

Information Sheet

**R Esser, Gilbert F., 1896-
527 Reminiscences, 1970-1972.
Two folders, photocopies.**

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are booklets by Gilbert F. Esser, containing descriptions of the people, businesses, and buildings of Cole Camp in Benton County, Missouri. Included are descriptions of “old” (pre-1880s) and “new” Cole Camp, with photographs of individuals and buildings.

A native of Cole Camp born in 1896, Gilbert Esser grew up in Benton County before leaving in 1911 to begin studies for the Catholic priesthood. He taught Greek and Latin at St. Joseph’s College in Rensselaer, Indiana, for nearly thirty years, and was a hospital chaplain in Detroit. After his retirement, Esser authored two booklets on Cole Camp. They concern, respectively, the “old” village as it was before construction of the railroad through Cole Camp in the 1880s, and the “new” town which realigned itself along the tracks. The works consist of the Rev. Esser’s reminiscences organized as an “imagined walk,” block by block, through Cole Camp. Principal buildings are noted, with genealogical and historical notes on the individuals, businesses, and activities associated with them.

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Shelf List

These are booklets by Gilbert F. Esser, containing descriptions of the people, businesses, and buildings of Cole Camp in Benton County, Missouri. Included are descriptions of “old” (pre-1880s) and “new” Cole Camp, with photographs of individuals and buildings.

Folder 1: “Locations In Old Cole Camp,” 1970
(39 pp.)

Folder 2: “Landmarks in New Cole Camp,” 1972
(64 pp.)

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Index Cards

Benton County (Mo.).
Cole Camp (Mo.).
Esser, Frank J., 1872-1954.
Esser, Gilbert F., 1896-
Esser, Henry, 1821-1900.