

Record Group 20
Plymouth Air Rifle Company
1887-1998 (predominately 1887-1894)
1 manuscript box

Plymouth Historical Museum, Plymouth, MI
Finding Aid Written by Lena Packer, 18 January 2006
Updated by Jennifer Meekhof 21 Sept 2011

Creator: Plymouth Air Rifle Company
Acquisition: The Plymouth Air Rifle Company records were deposited in the archives on multiple dates from 1975 through 2002
Language: Materials in English
Access: Records are open for research
Use: Refer to Archives Reading Room Guidelines
Notes: Citation Style: "Plymouth Air Rifle Company," Record Group 20, Archives, Plymouth Historical Museum

Abstract

The Plymouth Air Rifle Company was started by Clarence Hamilton and Cyrus A. Pinckney. They purchased the E.W. Beam carriage shop in March 1888, to use as a factory to produce their rifles. Hamilton left the company in 1889, after which the company added an addition to the factory. Sunday, October 14, 1894, the factory burned to the ground. Efforts were made to rebuild, but ultimately failed, thus ending the Plymouth Air Rifle Company.

Scope and Content

The Plymouth Air Rifle Company record group consists mostly of articles and photographs about the company. There are original photographs and documents (such as a post card) that give the researcher a general idea of the air rifle product produced by Plymouth Air Rifle Company. The collection also holds articles written about the company that come from newspaper, magazine and catalogue sources.

Entries

[Entry 1:](#) Plymouth Air Rifle Company Notebook
[Entry 2:](#) Photographs
[Entry 3:](#) Articles
[Entry 4:](#) Original Documents
[Entry 5:](#) Books

Important Subjects

Air Rifles – 20th century
Local Companies – Plymouth, MI

Entry 1: Plymouth Air Rifle Company Notebook
Box 1

Notebook on Plymouth Air Rifle Company, includes newspaper clippings from 1887-1894, magazine articles, catalogues, photographs, compiled by Wes Powers.

Entry 2: Photographs

Boy in uniform with rifle

Clarence Bennett

Clarence Bennett and others

Rifle display

Employee picture

Employees in front of company building, 1890-3

Negative, Plymouth Air Rifle Band

Plymouth Iron Windmill Co., first brick factory building, 1889

Entry 3: Articles

“The Plymouth Air Rifle Company,” *American Rifleman*, February 1998

“The Plymouth Air Rifle Company,” a Wilcox Scholarship essay

Entry 4: Original Documents

Postcard to Plymouth Savings Bank from German-American Bank regarding Plymouth Air Rifle Co., 1893

Entry 5: Books

Kerstens, Elizabeth Kelley. *Plymouth's Air Rifle Industry*. 2013.