Background on William A. Adams

During the 1870s, William A. Adams maintained a blacksmithing shop close to the intersection of Walnut and Hickory Streets in Springfield, Mass. His trade ran from farriery to repairing iron work, wheels, and wagons, and situated as he was near the southern end of Watershops Pond, one of the industrial centers of the city, his customers ranged from local residents to manufacturing firms, the city, and the Armory.

The Adams account book contains approximately 150 pages containing brief records of blacksmithing work for a range of customers located in the immediate area. Among the more names mentioned are the grocers Perkins and Nye, W. and E.W. Pease Co., J. Kimberley and Co., and Common Councilman William H. Pinney and J. W. Lull, all of whom can be located within a few blocks of Adams’ shop.

See similar SCUA collections:

Massachusetts (West) Trades

William A. Adams Daybook

1876-1878

1 volume (0.1 linear ft.)

Call no.: MS 624 bd
Scope of collection

The Adams account book contains brief records of blacksmithing work for a range of customers located in the immediate area. Among the more names mentioned are the grocers Perkins and Nye, W. and E.W. Pease Co., J. Kimberley and Co., and Common Councilman William H. Pinney and J. W. Lull, all of whom can be located within a few blocks of Adams’ shop. The account book had a second life as an object for a child’s doodling and, perhaps later still, as a would-be scrapbook, nevertheless the majority of entries remain legible.

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Acquired from Dan Casavant, 1999.

Processing Information

Processed by Dex Haven, August 2009.

Language:

English

Copyright and Use (More information)

Cite as: William A. Adams Daybook (MS 624 bd). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

Search terms

Subjects

- Blacksmiths--Massachusetts--Springfield
- Horseshoers--Massachusetts--Springfield
- Springfield (Mass.)--Economic conditions--19th century.

Names

- Adams, William A.

Genre terms

- Daybooks

Link to similar SCUA collections

Massachusetts (West)  Trades