

**The Filson Historical Society**

**German Protestant Orphanage Home  
Records, 1851-1966**

For information regarding literary and copyright interest for these papers, see the Curator of Special Collections, James J. Holmberg.

**Size of Collection**  
**8 cubic feet**

**Locator Number**  
**Mss./BJ/G373**

## **German Protestant Orphanage Home Records, 1851-1966**

### **Biographical Note**

The German Protestant orphanage opened in 1851 with the goal of helping children in Louisville and the surrounding area find a good place to live and provide those who could not with a place to stay. The orphanage served the public in this capacity by providing the children with basic needs such as clothes, shoes, food, medical service, and shelter. The home provided the children with jobs as indentured servants during the early 1900's. The funding for the home derived from several sources with some examples being donations from the public, the work of organizations within the home like the Ladies Aid Society, and events that were held for the home like Summer Night Fest and a picnic in Phoenix Hill Park. The main source of revenue for the home was investment in Louisville area real estate. The home held a large number of mortgages around the area from which they collected interest and payments on a monthly basis; this provided the backbone for the finances of the home. The home continued to serve the Louisville area until the 1960's when the name changed to the Brooklawn Home for boys. After the name change, the home also took on the task of providing education to boys from abused homes and with violent backgrounds.

**German Protestant Orphanage Home  
Records, 1851-1966**

**Scope and Content Note**

This collection focuses mostly on the financial records of the home with many of the early records from the 1800's largely written in German. The collection turns almost exclusively to English around World War I. The main use of this collection is genealogy due to the information available on a number of orphans within the collection. This information focuses mainly on the orphan's arrival at the home, departure from the home, and personal information like date of birth. The collection also includes narratives of the life in the home on a monthly basis as reported by the superintendent of the home to the Board of Trustees. In addition to this there are numerous loose items in the collection that relate to the volumes they are found in, to events held for the home, or to the German community in Louisville.

**German Protestant Orphanage Home  
Records, 1851-1966**

**Volume List**

**Box 1**

**Volume 1: Minutes of Trustees Meetings 1851-1869 German**

**Volume 5: Minutes of Trustees Meetings 1927-1935 English**

**Volume 6: Minutes of Trustees Meetings 1936-1942 English**

**Volume 7: Minutes of Trustees Meetings 1942-1949 English**

**Volume 8: Minutes of Trustees Meetings 1949-1955 English**

**Volume 9: Registers 1852-1882 German**

**Volume 10: Registers 1883-1910 German**

**Volume 11: Registers 1911-1922 English/German**

**Volume 12: Alphabetical Cross Index (incomplete) 1852-1964 English**

**Box 2**

**Volume 16: Ladies Aid Society Minutes 1873-1902 German**

**Volume 18: Ladies Aid Society Minutes 1948-1966 English**

**Volume 19: Annual Reports 1880-1957 German/English**

**Volume 20: Superintendents Reports to the Trustees 1875-1884 German**

**Volume 21: Superintendents Reports to the Trustees 1894-1900 German**

**Volume 22: Superintendents Reports to the Trustees 1901-1909 German**

**Volume 23: Superintendents Reports to the Trustees 1910-1921 German/English**

**Volume 24: Superintendents Reports to the Trustees 1938-1948 English**

**Volume 25: Superintendents Reports to the Trustees 1949-1955 English**

**Volume 26: Trustees Attendance Book 1897-1926 English**

**Box 3**

**Volume 27: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1891-1901 English**

**Volume 28: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1895-1903 English**

**Volume 29: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1903-1914 English**

**Volume 31: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1915-1921 English**

**Volume 33: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1923-1950 English**

**Volume 36: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1945-1947 English**

**Volume 37: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1948-1950 English**

**Volume 38: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1949-1957 English**

**Volume 39: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1954-1956 English**

**Volume 40: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1954-1958 English**

**Box 4**

**Volume 41: Endowment Board Minutes 1892-1924 English**

**Volume 42: Endowment Board Minutes 1924-1939 English**

**Volume 43: Expenses 1905-1921 English**

**Volume 44: Expenses 1921-1926 English**

**Volume 45: Expenses 1922-1926 English**

**Volume 46: Expenses 1922-1931 English**

**Volume 47: Expenses 1935-1942 English**

**Volume 48: Expenses 1937-1953 English**

**Box 5**

**Volume 49: Expenses 1949-1953 English**

**Volume 50: Expenses 1949-1955 English**

**Volume 51: Expenses 1952-1958 English**

**Volume 52: Expenses 1955-1958 English**

**Oversized Volumes**

**Volume 2: Minutes of Trustees Meetings 1869-1892 German Oversized**

**Volume 3: Minutes of Trustees Meetings 1893-1918 German Oversized**

**Volume 4: Minutes of Trustees Meetings 1918-1926 English Oversized**

**Volume 13: Applications for Admission 1886-1927 English Oversized**

**Volume 14: Applications for Admission 1927-1950 English Oversized**

**Volume 15: Contracts of Indentures 1896-1929 English Oversized**

**Volume 17: Ladies Aid Society Minutes 1902-1925 German/English Oversized**

**Volume 30: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1904-1909 English Oversized**

**Volume 32: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1921-1933 English Oversized**

**Volume 34: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1933-1940 English Oversized**

**Volume 35: Accounts Receivable/Investments 1941-1945 English Oversized**

**Folders**

**Volume 53: Oversized Folder Charter of Home, Photograph of the Board of Trustees before 1902, Photograph of Ladies Aid Society after 1902**