

MS-394

Focke Family Papers

**Special Collections and Archives
Wright State University Libraries**

**Processed by:
Jeremy Feador
May 2009**

Introduction

The Focke Family Papers is approximately 1.13 linear feet.

There are no restrictions on the use of the Focke Family Papers.

The Focke Family Papers are organized into 2 series:

Series I: Family History

Series II: Business History

Biographical Sketch

William Focke and his wife, Bernadine, founded the family business in 1875. The firm, a meat business known as William Focke Son's Company, was located in East Dayton, on the Springfield pike. In 1881, the Focke business bought a 15 ½ acre farm. The farm burnt during a gasoline fire in 1886.

By 1891 the firm purchased an ice machine, which helped increase business. The firm eventually expanded to 1004 East 5th Street. Here they served restaurants, hotels, and hospitals. (Information found in Box 1 File1)

Scope and Content Note

The Focke Family Papers contains personal information about the Focke family, as well as information about the family meat packing business.

Series I: Family History

Series I, Family History, contains two folders concerning the family history of the Focke Family.

Series II: Business History

Series II, Business History, contains information about the family business. Included in the series is an unidentified photograph, a scrapbook that includes news clippings and advertisements for the firm, and other business information.

Container Listing

| Series I | | Family History | |
|------------------|-------------|--|---------------------------|
| <u>Box</u> | <u>File</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Date</u> |
| 1 | 1 | Focke's Women History | 1924 |
| | 2 | Focke Family History | 1959, 1971 |
| Series II | | Business History | |
| <u>Box</u> | <u>File</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Date</u> |
| 1 | 3 | German Maid Sausages Patents & Agreements | 1913, 1919, 1936, 1954 |
| | 4 | Price List | Feb 2, 1923, Mar 16, 1936 |
| | 5 | Correspondence | 1930, 1935-1939 |
| | 6 | Report of Examination: The William Focke's Son's Company | Oct 31, 1929 |
| 2 | 1 | Photograph of Men in Suits | Undated |
| | 2 | William Focke's Son's Scrapbook | 1930s |