

Collection Guidelines

Norwegian-American Historical Association Archives

Adopted by NAHA Board, April 2015

Collection Guidelines

The goal of the Norwegian-American Historical Association is to locate, collect, preserve and interpret Norwegian-American history and culture with accuracy, integrity, and liveliness. To this end, the NAHA Archives actively collects:

- Manuscripts, diaries, journals, letters and other personal documents written by Norwegian-Americans in the US and Canada or bearing on the experiences of Norwegian-American immigrants in the US and Canada.
- Records and historical accounts (printed and manuscript) of Norwegian-American organizations, societies, schools, and churches as well as historical and descriptive material about local communities with significant Norwegian-American populations.
- Historical information about prominent Norwegian-Americans.
- Norwegian-American genealogical material and family histories.
- Newspaper and other printed clippings with Norwegian-American obituaries and family celebration stories.
- Original photographs documenting the Norwegian-American experience.
- Pamphlets and article reprints by and about Norwegian-Americans.
- Norwegian-American religious tracts.
- Music written by Norwegian-Americans or associated with Norwegian-American culture.
- Norwegian-American books and newspapers not already found in the Rolvaag Library of St. Olaf College are accepted and transferred to the library.
- Some Norwegian materials that bear strongly on the Norwegian-American experience. These materials include *bygdebøker*, postcards, and material about Norwegian folk customs. *Bygdebøker* are generally transferred to Rolvaag Library of St. Olaf College.
- Material matching these descriptions in audio formats (CDs, audio cassettes, audio reels, phonographs, etc.) and in moving image formats (DVDs, films, videos, etc.).

Materials that fall outside the NAHA Archives collection guidelines include:

- Norwegian or Norwegian-American Bibles, psalm-books, or lectionaries, except for family history records that may be written in or included in them.
- Artifacts and three-dimensional objects.
- Norwegian genealogical materials other than *bygdebøker*.
- Donations with access restricted to the archivists.
- Most other Norwegian printed material. We may accept rare Norwegian language books or Scandinavian-American imprints that are of interest to the Rolvaag Library Special Collections.

Decisions about the appropriateness of any materials offered for the collection will be made by the NAHA Archivists.