

Collection #
SC 3408

**ELI LILLY'S *EARLY WAWASEE DAYS*
MANUSCRIPT, 1960**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 manuscript folders; 2 photograph folders; 1 artifact

COLLECTION DATES: 1960

PROVENANCE: Eli Lilly, Indianapolis, Indiana

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: *Early Wawasee Days : Traditions, Tales and Memories Concerning That Delectable Spot, Lake Wawasee*, F532.K8 L5 1993; Eli Lilly Papers, M 0184; SC 0971, small amount of Mr. Lilly's correspondence; SC 2000, application for marriage license, 1907

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1976.0304

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Eli Lilly (1885-1977) was born in Indianapolis, the son of Josiah Kirby Lilly and Lilly Maria Ridgely Lilly. He graduated from Shortridge High School in 1904, and three years later earned a degree as Pharmaceutical Chemist from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. In 1935 he received a Ph. M. degree from the same institution.

In 1907 he began work at Eli Lilly and Company, the pharmaceutical firm founded by his grandfather. From 1909 to 1915 he supervised the manufacturing division; from 1915 to 1920 he was general superintendent; from 1920 to 1932 vice president; and from 1932 to 1948 president. He served as board chairman from 1948 to 1961 and 1966 to 1969, and as honorary board chairman from 1961 to 1966 and from 1969 until his death in 1977. During his lifetime, and because of his efforts, the company grew to a billion-dollar-a-year business.

Mr. Lilly had several intense interests outside his business. One was philanthropy. In 1937 he initiated the establishment of Lilly Endowment, which became the third largest philanthropic foundation in the country. Dying without immediate family, he left generous bequests to many organizations, particularly religious and educational institutions in Indianapolis, which had a major effect on their outlook and operation.

He was also actively interested in archaeology and history, and became a respected participant in both fields. In cooperation with Glenn Black, he worked on the prehistory of Indiana, and produced two books, *Prehistoric Antiquities of Indiana* (1937) and *Walam Olum* (1954). A continuing interest in Greek archaeology resulted in *Schliemann in Indianapolis* (1961). A lifelong love of Lake Wawasee led him to write *Early Wawasee Days* (1960). The Civil War was also an area of interest to him, and he led the local chapter of the Loyal Legion, meeting in Foster Hall at the Lilly Orchard, to become a sort of Civil War round table. When he bought a large farm outside Noblesville in order to raise Percheron horses, he discovered that the farmhouse had belonged to pioneer William Conner and worked to restore the building.

Mr. Lilly, a religious man, was quite active in the affairs of Christ Church (Episcopal). He contributed to the restoration of the church building, erected in 1859, and to having it made the diocesan cathedral. He wrote a history of the church, *The Little Church on the Circle* (1957). During the 1950s and 1960s he worked, in a partnership, with activists Bishop John P. Craine and Dean Paul Moore, Jr. (later Bishop of New York).

An interest in inculcating religious values through education brought him to espouse the ideas of Ernest M. Ligon (b. 1897), whose *The Psychology of Christian Personality* (Macmillan, 1935) claimed to "interpret the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount in terms of psychology."

Sources:

Collection guide for Eli Lilly Papers (M 0184)

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains an edited typescript of Eli Lilly Jr.'s book *Early Wawasee Days* and most of the photographs included in the final publication, along with a few images not used for publication. There is also a copy of the 1965 Syracuse Library Edition of the book, with additions and a letter by William L. Ehrhardt of Macy, Indiana.

The photographs are organized by the order they appear in the publication, with the unused images separated.

The box in which the collection was received is housed as an artifact.

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Early Wawasee Days typescript, 1960

Early Wawasee Days Syracuse Library Edition, 1965

Publication images, ca. 1960

Lake Wawasee images, ca. 1960

Collection material box, ca. 1976

CONTAINER

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Photographs
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Photographs
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