



Fairfield Museum and History Center Library  
370 Beach Road  
Fairfield, CT 06824

### **Manuscript Finding Aid**

Title: Sanford, Emily Judson, 1890-1978. Collection  
Collection #: Ms B11  
Dates: 1807-1968  
Size of collection: 1 linear foot (2 boxes)  
Accession number: December 1978  
Donor: Emily Judson Sanford Estate  
Restrictions: None  
Processed by: Martha Rockwell  
Date: December 1983

#### Biographical/historical note:

Emily Judson Sanford (1890-1978) was the daughter of Glover Edwin Sanford (1863-1891) and Ada Birdsey Rockwell. Emily, who lived in Bridgeport, Conn., all of her life, evidently collected documents related to her family. Her mother Ada Birdsey Rockwell (b. 1866) was the daughter of Mary Emma Birdsey (b. 1841) and William Henry Rockwell (1834-1897). Mary Emma Birdsey was the daughter of Mary Kippen (1815-1866) and Ezekiel Birdsey. For more information, see Orcutt's History of New Milford and Bridgewater.

#### Scope and content note:

The materials in this collection are organized by individual and then by family. The photographs are arranged in a series by themselves. Mrs. Polly (Platt) Birdsey, the wife of

Gould Birdsey, is represented by two letters she received in 1811 and 1815. Mary Emily (Kippen) Birdsey wrote letters to her uncle, a cousin, and other members of her family in 1815, 1853, and 1861-1863. Her husband, Ezekiel, was a merchant in New York. The newspaper notice of their wedding, 1831, articles and Sanford, Emily Judson an advertising broadside about his business, a stock certificate, 1871, and a transcript of his will are among his papers. Their daughter, Mary Emma Birdsey, kept a list of wedding invitations she sent in 1862. Her papers also include letters she received in 1896. She married William Henry Rockwell who kept up a regular correspondence with her before and after their wedding. His papers include letters to her dating from 1857-1863, 1880; outgoing correspondence to a variety of family members, 1861-1863; and assorted ephemera. His father, Jonathan, of Ridgefield, is represented by deeds, 1824-1861.

Ada Birdsey Rockwell Sanford's papers include incoming business and family correspondence, 1878-1884, 1891; letters to her brother, Will, written from Ireland, 1911; her wedding invitation, 1885; and her appointment as administratrix of her husband's estate, 1892. Her husband, Glover E. Sanford, is represented by several bank certificates, 1890, and a handwritten family history, n.d. Daughter Emily Judson Sanford received a business letter in 1909. Her papers also include data from an estate auction she evidently was involved with.

Assorted family papers include a copy of an 1807 resolution concerning a Bridgewater highway; George Kippen's 1816 agreement concerning a silversmith business; a letter to William George Rockwell detailing his family's history, 1894; and brochures about a resort in New Hampshire, a tea room, and a line of automobiles, with no attribution.

The photographs date from about 1880-1920 with a few from a later date. Among the more significant ones are a group photograph of members of the Thimble Club along with a recipe book from 1917. There are also interior and exterior photographs of the Sanford's Bridgeport home, images of workers at the Glover Sanford & Sons hat factory, and prints of Bridgeport scenes including bicycle clubs, automobiles, and a parade of women suffragists.

SANFORD, EMILY JUDSON, 1890-1978  
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Box 1

Series A. Birdsey, Rockwell and Sanford Family Papers, 1807-1909

- Folder 1. Polly Birdsey, letters from Gould and Nathan Birdsey, 1811, 1815
- Folder 2. Mary Emily Kippen Birdsey, letters to family members, 1815, 1853, 1861-1863
- Folder 3. Ezekiel Birdsey, newspaper clippings, 1831-1840; advertising broadside, n.d.; stock certificate, 1871; transcript of will, n.d.
- Folder 4. Mary Emma Birdsey Rockwell, invitation list, 1862; letters from family, 1896
- Folder 5-6. William Henry Rockwell, letters to Mary Emma Birdsey
- Folder 7. William Henry Rockwell, outgoing correspondence, 1861-1863
- Folder 8. William Henry Rockwell, advertising card, n.d.; deed to
- Folder 9. Jonathan Rockwell, deeds, 1824-1861
- Folder 10-11. Ada Birdsey Rockwell Sanford, incoming correspondence, 1878-1884, 1891
- Folder 12. Ada Birdsey Rockwell Sanford, outgoing correspondence, 1885
- Folder 13. Ada Birdsey Rockwell Sanford, wedding invitation, 1885; appointment as administratrix, 1892
- Folder 14. Glover Sanford, bank certificates, 1890; genealogy, n.d.
- Folder 15. Emily Judson Sanford, letter to, 1909; information regarding auction of the Sanford estate, 1900
- Folder 16. Copy of resolution regarding highway in Bridgewater in 1807; 1861; brochures, n.d.

Series B. Photographs, ca. 1880-1968

- Folder 17. Thimble Club. Also includes recipe book, 1917, and anniversary
- Folder 18. Photograph albums; parades at Old Home Week, etc.
- Folder 19. Rockwell family
- Folder 20. Birdsey family
- Folder 21. Sanford family
- Folder 22. Emily J. Sanford

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Box 2

Series B (cont.)

- Folder 23. Miscellaneous identified
- Folder 24. Cartes-de-visite
- Folder 25. Interiors and exteriors, Ada B. Sanford
- Folder 26. Interiors and exteriors, some identified, 1889
- Folder 27. Unidentified, 1891-1892
- Folder 28. Sanford house; Glover Sanford & Sons hat factory
- Folder 29. Bridgeport scenes; bicyclers, ca. 1880-1890
- Folder 30. Bridgeport scenes; transportation
- Folder 31. Unidentified women
- Folder 32. Unidentified men
- Folder 33. Unidentified children
- Folder 34. Pages from photo album, 1936
- Folder 35. Unidentified groups, including weddings and suffrage parade

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Subject headings

Birdsey family  
Business--Conn.--Bridgeport  
Courtship  
Deeds--Conn.--Ridgefield  
Family--Conn.--Bridgeport  
Family--Conn.--Ridgefield  
Rockwell family

Birdsey, Ezekiel, 1807-1896  
Birdsey, Mary Emily Kippen, 1815-1866  
Rockwell, Mary Emma Birdsey, b. 1841  
Rockwell, William Henry, 1834-1897  
Sanford, Ada Birdsey Rockwell, 1866-1891