

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thomas Edison's West Orange Lab Detailed in New Book

The Thomas A. Edison Papers at Rutgers University Releases 8th Volume in Award-Winning Series on American Inventor

NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ – February 10, 2016 – The Thomas A. Edison Papers today announced that it has launched the 8th volume of its award-winning book series on the American inventor. The book focuses on the period of Thomas Edison's life during which he constructed the West Orange laboratory and offers new revelations about Edison's innovation process.

"This is a highly creative and industrious period of Edison's life," said Dr. Paul Israel, director and general editor. "It also marks the time when he marries Mina Miller and improves on the wax-cylinder recording phonograph. The new book provides some great detail on the building of the lab, as well as the house in Fort Myers." Dr. Israel has studied and published on Edison and his works for more than 30 years. A professor and frequent lecturer on the subject of Edison, Dr. Israel has contributed to nearly thirty television and radio documentaries, including the recent "American Experience: Edison" for PBS.

"Edison was a man of great passions," Dr. Israel notes. "What these volumes seek to do is illuminate all dimensions of his life – both inside and outside the lab – to give readers a broader understanding of this American icon."

For historians, entrepreneurs, and Edison enthusiasts, the Thomas A. Edison Papers and its multi-volume works have brought to light the work and wisdom of a beloved American figure. This next volume in the series continues that tradition.

The Thomas A. Edison Papers will host a book launch event on Edison's birthday, Feb. 11, at the Thomas Edison National Historical Park, West Orange. This event will kick off a year-long celebration of the Edison Papers partner,

The Thomas Edison National Historical Park, as they participate in the National Park Service Centennial Celebration. *The Papers of Thomas A. Edison: New Beginnings, January 1885-December 1887 (Volume 8)* book is available for order on Amazon.com.

For those who wish to support the work of the organization, the Thomas A. Edison Papers offers a number of corporate and individual sponsorship opportunities. For more information, visit <http://edison.rutgers.edu/help.htm> or call 848-445-2720.

"Dr. Israel, our outstanding editors and student assistants provide valuable research into what might be otherwise undiscovered information and make it available to Edison learners. We are able to do this with the amazing support of Rutgers University and our institutional and corporate sponsors," said Rachel Weissenburger, assistant director of business development and administration for the Edison Papers.

The Thomas A. Edison Papers

The Thomas A. Edison Papers at Rutgers, the State University, is an ambitious editing project dedicated to publishing the nearly 5 million pages of documents that chronicle the extraordinary life and achievements of this great American inventor. First initiated in 1978, the team continues to produce a series of richly interactive publications. The Edison Papers was established under a Board of Oversight, which consists of Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, the National Park Service, the New Jersey Historical Commission, and the Smithsonian Institution. For more information on the project, please visit <http://edison.rutgers.edu>.

Thomas Edison National Historical Park

Thomas Edison National Historical Park is a National Park Service site dedicated to promoting an international understanding and appreciation of the life and extraordinary achievements of Thomas Alva Edison by preserving, protecting, and interpreting the Park's extensive historic artifact and archive collections at the Laboratory Complex and Glenmont, the Edison family estate in West Orange, New Jersey. For more information, please visit www.nps.gov/edis.

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