



Gremms-Doolittle Library
Schenectady County Historical Society
32 Washington Ave., Schenectady, NY 12305
(518) 374-0263

Guide to the Godfrey Family Papers, 1866-2003 (2010.128)

Creators:

Godfrey, Clark, 1891-1968
Godfrey, Dorothea, 1921-2010

Accession Number: 2010.128

Extent: 2.5 cubic feet of vertical materials and 49 oversized blueprints/charts.

Source: Donated by Laura Lee Linder, in memory of Dr. Susan Staffa.

Inclusive Dates: 1866-2003

Bulk Dates: ca. 1880s-1950

Access: Access to this collection is unrestricted.

Abstract: The collection is composed of materials pertaining to the Godfrey and Furman families.

Catalog Terms:

Godfrey, Clark
Godfrey, Dorothea
Godfrey Family
Francis, Marian
Furman Family
Dillenbeck Family
Van Guysling Family
Rosendale Estates

Scope and Content Note:

The collection is composed of materials pertaining to Clark H. Godfrey, his daughter Dorothea Furman Godfrey, and the Col. Robert Furman family.

Organization Note:

The Godfrey Collection is organized into the following series:

Series 1: Clark Godfrey Papers, 1895-1971

Series 2: Dorothea Godfrey Papers, 1866-2003

Please see series notes for information about each series.

Biographical Note:

Dorothea Furman Godfrey was born November 15, 1921 in Cleveland, Ohio, the daughter of Clark Henry Godfrey (1891-1968) and Marguerite Furman (1891-1973). Her family moved to Schenectady in 1928. She received her high school diploma from the Mary Lyon School for Girls in Swarthmore, Pennsylvania. She attended Lasell Junior College in Auburndale, Massachusetts, majoring in medical secretarial work and graduating in 1942. Godfrey began working at Ellis Hospital as a medical secretary, and made her way to the position of operating room supervisor. She also worked as assistant auditor at Ellis Hospital, as well as assistant manager for the estate of Col. Robert Furman, her great-grandfather. She served as office manager for Dr. Janis Best from 1961 until retiring in 1985. Godfrey was an original charter member of the Schenectady Soroptimist Club, a life member of the Schenectady County Historical Society, and a member of the Schenectady Museum, the U.S. Golf Association, Schenectady Humane Society, and the Annie Schaefer Senior Citizens. She died on August 1, 2010.

Clark Henry Godfrey was born December 9, 1891 in Lincoln, Nebraska. He first moved to Schenectady in 1906 and began studying engineering and drafting at ALCO in 1914. He was later associated with the engineering departments of the American Arch. Co., Alco Super Heater Company, and Franklin Railway Supply Company, all of New York City. After serving overseas in World War I, he married Marguerite Furman on October 23, 1920. The Godfreys and their daughter lived in Cleveland, Ohio, until 1927, when Godfrey was appointed as engineer of sales for the Franklin Railway Supply Company in Schenectady. Godfrey continued to work for the company until his retirement in 1948. He also served as manager for the Furman Estate from 1948 until his death. Godfrey also served as president of the Ingersoll Memorial Home and developed the Rosendale Estates, both in Niskayuna. Godfrey was a member of the Corlaer Lodge No. 932 of the Free and Accepted Masons, director of the Schenectady Rotary Club, and vice-president of the Vale Cemetery Association. He was also a member of the Community Chest Budget Committee, Campaign Control Council, Mohawk Club, and the board of the Girls' Club of Schenectady. He was a member of the First Reformed Church in Schenectady and served as a church elder from 1958-1961. Godfrey died October 12, 1968 in Schenectady. He is buried in Vale Cemetery.

Marguerite Furman was born April 28, 1891, the daughter of Van Guysling Furman and Anna Mary Dillenbeck and granddaughter of Colonel Robert Furman, an early developer of Schenectady. She was a member of the First Reformed Church in Schenectady, a life member of the Schenectady Museum, and a member of the board of directors of the Heritage Home for Women. She died in February 1973 and is buried in Vale Cemetery.

Condition Note:

Many of the photographs in the collection were originally housed in scrapbooks. Information derived from scrapbooks in poor condition has been photocopied or transcribed and photographs have been rehoused. One scrapbook of newspaper clippings was extremely brittle; a preservation photocopy of the scrapbook pages has been made and the original has been discarded.

Related and Separated Materials:

Maps of Vale Cemetery, a 1941 highway map of Schenectady County, and a U.S.G.S. topographical map of the Schenectady Quadrant have been removed from the collection and are housed in the general map collection.

A 1948 special edition of the *Schenectady Gazette* observing the 150th anniversary of the chartering of Schenectady has been removed from the collection and is housed in the general newspaper collection.

The following pamphlets and ephemera have been removed from the collection and added to the Schenectady County Historical Society Documents Collection:

- Citizens Public Expenditure Survey, Inc. publication (ca. 1960)
- Culligan Soft Water Service Co. of Schenectady card (ca. 1950s)
- “Evacuation: Schenectady City and County Interim Plan” civil defense pamphlet (1956)
- Gagnon Building Specialties advertisement (1950)
- Niskayuna Republican Committee card (1959)
- Stanco Construction Company (Michael A. Stanco) business card (ca. 1950s)
- Town of Niskayuna
 - Plumbing Code Relating to Septic Tanks Sewerage Disposal (1951)
 - Rules, Regulations and Town Ordinance for the Use of Water (1934) [2 c.]
 - Excavation Ordinance (1948)
 - Zoning Ordinance (1932)

Processed By/Date: Melissa Tacke, 27 June 2011.

Series 1: Clark Godfrey Papers, 1895-1971

Series Note: This series is composed of the personal papers of Clark Godfrey. The bulk of materials in this series relate to Godfrey’s role in the development of Rosendale Estates in Niskayuna. The series also includes a photograph album belonging to Clark Godfrey, which includes photographs and postcards from his World War I experience in Europe, and blueprints and information related to the Furman Building at 207 State Street and the Godfrey family home on Rosendale Road in Niskayuna.

Box and Folder Listing:

Box	Folder	Folder Title
1	1	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Maps – B.S. Preisman Realty, 1955-1971
1	2	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Miscellaneous data – 1950-1955
1	3	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Deeds and data: W.B. Wilson, 1954. 1956
1	4	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Building Enterprises, Inc. – 1954-1956
1	5	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Old copies: deeds, bonds, etc. – 1949
1	6	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Cost – Development – 1944-1954
1	7	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Contracts

1	8	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Deed copies of lots sold – 1895-1960
1	9	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Roads – 1953-1955
1	10	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Spring on C.H. Godfrey property – 1895-1956
1	11	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Zoning laws – 1944-1958
1	12	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Septic tanks – 1954-1956
1	13	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Water [1] – 1942-1951
1	14	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Water [2] – 1950-1954
1	15	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Development – Land surveys – 1949-1955
1	16	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Restrictions – n.d.
1	17	Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Photographs – Fernwood Drive and Godfrey Lane – ca. 1940s
N/A	N/A	Clark Godfrey – Maps and blueprints – See map listing
2	1	Clark Godfrey – Photograph Album – 1905-1943 [1 of 3]
2	2	Clark Godfrey – Photograph Album – 1905-1943 [2 of 3]
2	3	Clark Godfrey – Photograph Album – 1905-1943 [3 of 3]
2	4	Clark Godfrey – Certificates – 1914-1919
2	5	Clark Godfrey – Stock certificate (Schenectady Hotel Company)
3	N/A	Clark Godfrey – Oversized Items [Rotary Club photograph (1955); Service Engineers and Plant Inspectors, Franklin Railway Supply Co. (1930)]

Series 2: Dorothea Godfrey Papers, 1866-2003

Series Note: The Dorothea Godfrey series contains the personal papers of Dorothea Godfrey, the bulk of which is composed of photographs and scrapbooks. The series also includes a great deal of genealogical material related to the Furman family, and to a lesser extent includes genealogical material related to the Dillenbeck, Van Guysling, De Groot, and Beck families. The series also includes photographs, military records, and personal items of her close friend, Marian D. Francis.

Box and Folder Listing:

Box	Folder	Folder Title
2	6	Beck, De Ruyter, Van Cortlandt photographs and portraits [ancestors of Catherine V.G. Furman] – n.d.
1	18	Coats of arms – Furman, Van Guysling, De Groot families – n.d.
2	7	Anna Dillenbeck bible [wife of Van Guysling Furman][includes records]
2	8	Dillenbeck family photographs – n.d.
2	9	Marian D. Francis – Baby book – 1921-1922
2	10	Marian D. Francis – Military records – 1945-1946
2	11	Marian D. Francis – Pilot log book – 1942-1946
2	12	Furman Estate, Furman block, etc. – Blueprints and maps – 1915-1923, n.d.
2	13	Furman family – Photograph album [1] – 1894-1913

2	14	Furman family – Photograph album [2] – ca. 1870s-1924
2	15	Furman family photographs – ca. 1870s-ca.1930s
2	16	Furman family – Scrapbook – 1894-1944
2	17	Furman family – Scrapbook – loose items – 1866-1960
2	18	Marguerite Furman – Dictionary [includes personal notes]
2	19	Genealogies of Furman, Earl, Van Guysling, Visscher, Beck, and De Groot families – n.d.; 2003
1	19	Dorothea Godfrey – Anatomy notes – ca. 1940s
1	20	Dorothea Godfrey – Oversized photographs – ca. 1890-ca. 1920
2	20	Dorothea Godfrey – Photograph Album [1] – 1920s-1940s [folder 1 of 2]
2	21	Dorothea Godfrey – Photograph Album [1] – 1920s-1940s [folder 2 of 2]
2	22	Dorothea Godfrey – Photograph Album [2] – 1920-1949 [folder 1 of 2]
2	23	Dorothea Godfrey – Photograph Album [2] – 1920-1949 [folder 2 of 2]
2	24	Dorothea Godfrey – Photograph Album [3; Furman family] – ca. 1880s-1938
2	25	Dorothea Godfrey – Photographs – ca. 1907-ca. 1937
3	N/A	Dorothea Godfrey – Scrapbook [beige] – 1934-1943
3	N/A	Dorothea Godfrey – Scrapbook [green] – 1941-1948
3	N/A	Dorothea Godfrey – Oversized – Godfrey Family Coat of Arms – n.d.
2	26	Holmes Family Photographs – ca. 1920s-ca.1940s
2	27	Miscellaneous Photographs – ca. 1860-1953

Godfrey Collection – Oversized Materials

Series 1: Clark Godfrey Papers

Original box/folder	Map folder	Title	Creator	Scale	Date	Size (in.)
A	1	Portion of Clark Godfrey property, Rosendale Road	F.D. Barclay	1" = 100'	19 Jun 1945	13.5 x 18
A	1	Portion of Clark Godfrey property, Rosendale Road	F.D. Barclay	1" = 100'	7 Apr 1946	15 x 18
A	1	Road Plan of Rosendale Estates, Town of Niskayuna [approved][3 c.]	R.L. Bowen	1" = 200'	21 Feb 1949	18.5 x 18
A	1	Plot Plan of Rosendale Estates, Town of Niskayuna [3 c.]	R.L. Bowen	1" = 200'	25 Nov 1949	17.5 x 16
A	1	Plot Plan of Rosendale Estates, Town of Niskayuna [includes topography][2 c.]	R.L. Bowen	1" = 200'	30 Oct 1948	17.5 x 16
A	1	Plan of Rosendale Estates showing street changes from town Planning Board official map	R.L. Bowen	1" = 200'	30 Oct 1948	18 x 16
B	1	Map of lands belonging to Clark H. Godfrey [3 c.]	Charles T. Male, Jr.	1' = 200'	20 Jan 1955	18 x 23
C	1	Nine lots to be developed being part of proposed Rosendale Estates	R.L. Bowen	1" = 200'	n.d.	17.5 x 10
C	1	Map of part of Rosendale Estates, Niskayuna [2 c.; 1 copy labeled "Map of part of Fernwood Drive development"]	R.L. Bowen	1" = 50'	2 Sep 1953	15.5 x 14.5
C	1	Map of lots on Godfrey Lane. Godfrey Lane Development [2 c.]	R.L. Bowen	unknown	n.d.	14 x 24
C	1	Road Plan of Rosendale Estates [approved; listed as "print B"][3 c.]	R.L. Bowen	1" = 200'	1 Apr 1952	17.5 x 16
C	1	Map of C.H. Godfrey property showing approved roads and proposed water lines [2 c.]	R.L. Bowen	1" = 200'	11 Jul 1954	17.5 x 16
C	1	Map of C.H. Godfrey property showing Fernwood Drive and Godfrey Lane developments	R.L. Bowen	1" = 200'	23 Jul 1954	17.5 x 16
C	1	Clark H. Godfrey Residence, Rosendale Road, Niskayuna. 1 [of 3. First floor plan][2 c.; 1 copy damaged]	R.L. Bowen	unknown	n.d.	17 x 26
C	1	Clark H. Godfrey Residence, Rosendale Road, Niskayuna. 2 [of 3. Second floor plan][2 c.; 1 copy damaged]	R.L. Bowen	unknown	n.d.	17 x 26
C	1	Alterations to Clark H. Godfrey Home, Rosendale Road, Niskayuna. First floor plan [2 c.]	R.L. Bowen	1/4" = 1'	n.d.	15.5 x 26
C	1	[map showing moved buildings on Godfrey residence, Rosendale Rd.]	R.L. Bowen	1' = 16'	1 Apr 1954	16 x 20

Original box/folder	Map folder	Title	Creator	Scale	Date	Size (in.)
D	1	Section A – Rosendale Estates, Town of Niskayuna [2 c.]	R.L. Bowen	1" = 50'	4 Apr 1953	9.5 x 18
D	1	Proposed grade – Fernwood Drive development	Frank D. Barclay	1" = 50'	3 Sep 1953	25 x 18.5
D	1	Map of Rosendale Estates, Niskayuna	R.L. Bowen	1" = 200'	Feb 1953	18 x 19
D	1	Fernwood Drive development	R.L. Bowen	1" = 50'	20 May 1954	15.5 x 23
D	1	[map of septic tank layouts]	Frank D. Barclay	1" = 100'	27 Feb 1953	16.5 x 17
E	1	Map 2 – Rosendale Estates, Property of Preisman Realty	Kenneth J. Male	1" = 100'	30 Sep 1958	17 x 22
E	1	Map 3 – Rosendale Estates, Property of Preisman Realty	Kenneth J. Male	1" = 100'	24 Aug 1959	22 x 34
E	1	Map 4 – Rosendale Estates, Property of Preisman Realty	Kenneth J. Male	1" = 100'	16 Apr 1962	22 x 34
E	1	Map 5 – Preliminary – Rosendale Estates, Property of Preisman Realty	Kenneth J. Male	1" = 100'	25 Mar 1964	22 x 34
E	1	Map 6 – Rosendale Estates, Property of Preisman Realty	Kenneth J. Male	1" = 50'	26 May 1965	22 x 34
F	2	Fig. 6. Thesis main rod back end [technical drawing for American Locomotive Company]	C.H. Godfrey	unknown	8 May 1914	18 x 23
N/A	2	Clark H. Godfrey Residence, Rosendale Road, Niskayuna. 3 [of 3. Detail drawings][1 copy and 1 tracing]	R.L. Bowen	unknown	n.d.	17 x 26
G	2	[Plans for 207 State Street, Basement]	unknown	[1/8" = 1']	n.d.	11 x 15.5
G	2	207 State Street [First Floor]	unknown	1/8" = 1'	n.d.	11 x 15.5
G	2	[Plans for 207 State Street, Second Floor]	unknown	[1/8" = 1']	n.d.	11 x 15.5
G	2	[Plans for 207 State Street, Third Floor]	unknown	[1/8" = 1']	n.d.	11 x 15.5
G	2	Plans of the Furman Block, 201 to 207 State Street [2 c.]	[A.] Edward	3/8" = 5[']	Oct 1923	11.5 x 36
N/A	2	First Floor Plan [unknown house]	R.L. Bowen	1/4" = 1'	n.d.	17 x 22
N/A	2	Cellar Plan [unknown house]	R.L. Bowen	1/4" = 1'	n.d.	17 x 22
N/A	2	Second Floor Plan [unknown house]	R.L. Bowen	1/4" = 1'	n.d.	17 x 22
N/A	2	Rear and Front Elevation [unknown house]	R.L. Bowen	1/4" = 1'	n.d.	17 x 22
N/A	2	Left and Right Elevation [unknown house]	R.L. Bowen	1/4" = 1'	n.d.	17 x 22
N/A	2	Residence 1753. Front Elevation [unknown house]	L. Cohen	1/4" = 1'	9 Oct 1956	16 x 24.5
N/A	2	Residence 1753. Foundation Plan [unknown house]	L. Cohen	1/4" = 1'	9 Oct 1956	16 x 24.5
N/A	2	Residence 1753. Floor Plan [unknown house]	L. Cohen	1/4" = 1'	9 Oct 1956	16 x 24.5
N/A	2	Residence 1753. Section and Side Elevations [unknown house]	L. Cohen	1/4" = 1'	9 Oct 1956	16 x 24.5
N/A	2	Residence 1753. Rear Elevation [unknown house]	L. Cohen	1/4" = 1'	9 Oct 1956	16 x 24.5
N/A	2	Cellar Floor Plan – Furman Estate Building, 207 State Street	R.L. Bowen	1/4" = 1'	4 Nov 1954	19 x 32.5

Original box/folder	Map folder	Title	Creator	Scale	Date	Size (in.)
N/A	2	First Floor Plan – Furman Estate Building	R.L. Bowen	1/4" = 1'	20 Dec 1954	19 x 32.5
N/A	2	Second Floor Plan – Furman Estate Building	R.L. Bowen	1/4" = 1'	3 Jan 1955	19 x 32.5
N/A	2	Third Floor Plan – Furman Estate Building	R.L. Bowen	1/4" = 1'	11 Jan 1955	19 x 32.5

Original folder notations:

A = Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Development – Old Prints of Roads and Lots

B = Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Development – Land Surveys

C = Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Development

D = Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Development – Land Elevation Layout

E = Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Maps – B.S. Preisman Realty

F = Clark Godfrey – Rosendale Estates – Miscellaneous Data

G = Clark Godfrey – Furman Estate / Furman Block, Etc. – Maps and Plans

Series 2: Dorothea Godfrey Papers

Original box/folder	Map folder	Title	Creator	Scale	Date	Size (in.)
N/A	2	[partially completed genealogical fan chart for Dorothea Godfrey]	Goodspeed's Book Shop	N/A	n.d.	36.5 x 25