

# **Pinkerton's National Detective Agency Records**

**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



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## Collection Summary

**Title:** Pinkerton's National Detective Agency Records

**Span Dates:** 1853-1999

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1880-1920)

**ID No.:** MSS36301

**Creator:** Pinkerton's National Detective Agency

**Extent:** 63,000 items ; 183 containers plus 20 oversize ; 79 linear feet ; 3 microfilm reels

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Summary:** Private detective agency directed by the Pinkerton family to protect interests of clients in business and industry. The records include business and family correspondence, biographical and genealogical records, administrative records such as procedural guidelines and training manuals, and criminal case files which include correspondence, reports, photographs, legal documents, and printed matter.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### People

Bangs, George H. George H. Bangs papers.

Cassidy, Butch, 1866-

McParland, James P.

Mudgett, Herman W., 1861-1896.

Pinkerton, Allan, 1819-1884. Allan Pinkerton papers.

Pinkerton, Allan, 1876-1930. Allan Pinkerton papers.

Pinkerton, Robert A. (Robert Allan), 1848-1907. Robert A. Pinkerton papers.

Pinkerton, Robert A., 1904-1967. Robert A. Pinkerton papers.

Pinkerton, William A. (William Allan), 1846-1923. William A. Pinkerton papers.

Sundance Kid.

### Organizations

Molly Maguires (Organization)

Pinkerton's National Detective Agency.

United States. Army of the Potomac.

William J. Burns International Detective Agency.

### Subjects

Civil defense--United States.

Coal miners--Labor unions.

Crime.

Espionage--Washington (D.C.)

Labor unions--Pennsylvania.

Law enforcement.

National security--United States.

Private investigators.

Sabotage--Washington (D.C.)

World War, 1914-1918--United States.

### Places

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Secret service.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The records of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency were given to the Library of Congress by Robert A. Pinkerton in 1956 and by Pinkerton's, Inc. in 2000. The Library purchased additional material in 1972 and 2000.

### Processing History

Letterpress copybooks and miscellaneous reports were processed in 1975. The remainder of the collection was processed in 2001 and incorporates the initial gift of records.

### Transfers

Some photographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as a part of these papers.

### Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency in these records and in other collections of papers in the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

### Access and Restrictions

The records of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

### Microfilm

A microfilm edition of the letterpress copybooks and miscellaneous reports processed in 1975 is available on three reels for purchase from the Library's Photoduplication Service. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition as available.

### Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Pinkerton's National Detective Agency Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Notes and Organizational History

### Allan Pinkerton (1819-1884)

| <i>Date</i>   | <i>Event</i>   |
|---------------|--|
| 1819, Aug. 25 | Born, Glasgow, Scotland  |
| 1842          | Married Joan Carfrae<br>Fled to North America fearing arrest for activities in Chartist Movement, residing first in Montreal, Canada |
| 1842-1843     | Worked as a cooper in Chicago, Ill.  |
| 1843-1850     | Operated a cooperage in Dundee, Ill.   |
| 1847          | Discovered counterfeiters while scouting for barrel timber on the Fox River  |

- 1850 Worked in Chicago, Ill., as a criminal investigator; appointed Special United States Mail Agent to investigate series of postal thefts
- circa 1852 Formed a detective agency in Chicago, Ill., with attorney Edward A. Rucker, the first of several detective businesses
- 1853 Appointed deputy sheriff of Cook County, Ill.
- 1855 Signed contract to guard Illinois Central Railroad
- 1861 Amid fears of assassination, secretly escorted Abraham Lincoln on train from Baltimore, Md., to Washington, D.C., for presidential inauguration  
Organized first secret service division of the U.S. Army
- 1861-1862 First chief of U.S. Secret Service
- 1863-1865 Conducted investigations in New Orleans, La., of fraudulent claims of property loss against the United States government
- 1863-1884 Director, Pinkerton's National Detective Agency, with headquarters in Chicago, Ill., and offices in other major cities
- 1868 Published *History and Evidence of the Passage of Abraham Lincoln from Harrisburg, Pa., to Washington, D.C., on the 22d and 23d of February, 1861.* (Chicago: Republican Print. 18 pp.)
- 1875 Published *Claude Melnotte as a Detective, and Other Stories* (Chicago: W. B. Keen, Cooke & Co. 282 pp.)  
Published *The Detective and the Somnambulist* (Chicago: W. B. Keen, Cooke. 241 pp.)  
Published *The Expressman and the Detective* (Chicago: W. B. Keen, Cooke. 278 pp.)
- 1876 Published *The Model Town and the Detectives* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 288 pp.)
- 1877 Published *The Spiritualists and the Detectives* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 354 pp.)
- 1878 Published *Strikers, Communists, Tramps and Detectives* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 412 pp.)
- 1879 Published *Criminal Reminiscences and Detective Sketches* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 324 pp.)  
Published *The Gypsies and the Detectives* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 330 pp.)  
Published *Mississippi Outlaws and the Detectives* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 377 pp.)  
Published *Mollie Maguires and the Detectives* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 552 pp.)
- 1880 Published *Bucholz and the Detectives* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 341 pp.)
- 1881 Published *Professional Thieves and the Detective* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 598 pp.)  
Published *The Rail-Road Forger and the Detectives* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 364 pp.)
- 1883 Published *Bank Robbers and the Detective* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 339 pp.)  
Published *The Spy of the Rebellion* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 688 pp.)
- 1884 Published *Thirty Years a Detective* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 616 pp.)  
Published *A Double Life and the Detectives* (New York: G. W. Carleton. 360 pp.)

1884, July 1           Died, Chicago, Ill.

**William A. Pinkerton (1846-1923)**

| <i>Date</i>   | <i>Event</i>   |
|---------------|--|
| 1846, Apr. 7  | Born, Dundee, Ill.   |
| 1861          | Attended Notre Dame University, South Bend, Ind.   |
| 1861-1865     | Served in Secret Service Division, U.S. Army, and later with his father in New Orleans, La., investigating fraudulent claims of property loss against the United States government |
| 1862          | Wounded by exploding shell during battle at Antietam, Md.  |
| 1865          | Attended Notre Dame University, South Bend, Ind.   |
| 1866          | Detective on criminal cases for the Pinkerton agency<br>Married Margaret Ashling (died 1895)   |
| 1884          | Upon death of father, managed western division of the Pinkerton agency from Chicago, Ill., in partnership with brother, Robert Pinkerton<br>Specialized in bank protection         |
| 1923, Dec. 11 | Died, Los Angeles, Calif.  |

**Robert A. Pinkerton (1848-1907)**

| <i>Date</i>   | <i>Event</i>   |
|---------------|--|
| 1848, Dec. 2  | Born, Dundee, Ill.   |
| 1864          | Attended Notre Dame University, South Bend, Ind.   |
| 1864-1865     | Served in the U. S. army with his father in New Orleans, La., investigating fraudulent claims of property loss against the United States government  |
| 1865          | Attended Notre Dame University, South Bend, Ind.   |
| 1868          | Assigned to Pinkerton's New York, N.Y., office   |
| 1875          | Married Anna Elizabeth Hughes  |
| 1884          | Upon death of father, managed eastern division of the Pinkerton agency from New York in partnership with brother, William Pinkerton<br>Built protective patrol while also investigating criminal cases |
| 1880s         | Began long association with Jockey Club to police horse racetracks and betting syndicates in the New York, N.Y., vicinity  |
| 1907, Aug. 12 | Died aboard steamer <i>Bremen</i> in the Atlantic ocean en route to Europe   |

**Allan Pinkerton (1876-1930)**

| <i>Date</i>   | <i>Event</i>  |
|---------------|---|
| 1876, June 30 | Born, Brooklyn, N.Y., son of Robert A. Pinkerton  |
| 1896          | Graduated from Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.<br>Entered the Pinkerton agency as a private detective  |
| 1902          | Married Franc Woodworth   |
| 1918          | Appointed major of infantry, U.S. army, serving on the staff of Gen. John J. Pershing at Chaumont, later as assistant provost marshal at Tours and Bordeaux, and finally in charge of criminal investigations for the provost marshal general's department. Medical discharge for tuberculosis. |
| 1923          | Became sole family director of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency  |
| 1925          | Incorporated the agency and became its first president  |
| 1930, Oct. 7  | Died, New York, N.Y.  |

**Robert A. Pinkerton (1904-1967)**

| <i>Date</i>   | <i>Event</i>   |
|---------------|--|
| 1904, Nov. 7  | Born, Brooklyn, N.Y., son of Allan Pinkerton (1876-1930)   |
| 1927          | A.B. degree, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.  |
| 1928          | Attended Columbia University Law School, New York, N.Y.  |
| 1929-1934     | Stockbroker, Carlisle, Mellick & Co., New York, N.Y.   |
| 1930          | Assumed leadership of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency upon death of his father, Allan Pinkerton (1876-1930)<br>Married Louise Eliot  |
| 1936          | Testified on behalf of the Pinkerton agency in U. S. Senate investigation of industrial espionage and interference with the right of labor to organize and bargain collectively                |
| 1937          | Pinkerton's board of directors supported recommendation to eliminate labor investigations  |
| 1942-1945     | Industrial guard services increased during war years   |
| 1940s-1960s   | Criminal detection replaced by commercial investigation and security services  |
| 1965          | Agency's name changed to Pinkerton's Inc., to reflect its function in supplying security services to industrial plants, banks, hospitals, universities, racetracks, sporting events, and fairs |
| 1967          | Resigned as president of Pinkerton's Inc.; named chairman of the board   |
| 1967, Oct. 11 | Died, Bay Shore, N.Y.<br>End of Pinkerton family direction for the agency  |

## Scope and Content Note

The records of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency, oldest company of private investigators in the United States, span the years 1853-1999 with the bulk of the material dated from 1880 to 1920. The collection documents the history of the agency founded circa 1850 in Chicago by Scottish immigrant Allan Pinkerton (1819-1884), a leading figure in crime detection particularly for clients in business and industry. It consists of main office files from New York and Chicago and is organized in three series: [Family Directors File](#), [Administrative File](#), and [Criminal Case File](#). Branch offices files are not generally included. Furthermore, many family and business papers burned when the agency headquarters was destroyed in the Chicago fire of 1871.

The [Family Directors File](#) includes material from all five of the Pinkerton men who ran the agency from 1850 to 1967. Records for founder Allan Pinkerton include newspaper and magazine articles about him, and a book manuscript, but only a few original primary documents. Scattered correspondence, photographs, and mementos, such as railroad passes and a phrenological analysis of Pinkerton's character and future prospects, are available in the series. Records concerning Pinkerton's death in 1884, his funeral and memorial tributes, are more extensive.

Pinkerton's sons, William (1846-1923) in Chicago and Robert (1848-1907) in New York, expanded the agency during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. It is primarily the criminal division of their business that is documented in this collection. At the time of Robert Pinkerton's death in 1907, the agency had two thousand employees, safeguarded four thousand banks in the United States, and had branch offices operating throughout the country. Correspondence between William and Robert in the [Family Directors File](#) complements the [Criminal Case File](#) since much of it concerns criminal investigations undertaken by the agency.

Robert's son, Allan Pinkerton (1876-1930), managed the New York office after his father's sudden death in 1907, continuing the agency partnership with his uncle, William, who remained head of the Chicago office. His files include records of military service during World War I and items reflecting the agency's involvement in homeland security. When William died in 1923, Allan Pinkerton incorporated the agency and became sole family director. Incorporation records are included in his segment of the [Family Directors File](#). Allan's son, Robert Pinkerton (1904-1967), succeeded him in 1930 and was the last of the family to direct the agency.

The [Administrative File](#) selectively documents business principles and practices. Policy statements, procedural guidelines, and training manuals provide an outline of the agency's approach to soliciting business and conducting private investigations to protect the interests of individual clients. Agency policy also called for cooperation with law enforcement officials requiring that evidence be given to police and prosecuting authorities when a case reached the point of arrest and prosecution. There was no federal police agency in the nineteenth century, and the Pinkerton agency played a prominent role in apprehending lawbreakers, particularly train and bank robbers and jewel thieves. As bankers and jewelers formed associations for mutual protection, Pinkerton's provided security services to these associations. The agency's investigative methods, documented in this collection, were later adopted by public law enforcement units. Pinkerton's compiled dossiers on criminals, used mug shots for purposes of identification, cultivated informers who were given code names, sent operatives undercover to infiltrate gangs, and circulated notices to alert the public that criminals were at large.

Pinkerton's first big contracts were with railroad companies, and the [Administrative File](#) includes a copy of a contract signed in 1855 with the Illinois Central Railroad, whose legal counsel was Abraham Lincoln and director of security was George B. McClellan. Lincoln and McClellan later turned to Pinkerton for detective work at the outbreak of the Civil War. Allan Pinkerton's efforts to establish a secret service in 1861 to protect the president and provide military intelligence for the Army of the Potomac are documented in letterpress copy books. Although office files were burned in the Chicago fire of 1871, Civil War correspondence and a journal which Pinkerton had lent William Herndon survived.

Eight letterbooks supplemented by three investigative field reports comprised the collection processed in 1975. The first two letterbooks concern Allan Pinkerton's activities as head of the secret service for the Army of the Potomac and reflect the scope of activity performed during the early inception of this unit. They consist mostly of outgoing correspondence and reports addressed by Pinkerton under his wartime pseudonym, Major E. J. Allen, to various government agents and officials, including George B. McClellan and Andrew Porter. These reports summarize field investigations gathered by Pinkerton's operatives and largely concern incidents of sabotage and espionage occurring in the Washington, D.C., area. Copies of incoming letters are included, as are private letters written under Pinkerton's own name. A letter dated 6 October

1861 to John Dewe reveals Pinkerton's personal convictions as to the necessity of preserving the union and abolishing slavery.

A daily journal of the New York office, 1865-1866, contains reports, letters, interviews, telegrams, and assignments of operatives. Letterbooks of George H. Bangs, general superintendent of the New York office for many years, document the day-to-day functions of the agency. Bangs's letters to Pinkerton relate the progress of specific investigations and details of general administration. His letters to district superintendents concern operational policy ranging from office management to investigative procedures.

Allan Pinkerton's letterbooks contain family as well as business and administrative correspondence and provide insight into the tactical methods employed by the agency under his direction.

The investigation of the Molly Maguires was the last important case that Allan Pinkerton personally supervised. The Molly Maguires were a secret organization of Irish immigrant coal miners who used violence and intimidation to battle low wages, poor working conditions, and ethnic discrimination in the anthracite fields of Pennsylvania. A report dated 24 January 1875 and sent to Franklin Gowen, president of the Reading Railroad, by Benjamin Franklin, superintendent of the Philadelphia office, recounts the daily movements of James McParland, the Pinkerton operative who infiltrated the Molly Maguires. This report and two others concerning labor unrest and unionization in the Pennsylvania coal region complete the collection as it was in 1975. Since these reports were microfilmed with the letterbooks, they remain with the material processed in 1975 despite the addition of related items in the [Criminal Case File](#).

The [Administrative File](#) series also includes rules of conduct and a code of ethics communicated to his employees by Allan Pinkerton in essays entitled, "General Principles." Pinkerton determined that the agency would not undertake an investigation in behalf of a defendant in a criminal case, would not conduct investigations involving the activities of public officers, or investigate parties suing for divorce. Pinkerton's agency did investigate labor unrest and was involved in strikebreaking at mining operations and related industries, though very little documentation of these activities is in the collection. The agency stated that records of such operations were returned to clients. The Molly Maguire reports are supplemented by material in the Criminal Case File series. A report dated 1874 on the Cambria Iron Works in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, is also in the Criminal Case File series. In addition, records from Robert Pinkerton's testimony on industrial espionage during Congressional investigations in the 1930s are a part of the Family Director's File.

Pinkerton's had serious competition by the beginning of the twentieth century, especially from the agency headed by William Burns, a successful private detective. Pinkerton's criticized Burns's investigative methods, particularly his use of wiretaps, and the moral character of his operatives, some of whom had criminal records. For several years, Pinkerton's investigated the Burns agency and worked with a legal team that charged it with improper conduct. Records of the William J. Burns International Detective Agency investigation and subsequent hearings before the New York State Comptrollers office are included among the [Administrative File](#) series.

Although the [Criminal Case File](#) series represents only a fraction of the company's business, these cases received extensive publicity even many years after being solved. Pinkerton's archive was the source for many popular detective stories. As a consequence, newspaper and magazine articles sometimes dominate the case files. Most cases, however, are documented with at least some items created during the investigation, including correspondence, reports from operatives, mug shots, reward notices, and wanted posters. Some cases include legal documents and police and prison records such as Bertillion charts, which recorded bodily measurements and physical descriptions as the primary means of identification before fingerprinting became standard in the twentieth century.

Pinkerton officials wrote essays about their important criminal cases for exhibitions, publicity, or simply to create a narrative account of events. Records identified in the [Criminal Case File](#) as essays and notes are usually items created by the agency itself. However, the agency did hire professional writers, or allowed them access to the "secret archive" as this collection was sometimes styled, and drafts of their essays may also be included in the files.

Cases are arranged alphabetically by a name assigned by the Pinkerton agency. Some cases are identified by the name of the criminal or gang of criminals. Pinkerton's used the legal name of the criminal, in so far as it could be established, and not a more commonly known alias. Other cases are identified by the name of the victim, such as a train, bank, or jeweler, or a murder victim. For instance, the serial-killer Herman Mudgett was first investigated by Pinkerton's for insurance fraud after he filed a claim when his business partner, Benjamin Pitezel, appeared to have died in an office fire. The case is identified as the Pitezel murder, but the file more fully documents Mudgett's sensational life of crime. Crimes committed by



a group of cowboy criminals are subsumed under the entry for Butch Cassidy and the “Wild Bunch,” the name given to the cattle thieves, bank and train robbers, holdup men, and general outlaws congregating in the Hole-in-the-Wall country of Wyoming where, commencing in 1897, they came under the leadership of Robert Leroy Parker, alias Butch Cassidy. Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid have been identified in the files by their criminal names, an exception to the usual practice, since these names conform to authority files established at the Library of Congress.

Since gang membership was not necessarily fixed or exclusive, records for some criminals are in several case files. Card indexes created by Pinkerton's to cross reference gangs and individuals are in the [Administrative File](#). The indexes sometimes cite a “binder number,” the numerical filing system first established in the 1930s when a Pinkerton manager, Ralph Dudley, began compiling the corporate archive by gathering case material into expandable binders. The case files have been reorganized in an alphabetical arrangement, but if the index refers only to a binder number, the numerical list of binder titles at the beginning of the index can be consulted to determine the case name.

## Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in four series:

- [Family Directors File, 1853-1990](#)
- [Administrative File, 1857-1999](#)
- [Criminal Case File, 1861-1992](#)
- [Oversize, 1867-1955, 1983](#)

## Description of Series

**Container**

**Series**

BOX 1-20

**Family Directors File, 1853-1990**

Business and family correspondence, biographical and genealogical records, real estate records, legal documents, reports, military records, photographs, diaries, and an account book.

Arranged alphabetically by name of director and thereunder by document type or subject.

BOX 20-68

**Administrative File, 1857-1999**

Correspondence, reports, legal documents, financial records, card indexes, code books, criminal rosters, address books and directories, employee records, real estate records, procedural guidelines and training manuals, reward notices and wanted posters, military records, exhibition texts, business cards, logos, advertisements and other promotional materials, and photographs.

Arranged alphabetically by document type or subject.

Letterpress books and miscellaneous reports available on microfilm. Microfilm shelf no. 16,574

BOX 68-183

**Criminal Case File, 1861-1992**

Correspondence, reports, photographs, illustrations, police and prison records, legal documents, reward notices and wanted posters, newspaper and magazine articles and other printed matter, notes, essays and other writings.

Arranged alphabetically by case name and thereunder by document type.

BOX OV 1-OV 20

**Oversize, 1867-1955, 1983**

Correspondence, payroll and other financial and administrative ledgers, reward notices and wanted posters, legal documents, maps, and a chart.

Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.

# Container List

| <i>Container</i> | <i>Contents</i>  |
|------------------|--|
| BOX 1-20         | <b>Family Directors File, 1853-1990</b><br>Business and family correspondence, biographical and genealogical records, real estate records, legal documents, reports, military records, photographs, diaries, and an account book.<br>Arranged alphabetically by name of director and thereunder by document type or subject.   |
| BOX 1            | Pinkerton, Allan (1819-1884)<br>Account book, 1861<br>Appointment, Cook County, Ill., deputy sheriff, 1853<br>Autographs, 1871-1872, undated<br>Biographical file<br>Correspondence about Pinkerton<br>Agency history, 1903-1911, 1919, 1932-1942, 1950<br>Civil War photographs, 1892-1896, 1930-1939, undated<br>Genealogy, 1949-1968, 1976, 1983, undated <i>See also Oversize</i><br>Civil War service<br>Newspaper and magazine articles and related material, 1866-1868, 1878, 1887-1894, 1908-1916, 1930-1941, 1961, undated<br>(3 folders) |
| BOX 2            | Notes, including transcripts of correspondence, undated<br>(2 folders)<br>Photographs, positive prints and negatives, undated<br>Pinkerton and agency history<br>Dupré, Irma, "The Canny Cooper," book draft, 1936-1937, undated<br>(4 folders)  |
| BOX 3            | (3 folders)<br>Essays and notes, 1888-1892, 1945, 1979, undated<br>(2 folders)<br>Newspaper and magazine articles and related material, 1873-1875, 1884-1905, 1919-1951, undated<br>(2 folders)  |
| BOX 4            | Chalmers, Joan Pinkerton (daughter), circa 1875, 1890, 1909, 1932-1940, 1950, 1965<br>Correspondence, including transcripts and copies, 1856-1867, 1872-1879, 1883<br>(2 folders)<br>Death<br>Eulogies and obituaries, 1884-1890<br>Letters of condolence, 1884, <i>See Oversize</i><br>(2 vols.)<br>Estate and probate court records, 1887<br>Photographs, 1855, 1860-1867, 1884, 1937, undated<br>Phrenological description, 1874<br>Pinkerton, Joan Carfrae (wife), obituary, 1887<br>Railroad and telegraph passes, 1855-1857, 1878            |

## Family Directors File, 1853-1990

### Container

### Contents

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- Residences  
General, 1884-1894, 1931-1936, 1956, undated  
Larch Farm, family estate near Onarga, Ill., 1884-1887, 1930-1936, 1941-1945, undated
- Writings  
Advertisements and illustrations for books, undated  
"Bankers and Their Vaults," 1873  
*History and Evidence of the Passage of Abraham Lincoln from Harrisburg, Pa., to Washington, D.C., on the 22d and 23d of February, 1861*, 1892 edition
- BOX 5** Pinkerton, Allan (1876-1930)  
Diamond pin, loss of, 1914  
Diary, voyage to Asia with stops at Baltic ports, 1909  
Family and business correspondence  
Pinkerton, Robert A. (father), 1900-1903  
Pinkerton, William (uncle), 1904, 1913-1917  
Incorporation of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency, 1924-1925  
(3 folders)  
Miscellany  
Correspondence and notes, 1903-1911, 1923-1924, undated  
Family and financial records, 1902, 1913-1914  
New York City police commissionership, New York, N.Y., 1913-1915, undated  
Newspaper and magazine articles, 1907, 1912-1930, 1980
- BOX 6** Olympic Club, Bay Shore, Long Island, N.Y., 1913-1916  
Photographs, circa 1880-circa 1920  
Pinkerton genealogy, 1903-1925  
Pinkerton's National Detective Agency office building, 57 Broadway, New York, N.Y.  
General, 1903-1911  
(3 folders)  
Sale of, 1911-1912
- BOX 7** Residential property  
Illinois, Larch Farm, family estate near Onarga, 1907-1911  
(3 folders)  
New York  
Brooklyn, 749 Quincy St., 1907-1926  
(2 folders)  
New York City, 154 W. 95th St., 1900-1912  
(2 folders)
- BOX 8** World War I  
Correspondence  
Family, 1918  
Proposed service to U.S. government, 1917  
Service to British and Canadian governments, 1914-1917  
(2 folders)  
Diary and typed transcript, military service in France, 1918, undated  
Military records, 1918-1919, undated  
Newspaper articles and related material, 1917-1918  
Writings, "Justice Slow but Sure," draft of incomplete novel, negative copy, undated  
(3 folders)

## Family Directors File, 1853-1990

### Container

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|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>BOX 9</b>  | Pinkerton, Robert A. (1848-1907)<br>Biographical sketches and notes, 1940-1942, undated<br>Civil War military deferment and loyalty oath, 1862-1865<br>General correspondence, 1880, 1888-1907<br>Death<br>Acknowledgment card, condolences, and estate, 1907<br>Flowers, 1907<br>Funeral arrangements, 1907<br>Memorial tributes, 1907<br>Newspaper articles<br>Miscellaneous, 1907<br>Scrapbooks, 1907<br>Vol. 1<br>(2 folders) |
| <b>BOX 10</b> | Vol. 2<br>(2 folders)<br>North German Lloyd Steamship Co., return of remains, 1907<br>Office notification, 1907<br>(2 folders)<br>National Police Agency contract, 1866<br>Newspaper and magazine articles<br>Horse racing, 1902-1906   |
| <b>BOX 11</b> | Miscellaneous, 1884-1907, 1914, 1932, undated<br>Photographs, positive prints and negatives<br>Other family members, 1935-1941, undated<br>Pinkerton, Robert A., circa 1885-circa 1905<br>Pinkerton, Anna E. (wife), 1875, circa 1900, 1933-1934, undated<br>Residential property<br>Illinois, Larch Farm, family estate near Onarga<br>1887-1904<br>(4 folders)  |
| <b>BOX 12</b> | 1905-1906<br>New York<br>Brooklyn, 749 Quincy St., 1901-1907<br>(2 folders)<br>New York City, 154 W. 95th St., 1899-1907<br>(5 folders)<br>Writings on prison reform, 1887, 1898  |
| <b>BOX 13</b> | Pinkerton, Robert A. (1904-1967)<br>Cemeteries, Chicago and Dundee, Ill., 1931, 1955, undated<br>Congressional hearings, National Labor Relation Board violations<br>Correspondence and congressional documents, 1936-1939, 1947<br>Newspaper articles, 1936-1939, 1945-1948<br>Testimony file, 1936-1937<br>(2 folders)<br>Death, 1967<br>General correspondence, 1935-1967  |

## Family Directors File, 1853-1990

### Container

### Contents

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|           |   |
|-----------|---|
|           | Horse racing, undated   |
|           | Inspection of offices nationwide, 1935  |
|           | Library catalog, undated  |
| BOX 14    | Miscellany, 1916, 1927-1929, 1951, undated  |
|           | Newspaper articles, 1930-1951, 1964   |
|           | Personnel file, 1934-1965   |
|           | Photographs, circa 1905-circa 1940  |
|           | Pinkerton, William A. (1846-1923)   |
|           | Biographical sketches, 1885, 1901-1905, 1923-1924, 1943, undated  |
|           | Death   |
|           | Correspondence, 1923-1924   |
|           | Essays, 1923  |
|           | Newspaper and magazine articles, 1923-1924  |
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| BOX 15    | (4 folders)   |
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| BOX 18    | 1916-1919   |
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|           | National Police Agency contract, 1866   |
|           | Newspaper and magazine articles, 1885-1950, undated   |
|           | (2 folders)   |
| BOX 19    | (3 folders)   |
|           | Photographs, positive prints and negatives, and illustrations   |
|           | Other family members, 1898-circa 1900, 1934, undated  |
|           | Pinkerton, William A., circa 1855-1918  |
|           | (4 folders)   |
| BOX 20    | Robbery of, reported by press, 1897   |
|           | Seymour, John F., 1902-1910   |
|           | Trip to Japan and China, 1903   |
|           | Writings and speeches, 1904-1907, 1914-1925, undated  |
| BOX 20-68 | <b>Administrative File, 1857-1999</b>   |
|           | Correspondence, reports, legal documents, financial records, card indexes, code books, criminal rosters, address books and directories, employee records, real estate records, procedural guidelines and training manuals, reward notices and wanted posters, military records, exhibition texts, business cards, logos, advertisements and other promotional materials, and photographs. |
|           | Arranged alphabetically by document type or subject.  |
|           | Letterpress books and miscellaneous reports available on microfilm. Microfilm shelf no. 16,574  |
| BOX 20    | Address books, agency officials, undated  |

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|        | Horan, James D., and Howard Swiggett, "The Pinkerton Story"   |
|        | Book draft, typescript, 1950  |
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| BOX 21 | (4 folders)   |
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|        | Board of directors, 1925-1930   |
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|        | Business cards, 1897-1922, undated  |
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|        | Lists, 1971, undated  |
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| BOX 23 | Business announcements, notices, advertisements, and logos, 1879, undated   |
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|        | Cipher example and analysis, undated  |
|        | Civil War   |
|        | "Baltimore Plot" to assassinate Lincoln   |
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|        | Essay, incomplete draft and notes, undated  |
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|        | Correspondence, including copies and transcripts, 1861-1864, 1894, 1902, 1951   |
|        | Field report to army headquarters, Washington, D.C., extracts, 1862 <i>For additional material see Container 25, Webster, Timothy</i> |
|        | Newspaper and magazine articles and related material, 1883, 1894-1919, 1928, 1939-1949, 1963, undated                                 |
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|        | Webster, Timothy <i>See also Container 33, same heading</i>   |
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|               | Cary, H. Frank, 1899-1912  |
|               | Cassidy, Marshall, 1940, undated   |
|               | Cavoroc, Pierre Charles, 1902-1909, 1925   |
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|        | <i>Riata and Spurs</i> , 1919   |
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| BOX 153 | Reeves, Melville, crimes<br>Correspondence, 1917-1923, 1932-1938<br>Newspaper and magazine articles and related material, 1913-1938<br>Photographs, 1913-circa 1930<br>Reports, 1918-1935<br>Reno brothers gang<br>Correspondence, including transcripts, 1869, 1888, 1897-1906, 1936-1950, n.d.<br>Essays, 1897, 1907, 1950, n.d.<br>Extradition records, copies, 1868, 1877<br>Newspaper and magazine articles and related material, 1876-1907, 1939-1955, n.d.<br>(2 folders)<br>Notes, 1943, n.d.<br>Photographs, positive prints and negatives, 1922, n.d.  |
| BOX 154 | Reports and reward notices, 1868, 1878, 1905, 1943<br>Shields, Robert W.<br>Book project<br>Draft, circa 1944<br>(2 folders)<br>Synopsis, n.d.<br>Correspondence, 1950-1952, n.d.  |

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|         | Illustrations and photographs, 1951, n.d.<br>(2 folders)  |
| BOX 155 | Legal documents, 1948-1951<br>Research material, 1876, 1916, 1951, n.d.<br>Volland, Robert F., "The Reno Gang of Seymour," master's thesis, partial draft, 1948<br>(2 folders)<br>Reszka-Auswaks gang<br>Correspondence, 1938-1940<br>Newspaper and magazine articles and related material, 1938-1943<br>(3 folders)<br>Photographs, 1913, 1938, n.d. |
| BOX 156 | Police interrogations, transcripts, 1938-1939<br>(2 folders)<br>Reports<br>1938<br>(4 folders)<br>1939<br>May-June<br>(3 folders)   |
| BOX 157 | July<br>Rice, William Lowe, murder<br>Correspondence<br>General, 1910-1913, 1946, 1951<br>Sciarabba, Vincenza, taken as evidence, 1910, n.d.<br>Newspaper and magazine articles, 1910-1916, 1938-1941, n.d.<br>(2 folders)<br>Reports<br>1910<br>Aug.<br>(5 folders)  |
| BOX 158 | Sept.-Oct.<br>(9 folders)   |
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| BOX 160 | 1912-1916, 1941, 1951<br>(3 folders)<br>Reward notices, 1910<br>Testimony, transcripts, 1910, n.d.<br>(2 folders)<br>Robinson, Lawrence, crimes<br>Correspondence, 1914-1915, 1941-1950<br>(4 folders)  |
| BOX 161 | Essays and notes, 1946, n.d.<br>Legal documents, 1915, n.d.<br>Newspaper and magazine articles, 1914-1916, 1936-1941, 1949, n.d.  |

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|         | Rosenthal, Charles, kidnapping   |
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|         | Other associates, 1886-1906, n.d.  |
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|         | About Schoenbein, 1895, 1908, 1916, n.d.   |
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