Richard Nicholas Pranke was born in 1911 in St. Paul, Minnesota, the son of Richard (1882-1948) and Margaret Tschida Pranke (1884-1967), and graduated from Cretin High School (St. Paul) in 1928. He attended the Saint Paul College of Law (it later became William Mitchell College of Law) while working at the St. Paul Police Department, and graduated in 1934. He joined the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1934 and was assigned to offices in St. Paul (where he spent most of his career), Washington, D.C., Boston, Los Angeles, and New Orleans. After his retirement in 1961, he worked for the New York State Liquor Authority (1961-1969). Pranke died in St. Paul on August 22, 1994.

He married Marie Elizabeth Tschida in 1934.

The collection contains correspondence, birth and death records, legal documents, maps, greeting cards, photographs, newspaper clippings, and motion picture film (8mm) compiled by Pranke to document his family and that of his wife, Marie Tschida Pranke (1914-1991). The compiled documentation extends from the 1700s and includes information on the Pranke and Tschida families as well as the Koenig, Mietzner, Berger, Wenzel, Gebhardt, Henkel, Mertz, Muschitz, Gisch, and Hollanitsch families. Richard and Marie Pranke’s lives are recorded in great detail.

The genealogical material is in the order in which Pranke originally compiled the information. Each volume or file contains Pranke’s correspondence, legal documents, maps, photographs, clippings, photocopies, and other material relating to the family or person named in that set.

Also included are Pranke’s diaries (1934-1979) and autobiography (1911-1990) which detail his personal life as well as his service with the St. Paul Police Department (1931-1934) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (1934-1961). Additional files containing correspondence, photographs, newspaper and magazine clippings regarding Pranke’s FBI service are scattered throughout the collection.

Other subjects documented within the collection include the Frogtown neighborhood of St. Paul where Pranke grew up, St. Mary’s Parish in Waverly, Minnesota, the Church of St. Agnes in St. Paul, the schools he and his wife attended (1924-1936), the houses he and his wife owned (1935-1987), their apartment (1988-1993), his automobiles (1926-1979), his genealogical expenses (1957-1990), and their Staffordshire commemorative plate collection (1934-1955).
CONTAINER LIST

Box 1. 146.E.15.8F
Table of contents of family tree regarding: Pranke or Prandke and Berger. (4 folders)
Table of contents of family tree regarding: other Pranke families not known to be relatives or ancestors.
Table of contents of family tree regarding : Gebhardt or Gebhard and Mertz or Merz.
Table of contents of family tree regarding : Tschida, Tsida or Csida and Muschitz, Mussits or Musits.
Pranke Genealogy, Richard and Marie Pranke.
Genealogy charts (bound and loose).
Miscellaneous information from newspapers and magazines relating to cases involving Pranke while an FBI agent. (3 folders)
Pranke’s Selective Service (military draft) registration , 1940-1944, and miscellaneous membership cards, 1932-1934.

Box 2. 146.E.15.9B
School records, pictures, diplomas, etc.
Cretin High School, 1924-1928. (3 folders)
St. Paul College of Law, 1929-1936.
Miscellaneous, 1928-1929.

Box 3. 146.E.15.10F
Blue Plates File: contains correspondence, photos, newspaper and magazine articles and maps concerning Prankes' collection of Staffordshire plates from 1934 to 1955. (6 vols.)
Volumes containing genealogy booklets, newspaper items, etc. (2 v.)
(4 folders, remainder of manuscript in box 4)

Box 4. 146.F.1.1B
Photos.
Negatives.
Maps.

Box 5. 146.F.1.2F
Letters, cards, etc. relating to Marie and Richard Pranke.

Box 6. 146.F.1.3B
One reel of film taken in 1946-1947 at 1375 W. Iowa, St. Paul, of the Tschida and Pranke families.
One reel of film taken in 1957 of the Pranke, Tschida and Younghans families.
Pranke, Richard
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Places where Marie and Richard Pranke lived, 1935-1979. (2 v.)

**Box 7.**
Pranke, Stephen (1913-1974), 1913-1974. (3 v.)
Pranke, Lillian M. (1915-), 1915-1979. (3 v.)

**Box 8.**
Pranke, Richard C. (Pa), 1882-1948. (2 v.)
Miscellaneous items concerning Richard C. Pranke.
"Tool Box" papers and articles of Richard Pranke.

**Box 9.**
Pranke, Margaret Gebhardt (Ma), 1884-1967. (5 v.)

**Box 10.**
Pranke, Margaret Gebhardt.
Albums containing get well cards and sympathy cards at the time of her death.
Pranke, Stephen (1854-1909) (1 v.)
Pranke, Minna Berger (1862-1929). (1 v.)

**Box 11.**
Pranke, August (1846-). (1 v.)
Koenig, Ernestine Pranke (1848-1923). (1 v.)
Pranke, Anton, Frank, Martin, Johannes (1850-1933). (1 v.)
Pranke Cousins, A-Z. (3 v.)
Pranke, Michael (1804-1874). (1 v.)

**Box 12.**
Pranke, Julianna Mitzner (1818-1866). (1 v.)
Pranke, Stephen, Anton, Martin, Frank, Christoforus, Rosalia (1814-1903). (1 v.)
Children of above Pranke family, (1816-1876). (2 vols.)
Children of Christoforus Pranke (1849-1944). (1 v.)
Pranke, Probst Clemens (1863-1930). (1 v.)
Mitzner, Daniel, Jan, Martin (1796-1878). (1 v.)
Prandke, Christoph (17[?]1866?). (1 v.)
Prandke, Elisabeth Redel (17[?]1866?). (1 v.)

**Box 13.**
Mietzner, Christoph (1802-1875) and Mietzner, Justine Kachlin (ca.1800-).
Mietzner, Martin (1782-18[?]18) and Mietzner, Anna Donnerer or Bonning (ca. 17[?]18). (1 v.)
Prandke, George (17[?]18). (1 v.)
Miscellaneous Pranke and Mietzner names. (2 v.)
Pranke Families, Andreas - Christiani.

**Box 14.**
Pranke Families, Christoph - Joannes. (10 v.)
Box 15.  
Pranke Families, Joannes Michel - William. (14 v.)  

Box 16.  
Pranke Families, Wenceslaus (ca.1709-) and Pranke, Ludmilla Wasschatka (ca. 1709). (2 v.)  
Miscellaneous Pranke families not known to be related. (2 vols.)  
Berger, Henry C. (1837-1924) and Berger, Augusta Wenzel (1839-1916).  
Berger Cousins. (vols. A&B)  

Box 17.  
Berger Cousins. (1 v.)  
Berger, Henry C. (1837-1924), brothers and sisters. (vols. A&B)  
Wenzel, Albert Joann (1843-19300. (1 v.)  
Berger, Friedrich Whilhelm (1800-1879). (1 v.)  
Berger, Louise Ronspiess (ca. 1800-). (vol. B)  
Wenzel, Johann (1818-ca.1871) and Wenzel, Charotte Luck (1814-1846) (vols. C&D)  
Berger, Christian Friedrich (1775-1836).  
Berger, Ana Catherina Schroedern (1775-1849). (vol. F)  
Berger, Wenzel, Luck, and Schroder. (1 v.)  

Box 18.  
Miscellaneous data on Berger, Wenzel, Luck, and Schroder.  
Gebhardt, Anna Louis, John, Catherine, Mary, and Conrad.  
Gebhardt, John and Etta. (1 v.)  
Gebhardt Cousins. (1 v.)  
Gebhardt, Michael (1855-1926) and Gebhardt, Margaret Mertz (1858-1915).  
Gebhardt, Johannes (1841-1896) and Gebhardt, John George (1843-1926). (vols. A-C)  
Gebhardt, Yohann, Michael, Peter, George, (1847-1926). (vols. D-H)  
Gebhardt Cousins. (2 v.)  

Box 19.  
Gebhardt Cousins. (2 v.)  
Gebhard, Johann (1815-1868) and Gebhard, Anna Henkel (1816-1877). (1 v.)  
Henkel, Johann (1801-1870). (2 v.)  
Contains information on Father John Baptist Reus (1868-1947) a cousin who is being considered for canonization.  
Books and articles on the life of Father Reus.  
Gebhard, Jakob (1812-). (1 v.)  
Gebhard, Lorenz (1770-1841) and Gebhard, Anna Marie Kostner (1771-1830), Henkel, Johann (1770-1842) and Henzel, Margareta Schaffer (1769-1845). (1 v.)  

Box 20.  
Henkel, Gebhard, Schaffer, and Kostner. (2 v.)  
Gebhardt, Gebhard, Henkel, Henklin, and Hengel. (1 v.)  
Miscellaneous information about families not believed to be relatives.  
Mertz, Balthasar (1829-1899) and Mertz, Kunigunda Langhirt (1835-1922). (1 v.)  
Children of Balthasar and Kunigunda Mertz. (1 v.)  
Children of Konrad Merz and Johann Langhirt. (1 v.)  

00078.inv
Children of Konrad Merz and Michael Langhirt. (1 v.)
Children of John Doerfler and Adolph Kommers. (1 v.)

**Box 21.**
Children of Adolph Kommers. (1 v.)
Merz and Scherlein. (1 v.)
Langhirt and Kaiser. (1 v.)
Merz, Kraft, Harrer, Grabenbauer, Langhirt, Scherlein, Kaiser, Schmitt, and Kreusl. (1 v.)
Kraft, Beck, Harrer, Richter, Welcker, Wolfel. (1 v.); Kaiser, Langhirt, Merz, and Mertz. (1 v.)

Miscellaneous information about families not believed to be relatives.

*Burgenland*, Robert Lobl. (1 v.)
*Wien*, Schroll-Verlag. (1 v.)
In Remembrance, Caroline (Gisch) Tschida, 1947.
Tschida, Henry (1889-1965). (1 v.)
Tschida, Caroline Gisch (1890-1947). (1 v.)

**Box 22.**
Tschida, Marie Elizabeth (1914-) and Tschida, Dorothy Caroline (1916-1975). (1 v.)
Tschida, Henry (1918-). (1 v.)
Tschida, Mathias (1859-1923) and Tschida, Elizabeth Muschitz (1862-1910) and children. (2 v.)
Tschida, Johann (1836-1876). (1 v.)
Andert, Barbara (1833-1862), Elisabetha Strauz (1839-), Jacobus Strantz (ca. 1816-), Mariae Leier (ca. 1813-1890?), Stephan Straitz (ca. 1795-). (1 v.)
Csida, Mathias (ca. 1804-), Agnes Klein (ca. 1816-), Christinaus Klein (ca. 1795-), Elizabeth Pitzl (ca. 1795).
Andert, Michael (1814-), Barbara Csida, Elizabeth Kirchmayer (ca. 1809-), Mr. And Mrs. Csida (ca. 1790s), Michael Andert (1769-), Elizabeth Weinzodl (1773-), Georius Kirchmayer (ca. 1789-). (1 v.)
Tschida, Muschitz, Andert, Kirchmayer, Miklos, Ujvary, Dockery.

Miscellaneous information on families not thought to be related. (1 v.)

**Box 23.**
Muschitz, Simon and Muschitz, Elizabeth Miklos (1840- and family. (1 v.)
Mussits, Simon (1828-1905) and Mussits, Elizabeth Niklos (1840-1905) and children. (1 v.)
Musits, Stephen (1798-1839?) and Musits, Barbara Ujvary (1789-1864) and children. (1 v.)
Gisch, Joseph (1849-1910) and Gisch, Josephine Hollanitsch (1855-1918) and children. (2 v.)
Kiss, Franz Zaver (1821-1886) and Kiss, Katharina Grosz (1822-1900) and children. (1 v.)
Kisch, Paul (1789-) and Kisch, Theresia Tollovitz (1790-); Michael and Anna (Ettl) Grosz, Grace, Oetl, Ettl. (1 v.)

Data on Krois family of Mandan, N.D.

**Box 24.**
Tollovits, Zoikl, Kisch, Schwartz, Grosz, Ettl, Ulram. (1 v.)
Gisch, Gish, Kisch, Kiss, Kis, Kihs.

Miscellaneous information on families not know to be related.
Ostel, Anna (1799-1885), Mathias Kiss (1764-1830), Eva Schwartz (1767-1844). (1 v.)
Hollenits, Johann (1815-1889) and Hollenits, Susanna Schaller (1821-1902).
Schaller, Halonits, Lang, Bauer. (1 v.)
Schaller, Hollanitsch, Lang, Piller, Bauer, Molmer.
  Miscellaneous information on families not know to be related.
  Package of pictures of various members of the Hollanitsch family.

**Box 25.**
  31 volumes, the years 1962-1965 and 1968 are missing.
  
  Accession # 9808
  Added Dec. 17, 1986

  Details the Prankes' genealogical research, with a list of all related families. Also sent to the
  The New York Public Library, Daughters of the American Revolution, Library of Congress,
  and Genealogical Society of the Mormon Church.  Cover letter to MHS, August 8, 1978.
  
  Accession 10,118
  Added Dec. 17, 1986

Letter, Richard N. and Marie Elizabeth Pranke, Forest Hills, N.Y., to MHS, March 2, 1966.  2 items
  Contains further genealogical data and corrections on information in the February 2, 1964
  letter (see above). Also an article from *The Grapevine* (Oct. 1965) describing the Prankes' china collection and genealogical project.
  
  Accession 15,048
  Added Feb. 25, 1997


**Box 26.**
Biographical Material.
Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1979-1990.  (4 folders)
  Includes correspondence about his service, 1934-1961, and his prior service with the St. Paul
  Police Department, 1931-1934.
Application to Bureau of Investigation (later, FBI), 1932-1934.
The Investigator, November, December 1988.
  ("The Dillinger Case")
Autobiography, 1979-1990.  (2 folders)
Maps.
Photographs of Pranke Family Members.
Newspaper Clippings Relating to Richard N. Pranke.
Correspondence with Minnesota Historical Society, 1979-1990.  (3 folders)
Pranke, Richard
p. 7

Pranke Houses, 1935-1987. (3 folders)
Discover Saint Paul.
(Annotated by Pranke.)
The Church of Saint Agnes (1887-1987).
St. Mary's Parish History (Waverly, Minnesota).

Box 27.
"The Pranke Family Album."
45th Wedding Anniversary, 1980.
Richard and Marie Pranke, 1969-1990. (13 folders)

Box 28.
50th Wedding Anniversary, 1985. (3 folders)
Pranke, Lilian M. (1915- ), 1979-1990. (2 folders)
Pranke, Joseph M. and Ruth Pranke McGinn.
Pranke, Adolph (1886-1887).
Pranke, Frank (1888-1956).
Pranke, Paul Peter (1890-1947).
Pranke, Margaret E. (1884-1967), 1979-1989. (3 folders)

Box 29.
Pranke, Minna Berger (Winkel) (1862-1929), 1979-1989. (3 folders)
Prandke, Michael (1804-1866) and Juliana Mitzner (1818-1866).
Koenig, Ernestine Prandke (1850-1923).
Wood, Marie (cousin).
Schustrich, James (cousin).
Pranke, Martin (1859- ).
Pranke, Anton (d.1923) and Frank Pranke.
Pranke Cousins. (3 folders)
Kruger, Pauline Pranke (?-1920s) and Father Jan Pranke.
Pranke, Christoph Stephen (1788-1866) and Elizabeth Redel Pranke.
Pranke, Michaeli (1768- ).
Pranke, Michael (?).
Pranker Grandparents. (3 folders)
Pranke, Andreas (1785- ), 1979-1986. (2 folders)
Box 30.  
Pranke Names: Not Related.
Berger, Henry (1837-1924), 1979-1989. (2 folders)
Koelln Family, 1980s.
Berger Great Aunts and Uncles.
Berger Cousins.
Frediani Cousins.
Thouwald Cousins.
Frenzel, Naunie Sterner, 1979-1989. (2 folders)
Gebhardt, Michael (1855-1926), 1979-1989. (2 folders)
Gebhardt, Anna (1880-1941).

Box 31.  
Hessel Cousins.
Gebhardt Cousins.
Smith, Gerald.
Gebhardt, Johann (1847-1904), and Gebhard, Henry (1897-1953).
Gebhardt Cousins.
Singer, George.
Gebhard, Johann (1815-1868) and Anna Henkel Gebhard (1816-1877), 1983-1986.
Gebhard, Lorenz (1770-1841) and Anna Kostner (1773-1830), 1987.
Kostner, Johann or George (1738- ), 1987, and Anna Korber Kostner (1744- ), 1987.
Gebhard, Kilian (ca. 1540- ) and Christa (ca. 1540- ), 1984-1985.
Miscellaneous Kraft and Henkel, 1984.
Kommers, Adolph (1842-1923) and Barbara Langhirt Kommers (1846-1924).
Dorefler, John (1826-1902) and Barbara Langhirt Dorefler (1824-1877) and Family, 1984-1986.
Langhart, Frederick, 1983.
Tschida, Henry (1889-1965), 1979-1989. (3 folders)
Tschida, Caroline Gisch (1890-1947), 1980-1989. (3 folders)

Box 32. 151.I.3.14F
Younghans, Dorothy Tschida (1916-1975), 1979-1990. (3 folders)
Tschida, Henry "Sonny" (1918- ), 1979-1990. (2 folders)
Csida, Mathias (1802-1849), Agnes Klein Csida (1916- ), and Christinsus Klein; Csida, Joannes (1778- ), 1980s.
Weinzelt, Elizabeth.
Muschitz Family.
Gisch, Joseph (1849-1910), 1979-1990. (3 folders)
Gisch, Mathias (1881-1945); Gisch, John (1886-1962) and Children.
Gisch, Frank (1821-1886) and Katherine Grosz Gisch (1822-1900)
Grosz and Ettl Families.
Hollanitsch, Martin J. (1850-1915) and John Hollanitsch (1852-1928) and Children, 1980-1986.
Frank Cousins.
Hollanitsch Cousins.
Pranke, Richard
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Box 33.  
Pranke, Marie Elizabeth, 1990-1991. (2 v.)
   Papers relating to her illness and death, November 17, 1991.
   Richard Pranke contributed $20,000 to Cretin-Derham Hall in memory of his wife to endow
   scholarships for female students. The volume also includes donations to other institutions and
   individuals.
   Papers relating to Marie's death and estate.
   Includes photocopies from FBI files regarding Pranke's investigative activities in the 1934
   robbery of the Third Northwestern National Bank in Minneapolis and the subsequent 1949-1952
   appeals by Leonard Clifton Hankins, Pranke's testimony in Morris Roisner's 1937 tax evasion
   case, and Pranke's investation of the 1934 St. Paul police shooting of Homer Van Meter.
Photographs:
   Caroline Gisch Tschida and Marie Tschida, [ca. 1915].
   Mathias Tschida and Elizabeth Muschitz Tschida (grandparents of Marie Tschida).