

**McLean County Museum of History**

**Thoms and O'Neil Families Collection**

Processed by  
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**Collection Information**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1883-1988
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:	None
LOCATION:	Archives

## Brief History

The collection contents indicate the Thoms family lived in the area as early as 1883, with Carl and Augusta Glawe Thoms having migrated from Germany to the United States in 1872. Two of their eight children were born in Bloomington. One, Albert, married Helen O'Neil. Two Thoms family histories, compiled in 1988, discuss other family members who were acquired by marriage. In the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, various Thoms lived at 1402 S. Center Street in Bloomington. The men in the family worked for local industries, including the railroad and Oil-O-Matic.

## Scope

The collection provides genealogical information about the Thoms and O'Neil families, as documented by family members. Thoms memorabilia predominate, primarily those of William Edward Thoms, who was a World War II veteran. Collection items include typescripts, church and government documents, correspondence and miscellaneous print materials.

## Box and Folder Inventory

### Folder 1: Thoms Family Papers

- 1.1 McLean County, IL birth certificate of Chas. A. Thoms, January 29, 1883. Son of Chas. Thoms and A. Glawe (maiden name).
- 1.2 Death certificate of Albert Thomas, died October 16, 1967 at 1402 S Center Street, Bloomington, IL.
- 1.3 Handwritten (blue ink) paper scrap listing various members of Thoms family, with 19<sup>th</sup> Century birthdates.
- 1.4 Handwritten (black ink) paper scrap listing various members of Thoms family, with 19<sup>th</sup> Century birthdates. Most females have different last names.
- 1.5 Handwritten (black ink) yellow paper scrap identifying Thoms relatives in a photograph, which is not included.
- 1.6 Wedding event memento card (possibly) with angel design and "Helen & Ollie, Oct. 7, 1919" handwritten on bow.
- 1.7 Wedding event place card (possibly) portraying a bride and "Helen Thoms" handwritten at bottom.

### Folder 2: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church documents

- 2.1 Page from family history book in German about Carl Thoms and Auguste Glawe
- 2.2 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church baptismal certificate for Chas. A. Thoms [or Albert Carl Fritz], born to Carl Thoms and Augusta nie Glawe. Born 29 January 1883 in Bloomington, baptized in Bloomington 18 February 1883.
- 2.3 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church confirmation certificate for Caroline Augusta Maria Milke, born 24 October 1869, confirmed 18 March 1883.

### Folder 3: Jon C. Thoms' Family History

- 3.1 "A Short History of My Family in Illinois", by Jon G. Thoms, April 2, 1988. Typescript. Includes sources and family tree.

**Folder 4: Paternal Ancestors of Michael David Thoms**

- 4.1 "History of Paternal Ancestors of Michael David Thoms", by Margaret Thoms. Typescript. No date. Includes typewritten family tree.

**Folder 5: John Thoms Miscellany**

- 5.1 Young Men's Christian Association membership card issued to John Thomas [sic], renewal date 5/14/1933.
- 5.2 Bloomington Cardinal Baseball Club 1935 season information card. 3 cards.
- 5.3 Letter from "John" to "Mom & Dad", October 7, 1943 on Camp Wolters, TX letterhead.
- 5.4 Small notepad with list of baseball card sets. Bloomington Printing Co. on cover.

**Folder 6: William E. Thoms Miscellany**

- 6.1 Selective Service notice to appear for physical exam issued to William Edward Thoms, 1402 S. Center St., Bloomington, IL. Dated February 23, 1943.
- 6.2 Selective Service Bloomington City Local Board No. 1 letter from Chief Clerk to William Edward Thoms directing him to report to physician for blood test. May 29, 1943. With envelope.
- 6.3 Letter from Assistant Recruiting & Induction Officer, Armed Forces Induction Station, Chicago, IL, to William E. Thoms, June 12, 1943, with order to report on July 2, 1943, to the Recruit Reception Center at Camp Grant, Illinois.
- 6.4 Typewritten anti-Semitic verse "The Jews Victory Song". n. d.
- 6.5 Postcard with photo of P-47 Republic Thunderbolt purchased by employees of Oil-O-Matic written to Private William Thoms, Fort Custer, MI, from Millard and Wit. Dated 12/16/1943.
- 6.6 Cartoon postcard to Albert Thoms (Pop) from Private William Thoms, Camp Atterbury, IN. January 25, 1944.
- 6.7 Cartoon postcard to Private Williams Thoms, Camp Atterbury, IN, from Kenny. Postmark illegible.
- 6.8 Card identifying sleeping quarters. "H. M. S. Queen Mary" handwritten on back.
- 6.9 Meal Ticket, no further identification.
- 6.10 Bunk assignment and meal ticket. "U. S. S. Wakefield" handwritten on back.
- 6.11 London ARC Light weekly newsletter, March 17, 1945. Indicates ARC Clubs in London, published by American Red Cross.
- 6.12 Typescript of room assignments, 32d Military Police Company, Nancy Garison Ara, Oise Intermediate Section, Theatre Service Forces.
- 6.13 Newspaper clipping of photo titled "Yank Puts a Fraulein Hep to a New Line". Featuring U. S. serviceman of Chicago.
- 6.14 Withers Public Library card, Bloomington, IL, issued to Bill Thoms, 1402 S Center. Expires 2/23/45. With envelope.
- 6.15 32<sup>nd</sup> M. P. Co. Class B Pass issued February 5, 1946 to William E. Thoms.
- 6.16 1946 holiday greeting card from State Farm president R. P. Mecherle. With envelope addressed to William Thoms.
- 6.17 Joke titled "1947 Resolutions Potential" by N. Boulware.
- 6.18 Postcard of Ak-Sar-Ben Bridge to Bill Thoms from Ken, postmarked Omaha, NB, June 22, 1948.

- 6.19 Postcard with photo of Idaho to Bill Thoms from Ken, postmarked Spokane, WA, August 13, 1948.
- 6.20 Cartoon postcard to Bill Thoms from Dean, postmarked Alexandria [?], August 15, [?].
- 6.21 Ozark Air Lines schedule, effective June 1, 1956.
- 6.22 Ozark Air Lines boarding pass, Buffalo-Chicago-Bloomington, IL. June 7, 1956.
- 6.23 Hotel Statler, Buffalo, NY, bill issued to Wm. Thoms, June 11, 1956.
- 6.24 Ozark Air Lines boarding pass.
- 6.25 American Airlines boarding pass jacket.
- 6.26 American Airlines air mail label.
- 6.27 Medical card issued to William E. Thoms.
- 6.28 Veterans of Foreign Wars, John H. Kraus Post No. 454, Bloomington, IL, 1962, issued to William E. Thoms.
- 6.29 Veterans of Foreign Wars, John H. Kraus Post No. 454, Bloomington, IL, 1963, issued to William E. Thoms.
- 6.30 Veterans of Foreign Wars, John H. Kraus Post No. 454, Bloomington, IL, 1964, issued to William E. Thoms.
- 6.31 Central Association of the Miraculous Medal [?], Germantown, Philadelphia, PA.
- 6.32 Bloomington Baseball Club student season ticket issued to Billy Thoms.
- 6.33 Yellow ribbon labeled MONITOR, with envelope.
- 6.34 National Bank of Bloomington check issued to Snyder's Market, signed by Ada Gibson, March 10, 1964.
- 6.35 Pencil drawing, profile of male in overseas cap, labeled "Jack".
- 6.36 Multifold birthday card signed by Mary and Ed. Envelope addressed to Wm. Thoms.

**Folder 7: O'Neil Family**

- 7.1 McLean County, IL birth certificate for Helen Henrietta O'Neil, born June 8, 1891, to John J. O'Neil and Lena Milkay.
- 7.2 List of family members of Judy and Jack O'Neil, Dunlop, IL.
- 7.3 List of family members of Jack and Jo Petry, Champaign, IL.

**Folder 8: Gray-Trimble & Follick Electric Co.**

- 8.1 Gray-Trimble & Follick Electric Co. stock certificates book, 1922-1924.
- 8.2 Advertisement: "Bloomington's Leading Electricians for 30 Years", with photos of James Gray and Roy Trimble. Handwritten date of 1930.

**Folder 9: World War II History Student Paper**

- 9.1 Jon G. Thoms' school paper "Interview with Margret [Margaret] Thoms for History of World War II. April 25, 1988.

**Folder 10: Miscellaneous Print Items**

- 10.1 Vesper Service program of Bloomington High School June graduating class. May 30, 1943.
- 10.2 Program for Presentation of the Army Navy Production Award to Williams Oil-O-Matic Corp. and employees. September 8, 1942. With envelope.
- 10.3 Memo to Oil-O-Matic employees regarding Presentation of Army-Navy Production Award. September 8, 1942.

- 10.4 Fort Custer (Michigan) information booklet. [n.d.]
- 10.5 The Indispensable Guide-Book to visit Paris and Environs. [n.d.]
- 10.6 "Tal Wind", art work of attractive female behind airplane.
- 10.7 Booklet regarding Illinois traffic laws. [n.d.]
- 10.8 Acknowledgement of sympathy – Family of Dr. Frank Deneen. April 12, 1954.

**Folder 11: Recipes**

- 11.1 Tested Cherry Recipes pamphlet
- 11.2 Photocopy of recipes clipped from newspapers.

**Folder 12: Baby Book**

- 12.1 "The Book of Baby Mine" for Helen Eileen Thoms, born April 19, 1926. Gift of various businesses.

**Loose Item: Shirley Temple Scrap Book**

Scrapbook of clippings about Shirley Temple. 1935. Handwritten on cover: Helen Eileen Thoms, 1402 S. Center St., Bloomington.