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Polar Bear Expedition Digital Collections

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 - Alexis
 - housej
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 - Teri
 - manheim
 - Benjamin

The "American Intervention in Northern Russia, 1918-1919," nicknamed the "polar bear expedition," was a U.S. military intervention in northern Russia at the end of World War I. Since many of these soldiers originated from Michigan, the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan, an archive documenting Michigan history, has collected materials related to this event since the 1960s. The Bentley has amassed one of the largest groups of materials on this topic, consisting of over sixty individual collections of primary source material as well as numerous published materials.



In 2004, the Bentley proposed a project to digitize all of the Polar Bear materials in order to increase access as well as protect and secure the fragile originals. In 2005, faculty and students from the University of Michigan School of Information began a research project investigating next generation finding aids. The Polar Bear Expedition Digital Collections are the first example of rethinking traditional archival finding aids to provide better access to primary sources on the web. We are experimenting with different ideas for displaying archival content as well as implementing added functions so that researchers can interact with online collections using collaborative tools. (read more...)

There are several ways to begin your own expedition into the Polar Bear Collections:

- read a brief history of the Polar Bear Expedition.
- search for items about a person, place or Army unit
- browse lists of photographs, maps or diaries from the Collections
- browse an alphabetical list of collections, most of which bear an individual's name
- browse a list of all known participants of the Polar Bear Expedition
- look for information related to a specific geographic location

This website is a work in progress and its success depends entirely on its use. We will be making changes regularly--be sure to see what will be coming soon. We welcome feedback, so please contact us. To find out more about this site, the group behind it and our goals, check the about this site page.

Maintained by The Archivist

What's new?

- * Search by item.
- * Audio from Salchow Interview available.
- * You can now bookmark individual items and collections (logged in users only)



Adding New Polar Bear Collections

Scanning procedures

If the collection needs to be scanned, the following scanning resolution should be maintained:

Grayscale

Color

600 dpi? tiff

Saving to the Hard Drive

- [When the hard drive is ready to go at BHL, need instructions for which hard drive and what folder...]
- Should be saved to folder named using the Bentley Collection ID
- Within that digital folder, for each physical *folder* in the collection, create folders named numerically using four digits.
- Within each folder (corresponding to physical folders), for each individual *object*, create folders numerically using three digits.
- Within each object folder, save the tiff images numerically, named p + seven digits.

Example, a collection with two folders, each containing 3 different objects (each with one image, except for folder 1, object 2 which contains two images) will have the following structure:

0734

0001

001

p0000001.tif

002

p0000001.tif

p0000002.tif

003

p0000001.tif

0002

001

p0000001.tif

002

p0000001.tif

003

p0000001.tif

Saving to the Server

1. Log in to the fang server (fang.si.umich.edu) using an SFTP application
2. Navigate to /Volumes/Other/Polar Bears DLPS Scans
3. Folder structure will be the same as the conventions used for saving to the hard drive, so just drag the newly created collection to the Polar Bears DLPS Scans folder (Note: depending on the connection speed, the size of the scanned images, and the number of images transferred, uploading images to the server may take anywhere from a few minutes for small collections to a few hours for large collections)

Metadata Creation

Updating the metadata requires updating three different csv files.

- pbhash+unique.csv – tracks each individual collection and its collection ID number (stored in /Volumes/Other/Polar Bears DLPS Scans).
- gals_with_desc.csv – tracks each individual folder within a particular collection (stored in Google Docs).
- inventory.csv – tracks each individual object within a particular collection (stored in Google Docs).

New collections

- New collections need to be added to the pbhash+unique.csv file
 - First column - Bentley collection ID (leading zeroes are ignored)
 - Second column - short name of the collection (generally just a one word name for the collection like a soldier's last name or a significant word in the collection title; Note: you can also use more than one word, but do not use white space, use hyphens for separations between words)
- New collections need a new EAD file
 - [Need to specify a location to store EAD]
 - [Do we have a special template or examples of our extra EAD tags?]

New folders (gals_with_desc.csv)

- New folders need to be added to the gals_with_desc.csv file
 - First column – short name of the collection (same short name used in the pbhash+unique.csv file)
 - Second column – folder number
 - Third column – name of the individual folder

Example: a collection with two folders

| | | |
|-------|---|-------------|
| Smith | 1 | Papers |
| Smith | 2 | Photographs |

New images (inventory)

- New images need to be added to the inventory.csv file
 - First column – a 4 digit number corresponding to the folder number and object within that particular folder (so, folder 1, object 3 would be 1.003)
 - Second column – number of images corresponding to a particular object
 - Third column – description of the object
 - Fourth column – creator name (use authoritative name)
 - Fifth column – Bentley collection ID
 - Sixth column – title of collection

****Should we eliminate columns 4 - 6 and include one column that is the short name like gals_with_desc?**



Polar Bear Expedition Digital Collections

[browse by](#) : [collection](#) : [Levi Bartels papers](#)

Biography

Resident of Bay City, Mich.

Scope and content

Papers include letters related to his service in Russia. Also, photographs and postcards of Russian scenes and photos of Bartels in uniform (1917-1919); photos of Bartels' uniform, medals, and accoutrements (2005)

Folder 1

- Accoutrements

Folder 2

- Papers, 1917-1978

Folder 3

- Visual materials

Link Paths

Researchers who viewed this page also viewed:

| | |
|---|---|
| Re: browse by : individual name : Randall, Roy W. | Re: browse by : individual name : Randall, Roy W. |
| Re: browse by : individual name : Kussrath, Charles Aug., Jr. | Re: browse by : subject : Prisoners of war - Soviet |
| Re: browse by : individual name : Steala, Daqal | Re: browse by : individual name : Mowat, |
| Re: browse by : individual name : Randall, Roy W. | Re: browse by : individual name : Randall, Roy W. |
| Re: browse by : individual name : Kussrath, Charles Aug., Jr. | Re: browse by : subject : Prisoners of war - Soviet |
| Re: browse by : individual name : Steala, Daqal | Re: browse by : individual name : Mowat, |

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 - Michael
 - Lynnette Younggren
 - Jillmarsh
 - Jim Matheson
 - Robert Matheson
 - negritos
 - Paul
 - fostrum
 - Helga
 - Britney

bartels.xml

```

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Description (EAD) Version 2002)//EN" "ead.dtd">
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repositoryencoding="iso15511" dateencoding="iso8601" relatedencoding="Dublin
Core"><eadid countrycode="us" mainagencycode="MiU-H" publicid="-//us::MiU-H//TEXT
us::MiU-H::bartels.xml//EN" encodinganalog="identifier">umich-bhl-0650</eadid>

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<author encodinganalog="creator">Finding aid prepared by Polly
Reynolds</author></titlestmt>
<publicationstmt>
<publisher encodinganalog="publisher">Bentley Historical Library, University of
Michigan</publisher><date
encodinganalog="date">2006-05</date></publicationstmt></filedesc>

<profiledesc>
<creation>Encoded finding aid created by Polly Reynolds,
<date>2006-05</date></creation>
<language>The finding aid is written in <language encodinganalog="language"
langcode="eng">English.</language></language></profiledesc>

</eadheader>

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Historical Library</p><University of Michigan</publisher><titleproper>Finding Aid
for </p><Levi Bartels papers, <date>1917-1919 and
2005.</date></titleproper><author>Finding aid prepared by: </p><Polly
Reynolds</author></titlepage></frontmatter>

<archdesc audience="external" type="inventory" level="collection"
relatedencoding="marc21"><did>
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Levi.</persname></origination>
<unittitle encodinganalog="245">Levi Bartels papers
<unitdate type="inclusive" encodinganalog="245$f">1917-1919 and
2005.</unitdate></unittitle>
<physdesc><extent encodinganalog="300">1 CD-ROM</extent></physdesc>
<abstract>Papers of a soldier in the Allied intervention in Russia, 1918-1920, the
"Polar Bear Expedition." </abstract>
<unitid countrycode="us" repositorycode="MiU-H" encodinganalog="099" type="call
number">0650;Aa;2</unitid>
<langmaterial>The materials are in <language encodinganalog="041"
langcode="eng">English.</language></langmaterial>
<repository><corpname encodinganalog="852"><subarea>Bentley Historical
Library</subarea> University of Michigan</corpname><extptr href="bhladd"
show="embed" actuate="onload"/></repository></did>

<descgrp type="admin">
<acqinfo encodinganalog="541"><p>Donor no.: <num type="donor"
encodinganalog="541$e">4043</num></p></acqinfo>
<accessrestrict encodinganalog="506"><p>The collection is open for
research.</p></accessrestrict>
<prefercite encodinganalog="524"><p>item, folder title, Levi Bartels papers, Bentley
Historical Library, University of Michigan</p></prefercite></descgrp>

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(Mich.)">Bay City, Mich.</geogname> </p></bioghist>

```

bartels.xml

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<controlaccess><head>Genre/Form:</head><genreform source="aat" encodinganalog="655">Photographs</genreform></controlaccess></controlaccess>

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| Last name | Folder Number | Collection Title | Folder Name |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Arkins | 1 | Edwin L. Arkins diary | Diary(comma) July 14(comma) 1918-April 16(comma) 1919 |
| Arkins | 2 | Edwin L. Arkins diary | Diary(comma) April 16(comma) 1919-July 19(comma) 1919 |
| Arkins | 3 | Edwin L. Arkins diary | Diary(comma) transcription(comma) July 14th(comma) 1918(comma) July 19th(comma) 1919 |
| Arkins | 4 | Edwin L. Arkins diary | Miscellaneous papers |
| Abel | 1 | Henry J. Abel papers | Papers(comma) 1918-1919 and 1964 |
| Albers | 1 | George Albers papers | Diary of Fred Kooyers(comma) 1918-1919 |
| Albers | 2 | George Albers papers | Papers(comma) 1918-1919 and 1940-1945 |
| Amos | 1 | Earl V. Amos papers | Papers(comma) 1918-1919 and Photographs |
| Anderson | 1 | Godfrey J. Anderson Paper | Reminiscence - The 337th field hospital in north Russia(comma) 1918-1919 |
| Andrews | 1 | Ernest Oliver Andrews pa | Papers 1918-1950s(comma) bulk 1918-1919 |
| Bahr | 1 | Golden C. Bahr papers | Papers 1918-1919 |
| Bandemer | 1 | Paul A. Bandemer papers | Papers(comma) 1917-1919 and undated |
| Bandemer | 2 | Paul A. Bandemer papers | Photographs |
| Bartels | 1 | Levi Bartels papers | Accoutrements |
| Bartels | 2 | Levi Bartels papers | Papers(comma) 1917-1978 |
| Bartels | 3 | Levi Bartels papers | Visual materials |

Polar Bear Expedition Digital Collections

browse by : collection : Levi Bartels papers : folder 3

Visual materials

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- Testb
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- Berret Urgin
- Vesa Poikaja "rvi
- Michael
- Lynnette Younggren
- jilnersh
- Jim Matheson
- Robert Matheson
- negritos
- Paul
- fostrom
- Helga
- Britney

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Bartels 3-1.1 (0 comments)</p>  <p>Photographs from book "The History of the American Expedition Fighting the Bolsheviki", page 1 of 4</p> | <p>Bartels 3-1.2 (0 comments)</p>  <p>Photographs from book "The History of the American Expedition Fighting the Bolsheviki", page 2 of 4</p> | <p>Bartels 3-1.3 (0 comments)</p>  <p>Photographs from book "The History of the American Expedition Fighting the Bolsheviki", page 3 of 4</p> |
| <p>Bartels 3-1.4 (0 comments)</p>  <p>Photographs from book "The History of the American Expedition Fighting the Bolsheviki", page 4 of 4</p> | <p>Bartels 3-2.1 (0 comments)</p>  <p>Photographs of Camp Custer (source unknown)</p> | <p>Bartels 3-3.1 (0 comments)</p>  <p>Group portrait, Company K, 1919, page 1 of 8</p> |
| <p>Bartels 3-3.2 (0 comments)</p>  | <p>Bartels 3-3.3 (0 comments)</p>  | <p>Bartels 3-3.4 (0 comments)</p>  |

| Folder/Item | Pages | Item Level Description | Creator | ID | Title |
|-------------|-------|--|---------------------|-----|---------------------|
| 1.001 | 2 | Medals | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.002 | 1 | Anti-dimming composition for gas masks | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.003 | 2 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.004 | 4 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.005 | 2 | Helmet | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.006 | 2 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.007 | 1 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.008 | 1 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.009 | 7 | Uniform | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.01 | 2 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.011 | 1 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.012 | 1 | Replacement victory medals | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.013 | 1 | Replica British 'Military Medal' | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.014 | 2 | Description of World War I victory medal | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.015 | 2 | Letter to Bruce Bartels from National Personnel Records Center | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.016 | 2 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.017 | 1 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.018 | 1 | The New Testament | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.019 | 1 | Soldiers' French Course (cover) | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.02 | 1 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| | | Pin from eighth biennial polar bear reunion May 29-30-31st(comma) | | | |
| 1.021 | 2 | 1936(comma) Grand Rapids(comma) Mich. Pin from tenth biennial polar bear reunion(comma) Grand | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.022 | 1 | Rapids(comma) June 14-15-16th(comma) 1940 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 1.023 | 5 | | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.018 | | Correspondence(comma) February 2(comma) 1919 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.019 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) March 7(comma) 1919 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.02 | 1 | Correspondence(comma) May 13(comma) 1919 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.021 | 1 | Correspondence(comma) May 19(comma) 1919 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.003 | 1 | Correspondence(comma) June 27(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.004 | 1 | Correspondence(comma) June 31(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.005 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) July 4(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.006 | 1 | Correspondence(comma) July 7(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.007 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) July 15(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.008 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) July 16(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.009 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) July 19(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.01 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) July 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.011 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) July 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.012 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) July 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.013 | 3 | Correspondence(comma) August 8(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.014 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) August 18(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.015 | 1 | Correspondence(comma) August 31(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.016 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) October 4(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.017 | 3 | Correspondence(comma) December 13(comma) 1918 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.001 | 1 | Correspondence (date unknown) | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.002 | 2 | Correspondence(comma) 1918 Polar Bear oral history project transcript. Glenn Johnson interviewing | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.022 | 7 | Levi Bartels(comma) June 12(comma) 1978 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.023 | 1 | Commendation | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.024 | 1 | Photograph of Bartels (from newspaper) | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.025 | 1 | Commendation | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.026 | 1 | Discharge | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.027 | 1 | Enlistment | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.028 | 1 | Greetings | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.029 | 1 | Guard roster | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.03 | 1 | Instructor | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.031 | 1 | Military induction | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.032 | 1 | Quote in book(comma) "Quartered in Hell" | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 2.033 | 1 | Registration Photographs from book "The History of the American Expedition | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.001 | 4 | Fighting the Bolsheviks" | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.002 | 1 | Photographs of Camp Custer (source unknown) | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.003 | 8 | Group portrait(comma) Company K(comma) 1919 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.004 | 1 | Levi Bartels and Nettie Workman | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.005 | 1 | Levi Bartels wearing World War I uniform | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.006 | 1 | Machine gun school(comma) Archangel(comma) Russia | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.007 | 2 | Postcard | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.008 | 1 | Russian postcard | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.009 | 1 | Russian postcard | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.01 | 1 | Russian postcard | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.011 | 1 | Russian postcard | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.012 | 1 | Russian postcard | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.013 | 1 | Russian picture Postcard(comma) "On guard(comma)" Camp Custer(comma) Battle | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.014 | 1 | Creek(comma) Mich. | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.015 | 2 | Sgt. Bartels' sister(comma) 1919 | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.016 | 1 | Sgt. Levi Bartels | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |
| 3.017 | 1 | USS President Grant | Bartels(comma) Levi | 650 | Levi Bartels papers |