

**Record Group 39**  
**The Plymouth Mail and Observer**

1887-2010

9 storage boxes and 51 oversized boxes

Plymouth Historical Museum, Plymouth, MI

Finding Aid Written by Mary Thackston, 26 May 2006

Updated by Katie Zahrt, 8.21.09

Updated by Ashley Engelberg, 01.20.2010

Updated by Jennifer Meekhof, 2 Nov 2011

- Creator:** Plymouth Mail & Observer
- Acquisition:** The Plymouth Mail & Observer records were deposited in the archives at different dates from 1976 through 2010.
- Language:** Materials in English
- Access:** Records are open for research
- Use:** Refer to Archives Reading Room Guidelines
- Notes:** Citation Style: "Plymouth Mail & Observer," Record Group 39, Archives, Plymouth Historical Museum

**Abstract**

The Plymouth newspaper started in the 1887 as the Plymouth Mail. The name of the newspaper changed to the Plymouth Mail & Observer in the 1960s, and is sometimes known as simply the Observer. Plymouth Observer covers local news, sports, business, jobs, and community events. It is part of the Hometown Weeklies, a group of 13 suburban newspapers serving Wayne and Oakland counties in Michigan and circulates 4,500 copies. As of 2011, the newspaper was owned by Gannett Company, Inc..

**Scope and Content**

The Plymouth Mail & Observer collection consists of the newspapers of the Plymouth Mail, the Plymouth Observer, and the Plymouth Mail & Observer. The newspapers are in various formats, print, digitized on CD and microfilm. The papers begin with the Plymouth Mail.

**Entries**

[Entry 1:](#) The Plymouth Mail

[Entry 2:](#) The Plymouth Mail & Observer

[Entry 3:](#) The Observer of Plymouth

[Entry 4:](#) The Plymouth Mail Loose Newspapers

[Entry 5:](#) The Plymouth Mail, The Plymouth Mail & Observer, The Observer Loose Newspapers

[Entry 6:](#) The Plymouth Mail & Observer Microfilm

[Entry 7:](#) Newspapers

**Important Subjects**

Local history—Plymouth, MI  
Newspapers—Plymouth, MI

***Entry 1: The Plymouth Mail***

**Large Binders**

*Shelves 43-46*

1889

1894-1895

1896

1886, 1897, 1898, 1899

1900-1901

1903-1904

1905-1906

1907

1909-1910

1911-1912

1913

1914

1915

1916

1917

1918

1919

1920

1921

1922

1923

1924

1925

1926

1927

1928

1930

1931

1932

1933

1934

1935

1936

1937

1938

1939

1940

1941

1943

1944  
1945  
1946  
1947  
1948  
1949

1934-1941 (titled "Property of William C. Hartman")  
1941-1956 (titled "Property of William C. Hartman")

Jan-Dec 1950  
Jan-Dec 1951  
Jan-Dec 1952  
Jan-June 1953  
July-Dec 1953  
Jan-June 1954  
July-Dec 1954  
Jan-June 1955  
July-Dec 1955  
Jan-June 1956  
July-Dec 1956  
Jan-June 1957  
July-Dec 1957  
Jan-June 1958  
July-Dec 1958  
July-Dec 1961  
July-Dec 1962  
Jan-June 1963  
July-Dec 1963  
Jan-June 1965 (2 volumes)  
July-Dec 1965  
Jan-June 1966  
July-Dec 1966  
Jan-April 1967

***Entry 2: The Plymouth Mail & Observer***

**Large binders**

*Shelf 48*

Jan-June 1961  
Jan-June 1962  
July-Dec 1962  
Jan-June 1963  
July-Dec 1963  
Jan-June 1964  
July-Dec 1964

July-Dec 1965  
Jan-June 1966  
July-Dec 1966 (two volumes)  
Jan-June 1967  
July-Dec 1967  
Jan-March 1968  
April-May 1968

***Entry 3: The Observer of Plymouth***

**Large binders**

*Shelves 47*

Nov 1-June 27 1961-1962  
Jan-June 1964  
July-Dec 1964  
Jan-June 1965  
July-Dec 1965  
Jan-June 1966

***Entry 4: The Plymouth Mail Loose Newspapers***

**Box 1 Shelf 65**

The Plymouth Mail, no date found, 2 pieces (#1357)  
April 12, 1901 vol 49, #47  
Feb 11, 1910 vol XXII, #21 (#1356)  
Sept 27, 1912 vol XXIV, #42 (#1426)  
Sept 25, 1914 vol XXVII #42  
Mar 3, 1916 vol XXVIII #13  
Mar 31, 1916 vol XXVIII, #17  
Apr 5, 1918 vol XXX #18 (#718)  
Nov 15, 1918 vol XXX #50  
April 25, 1919 vol XXI, #21  
May 14, 1920 vol VVVII, #24 (77.137.7)  
April 8, 1921 vol XXXIII, #19  
July 7, 1922 vol XXXIV, #32  
Feb 16, 1923 vol XXXV, #12  
May 27, 1927 vol XXXIX, #27  
Jan 22, 1932 vol 46, #10  
Dec 8, 1933 vol 48, #4  
Dec 16, 1932 vol 47, #5  
Nov 13, 1936 vol 49, #9 (95.15)  
May 21, 1937 vol 49, #36  
Aug 6, 1937 vol 49, #47  
April 1, 1938 vol 50, #29  
Mar 25, 1938 vol 50, #28  
Dec 16, 1939 vol 52, #14 (76.653)

Dec 16, 1939 vol 52, #14 (78.72.65L)  
Mar 8, 1940 vol 52, #26  
May 10, 1940  
Nov 1, 1940 vol 53, #8  
Dec 21, 1940 vol 53, #15  
July 27, 1945 vol 57, #47  
Aug 21, 1952 vol 64, #52  
Dec 30, 1954 vol 68, #19  
March 3, 1955 vol 68, #28  
April 12, 1956 vol 69, #34  
Nov 7, 1957 vol 71, #12  
Dec 4, 1958 vol 72, #16  
Jan 29, 1959  
Feb 5, 1959  
Mar 5, 1959 vol 72, #29  
July 2, 1959 vol 72  
July 9, 1959 vol 72, #47  
July 16, 1959 vol 72  
Aug 6, 1959 vol 72  
Sept 3, 1959 vol 73, #3  
Sept 10, 1959 vol 73  
Oct 1, 1959 vol 73, #7  
Oct 8, 1959  
Oct 29, 1959 vol 73, #11  
Nov 5, 1959  
Nov 24, 1959 vol 73, #15  
Dec 9, 1959 vol 73, #17  
Jan 6, 1960 vol 73, #21  
Jan 13, 1960  
Jan 20, 1960 vol 73, #27  
Jan 25, 1960 vol 73, #24  
Feb 3, 1960 vol 73, #25  
Feb 10, 1960 vol 73, #26  
Mar 16, 1960 vol 73, #32  
Mar 30, 1960 vol 73 #33  
May 11, 1960 vol 73, #39  
June 29, 1960 vol 73, #46  
July 20, 1960 vol 73  
Aug 24, 1960 vol 74, #2  
Aug 31, 1960 vol 74, #3  
Sept 21, 1960  
Sept 28, 1960 vol 74, #7  
Dec 21, 1960 vol 74, #19  
Feb 8, 1961 vol 74 #26 (Acc# 2009.182.05)  
Jan 24, 1962 vol 74, #20  
Feb 21, 1962 vol 74, #24

Mar 13, 1963 vol 75, #27  
Nov 10, 1964 Special City Hall Supplement  
Sept 21, 1966 vol 79, #3 (Acc. #2006.145.01)  
May 31, 1967 vol 79 #42 (Acc# 2009.153.04)  
July 12, 1967 vol 79, #54  
Aug 16, 1967 vol 79, #64

***Entry 5: The Plymouth Mail, The Plymouth Mail & Observer, The Observer  
Loose Newspapers***

**Box 1, Shelf 68**

Jan 5, 1894 vol 7, #18 The Plymouth Mail (#1355)  
Mar 3, 1916 vol XXVIII, #13 The Plymouth Mail  
Nov 10, 1964 The Plymouth Mail & Observer special city hall supplement, 3 copies  
July 2, 1967 Sect C Observer Sunday Edition  
July 2, 1967 Sect D Observer Sunday Edition  
July 2, 1967 Observer, front page repro of The Plymouth Mail Sept 16, 1887  
Jan 10, 1968 vol 80, #33, 1916 Anniversary Issue The Plymouth Mail  
Mayflower Hotel Issue (92.55.11L)  
Aug 19, 1968 Supplement to Observer, City of Plymouth Zoning Ordinance #341  
(89.43.62L)  
Sept 15, 1971 vol 84, #102  
Sept 18-19, 1971  
Sept 25-26, 1971  
April 7, 1973 Observer Newspaper Suburban Spotlight Plymouth Community Cultural  
Center (Acc# 2009.182.02)  
Sept 6, 1973 Observer Newspapers, Plymouth Fall Festival Issue, 2 copies  
Sept 2, 1975 Plymouth Community Fall Festival Issue  
July 1, 1976 vol 89, #81 Plymouth Observer & Eccentric  
Aug 21, 1985 Observer Newspapers, "125 Years of Plymouth-Canton Newspapering"  
June 25, 1987 vol.101, #78, The Plymouth Mail & Observer, 2 copies  
Dec 2, 1991 vol 106, #24 The Plymouth Observer

***Entry 6: The Plymouth Mail & Observer Microfilm***

**Microfilm cabinet**

Sept 16, 1887- Mar 31, 1893	Reel 1
Jan 5, 1894-Dec 27, 1895	Reel 2
Jan 3, 1896-Dec 31, 1897	Reel 3
Jan 7, 1898-Dec 29, 1899	Reel 4
Jan 12, 1900-Dec 27, 1901	Reel 5
Jan 2, 1903-Dec 30, 1904	Reel 6
Jan 6, 1905-Dec 28, 1906	Reel 7
Jan 4, 1907-Dec 25, 1908	Reel 8
Jan 1, 1909-Dec 30, 1910	Reel 9
Jan 13, 1911-Dec 27, 1912	Reel 10

Jan 3, 1913-Dec 25, 1914	Reel 11
Jan 1915-Nov 3, 1916	Reel 12
Jan 5, 1917-Sept 27, 1918	Reel 13
Oct 4, 1918-Sept 24, 1920	Reel 14
Oct 1, 1920-June 30, 1922	Reel 15
July 7, 1922-Mar 28, 1924	Reel 16
April 4, 1924-Sept 25, 1925	Reel 17
Oct 2, 1925-Sept 24, 1926	Reel 18
Oct 1926-Sept 30, 1927	Reel 19 (2)
Oct 7, 1927-Sept 28, 1928	Reel 20 (2)
Oct 5, 1928-Sept 27, 1929	Reel 21 (2)
Oct 4, 1929-Dec 26, 1930	Reel 22 (2)
Jan 2, 1931-Mar 25, 1932	Reel 23
April 1932-Dec 29, 1933	Reel 24
Jan 5, 1934-Mar 29, 1935	Reel 25
April 5-Dec 27 1935	Reel 26
Jan 3, 1936-Mar 26, 1937	Reel 27
April 2, 1937-June 24, 1938	Reel 28
July 1938-Sept 29, 1939	Reel 29
Oct 6-Dec 29, 1939	Reel 30
Jan 5-Dec 27, 1940	Reel 31
Jan 3-Dec 26, 1941	Reel 32
Jan 2-Dec 25, 1942	Reel 33
Jan 1-Dec 31, 1943	Reel 34
Jan 7-Dec 29, 1944	Reel 35
Jan 5-Dec 28, 1945	Reel 36
Jan 4-Dec 27, 1946	Reel 37
Jan 3-Sept 26, 1947	Reel 38
Oct 3, 1947-June 25, 1948	Reel 39
July 2, 1948-Mar 31, 1949	Reel 40
April 7-Dec 29, 1949	Reel 41
Jan 5-Sept 28, 1950	Reel 42
Oct 5, 1950-June 28, 1951	Reel 43
July 5, 1951-Mar 27, 1952	Reel 44
April 3-Dec 25, 1952	Reel 45
Jan 1-June 25, 1953	Reel 46
July 2-Dec 30, 1953	Reel 47
Jan 7-June 24, 1954	Reel 48
July 1-Dec 30, 1954	Reel 49
<i>Plymouth Observer Newspapers</i>	
July 2, 2000-Aug 31, 2000	
Sept 3, 2000-Oct 29, 2000	
Nov 2, 2000-Dec 31, 2000	
Jan 4, 2001-Mar 29, 2001	
April 1, 2001-May 31, 2001	
April 3, 2001-July 29, 2001	

***Entry 7: Newspapers***

**Shelf 60-68**

- Box 1** - Jan. 4, 2001-Aug. 19, 2001 (Acc. #2006.179.01-.16)
- Box 2** – Aug. 23, 2001-Oct. 4, 2001 (Acc. #2006.179.17-.28)
- Box 3** – Oct. 7, 2001-Nov. 8, 2001 (Acc. #2006.179.29-.37)
- Box 4** –Nov. 11, 2001-Dec. 6, 2001 (Acc. #2006.179.38-.45)
- Box 5** –Dec. 9, 2001-Jan. 2, 2002 (Acc. #2006.179.46-.54)
- Box 6** – Jan. 10, 2002-Feb. 7, 2002 (Acc. #2006.179.55-.63)
- Box 7** – Feb. 10, 2002-Mar. 10, 2002 (Acc. #2006.179.64-.72)
- Box 8** – Mar. 14, 2002- April 7, 2002 (Acc. #2006.179.73-.79)
- Box 9** – April 11, 2002-May 16, 2002 (Acc. #2006.179.80-.90)
- Box 10** – May 19, 2002-June 16, 2002 (Acc. #2006.179.91-.99)
- Box 11** – June 20, 2002-July 21, 2002 (Acc. #2006.179.100-.109)
- Box 12** –July 25, 2002-Sept. 1, 2002 (Acc. #2006.179.110-.121)
- Box 13** – Sept. 5, 2002-Oct. 6, 2002 (Acc. #2006.179.122-.131)
- Box 14** – Oct. 10, 2002-Nov. 17, 2002 (Acc. #2006.179.132-.143)
- Box 15** – Nov. 21, 2002-Jan. 2, 2003 (Acc. #2006.179.144-156)
- Box 16** – Jan. 5, 2003-Feb. 16, 2003 (Acc. #2006.179.157-.169)
- Box 17** – Feb. 20, 2003-Mar. 27, 2003 (Acc. #2006.179.170-.180)
- Box 18** – Mar. 30, 2003-May 4, 2003 (Acc. #2006.179.181-.191)
- Box 19** – May 8, 2003-June 12, 2003 (Acc. #2006.179.192-.202)
- Box 20** – June 15, 2003-July 24, 2003 (Acc. #2006.179.203-.214)
- Box 21** – July 27, 2003-Aug. 3, 2003 (Acc. #2006.179.215-.225)
- Box 22** – Sept. 4, 2003-Oct. 5, 2003 (Acc. #2006.179.226-.235)
- Box 23** – Oct. 9, 2003-Nov. 6, 2003 (Acc. #2006.179.236-.244)
- Box 24** – Feb. 5, 2004-Mar. 11, 2004 (Acc. #2006.179.245-.254)
- Box 25** – Mar. 14, 2004-April 15, 2004 (Acc. #2006.179.255-.263)
- Box 26** – April 18, 2004-May 16, 2004 (Acc. #2006.179.264-.272)
- Box 27** – May 20, 2004-June 20, 2004 (Acc. #2006.179.273-.282)
- Box 28** – June 24, 2004-July 25, 2004 (Acc. #2006.179.283-.291)
- Box 29** – July 29, 2004- Aug. 15, 2004 (Acc. #2006.179.292-.297)
- Box 30** – Aug. 19, 2004-Sept. 16, 2004 (Acc. #2006.179.298-.306)
- Box 31** – Sept. 19, 2004-Oct. 17, 2004 (Acc. #2006.179.307-.315)
- Box 32** – Nov. 9, 2003-Dec. 21, 2003 (Acc. #2006.179.316-.325)
- Box 33** – Dec. 25, 2003-Feb. 1, 2004 (Acc. #2006.179.326-.337)
- Box 34** – Oct. 21, 2004-Nov. 18, 2004) (Acc. #2006.179.338-.350)
- Box 35** – Nov. 21, 2004-Dec. 23, 2004 (Acc. #2006.179.351-.360)
- Box 36** – Dec. 26, 2004-Jan. 27, 2005 (Acc. #2006.179.361-.370)
- Box 37** – Jan. 30, 2005-Mar. 3, 2005 (Acc. #2006.179.371-.380)
- Box 38** – Mar. 6, 2005-April 17, 2005 (Acc. #2006.179.381-.393)
- Box 39** – April 21, 2005-May 22, 2005 (Acc. #2006.179.394-.403)
- Box 40** – May 26, 2005-June 30, 2005 (Acc. #2006.179.404-.413)
- Box 41** – July 3, 2005-Aug. 17, 2005 (Acc. #2006.179.414-.424)
- Box 42** – Aug. 11, 2005-Sept. 11, 2005 (Acc. #2006.179.425-.434)



**Box 43** – Sept. 15, 2005-Oct. 16, 2005 (Acc. #2006.179.435-.444)  
**Box 44** – Oct. 20, 2005-Nov. 13, 2005 (Acc. #2006.179.445-.455)  
**Box 45** – Feb. 2, 2006-Mar. 19, 2006 (Acc. #2006.179.456-.466)  
**Box 46** – Mar. 23, 2006-April 23, 2006 (Acc. #2006.179.467-.475)  
**Box 47** – April 27, 2006-June 1, 2006 (Acc. #2006.179.476-.487)  
**Box 48** – Nov. 17, 2005-Dec. 15, 2005 (Acc. #2006.179.488-.496)  
**Box 49** – Dec. 18, 2005-Jan. 29, 2006 (Acc. #2006.179.497-.507)  
**Box 51** – 6-4-06 through 9-28-06  
**Box 52** - 10-1-06 through 1-28-07  
**Box 53** – 2-1-07 through 5-31-07  
**Box 54** – 6-3-07 through 10-28-07  
**Box 55** – 11-1-07 through 4-27-08  
**Box 56** – 5-1-08 through 10-30-08  
**Box 57** – 11-2-08 through 5-31-09  
**Box 58** – 6-4-09 through 12-31-09  
**Box 59** – 1-3-10 through 6-27-10