

Commercial Category

Lewis and Son Printing Company
PC003.101

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INTRODUCTION

The Lewis and Son Printing Company Collection was donated by James W. Lewis in September of 2003. The collection consists of printing samples for local businesses, churches, organizations, individuals, and governmental entities, as well as a limited number of institutions outside of Clark County. The collection fills one record box and 120 file folders. It includes 7 oversize posters. It is divided into four series, as follows:

- Series 1: Lewis and Son Printing Company
- Series 2: Individual files, arranged alphabetically
- Series 3: Oversize posters

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.

BRIEF BUSINESS DESCRIPTION

The Lewis and Son Printing Company was formed in 1924 by Harry L. Lewis, Sr.. He started with a small hand press and in the early years worked as a projectionist at the Liberty Theater.

The business was located at 1111 South Yellow Springs Street at the rear of the property in a garage that was converted into the business and a small office. At the time the business was being dismantled in 2003, there were at least 10 different machines as well as trays of type, ink, paper, and product samples.

The Lewises advertised their company as a “full service printing center” with, at one time, free pick-up and delivery. The samples in the collection reveal a flourishing business that catered to a wide clientele, not just those in the south end of Springfield, but all over the city of Springfield and from Dayton, Yellow Springs, and Xenia as well. Their clients included churches, civic organizations, businesses, city and county government offices, individuals, Wittenberg University, the local chapter of the NAACP, and many others. Their advertisement of “full service” seemed true as well. There are samples of letterhead stationery, program booklets, various sized envelopes, posters, event tickets, product labels, bulletins, and business forms, to mention just a few.

The business closed sometime in the late 1990s or early 2000s. The garage sat, full of machines and samples, but idle, for several years until the property was sold and the business dismantled.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The business had been closed for two or more years when the curator was invited to take whatever the historical society might like for its collections. Unfortunately, the historical society did not have room for the printing machines, but did take files and samples.

Mr. Lewis kept both general alphabetical files and individual businesses filed alphabetically. Quite a lot of the material was damaged due to roof leaks and rodents so only the best samples were kept. In most cases, two of each type of printing was kept where feasible. The contents still smell of mold, despite several months of airing and cleaning.

Series 1 contains just one file of miscellaneous information on the business.

Series 2 contains files arranged alphabetically.

Series 3 contains 7 oversize posters advertising various events, from baseball tournaments to concerts.

Folder Listing

Series 1

- Lewis & Son Printing Company

Series 2

- Adams Stucco and Plastering Co.
- Akbar Temple Shrine Temple
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.
- American Legion Post 776
- American Society for Training & Development
- American Temple No. 107
- Arts on Parade
- Ball Realty
- B&C Sanitary Service
- Beards Restaurant and Bakery Supply
- Beavers Lu-Na
- Bethel C.M.E. Church
- Bethlehem Baptist Church
- Black Woman's Caucus Inc.
- Boston Dry Cleaners
- Broaddus Chapel United Methodist
- Business Cards – Lewis and Son.
- C&W Energy Inc.
- Canada & Cummings
- Carter Garage
- Carolyn's Elite Dry Cleaners
- Catawba Fire Dept.
- Central Rug and Linoleum
- Center Street Branch YMCA
- Center Street Community Center Inc.
- Champion Lodge-Masonic Lodge
- Chapter II-Scott
- Chauffeurs and Maids Club
- Christian Methodist and Episcopal Church
- The Church of Christ
- Church of Jesus
- Citizen Opportunity Program Inc.
- Clark County Chapter Gold Star Mothers
- Clark County Planning Comm.
- Clark County Sheriff Dept.
- James C. Cobb Jr.-Attorney
- ColFer Realty
- Conley Bros. Excavating
- The Community Choir

- Craig Allen Enterprises Inc.
- Cyrene A.M.E. Church-Piqua
- Datacapture Corp.
- Daughter of the Graces
- Daughters of Isis
- Daughters of Jerusalem
- Richard J. Davis, Carpenter
- Day-Air Federal Credit Union-Kettering, Ohio-Dayton O
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- A.B. Dick Co.
- Dillingham Realty
- The Drama-Nook Theatre
- Drug Control Center
- Durgan's Electronic
- Dutch Girl Dry Cleaning
- Dykstra
- Elks Social Club
- Ellis Bargain House
- Dr. Guy L. Emmons
- Esther B. Nevius Accounting Service
- A.L. Ewing Cleaners
- Excello Product
- Fairfax Motel
- Farmers' Institute
- First Baptist Church
- Fowl Club
- Fred's Auto Service
- The Friday Afternoon Study Club
- Frontiers Club
- Gabby's BBQ
- Gene's Body Shop
- Gifford's Janitorial Service
- Leroy B. Goodson MD
- Gospel Songs
- Herbert Glover
- Highlight Baptist Church
- Home for Aged Association
- Housing and Business Opportunity Council
- Hulsbeck Accounting
- Hutchin-Reva
- Imperials Club
- Interdenominational Minister's Wives
- International Association of Mechanics and Aerospace Workers
- Ivor Rebekah Lodge No. 415

- Johns Brothers
- Johnson's Body Shop
- Jones, Melva E.
- Kilcoyne Furnace Co.
- Knights of Pythias – Carter Com. D
- Kolo-Tex
- Lawford-Manday
- Les Dames, Inc
- Les Femmes des Charities
- Loose papers (No ID)
- Lovettes Club
- Lucy's Flower Box
- Masjid An-Nur
- Max's Swap Shop
- Midwest Printers Supply
- Mingo Electric Service
- Miracles Fowl Club
- Metropolitan Housing Authority
- Mollie's Place-Evans
- Mt. Carmel Baptist Church
- Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church
- Mt. Zion Baptist Church
- NAACP
- National Council of Negro Women, Inc.
- National Phoenix Assn.-Dayton Branch-Neal
- Neighborhood Action Council
- North Side Study Club
- North Street AME Church
- Ohio Black Women's Leadership Caucus
- Old's Body Shop
- Order of Eastern Star
- The Original Church of God
- Patterson's Garage
- Pentacostal Brotherhood
- Phillip Chapel CME
- Price List – Lewis Printing
- Primary Care Assn.- Goodson-Scott
- Prince Hall Housing Authority
- The Pupils of Martha Steele
- The Quatro Viginti
- Reaching Out For Youth, Inc.
- Revival Temple Church
- J.A. Roberts
- Ronez Apartments

- Sahara Tent No. 5
- Douglas B. Scott MD
- Second Baptist Church
- Seege Motor Home
- Seventh Day Adventist Church- Fountain Ave.
- Shafer and Associates
- Shesha Temple No. 4
- Shuford Harry D.P.M.
- Sonny's Young Place
- Soul Sisters-Shirley
- Springfield Chapter #8 of the O.A.B. Inc.
- Springfield Chapter of Links
- Springfield Construction Co.
- Springfield Post Office
- Springfield Softball Commission
- Springfield Urban League-Moss
- St. John Missionary Church
- St. Paul AME Church-Dot
- Stewart & Hasselback
- Strivers Club
- Sultan Temple No. 5
- Sutpen Fire Equipment
- Swift Tool Co.
- Tax exempt forms
- T-Craft-Gary Bowman
- Travelodge
- Trenor Motor Inc.
- Trinity AME Church
- Trydestone Baptist Church
- Turner Garage (Fred)
- Urban League Guild
- V.F.W. – Gazaway Post Aux. 3478
- West Office Machines
- Wett Band- Greg Parsley
- White Line Trash Co.
- Whities Tavern
- Wiley M.E. Church
- R.L. Williams and Sons
- Wilson's Ornamental Iron Works
- Wittenberg College
- Women's Mite Missionary Society
- Zeta Delta Lambda

Series 3

- 7 Oversized Posters