

**Collection name:** Esther M. Eddy Collection

**Collection number:** EEC-1

**Dates:** 1883 - 1958

**Quantity:** 4 boxes

**Provenance note:** Middle Island photographs (\*scans from glass-plate negatives) were taken by George Hartlep, Esther's father. Logbooks saved by Mr. Hartlep. Textiles worn by Mrs. Eddy as a child. Collection donated by Marilyn Thom (daughter) in 2007.

**Biographical & Historical Information:** Esther Eddy was the daughter of Lillian and George Hartlep, who was a member of the Middle Island (Lake Huron) Life-Saving Crew (No. 6 Surfman) in the early 1900s. She lived her young years on the island with her family. She graduated from Alpena High School in 1925.

Esther Eddy was very active in community programs and belonged to several groups such as the Women's Civic League and League of Women Voters. Her big love was politics, and she worked tirelessly for the re-election of Gov. Milliken and Gov. Romney. She was publicity chairperson for Rep. Victor Knox, Rep. Robert Davis, and Rep. Phil Ruppe when they were running for re-election to Washington, D. C.. She was active in the local GOP.

She was a member of the First Congregational Church, sang in the choir, and also served as church historian. She enjoyed writing poetry.

**Scope & Content:** Photography of life on Middle Island in the early 1900s; Middle Island Life-Saving Station logbooks (1883-1917); textiles worn by young Esther; political materials from later years; poetry written by Esther.

**Access:** Open for research.

**Preferred Citation:** Esther M. Eddy Collection, Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library

**Contents:****Box 1: Esther Eddy Collection***Folders*

1. Alpena High School – Ephemera (Class of 1925)
2. Alpena High School - "The Oracle 1924"
3. Alpena High School - "The Oracle 1925"
4. Choral Music
5. Grace Harbor, MI
6. Middle Island (see next box)
7. Newspaper clippings
8. Photograph (Avery School classroom)
9. Photographs (Besser Company, Annual Sales Conference 1955, 1958)  
[see back of box 4]
10. Photographs (family)
11. Photographs (family at Middle Island)
12. Photographs (family, album)
13. Photographs (social)
14. Photographs (surf boat transport-Erie Canal to Great Lakes)
15. Photographs (Union Hotel)
16. Photographs (Winter Carnival)
17. Poetry by Esther Eddy
18. Political activities
19. War Ration Books

**Box 2: Esther Eddy Collection***Folders*

1. Middle Island (photographs)
2. Middle Island (photographs)
3. Middle Island Life-Saving Station: Wreck Report (August 1883 – Nov. 1890)
4. Middle Island Life-Saving Station: Wreck Report (May 1891 – October 1896)
5. Middle Island Life-Saving Station: Wreck Report (August 1914 – Sept. 1917)

**Box 3: Esther Eddy Collection***Folders*

1. Textiles: Christening gown
2. Textiles: Dress (toddler & baby)
3. Textiles: Dress (girl)
4. Textiles: Gloves (cream)
5. Textiles: Gloves (black)
6. Textiles: Pillow

**Box 4: Esther Eddy Collection***Folders*

1. Textiles: Shoes (baby)
2. Textiles: Sugar sack
3. Textiles: Undergarment (female)
4. Textiles: Undergarment (female)
5. Photographs (Besser Company, Annual Sales Conference 1955, 1958)  
[Rolled]

**\*Scans of Glass-Plate Negatives on Library's Server – Ask Special Collections Librarian\***