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MSS 473 Files 9-12

Title: Hull-Underwood Family Collection, Lorain and Medina Counties, 1800-1990

Location: Ohio Genealogical Society, Lyle H. West Archives, 611 SR 97 W, Bellville, Ohio, 44813

Preferred Citation: Hull-Underwood Family Collection, Lorain and Medina Counties, 1800-1990, MSS 473, file number. Lyle H. West Archives, Ohio Genealogical Society, Bellville, Ohio.

Dates: 1800-1978

Creator(s): Harold H. Hull (1894-1990); Clela A. Underwood Hull (1896-1980); Helen L. Hull Kirkpatrick (1924-2009); Norman C. Muller (1909-2001)

Donor(s): Linda Hull Stuart, Huntsville, Alabama

Biography of Creators:

From obituary, unknown paper, 1990—

"Harold H. Hull, 95, of Elyria formerly of Amherst died Friday at Elyria Memorial and Health Center after a short illness. He was born in Wellington and lived in the Lorain County area all his life. He was a motorman-conductor for the former Cleveland Southwestern Inter-Urban Railroad until 1931. He then became operations manager for the Cities Service Oil Co. in Elyria, retiring in 1959. Mr. Hull is survived by daughters, Phyllis A. Hanna of St. Louis, Mo., Helen Louise Kirkpatrick of Amherst; a son, Ronald W. Hull of Charleston, S.C.; 10 grandchildren; and by 10 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Clela, in 1980; two great-grandchildren; and by brothers [siblings] Dewey and Tressa...Burial will be in Ridgelawn Cemetery, Elyria."

From obituary, unknown paper, 1980—

"Mrs. Clela Hull, 83, of 364 Shady Drive, Amherst, died Tuesday at the Elyria Home after a long illness. Born in Westfield, she had lived in both Elyria and Largo, Fla. She was a member of the

First Christian Church of Largo. She is survived by her husband Harold H.; daughters Phyllis A. Hanna of St. Louis, Mo., Helen Louise Kirkpatrick of Amherst; a son, Ronald W. Hull of Charleston, S.C.; 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Private graveside services will be Friday at Ridgelawn Cemetery.”

From obituary, available from funeral home website—

“Helen Louise Kirkpatrick (nee: Hull), 84 years of age, and a resident of Amherst, passed away Saturday, January 24, 2009 at Community Health Partners in Lorain following a brief illness. She was born April 19, 1924 in Elyria, Ohio. Helen was raised in Elyria and graduated from Elyria High School in the class of 1941. She had lived in Florida, Arizona and Texas before making her home in Amherst where she resided for the last forty-seven years. Helen was a loving housewife and mother. She was very active in her community and lived to serve. Helen was a member and past President of the Amherst Women's League, a charter member of the Amherst Historical Society; past member of the General Federation of the Women's Club, past member of the Ohio Federation of the Women's club where she held the office of Lake Erie District President and was named into the Blue Book of Distinguished Women of Ohio, past member of the Alpha Delta Chapter of the Epsilon Sigma Omicron (ESO) where she achieved the Century award, the highest level obtainable. Helen was a member of the Amherst Homemakers serving as President for two terms. She was a past Co-Chairman and board member for Sandstone Summer Theater. She was also a member of the Snappy Gingers, a group who put on silly plays and sang for the community. Helen along with her late husband was active in the Masonic Order where she was a past member of the following Masonic chapters: The Arizona Bethel # 47 Job's Daughters, Phoenix Chapter #5 Order of the Eastern Stars where she was a fifty year member, Arizona Shrine #1 of the Order of White Shrine of Jerusalem, Kinishba Court # 6 Order of Amaranth and the Lorain Assembly #147 Social Order of Beauceant where she served as the Worthy President in 1966 and in 1978. Helen was involved with the Erie Shores Girls scouts for many years and while her son was growing up was a Cub Scout leader. She also was a 4-H leader for her children and grandchildren. She helped with the Lorain Family Y Swim team, while also being an active member of the Amherst Band Boosters. Helen loved to travel with her late husband and was proud that she had been to thirty-three states and numerous other countries. Survivors include her son James Thomas Kirkpatrick and his wife Carol; her daughters Peggy Raesler and her husband Jim, Christina Shiltz and her husband Jeffery, and, Barbara Kirkpatrick who all reside in Amherst; her grandchildren Tracey Evans of Westlake, Rebecca Stewart of Delaware, Ohio, Deborah Raesler of Amherst, Michael Raesler of Lorain, Richard Kirkpatrick of Brunswick, Carrie Roth of North Ridgeville, Rachel, Amanda, Daniel and Kaitlyn Shiltz all of Amherst; her great grandchildren Alex, Samantha and Lucas Evans, Nathan and Megan Stewart, Kylie and Keira Kirkpatrick, Alana Roth, Natalie and Jacob Raesler and Aaron

Boothe; her brother Ronald Hull of Arizona and her sister Phyllis Hanna of California. She was preceded in death by her husband of sixty-three years Harry Kirkpatrick, Jr. on December 24, 2007; her granddaughters Sara and Carolyn Shiltz; and by her parents Harold and Clela Hull (nee: Underwood). Helen choice of disposition was to donate her body to Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine of Cleveland, Ohio. A reception for friends and family will be held Saturday, January 31, 2009 from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. with a Memorial Service to follow to honor Helen at 3:00 p.m. at the Hempel Funeral Home; 373 Cleveland Ave., Amherst. The Rev. Daniel Reinke, pastor of Park Avenue United Methodist Church, will officiate."

From obituary in News-Journal (Mansfield, Ohio), Saturday, January 20, 2001, page 10—

"Norman C. Muller, 91, of Ashland died Friday, January 19, 2001, at Griffeth Nursing Home after a short illness. He was born March 14, 1909 in Lorain, Ohio, and was the son of the late Paul R. and Nora Lord Muller and brother to Pauline and Dorothy. He had been a resident of Ashland for forty years. He was a 1927 graduate of Lorain High School and completed two years of college. Mr. Muller was a retired self-employed electrician serving Ashland, Mansfield, and the surrounding area. He wrote letters to the National Shut In Society for 29 years. On December 25, 1945 he married Lois Lepage who preceded him in death in 1998. He is survived by two sons, Carl W. and Robert E. Muller, both of Ashland; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren...burial at Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Olivesburg."

Scope and Content: The collection contains family photographs and papers of Harold H. Hull (1894-1990) and Clela A. Underwood Hull (1896-1980) of Lorain County, Ohio. The Underwoods were originally from LeRoy (now Westfield Center), Medina County, Ohio. Also included is the Joseph Hull family reunion minutes ledger, created by descendants of Joseph L. Hull (1819-1895) and Sarah A. Garver (1820-1891), who were both born in Wayne County, Ohio, and moved to Lorain County, Ohio. Minutes begin in 1918 and go until 1967.

The collection also contains a significant number of photographs and recollections from Harold Hull and Norman Muller (1909-2001) on the Cleveland, Southwestern & Columbus Railway and streetcars and passenger rail in Lorain County, Ohio, 1900-1931. Harold worked as a conductor and motorman for the CS&C until its closure; Norman worked as a repairman and electrician.

System of Arrangement: No original order; arranged by topic by processor.

Extent: 4 files

Access: No access restrictions.

Language: English

Provenance: Donated to the OGS by Linda (Lindy) Hull Stuart, April 20, 2026. Linda received the collection from her aunt, Helen Hull Kirkpatrick (1924-2009).

Processing Information: Newspaper clippings were photocopied and removed. Class and school photos from LeRoy (Westfield Center), Medina County were moved to Ohio Photograph Collection. A school souvenir program from Huntington Center School, district no. 1, Huntington township, Lorain County, Ohio, 1902, was moved to the Yearbook collection [Rare books]. Frank E. Hull was the teacher; roster of students included in program.

Additional Notes: Materials in Files 9 and 10 were highlighted in an article in the *OGN* Summer 2026, "Memories of the Cleveland, Southwest & Columbus Railway in Lorain County, Ohio."

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Box 1:

File 0: Finding aid, deed of gift, context

File 9: "Harold Hull...The Railway Years" compiled by Helen Hull Kirkpatrick [title from original binder]; includes photographs and other memorabilia (clippings, pamphlets, timetables) related to the Cleveland, Southwestern & Columbus Railway or Inter-urban Railroad, 1900-1931, with particular focus on the lines and streetcars that served Lorain County.

Photographs include various streetcars, railways, and employees. Transcribed speech Harold Hull delivered in 1976 to Amherst Historical Society about his work as a conductor included.

Identified photographs (original and high quality, glossy reproductions):

Streetcar no. 122 or 123 (number partially covered by unidentified man), 2 employees in front

Streetcar no. 117, Amherst

Harold Hull (1894-1990) and Helen Hull Kirkpatrick (1924-2009), in front of streetcar, 1978

Harold Hull (1894-1990) wearing conductor's uniform, next to mid-20th century passenger car, 1978

Harold Hull (1894-1990) wearing conductor's uniform, next to streetcar, 1978

Streetcar no. 123, Seville-Mansfield-Bucyrus, on track near Polk pay station, Ashland County, Ohio

LeRoy (Westfield Center) pay station, Medina County, Ohio, unidentified man in front, car no. 13101 in background, off tracks (appears to have been used as an office)

Streetcar no. 200, the Alvesta, in front of the Elyria YMCA, group of unidentified men in front

Substation for the CS&C Electric at the Lorain and Amherst Junction

Streetcar no. 128 at the LeRoy substation/pay station, c. 1907, Westfield, Medina County, unidentified employees in front

Group photo of unidentified CS&C railway conductors, motormen, and other employees, taken at Chippewa Lake, Medina County, Ohio

Streetcars and railway at Elyria, Lorain County, street not identified

"Front end of Cleveland & Southwestern car showing trunk guard and orderly arrangement of apparatus, etc.," at the Elyria car barns, likely reproduced from magazine or newspaper clipping

Streetcar no. 139, Cleveland-Ashland-Mansfield, at the Rockport car barns (2 photos)

Railway crossing at Puritas Springs Road and Rocky River Drive (Puritas Junction Stop 7), Cuyahoga County, Ohio, with two streetcars (no. 161 and another car), with a Model T to the side, unidentified man in front, 1916

Streetcar no. 105 at the Puritas Spring Park turn-around, motorman George Arter and conductor Grover Pease with two other unidentified men, 1914

Group photo of unidentified CS&C railway conductors, motormen, and other employees, taken at Elyria car barns, Lorain County, Ohio. Only Harold Hull identified (2nd row, 3rd from right)

Group photo of unidentified railway conductors, motormen, and other employees, taken at Elyria car barns, Lorain County, Ohio. Only Harold Hull identified (1st row, 4th from right)

Streetcar no. 131, Cleveland-Berea, at Rockport car barns, near Kamms Corners, Cuyahoga County, Ohio

"Aerial view of Puritas Springs Park in 1927. Shows dance hall which later burned. See track crossing road to run along dance hall to loop behind it." [description taken from caption by Helen Hull Kirkpatrick], Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Streetcar no. 57, "one of the first cars on the Southwestern to run from Elyria to Lorain," photo taken prior to the line's acquisition by the CS&C [photocopy]

Motorman Orrie Thomasson, taken at North Ridgeville, in front of Southwestern streetcar [likely Oralie William Thomasson (1878-1963), who moved to Palmello, Florida in the 1940s after retiring from the CS&C/Green Line, died in Sarasota, Florida]

File 10: "The Cleveland, Southwestern & Columbus Railway" by Norman C. Muller (1909-2001), Ashland County, Ohio. A pictorial history of the CS&C in Lorain County, Ohio, based on the recollections of Norman Muller, who grew up in Lorain and later became an employee of the CS&C, working at the local substation as a repairman. Norman also became a historian for the line, and began collecting artifacts and other memorabilia from the company. *See file 0 for additional information on Norman.*

Each page contains a picture with accompanying narrative from Norman.

File 11: Hull-Underwood family photographs, 1918-1954

File 11a: Hull family reunion group photos, 1954, at Avon Lake City Park

File 11b: Photo-post card of Grover G. Hull (1892-1973) in uniform taken while deployed, 1918 or 1919; served in the 308th Engineers, Company B, 83rd Division¹

File 11c: Identified Hull-Underwood family photos, 1900-1938

¹ Returning soldiers' data cards from the 83rd Division are available at the Lyle H. West Archives at OGS, MSS 471. They have also been digitized by FamilySearch: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/collection/3039663>. A copy of Grover's card has been added to File 0; original card still in MSS 471.

- Mark Stern (1875-1940), taken at Lodi, Ohio studio, c. 1900. Son of John Stern (1827-1896) and Ardella C. Smith Stern (1850-1922), Clela Underwood Hull's uncle.
- Phyllis Hull Hanna (1920-2014), likely a graduation portrait
- 4 family group photos taken on the same day, in front of the Hull family home at 353 11th Street, Elyria, March 3, 1918, when Grover G. Hull returned from Germany
 - Walter E. Hull (and Sarah Lenora Hull (1873-1932)
 - Dewey Hull (1898-1986) and Florence O'Hara Hull (1896-1969)
 - Dorothy B. Hull Bliss (1889-1925)
 - Emil Clayton Bliss (1887-1971)
 - Edward Buswell (1892-1978) and Elverta Hull Buswell (1891-1972)
 - Wilson Buswell (1913-2013)
 - Gladys Griffith (Grover's girlfriend)
 - Grover G. Hull (1892-1973)
 - Clela Underwood Hull (1896-1980) and Harold H. Hull (1894-1990)
 - Tressa Hull Sassmanhausen (1896-1979) and Lee Sassmanhausen (1900-1957)

File 11d: Ronald William Hull (1934-2023) baby photo, 3 months old

File 11e: Unidentified Hull-Underwood family baby photos, likely the 3 Hull children

File 12: Hull family bound materials—reunion minutes ledger with related letters and ephemera; Hull baby diary (for all 3 children, Phyllis, Helen, and Ronald); Harold H. Hull (1894-1990)

- Hull family reunion minutes ledger contains meeting minutes from 1918 to 1968 as well as birth, marriage, and death information (in chronological order) for family members and their family groups. Descendants of Joseph L. Hull (1819-1895) and Sarah A. Garver (1820-1891), who were both born in Wayne County, Ohio, then moved to Lorain County.
 - **Other surnames**: Brundage; Rounds; Gillette; Doane; McClellan; Shade; Dock; Crowner; Gessner; Griggs; Harter; Miller; Buswell; Sassmanhausen; Lee; Gibson; Dunning
 - Letters and ephemera previously placed in front cover of ledger removed and clipped together. Includes reunion invitations and notes from Mrs. Marilyn Lee [Mrs. William Lee], of Vermilion/Elyria, Ohio, planned the reunion in the 1960s
- Hull baby diary contains details (first words, crawling, walking, christening, etc.) on the first year to 2 years of the lives of all 3 Hull children: Phyllis A. Hull Hanna (1920-2014),

Helen Louise Hull Kirkpatrick (1924-2009), and Ronald W. Hull (1934-2023). Some details on daily life and other family members (grandparents, aunts, uncles) and neighbors also included.

- Funeral register for Harold Hull, 1990, Elyria, Ohio. Includes names of funeral attendees and family members.

Key Words: Hull; Underwood; Lorain County; Medina County; Wayne County; Cleveland, Southwestern & Columbus Railway; streetcars.

Processed by: Jenna Kish, OGS Archivist, May 18-21, 2026

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