

Record Group 33 Burroughs Finding Aid

1937-1998

1 manuscript box

Plymouth Historical Museum, Plymouth, MI

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Creator: Burroughs Corporation

Acquisition: The Burroughs records were deposited in the archives at various dates from 1991 through 2026.

Language: Materials in English

Access: Records are open for research

Use: Refer to Archives Reading Room Guidelines

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Abstract

The Burroughs Corporation was founded in the 1880s by William Seward Burroughs. It was originally named the American Arithmometer Company, formed in St. Louis Missouri. In 1904, the company moved to Detroit, with a new facility featuring over 70,000 square feet. In 1905, the company was renamed the Burroughs Adding Machine Company as a tribute to William S. Burroughs, who died in 1898. In 1937, the company opened a plant in Plymouth.

Scope and Content

The Burroughs record group consists of records about the company and its products. These records include pamphlets, flyers, newspaper articles, and photographs.

Entries

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Important Subjects

Burroughs Corporation
Local History—Plymouth, MI
Local Companies—Plymouth, MI

Box 1, Shelf 55

Entry 1: Photographs

Plymouth's Proud of Burroughs Week

1959 celebration outside City Hall
Celebration carriage ride
Carriage ride across Main Street
Company leaders dressed as Pilgrims
Mgr. Lorenz next to an ice sculpture in "B" shape
Meal being served
Employees working on adding machine
Head table with Henderson, Lindsay, Eppert, Guenther, and Native Americans in
 Mayflower Room
Eppert speaking at lunch
View of Mayflower Room during lunch in Mayflower Room
Eppert with Native Americans
Town Crier, C.V. Sparks, reading Proclamation in Mayflower Room
Eppert and others on Main Street near Museum
Eppert, Guenther, and others in carriage
Display of 2 mannequins in stocks
Street banner, "Plymouth's Proud of Burroughs"
Carriage ride on Main Street-Guenther, Lindsay, and Eppert
Introductions at City Hall, M.C. Henderson, Eppert, Mgr. of C of C Millikin,
 Commissioner Hartmann, and Township Clerk Broome
Guenther, Cooper, Lindsay, Eppert, and Henderson in front of company display in hotel
 lobby
Hotel lobby with Eppert, Cooper, Lindsay, and Guenther
Eppert, Lindsay, Guenther, and Cooper with Mgr. Lorenz
Burroughs display with Guenther, Lindsay, Cooper, and Eppert
Mgr. Millikin and Hugh Griffin outside C of C office
Susan Wesley and Dr. A. C. Williams in the stocks
Mgr. Millikin and Pres. Eppert at plant
Various duplicate photos of above-mentioned celebration
Other company photos
Aerial photograph of plant in 1955
Plant under construction
Postcard of Plymouth plant
Drawing of plant in 1938
Packard delivery truck operated by Burroughs in 1910
Plant workers in 1969
Burroughs cash register

Lodge at Burroughs Farms near Brighton, MI around 1928
"Stroll Through Our History" CD
Burroughs Co. Gun Farm in Brighton, MI –Trap and skeet shooting
Barney Platt shooting trap at Burroughs Gun Farm
People at Burroughs Gun Farm (4 photos)
Workers assembling adding machines
Burroughs plant with Mr. Platt, superintendent of power & maintenance, March, 1937
(2 photos)
Parade honoring Burroughs Corp. Horse and buggy, Mayor Harold Guenther in front
seat; Supervisor Roy Lindsay, Roy R. Eppert, President of Burroughs in back
seat. All in pilgrim dress.
Parade honoring Burroughs Corp. In Pilgrim dress.
Parade honoring Burroughs Corp. In Pilgrim dress.
Aerial shot, Burroughs, 1957

Map Case 2, Drawer 2

Burroughs delivery truck circa 1920
Burroughs under construction 1938

Entry 2: The B Line Newspaper

Folder 1

"The B Line," June 20, 1955
"The B Line," June 7, 1956

Entry 3: Pamphlets, Flyers, and Calendar

Folder 1

Booklet, "The Story of Figures"
Booklet, "My Trip to Detroit"
1986 flyer, "Burroughs Ranked Number 1"
Brochure, "Welcome to Plymouth Facility-Unisys, 1987"
Pamphlet, "Burroughs History" (2 copies)
Calendar, "The History of the Plymouth Plant" (2 copies)
Booklet, "Burroughs at Plymouth" (2 copies)
Flyer, "Burroughs Corporation, Invention and Technology"
Booklet, "Plymouth Division of Burroughs Corporation," ca. 1956
Advertisement, "Burrough's Portable Adding Machine"
Brochure, "New Burroughs Plant at Plymouth Now Ready for Occupancy"
Magazine, "InFocus Burroughs," Vol. 2, No. 4 Fall 1983
Postcard, Burroughs with various machines

Entry 4: Newspaper Clippings

Folder 1

Burroughs plant newspaper, Christmas edition, 1968
Plymouth Mail section devoted to Burroughs Week, March 19, 1959
"View of Progress at Burroughs Adding Machine Company," *The Plymouth Mail*,
5/21/31

“Burroughs Plant Opened Monday,” *The Plymouth Mail*, 3/25/38
“Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Pushing Ahead at Rapid Pace Here,” *The Plymouth Mail*
“Plymouth Waitress and Construction Foreman Die in 245-Foot Fall on Forbidden Sight-Seeing Trip Here,” *The Plymouth Mail*, 9/10/37
“Construction of Burroughs Plant over Half Done,” *The Plymouth Mail*
“Installation of Machinery in Huge Burroughs Adding Machine Company Factory Will Start in Mid-October,” *The Plymouth Mail*, 1937
“Burroughs Adding Machine Plant to Open Here Monday,” *The Plymouth Mail*, 3/18/38
Photo of Burroughs Plant, *Detroit Free Press*, 8/31/52
“Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Makes Building Survey,” *The Plymouth Mail*, 8/14/36
“Plymouth Lets Burroughs Know They are Welcome,” *The Plymouth Mail*, 3/26/59
“Plymouth Shows It’s Proud,” 1959
“Burroughs Not Closing Here, Says President,” 5/8/71
“Plymouth boasts ties to subject of new film,” *Observer & Eccentric*, 10/24/91
“Unisys, community have changed over the years,” *The Observer & Eccentric*, 5/3/90
“Landmark will bite the dust,” *Detroit News*, 5/27/98
“Scroll Proclaims Plymouth’s Appreciation for Burroughs” 1959
“Exhibit tells story of growth, change,” *Observer & Eccentric*, 1998
“Burroughs Company Makes Survey of Property on Plymouth Road,” *Plymouth Mail*, September 11, 1936
“Burroughs Adding Machine Co. Makes Building Survey,” *Plymouth Mail*, August 14, 1936
Burroughs Bulletin, June 3, 1930 (one full copy; one partial copy)

Entry 5: Burroughs Company Information

Folder 1

Memorable dates in Burroughs history at Plymouth
Interoffice Unisys memo about company display at Plymouth Historical Museum, 10/23/89
“Special for Time Traveler Show-Bud Guest,” A short history of Burroughs Corporation
DVR: This is Burroughs Century 1
Unisys and Plymouth: Draft of Exhibit Copy, May 1990-January 1991
Burroughs Adding Machine Company, by Ashley Ray
Burroughs Annual Report, 1947
Unisys—A History of Excellence
Sensimatic information
William S. Burroughs bust information
Drawing of Plymouth Burroughs Plant, 1938, by L. Vives

Entry 6: Norden Bombsight

Folder 1

Burroughs and Norden Bombsight information and pictures
Army Navy Production Award

Entry 7: Instruction Manuals

Folder 1

“Burroughs Multiple Total Adding-Subtracting Machines”

“Manual of Instruction for Burroughs Calculator,” 1939

Entry 8: Keyboard Magazines

“Keyboard The Burroughs Employee Magazine” March-April 1950

“Keyboard The Burroughs Employee Magazine” May- June 1950

“Keyboard The Burroughs Employee Magazine” July-Aug. 1950

“Keyboard The Burroughs Employee Magazine” April- May 1951

“Keyboard The Burroughs Employee Magazine” July-Aug. 1952

Entry 9: Burroughs People: The First 100 Years Booklet

Entry 10: Burroughs Farms

Folder 1

Booklet, “Welcome During 1941”

Booklet, “1938 at the Burroughs Farms”

Booklet, “Burroughs Farms Album 1939”

Booklet, “Welcome in 1942! Burroughs Farms”

Booklet, “Burroughs Farms 1943”

Booklet, “Burroughs Farms 1945”

Newspaper, “Burroughs Farms Bulletin,” #11, February 25, 1937