

Pittsburg State University

## Pittsburg State University Digital Commons

---

[Finding Aids](#)

[Special Collections & University Archives](#)

---

9-8-2021

### Fort Scott Foundry collection, 1894-1919

Special Collections, Leonard H. Axe Library

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/fa>



Part of the [Business Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Special Collections, Leonard H. Axe Library, "Fort Scott Foundry collection, 1894-1919" (2021). *Finding Aids*. 309.

<https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/fa/309>

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections & University Archives at Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Finding Aids by an authorized administrator of Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@pittstate.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@pittstate.edu).

## **Fort Scott Foundry, Collection, MS 277**

### **Fort Scott Foundry Collection**

<b>Collection Number</b>	MS 277
<b>Title</b>	The Fort Scott Foundry Collection
<b>Repository</b>	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas 1701 S. Broadway Pittsburg, Kansas 66762 (620) 235-4883 speccoll@pittstate.edu
<b>Dates</b>	1894-1919
<b>Collection Size</b>	.4 linear feet
<b>Creator</b>	Unknown
<b>Scope and Content</b>	A collection of record and ledger books of payments and shipments from the Fort Scott Foundry and Machine Works of Fort Scott, Kansas.
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	This collection is open for access. Researchers must use the collection in accordance with the policies of the Special Collections & University Archives, Leonard H. Axe Library, Pittsburg State University
<b>Languages</b>	English

**Biographical Note** The Fort Scott Foundry and Machine Works was established in 1869 by George A. Crawford, proprietor, and Frank J. Nutz, superintendent, in Fort Scott, Kansas. A. W. Walburn (1852-1930) built up the factory and foundry in the 1870s, later becoming proprietor with F. J. Nutz as superintendent. The foundry produced processing equipment that serviced many fields of production, including boilers, mining machinery, stoves, coal trucks, evaporation systems, sugar processors, saw mills, ore treatment, and farm equipment. The foundry also shipped products internationally. M. Swenson, patentor of the Swenson method of evaporators and inventor of processes and machinery, bought a half interest in the Fort Scott Foundry, and changed the name to the Walburn-Swenson Foundry and Machine Company. The company was prosperous in southeast Kansas with mining and immigrant labor, and eventually established international business. In 1893 the company moved its machines and equipment to a new plant in Chicago, and moved its offices to New York. The company was sold in 1900 and Walburn retired while Swenson moved on to invent a hydraulic method of extracting and evaporating salt. After the company was sold, it became the American Foundry and Machinery Company.

## **Fort Scott Foundry, Collection, MS 277**

### **Processing Note**

Collection processed in February 2020

### **Content Description**

This collection is primary sources and is comprised of the Fort Scott Foundry and Machine Works Records

### **Detailed Description of the Collection**

Ledger Book – List of products and payments organized by person or company – 1894-1905

Invoice Order Book (Day Book) – Record of shipments including prices, item, and custom – December 21, 1901-April 25, 1903

Ft. Scott Foundry and Machine Works Day Book – 1905-February 4, 1908

Ft. Scott Foundry and Machine Works Day Book – December 1910-January 1912

Record Book – Payment and Expense – 1911

Journal (Day Book) – Record of shipments and purchases by day for the Palmer Forced Draft Slack Burner Co. – July 31, 1917-June 6, 1919