

**Miss Edna M. Neff (1880-1970)
Collection
A Finding Aid**

Livingston County Historian's Office
5 Murray Hill Dr.
Mt. Morris, NY 14510
August 2015

I. Collection Summary

Title	Miss Edna M. Neff (1880-1970) Collection
Collection No.	C139
Extent	.66 linear feet
Date Range	1911-1925
Abstract	<p>This collection comprises personal correspondence sent to Miss Edna M. Neff of Geneseo, Livingston County, New York, in the early part of the 20th century. The main correspondent is her sister, Grace L. Neff, with letters also from her brother, Dr. Everett R. Neff, and friends. Grace Neff mainly writes from Brockport, New York, and Everett lives in Carthage, New York. Occasionally letters are also addressed to their mother, Mrs. Newton W. Neff of Geneseo. The letters, in protective sleeves, are in good condition, fill four binders and are arranged chronologically.</p>
Languages	English.
Access and Restrictions	<p>Use of the documents in the collection is for serious research and by request and permission of the Livingston County Historian's Office. Any use of the material in publications must be cited as follows, "Courtesy of Livingston County Historian's Office, New York". Additionally, all documents should be handled with care.</p> <p>To arrange to conduct research with the documents in the collection, contact the Livingston County Historian by mail at: 5 Murray Hill Drive, Mount Morris, NY, by phone at (585) 243-7955, or by e-mail at Historian@livingstoncountyny.gov.</p>
Copyright	<p>Some materials may be subject to copyright. Researchers are required to seek written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce and/or publish materials under copyright.</p>

II. Biographical and Background Information

Edna M. Neff was the daughter of Newton W. Neff (1843-1923) (son of Abraham Neff (1805-1893)) and Flora F. (Dieffenbacher) Neff (1842-1922). Edna was born in 1880 and was sister to Vernon Neff (1868-1912); Dr. Everett R. Neff of Carthage, Jefferson County, New York, a dentist (1881-1928); and Grace L. Neff (1883-1956), a teacher at the State Teacher's College at Brockport.

Edna lived for many years at her parents' house at 54 Wadsworth St. in the village of Geneseo before moving to 69 Center St. where she lived with her sister, Grace. According to legal notices, when her father died in 1923, his living children, including Edna, and his brother and business partner, Charles D. Neff, agreed to continue the coal, lumber, and supply business as a partnership. The sisters held shares until 1939 when they relinquished the business to their uncle, Charles D. Neff, and his new partner, Fred Neff.

At the end of her life, Edna resided at the nursing home in Warsaw, where she lived to the age of 90 years, dying in 1970.

While it is not known who donated the collection of letters to the Livingston County Historian's Office, likely prior to 2005, it is apparent that Edna saved correspondence sent to her by family and friends and therefore the collection is fairly substantial between the years of 1914-1925.

III. Contents List

Box 1	Binder 1	Neff family correspondence, 1911-1914
Box 1	Binder 2	Neff family correspondence, 1915-1919
Box 1	Binder 3	Neff family correspondence, 1920-1922
Box 1	Binder 4	Neff family correspondence, 1923-1925

IV. Related Materials

Livingston County Historian's Office

- 1) Neff family file – genealogical information
- 2) Neff family file originals – assorted Neff family notes
- 3) Geneseo business archival files – various bills and receipts for Neff coal and lumber business
- 4) Photograph series – Neff family photographs