

Collection name: Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan

Collection number: BMFNM-2

Dates: 1839-1989

Quantity: 2 boxes

Provenance note: On April 15, 2008, the Besser Museum's Board of Trustees made passed a motion to de-accession most portions of its archival collection in order to focus on its artifact collection. Once de-accessioned by the Museum, the archival collections become the property of the Library.

Biographical & Historical Information: In 1964, as a gift from Jesse H. Besser and other contributors, Alpena citizens became the recipients of the Jesse Besser Museum. In return local citizens collected funds to help purchase highly specialized projection and control equipment for a planetarium in the center of the new Museum. To this day, the Besser Museum is the only museum to host a Planetarium in Northern Michigan.

Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan is a community resource that serves to inspire curiosity, foster community pride, and cultivate personal legacy. The Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan is an educational 501(c)(3) public charitable organization accredited by the American Association of Museums. Its mission is to serve the public of all ages and abilities in art, history, and science. Through programs and exhibits, it promotes understanding and appreciation of the past, present, and future.

Taken from the Museum's website: www.bessermuseum.org

Scope & Content: Various historical documents relating to Alpena County: schools, industries, maritime, churches, events, transportation...

Access: Open to research.

Preferred Citation: Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan Collection, Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library.

Contents:**Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan****BMFNM - 2****Box 1 of 2:***Folder*

1. Alpena High School Oracle, 1907 (see box Schools – Yearbooks)
2. “Alpena, born in Lumber,” Detroit News Pictorial, January 23, 1938
3. Alpena City Band, 30th Anniversary Dinner, March 1948
4. Alpena-Dates of Early Events, 1862-1902, by Viall
5. Alpena-Dates of Early Events, 1839-1914, by Viall
6. Alpena Reunion & Get-together Announcement, 30th Annual, Detroit, October 1955
7. American Ship Builder, 50th Anniversary, 1949
8. Catholic Soldiers’ & Sailors’ Companion by Rev. McGrath, 1916; owned by Bonnie Lou (or Lau)
9. Cement City Cookbook prepared by First Baptist Church, Alpena, early 1900s
10. Citizen of the U.S. Certificate for Stanlus ZUZGA, 1904
11. City of Alpena-Envisioning the Future Session, March 1988
12. Continental Life Insurance Co., Identification Card & Insurance Receipt for Noah COHEN, 1928
13. First Congregational Church of Alpena, 1862-1987 (booklet)
14. Fraternal Order of Police, 19th Annual Conference, Alpena, 1958
15. Great Lakes Review: March & April 1948, January 1950, June & July 1951
16. Handbook for Messengers by U.S. Office of Civilian Defense, December 1941
17. Incidence of the name “Alpena”- brief history of the change of name from Fremont to Alpena
18. International Shipmasters’ Association, Grand Lodge Convention, 1948 & 1951
19. International Shipmasters’ Assoc., Ladies Auxiliary No. 6, Membership card for Leona Bigelow, 1952
20. Introducing Alpena, the City & County – published by League of Women Voters, 1966

Box 2 of 2:*Folder*

1. Manual for Great Lakes Officers – Coast Guard Reserve, 1944
2. Marine Radar Catalog, Sperry Gyroscope Co., c1949
3. Michigan Brown Trout Festival, Alpena, 15th Annual, 1989
4. Michigan Tradesman, “Alpena tops the list...”, August 1963
5. Midland Steamship Co. – Meal tickets (blank)
6. Postcards: NORDMEER, County Courthouse, Alpena General Hospital, Besser Museum, Bird Sanctuary, Alpena-general; Thunder Bay Island Lighthouse, Sturgeon Point Lighthouse, Sault Ste. Marie
7. Ramey School, Ossineke, 1915-16, 1932 (4 copied pages)
8. Railroad Tickets: East Jordan & Southern Railroad; Boyne City, Gaylord & Alpena Railroad
9. Rogers Bros. Seed Co., Alpena, partial correspondence to Denmark, April 1936
10. St. Paul Lutheran Church, Mother-Daughter Banquet Program, 9th Annual, 1935
11. Snow Train Song, Alpena Club of Detroit, 1940 – 1941
12. Soo Locks (booklet), 1950
13. Souvenir of the City of Alpena (booklet) by William Boulton, 1893
14. Steamboat Inspection Service - General Rules & Regulations, 1916 & 1921
15. Steamboat Inspection Service – Laws Governing..., 1915 & 1920
16. War Department – Office of Chief Signal Officer: form correction correspondence between 1st Lieut, C.R. Kiebowme (sp?), Washington, D.C. & Sergt. J.J. Fitzgerald, Signal Corps, Alpena, November 1882 – 5 letters.
17. Weather Bureau – Small Craft, Storm & Hurricane Warnings signal card, c1938
18. Weekly Mirror – published by A.H.S. Junior Class, May 7, 1924
19. Winter Carnival clippings, 1930s & 1940s
20. Winter Mooring List of Steamers & Barges compiled by Great Lakes Towing Co., January 1948