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   Papers, 1970-[ongoing]. 2.50 linear ft. PARTIALLY RESTRICTED

Abstract


Accession No: H88-1213
Provenance: Robert P. Swierenga
Donor: Robert P. Swierenga
Processed by: Geoffrey D. Reynolds, April 1997

Biography

Robert P. Swierenga was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1935. His educational accomplishments include: a B.A. in History from Calvin College in 1957; a M.A. in History from Northwestern University in 1958; and a Ph.D. in History from the University of Iowa in 1965. His teaching experiences include: Pella Christian High School in Pella, Iowa, from 1958-1961; Instructor of History at Calvin College, 1961-1962; Teaching Assistant, University of Iowa, 1962-1965; Assistant Professor, Calvin College, 1965-1968; Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Iowa, Summer 1966 and 1967; Associate Professor, Kent State University, 1968-1972; History Professor, Kent State University, 1972-1996; Professor of History Emeritus, Kent State University 1996-; and Research Professor of History, A. C. Van Raalte Institute for Historical Studies, 1996-present. His major fields of study and teaching are American/Agricultural and Economic History in 19th Century America, Reformation, and Latin America. Additional accomplishments include many publications and honors and awards. In the year 2000, his former students and colleagues Larry Wagenaar and Hans Krabbendam gave two large birthday presents to him. On June 9, 2000, they held a conference in honor of his extensive career. At this conference they presented him with a book they had put together, The Dutch-
American Experience: Essays in Honor of Robert P. Swierenga. The second present was his being named “Knight in the Order of the Netherlands Lion.” This honor was conferred on him by Gilbert Monod de Froideville, Dutch Consul General in Chicago on behalf of Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.

Scope and Content

The papers of Robert P. Swierenga contain many of the papers authored and co-authored on the subject of Dutch immigration to America as well as his updated vita and a selected bibliography of his works. The collection also contains seven rolls of 35mm microfilm of Gordon Kirk’s Census Data Sheets for Holland, Michigan, Residents, 1850-1880 (filmed by Robert P. Swierenga, July 1974) used in the creation of Kirk’s graduate school thesis, “The Promise of American Life: Social Mobility in a Nineteenth Century Immigrant Community, Holland, Michigan, 1847-1994, 2007 Association for the Advancement of Dutch-American Studies (AADAS) conference proceedings editor’s working papers and “Migration, Mobility and the Transformation of the Occupational Structure in an Immigrant Community: Holland, Michigan, 1850-1880” (Journal of Social History, Winter 1974).

Container List

Association for the Advancement of Dutch-American Studies (AADAS), Editor working papers, Dutch-American Arts and Letters in Historical Perspective, 2007-2008
Biographical, 1976-[ongoing]
Bibliography, 1997
Book Reviews by Robert Swierenga
Dutch American Voices, Edited by Herbert J. Brinks, 1997
Dutchmen on the Bay, by Lawrence J. Taylor, 1984
Zion on the Hudson, by Firth Haring Fabend, 2001
Books
Dutch Chicago: A History of the Hollanders in the Windy City, 2002 (dust jacket and book reviews)
The Dutch in America: Immigration, Settlement and Cultural Change, 1985 (editor - review)
Faith and Family, 2000 (news releases)
Faithful Witness: A Sesquicentennial History of Central Avenue Christian Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan, 1865-2015, 2015 (news release)
Family Quarrels, 1999 (with Elton J. Bruins – newspaper clipping)
For Food and Faith, 2000, (newspaper clipping - Scanned images included in book on zip disk)
Holland Michigan: From Dutch Colony to Dynamic City, 2014 (press release)
Old Wing Mission, 2008 (co-edited with William Van Appledorn – news release and clipping)

Correspondence
Buntrock, Elizabeth, 1999-2000
Miscellaneous, 2001, 2003

Genealogy

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Dutch Knighthood and Conference on the Dutch-American Experience held to Celebrate the career of Robert P. Swierenga, 2000

Oral History Interviews
Beelen, Ken, 2009
Boeve, Ron and Sonja “Sunny”, 2009
Bouws, John, 2009
Broekhuizen, Elsa Prince, 2009
Hallacy, Lou, 2009
Van Wylen, Gordon, 2009
Vogelzang, Bill, 2009
Wolff, Soren, 2009

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“Agriculture and Rural Life: The New Rural History,” 1983
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“Burn the Wooden Shoes: Modernity and Division in the Christian Reformed Church in North America,” 2000
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“Dutch Immigration Historiography,” 1979
“Dutch Immigration in the Nineteenth Century, 1820-1877: A Quantitative
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“Dutch Immigration to Michigan and the Middle West,” 1988
“Dutch in Cleveland, The,” 1987
“Dutch International Labor Migration to North America in the Nineteenth
   Century,” 1983
“Dutch International Migration and Occupational Change: A Structural
   Analysis of Multinational Linked Files,” 1986
   Multinational Nominal Files,” n.d.
“Dutch Jewish Immigration and Religious Life in the Nineteenth Century,” 1990
“Dutch Rabbi of New York City, The,” JWB, 1993
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“Dutch Transplanting in Michigan and the Midwest, The,” 1985
“Dutch Transplanting in the Upper Middle West, The,” 1991
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“Ethnocultural Political Analysis: A New Approach to American Ethnic
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“Exodus Netherlands, Promised Land America: Dutch Immigration and
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“Fight to Save Kent State, The,” 1970
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“Het Bestuderen Van De Nederlandse Emigratie Naar De Verenigde Staten,” 1981
“Historians and the Census: The Historiography of Census Research,” 1990
“Holland’s Unique History”, 1999
“Immigrant Data Files and Computer Mapping,” 1979
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“In Isolation is Our Strength: The Dutch Reformed of Chicago,” 1993
“Jan Van Mekelenberg,” 1990
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“Low Countries, The,” 1996
“May 4, 1970 Shootings, The” (at Kent State University), n.d.
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“Netherlanders in America, The,” 1970
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“Netherlanders in Amerika,” DIS Magazine, 1977
“Netherlanders in Chicago,” 1995
“New Rural History: Defining the Parameters, The,” 1981
“News from the Dutch Colony of Pella in North America, June 1854,” 1986

Box 2

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“Odious Tax Title, The: A Study in Nineteenth Century Legal History,” 1971
“Ohio’s Calvin College”, n.d.
“Partial Passenger List of the Dutch Ship April, to New Castle, Delaware,”1993
“Peter Stuyvesant,” 1990
“Pioneers for Jesus Christ: Dutch Protestant Colonization in North America as an Act of Faith,” 1996
“Place of Refuge, A,” 1968
“Quantitative Methods in Rural Landholding,” 1983
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“Revolutionary Christianity,” 1974
“Samuel Myer Isaacs: The Dutch Rabbi of New York City,” 1992
“Social Science History: An Appreciative Critique,” 1984
“Socio-Economic Patterns of Migration From the Netherlands in the Nineteenth Century,” 1976
“Stellingwerff’s Amsterdamse Emigranten and Pella History”, 1999
“Tax Buyer as a Frontier Investor Type, The,” 1970
“Unholy Mess: The IRM California Real Estate Investment Debacle in the Christian Reformed Church in North America in the 1990s,” 2000

Presentation

Personnel file, 1997 (RESTRICTED)

Box 3


Microfilm
Classis Chicago records, 1900-1913
First Reformed Church of Chicago records, 1853-1936
First Reformed Church of Cleveland records, ca. 1965
Second Reformed Church of Cleveland records, 1890-