eleventh judicial district; with court terms for 1917
 - cards; eleventh judicial district; with court terms for 1919
 - card; Grand Island board of education; 1914-1915
 - card; Grand Island board of education; 1916-1917
- Pages 59-60:
 - invitation with envelope and RSVP card for reception for the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States; Philadelphia; 1915
 - affidavit; O. A. Abbott to Bureau of Pensions; January 2, 1915 [documentation of Civil War service and family members]
- Pages 61-62:
 - statement; letterhead of Grand Island Home Guard Company [with list of uniform pieces and equipment for ordering]
 - certificate from War Department to O. A. Abbott, Jr. for service as government appeal agent during World War I
 - envelope; from Dr. J. M. Birkner of Lincoln; to O. A. Abbott, Jr., secretary of Grand Island Home Guard; postmarked June 25
 - notice; explanation of food production plans from Nebraska State Council of Defense; ca. 1918
 - certificate commissioning O. A. Abbott, Jr., chairman of Hall County Council of Defense; from Gov. Keith Neville; December 22, 1917
- Pages 63-64:
 - letter from Gov. Keith Neville to O. A. Abbott, Jr. informing him of his appointment as government appeal agent for Hall County; December 22, 1917
 - letter with envelope from Nebraska State Council of Defense to O. A. Abbott, Jr. announcing his appointment as chairman of the Hall County Council of Defense; December 22, 1917
 - calling card for O. A. Abbott, Jr.
- Pages 65-66:
 - envelope from U. S. Department of Labor to O. A. Abbott, Jr., "Bureau for Returning Soldiers and Sailors;" postmarked June 12, 1919
 - calling card for Mrs. O. A. Abbott
 - campaign card for James Hanna, candidate for district judge
 - newspaper clipping; announcement of death and obituary of Mrs. O. A. Abbott, Jr.; November 7, 1918
- Pages 67-68:

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

- envelope address to Miss Lizzie Griffin [partial; stamp removed]
- postcard; from O. A. Abbot, Jr. to Miss C. Elizabeth Abbott; postmarked Bartlett, NE; April 29, 1920
- card; Grand Island city council; 1928
- Pages 69-70:
 - calling card of Arthur G. Abbott
 - campaign card for Arthur G. Abbott for deputy county attorney
 - certificate of appointment of O. A. Abbott as delegate to the convention for the ratification of the League of Nations; May 31, 1919
- Pages 71-72:
 - card of condolence with envelope from Henry Bartenbach family to Abbott family; postmarked May 3, 1921
 - postcard announcing meeting of the City Improvement Association; March 2, 1922
 - newspaper clippings (glued to page): obituary of William Hagge with handwritten notes about him
 - newspaper clipping (reprinted from 1924) about visit of Miss Edith Abbott
- Pages 73-74:
 - letter of condolence from the board of the Grand Island Public Library to Mrs. Abbott; December 3, [ca. 1922]
 - newspaper clipping (glued to page); 50th anniversary of O. A. Abbott; February 1923
 - newspaper clipping; 50th anniversary of O. A. Abbott; from Omaha World-Herald
- Pages 75-76:
 - envelope from Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States to Othman A. Abbott; postmarked 1925
 - circulars; from Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States; 1925
 - notice; from Bureau of Pensions [form letter]; July 30, 1903
 - certificate; from Bureau of Pensions to Othman A. Abbott; April 19, 1913
 - notice; from Bureau of Pensions to Othman A. Abbott; May 26, 1926
 - notice; from Bureau of Pensions to Othman A. Abbott; May 13, 1926
- Pages 77-78:
 - newspaper clipping (reprint from April 1927) about O. A. Abbott, Jr. election as mayor
- Pages 79-80:
 - calling card for Grace Abbott
 - poster for Labor Day celebration at Stolley Park [undated, ca. 1928]
 - newspaper clipping about Liederkrantz placement on National Register
- Pages 81-82:
 - newspaper clipping about Mrs. Abbott's resignation from library board, January 21, 1932
 - letter from library board thanking Mrs. Abbott for her many years on the board; June 6, 1933
 - letter from Nebraska Assoc. of Stage Employees and Motion Picture Machine Operators to O. A. Abbott; February 15, 1936

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

- U. S. Treasury payment to O. A. Abbott under the Agricultural Adjustment Act; November 8, 1935; amount--49¢ [cancelled in 1945]
- Pages 83-84:
 - newspaper clippings of obituary of O. A. Abbott; June 25, 1935
 - letter (typewritten) to O. A. Abbott on Charlotte's stationery; postmarked New York City, February 21, 1945
- Pages 85-86:
 - newspaper clipping of O. A. Abbott's election as mayor; April 5, 1939
 - letter in application for widow's pension (typewritten carbon copy); June 1935
 - letter from A. G. Abbott to Commissioner of Pensions (typewritten carbon copy); July 17, 1935
 - notice of award of death benefits from Veterans Administration to Mrs. Elizabeth M. Abbott; July 31, 1935
 - letter (typewritten) from Bayard Paine to O. A. Abbott, Jr.; June 26, 1935; (on letterhead of Nebraska Supreme Court)
 - letter from Bureau of Pensions; July 3, 1926
 - letter from Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Company to A. G. Abbott; July 1, 1935; regarding policy for O. A. Abbott, Sr.
 - sticker for Frontier and Harvest Festival at Grand Island, October 6-7-8
- Pages 87-88:
 - newspaper clipping of death of Desha Breckinridge; March 19, 1935
 - campaign brochure for O. A. Abbott for district judge; November 3, 1936
- Pages 89-90:
 - letter (typewritten) from Arthur Abbott to Edith and Grace; March 23, 1929
 - campaign card for O. A. Abbott for mayor
 - newspaper clipping (reprint of article from September 20, 1930) about O.A. Abbott's 88th birthday
- Pages 91-92:
 - campaign card for O. A. Abbott for mayor
 - campaign card for O. A. Abbott for mayor (reelection)
 - newspaper clipping of election of O. A. Abbott as mayor; April 5, 1939
 - newspaper clipping of Armistice Day program; November 11, 1937 (at Thedford, NE)
 - newspaper clipping with campaign advertisement for O. A. Abbott; March 24, 1939
 - newspaper clipping of Mayor Abbott's proposal about airport; April 14, 1939
 - newspaper clipping of election of O. A. Abbott as mayor; April 7, 1939
 - newspaper clipping of Hall County collecting taxes; November 16, 1937
 - newspaper clipping of 75th anniversary committee; July 5, 1932
- Pages 93-94:
 - magazine article about Grace Abbott; from Survey Mid-monthly; November 1939
 - invitation to dedication of new Grand Island city hall; June 14, 1940
- Pages 95-96:
 - newspaper clipping of obituary of Mrs. O. A. Abbott; December 1, 1941
 - greeting card (front only) from Abbott family; 1941
 - booklet on new Grand Island city hall; 1940

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

- Pages 97-98:
 - newspaper clippings of obituaries for Mrs. O. A. Abbott
 - newspaper clipping of editorial about Mrs. O. A. Abbott
 - program; fellowship dinner honoring Grace Abbott; Hotel Cornhusker; April 18, 1942
- Pages 99-100:
 - newspaper clipping of University of Chicago reunion; December 8, 1947
 - newspaper clipping of obituary for Theodore Reimers; January 11, 1949
 - magazine article about University of Nebraska homecoming luncheon; November 1947
- Pages 101-102:
 - certificate to O. A. Abbott from Kiwanis International; December 31, 1946
 - letter from Adlai Stevenson for Governor Committee to Edith Abbott; November 11, 1948
 - letter from Russell of Hull House, Chicago, to Miss Abbott; June 26, 1952
- Pages 103-104:
 - newspaper clippings with photo of Adlai Stevenson and Edith Abbott; October 9, 1951 (dedication of hospital building in honor of Grace Abbott)
- Pages 105-106:
 - newspaper clippings of obituary of O. A. Abbott, Jr.; August 16, 1954 (glued to page)
 - newspaper clipping of editorial about O. A. Abbott, Jr.
- Pages 107-108:
 - newspaper clipping of obituary of Edith Abbott; July 30, 1957 (New York Times)
 - newspaper clipping about gift to city of Grand Island for new bandstand at Grace Abbott Park; October 2, 1957
 - advertising card for University of Chicago's Edith Abbott Fellowship Fund
- Pages 109-110:
 - letterhead stationery of Grand Island Public Library
 - newspaper clipping of Civil War display at courthouse; 1961
- Pages 111-112:
 - Newspaper clipping of obituary of Arthur G. Abbott; 1969
 - funeral card for Arthur Abbott
- Pages 113-114:
 - program for laying of cornerstone for Edith Abbott Memorial Library; April 28, 1973
 - text of oration by Bayard Paine, Jr., delivered at laying of cornerstone for Edith Abbott Memorial Library; April 28, 1973
 - advertisement for New Gallery of British Art engravings [not dated]
- Page 115:
 - newspaper clippings about new Grand Island library and ground breaking; 1972

STUHR MUSEUM OF THE PRAIRIE PIONEER

RELATED ARTIFACTS

Several oversized certificates from the family are filed in the documentary artifact collections of the Research Department.

Numerous family photographs are filed in the Photograph Archives of the Research Department

MS010 includes numerous mentions of Mrs. Abbott and Edith Abbott as members of the Woman's Club.

MS013.2 includes minutes written by Grace Abbott.

MS0032 at the Nebraska State Historical Society is a collection of Abbott family papers donated from Charlotte Abbott. A copy of their collection inventory was obtained in April 1999 and the collection was determined to have few significant items. A few items were copied and placed in the family genealogy file.

LOCATION OF O. A. ABBOTT OFFICE

- "I built my first law office out of cottonwood boards after I had bought the lot where the large Dolan building now stands." Reminiscences of a Pioneer Lawyer, 1929, p. 115 [Note: the Dolan Fruit Company was listed at South Front and Wheeler Streets in the 1929 Grand Island city directory]
- "has moved into his new office" [Platte Valley Independent March 25, 1871]
- advertising as partnership of Abbott and Caldwell [Grand Island Times December 19, 1878]
- partnership of Abbott and Caldwell dissolved January 1, 1881; W. H. Michael has replaced Judge Caldwell in the firm [Grand Island Times January 12, 1882]
- Abbott and (C. F.) Breckenridge, real state & insurance, B. & M. R. R. Lands [Daily Independent June 12, 1884]
- office over 116 West 3rd Street (Bohne & Ryan's Furniture Store); 1887 directory [advertisement p. 222]
- office over 116 West 3rd Street; 1889 directory
- over Cushman's furniture store [Grand Island Times December 13, 1889] [Cushman not listed in 1889 directory]
- office over 116 West 3rd Street; 1890 directory
- Abbott and Caldwell, attorneys; Security Bank Building; 1891 directory [vice-president, Grand Island Banking Company, 301 West 3rd]
- Abbott and Caldwell, attorneys; Security Bank Building; 1893 directory [on board of directors of Citizens National Bank]
- Abbott and Caldwell, attorneys; Security Bank Building; 1895 directory
- attorney; Security Bank Building; 1898 directory [116-118 S. Locust]
- Abbott and Abbott, attorneys; Security Bank Building; 1900 directory
- Abbott and Abbott, attorneys; 110 West 3rd; Nebraska State Gazetteer and Business Directory, 1902
- Abbott and Abbott, attorneys; Michelson Building; 1903 directory