

**McLean County Museum of History**

**Joan M. Travis Spiritualism Collection**

Processed by  
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**Collection Information**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1940s-2018
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	

## **Brief History**

“Modern Spiritualism,” called such by the organizations that advocate, support and practice it, began in Hydesville, New York, in 1848. According to the U. S.-based National Spiritualist Association of Churches, “Spiritualism is the Science, Philosophy and Religion of continuous life, based up the demonstrated fact of communication, by means of mediumship, with those who live in the Spirit World.” The association’s 21<sup>st</sup> century publications deem it a worldwide institution.

James Thomas Crumbaugh and his wife Elizabeth J. Wiley lived in LeRoy, McLean County, Illinois, throughout the last half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. They became interested in Spiritualism via the minister of the LeRoy Universalist Church. The couple left this world in the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and their wills expressed their desire to have a church and library as a living memorial. The J. T. and E. J. Crumbaugh Spiritualist Church and Library was dedicated on January 1, 1926 and continues to operate in 2019.

## **Scope**

The Joan M. Travis Spiritualism Collection consists of items about the concept of spiritualism and some of its organizations in the United States and England. Pamphlets, meeting programs, photographs, newspaper articles, periodicals and prints and photocopies of digital sources comprise the collection.

Unless otherwise indicated, all rights to the Joan M. Travis Spiritualism Collection have been transferred to the McLean County Historical Society/Museum of History. Material may not be reproduced without the express consent of the Museum.

## **Box and Folder Inventory**

### **Folder 1: National Spiritualist Association of Churches Pamphlets**

- 1.1 “Foundation Facts Concerning Spiritualism as a Religion,” 2005, 2 pp.
- 1.2 “Declaration of Principles,” 2005, 2 pp.
- 1.3 “Keep an Even Mind,” 2005, 2 pp.
- 1.4 “Hints For A Good Reading,” 2005, 2 pp.
- 1.5 “Healing Basics,” 2005, 2 pp.
- 1.6 “Funding Our Future,” 2005, 2 pp.
- 1.7 “Hydesville Memorial Park,” 2005, 2 pp.
- 1.8 “Hydesville Memorial Park,” 2005, 2 pp. [Copy 2]

### **Folder 2: NSAC Spiritualist Manual**

- 2.1 NSAC Spiritualist Manual, published by National Spiritualist Association of Churches, 19<sup>th</sup> Revision, 2004, 257 pp.

### **Folder 3: Camp Chesterfield, Indiana Association of Spiritualists, Inc.**

- 3.1 Pamphlet, "Historic Camp Chesterfield, A Spiritual Center of Light: A Guide to Camp Chesterfield's Historic Structures and Unique Religious Displays," 2 pp.
- 3.2 Booklet, "Historic Camp Chesterfield, June-December 2017, Good News," 75 pp.
- 3.3 Booklet, "Historic Camp Chesterfield Spirit Fest, Sept. 16-17, 2017," 23 pp.
- 3.4 Program, "Welcome to the Chapel in the Woods Gala All Message Service, Sunday, Sept. 17, 2017," 2 pp.
- 3.5 Loose Item: "Higher Ground," typewritten song or poetry.

### **Folder 4: The Journey Within Spiritualist National Union Church**

- 4.1 Pamphlet, "The Journey Within Spiritualist National Union Church," [no date].
- 4.2 Pamphlet, "The Journey Within Presents: Journey of the Interior World: Reawakening the Extraordinary," May 2015.
- 4.3 Pamphlet, "The Journey Within Highlights 2014 and 2015."

### **Folder 5: J.T. and E.J. Crumbaugh Spiritualist Church**

- 5.1 "How Spiritualism Started in LeRoy, IL," typescript of website home page. [no date] 2 pp. <http://www.crumbaughchurch.com>
- 5.2 Portraits of J.T. and E.J. Crumbaugh, Reprint of website page <http://www.crumbaughchurch.com/history.php>
- 5.3 Photocopy of Portrait of E.J. Crumbaugh and J.T. Crumbaugh hanging in Crumbaugh Library, 2 pp.
- 5.4 Photo, Crumbaugh family tree.
- 5.5 Photo, The National Spiritualist Association of Churches Charter, located in the church, 2 copies.
- 5.6 Photo, Crumbaugh church congregation, "Circa 1940's,"
- 5.7 Photo, "Temporary Display Empire Museum, Crumbaugh Church building," June-August 2018.
- 5.8 Photo, "The Fox Sisters: Birth of Spiritualism," part of temporary display, June-August 2018.
- 5.9 Newspaper clipping, "Clairvoyant Debunks Ghosts of Violence," Decatur Illinois, Sunday, 31 Oct 1976,
- 5.10 Newspaper clipping, "English Mystic to Speak Sunday at Le Roy Church," [no date]
- 5.11 Newspaper clipping, "Spirit Fest celebrates health," *Pantagraph*, 7 May 2000.

### **Folder 6: Lily Dale Assembly**

- 6.1. "Lily Dale Assembly Workshop Program June 30, 2017 – September 3, 2017."
- 6.2 "Lily Dale Assembly Workshop Program June 29, 2018 – September 2, 2018."

## **Folder 7: Morris Pratt Institute**

- 7.1 “First Four Years After the Organizing of Modern Spiritualism,” Reprint of web page: <http://www.morrispratt.org/main.htm>, accessed 25 Mar 2017, 2 pp.
- 7.2 “The History of Morris Pratt Institute,” Reprint of website page <http://morrispratt.org/history.htm>. accessed 25 Mar 2017, 2 pp.
- 7.3 “Morris Pratt Institute Courses,” Reprint of web page <http://morrispratt.org/courses.htm>, accessed 25 Mar 2017, 5 pp.

## **Folder 8: The National Spiritualist-Summit Magazine**

- 8.1 *The National Spiritualist-Summit*, May 2007.
- 8.2 *The National Spiritualist-Summit*, July/August 2009.
- 8.3 *The National Spiritualist Summit Magazine*, Sept/Oct. 2018.

## **Folder 9: The NSAC Lyceum SPOTLIGHT Magazine**

- 9.1 *The NSAC Lyceum SPOTLIGHT*, March 2007.
- 9.2 *The NSAC Lyceum SPOTLIGHT*, September 2007.
- 9.3 *The NSAC Lyceum SPOTLIGHT*, September 2008.

## **Folder 10 – Robin Hodson, Medium, Presentations**

- 10.1 Flier, “Robin Hodson,” event at J.T. and E.J. Crumbaugh Spiritualist Church, 20 – 23 July 2018
- 10.2 “Crumbaugh Spirit Fest to raise funds for ISF,” *LeRoy Leader*, 7 Jun 2018.
- 10.3 “ISF president to visit Crumbaugh Church,” *LeRoy Leader*, 12 Jul 2018.
- 10.4 “ISF president to visit Crumbaugh Church,” *Normalite*, 12 Jul 2018.
- 10.5 “Spiritualist sets LeRoy programs,” *Pantagraph*, 13 Jul 2018.
- 10.6 “Religion calendar, July 6-13, 2018,” *News-Gazette*, 7 Jul 2018.

## **Folder 11: Simeon West**

- 11.1 Photocopy of book title page: “Life and Times of S. H. West”.
- 11.2 Photocopy of Simeon West portrait.
- 11.3 Photocopy of Mrs. S. H. West portrait.
- 11.4 Photocopy of “Record Monument in West Park.”
- 11.5 Photo: carving on front of West Park Record Monument.
- 11.6 Photo: carving on side of West Park Record Monument.
- 11.7 “The Spirit of Simeon West: A LeRoy pioneer and his ties to the founding of a Texas Town,” <http://www.leroyfcpress.com/print/1372216>, 3 pp.
- 11.8 Newspaper clipping, “‘Indian in the Park’ a gift from eccentric West,” *Pantagraph*, [no date], 3 pp.

## **Folder 12: Sir William Crookes**

- 12.1 Photocopy of book title "Researches in the Phenomena of Spiritualism," Sir William Crookes.
- 12.2 "Researchers into the Mystery of Spirit Contact – Sir William Crookes (1832-1919). Reprint of website pages <http://unexplainedstuff.com/Mediums-andMystics....> Accessed 10/6/2018. 2 pp.

### **Folder 13: Spiritual Healing**

- 13.1 Loose item. "Prayer for Spiritual Healing."
- 13.2 Loose item. "Healers Do [and] Healers Don't."
- 13.3 "Healing Basics," Pamphlet, [no date]
- 13.4 "NSAC Healing Center," booklet, 28 pp., two copies, [no date]
- 13.5 "Welcome to the Lily Dale Healing Temple". Pamphlet. [no date]

### **Folder 14: Spiritualism – Miscellaneous**

- 14.1 Quiz about spiritualists, typescript, 2 pp.
- 14.2 Business card: "Welcome our church," Crumbaughchurch.com
- 14.3 Business card: "JT & EJ Crumbaugh Spiritualist Church". Crumbaughchurch.org. 2 copies.
- 14.4 Business card: "Spiritfest," [www.campchesterfield.net](http://www.campchesterfield.net).
- 14.5 Loose item. "City of Light Spiritualist Church". Cassadaga, NY.
- 14.6 "Psychic/Mediumship Certification Program," Trilogy Institute, Pamphlet.
- 14.7 Loose item. "Fifth Spiritualist Church of St. Louis," St. Louis, MO.
- 14.8 Photocopy of book cover. "Seances in Washington: Abraham Lincoln and Spiritualism During the Civil War."

### **Folder 15: The Spiritualists' National Union Pamphlets**

- 15.1 "Spiritual Healing," Pamphlet. 2011.
- 15.2 "Mediumship Provides Evidence of Life After Death," 2014.
- 15.3 "Wedding Services The Spiritualist Way," 2011.
- 15.4 "Blessing Services The Spiritualist Way," 2014.
- 15.5 "Naming Services The Spiritualist Way," 2014.
- 15.6 "Open an SNU Pioneer Centre in your area," 2013.
- 15.7 "Organ Donation & Transplants," 2013.

### **Folder 16: Suzanne Giesemann, Medium**

- 16.1 "Messages of Hope – celebrating the Greater Reality" at Normal Theater, 15 Nov 2018, flier.
- 16.2 Photocopy of book title page: "Messages of Hope," [By] Suzanne Giesemann.
- 16.3 Photocopy of book back page: "Messages of Hope."

### **Folder 17: Teachings of Silver Birch**

- 17.1 Photocopy of book cover page: "Teachings of Silver Birch," Edited by A. W. Austen.
- 17.2 "Silver Birch Teaches About 'Life in the Beyond'," Reprint of web page <https://the-searchforlifeafterdeath.com/2017/02/26/silver-birch-teaches-about-life-in-the-beyond>, accessed 10/12/2018, 8 pp.

**Folder 18: World Congress of Spiritualists**

- 18.1 "Be Part of the Historic World Congress of Spiritualists 2014," Flier 26-28 Jun 2014, 2 pp.
- 18.2 Program for "World Congress of Spiritualists, Lily Dale, New York, 2014."
- 18.3 Packet of information for participant in the World Congress of Spiritualists, Lily Dale, New York, 2014. 8 pp.
- 18.4 Photos of Fox Sisters Home. 2 pp.
- 18.5 Photos of Mohawk spiritualist, opera singer and Lily Dale resident.