

**Minneapolis Moline Power
Implement Company Collection
M/A 2000.157.01**

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Summary Information

Repository	James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library
Creator	Minneapolis-Moline Company.
Title	Minneapolis Moline Power Implement Company Collection
Date	1927-1969
Extent	2.33 Linear feet
Language	English

History

The Minneapolis Moline Power Implement Company started in 1929. A merger between the Moline Plow Co. (est. 1852), Minneapolis Threshing Co. (est. 1887), and the Minneapolis Steel and Threshing Co. (est. 1902) prompted the creation of Minneapolis Moline Power Implement Company. Warren C. Macfarlane, the future president of the company, led the merger negotiations. The company's factory operations began in south Minneapolis, near Lake Street and Minnehaha Avenue. Minneapolis Moline specialized in the manufacturing of a variety of farm equipment including tractors, combines, threshing machines, tillage tools, shellers, harvesters, manure spreaders, and so on.

Minneapolis Moline played a large role globally. The company led in technological innovation and production for farm equipment on an international scale. The company especially prospered during the 1930s-1940s, and became one of the largest farm equipment manufacturers in the world.

At the outbreak of World War II, Minneapolis Moline also took a major role in the war effort. In 1940, the company created the "Jeep," which saw significant use by the U.S. Army. During the same year, the company opened a new factory in Hopkins, Minnesota, and manufactured massive amounts of munitions and military equipment to both the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy., which continued through the duration of the war.

Minneapolis Moline continued to do well into the 1950s, especially with the creation of a number of highly popular harvester machines. Despite this success, however, the profitability and demand for mass produced farm equipment began to wane into the 1960s. In 1962, the White Motor Company of Lansing, Michigan merged with Minneapolis Moline, and set an agenda of manufacturing trucks instead of farm equipment. Much of the manufacturing capital of the company became obsolete or unneeded with this move, and the White Motor Company failed to find subtenants to fill this void. This brought sudden decline to the company as a whole. In 1972, the Minneapolis plant closed and the following year torn down, ending the Minneapolis Moline legacy.

Collection Description

The collection consists of three boxes and four scrapbooks. The first box contains various clippings, advertisements, and booklets. A number of papers and correspondence also detail the 1929 merger of the company. The second and third box contains farm machinery price lists, catalogs, and advertisements. These materials span the years 1927-1969. The scrapbooks consist of newspaper clippings from newspapers, such as the Minneapolis Tribune, Minneapolis Journal, Wall Street Journal, and others. The four scrapbooks cover the following years: 1916-1954, 1929-1932, 1932-1944, and 1943-1954.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

James K. Hosmer Special Collections Library

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Minneapolis-Moline Power Implement Company.

Subject(s)

- Agricultural implements.
- Agricultural machinery industry.
- Farm equipment.
- Tractor industry -- Minnesota -- Minneapolis.

Collection Inventory

	Box	
Clippings, Booklets, Papers, Miscellaneous 1921-2001	1	
	Box	Folder
Diesels 1954	2	1
Drills	2	2
Hammermills 1940-1948	2	3
Harrows 1936-1947	2	4
Harvesters 1937-1949	2	5
Hay Tools 1930-1948	2	6
Listers 1937	2	7
Manure Spreaders 1936-1949	2	8
Mowers	2	9
Planters 1936-1949	2	10

Plows 1927-1949	2	11
Scales	2	12
Sowers	2	13
Threshers 1928-1936	2	14
Power Units 1940-1957	2	15
Tractors 1939-1969	2	16
Trucks 1966	2	17
General 1940-1972	3	1
Beet Tools	3	2
Combines 1940-1966	3	3
Corn huskers, planters, and shelters 1937-1948	3	4
Cultivators 1930-1948	3	5
Photographs	3	6

Scope and Contents note

Photographs of Moline-manufactured equipment. Location of photos is unknown; may not be local. Includes photographs of equipment from the Steel & Machinery Company.

Box-folder

Scrapbook I 1916-1954	4
Scrapbook II 1929-1932	5
Scrapbook III 1932-1944	6
Scrapbook IV 1943-1954	7