

Collection name: Alpena Exchange Telephone

Collection number: AETC-1

Dates: 1882-1889

Quantity: 1 oversized box (1 linear ft.)

Provenance note: Materials originated from the Alpena Exchange Telephone and Telegraph Construction Co. Receipt and Monthly report were created by Wm. Dunbar, manager of the company.

Biographical & Historical Information: In the fall of 1881, the Detroit Telephone and Telegraph Construction Co. visited Alpena to make arrangements for the creation of a telephone exchange. Already several prominent business entities and individuals subscribed to the telephone exchange: F.W. Gilchrist, Geo. L. Maltz, and W.H. Potter to name a few (Alpena Argus, Aug 3 1881 pg. 3). The creation of the Alpena Exchange Telephone and Telegraph Construction Co. was planned for September of the same year, with the hopes of other parties committing to lines to be committed to adding their locations to the new line. By Oct 1881, WM. Dunbar moved to Alpena to begin work as the manager of the Alpena Exchange (Alpena Argus, Oct 19, 1881 pg. 3). The Alpena Exchange operated from the third floor of the Bostwick block (corner of 2nd Ave and River St). Many of the future telephone companies in Alpena ran from the same building.

Scope & Content: Two records books regarding the Alpena Exchange Telephone and Telegraph Construction Co transactions with installing telephone lines and payments of lease between the years 1882-1889. Receipt and monthly report (1884) approved by Alpena Exchange manager WM. Dunbar.

Access: Open for research.

Preferred Citation: Alpena Exchange Telephone Collection, Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library

Contents:

Box 1:

Folders

1. Record of Leases, 1882 to 1886
2. Record of Transfer, 1889
3. Receipt, Nov. 11, 1884
4. Monthly Report, March 1884