

McLean County Museum of History

Wilson, Edith Collection

Processed by
Julia Perez
Summer 2024

Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1911-2022
RESTRICTIONS:	None
PROVENANCE:	
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:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	

Brief History

Goldie Edith Peyton Wilson was a resident of Gridley, where she farmed with her husband Lyle on his family farm south of town. She died in 2022 at age 105. Edith was the daughter of John Cleveland and Ora (Gill) Peyton. Lyle was the son of Lloyd and Frances (Anderson) Wilson. They were married Jan. 6, 1936, at the Bloomington courthouse. Their children are Donna (Tom) Thurmon of Gridley, Sharon (Bill) Phelan of Normal, Richard (Karen) of Oceanside, Calif.; and Norman (Madonna) of Gridley.

Scope

This collection, donated by her daughter Sharon Phelan of Normal, includes items from Wilson's time at Gridley High School in the 1930s, such as memory books, textbooks, report cards, her script from a play, and a letter from the principal. The collection also includes many photographs of Edith and Lyle, and Edith's parents from as early 1911.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: General Information

- 1.1 Obituary for Edith Wilson, *The Pantagraph*, Sept. 21, 2022
- 1.2 Obituary for Lyle Wilson, *The Pantagraph*, Jan. 1, 2001
- 1.3 Gift Agreement from Edith's daughter, Sharon Phelan of Normal, containing photos, textbooks, and writing from Edith's time at Gridley High School, April 1, 2024.
- 1.4 Gift Agreement from Edith's daughter, Sharon Phelan of Normal, containing photos of Edith's family and of Edith and Lyle, May 13, 2024

Folder 2: Cards and Postcards

- 2.1 Five postcards addressed to Edith and/or Lyle Wilson, and Ora Gill Peyton (Edith's mother), dated 1910-1934
- 2.2 Card with photo of Meadows Mennonite Church, Meadows, Ill.; with note "Edith attended this church until it closed."
- 2.3 Intricate wedding card addressed to Edith and Lyle from Ralph Folkers, possibly dated 1938
- 2.4 Valentine's Day cards, three small and one large, undated.

Folder 3: Paper Dolls

- 5.1 Paper dolls and outfits cut from magazine or hand drawn, wrapped in tissue paper, appears to be from the 1920s

Folder 4: Scrapbooks

- 4.1 Booklet titled "Class Autographs" from Wilson's freshman year at Gridley High School in 1930; includes details about the school, clubs, and class officers, along with signatures from classmates
- 4.2 Green scrapbook titled "My Golden School Days" from Wilson's time at Gridley High School in early 1930s, with list of class officers for every year, newspaper clippings, and classmate photographs

Folder 5: Newspaper Articles

- 5.1 "90th Birthday Celebration for Edith Wilson," *The Pantagraph*, 2007
- 5.2 "Mystery Photo Identified," *The Gridley News*, Edith Wilson and friends identified themselves in the (1936) photo, winning a year's subscription to the newspaper, Dec. 11, 1975
- 5.3 "50 Years – Class of 1936," *The Gridley News*, photo of eight Gridley High School alumni including Edith, 1986
- 5.4 "Golden," *The Gridley News*, six couples who attend George and Madlyn Rathbun's 50th wedding anniversary has also either celebrated their 50th or will in the near future, Lyle and Edith are pictured, 1985
- 5.5 "First Place," *The Gridley News*, Green Gables bowling team awarded first place trophies at El Paso Ladies League banquet, including Edith Wilson, April, 1983
- 5.6 "J.C. Peyton, III Year, Dies," *The Pantagraph*, death notice and funeral notice for Edith's father, July 26, 1943
- 5.7 "Peyton-Wilson," *The Pantagraph*, marriage announcement of Edith and Lyle, 1936

Folder 6: Edith Academic Records & Marriage Certificate

- 6.1 Three Gridley High School report cards for Edith Peyton, dated 1933-1935
- 6.2 Diploma signed by McLean County superintendent of schools William B. Brigham certifying Edith Peyton may be admitted to any high school in the state, June 18, 1930
- 6.3 Letter to Edith from Gridley High School Principal Walter M. Claggett encouraging her to finish high school rather than leave early, Jan. 5, 1933
- 6.4 "Our Marriage Vow" white book with marriage certificate of Lyle M. Wilson and Goldie Edith Peyton on Jan. 6, 1936, in Bloomington

Folder 7: Photos Framed

- 7.1 Edith and Lyle wedding picture, 1936
- 7.2 Edith, after having nose surgery at Mayo Clinic, 1947

Folder 8: Photos Black and white 1911-1999

- 8.1 Photos of Edith's parents John Cleveland Peyton and Ora Evelyn Gill Peyton, including photos of her father John in the Marine's and group photos of him with the Marine's baseball team
- 8.2 Photos of Edith, her husband Lyle, and their family

Folder 9: Photos Black and White Large Groups 1935-1971

- 9.1 Group photos mostly of Edith with high school classmates and with husband Lyle

Folder 10: Photos Color 1976-2010

- 10.1 Family photos of the Phelan family (Edith's daughter Sharon Phelan), and of Edith and Lyle

Folder 11: Boy Scout Plaque

- 11.1 Plaque featuring three boy scouts "In Appreciation for Interest in and Services to the Youth of our Community - Boy Scouts of America," back states "Presented to Edith Wilson for service as den mother - Den 4 Pack 61"

Folder 12: Miscellaneous Print Materials

- 12.1 Physician's Record for Edith's birth, Jan. 26, 1917
12.2 "Here She Goes and There She Goes," typed reading given by Edith on Jan. 11, 1935, between second and third acts of the junior class play at Gridley High School, 2 pages
12.3 "Teeth of the Horse" poster, copyright 1897, date unknown

Loose Items

School book of Edith Peyton "First Year Latin" by Smith and Thompson 1933, list of students from Latin I class in 1934-35 written inside

School book of Edith Peton "Modern Business English" by Davis, Lingham, and Stone 1933, from junior year 1934-35