

Collection #  
M 0518  
BV 2512

## GEORGE AND WILLIAM JOHNSTON COLLECTION, 1862–1916

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by

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December 1988

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Indiana Historical Society  
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

### COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	Manuscript materials: 1 manuscript box, 1 bound volume Visual materials: 2 photograph boxes, 1 OVB box, 1 photo album
COLLECTION	1862–1916

**DATES:**

**PROVENANCE:** William G. Johnston, Pasadena, CA, January 1988

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:**

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 1988.0157; 2001.1148

**NOTES:**

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

George W. Johnston served in the 4<sup>th</sup> Indiana Battery during the Civil War. After the war he returned to Indianapolis, where he was active in the G.A.R. He served as secretary-treasurer of the Indiana Soldiers and Sailors Monument Commission. Upon his retirement he bought some land in Pensacola, Florida. He and his wife traveled between Pensacola and Indianapolis during their latter years.

William M. Johnston was the son of George W. Johnston. The younger Johnston attended the Colorado School of Mines. He traveled extensively, mining in Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, and Nevada. He later returned to Indianapolis where he was engaged in business.

**Sources:**

Indiana Biography Series  
Indiana Newspaper Index  
1860 Census  
Indices to Marion County Histories  
Indiana Adjutant General's Report-- Civil War

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection has been divided into two series: papers and photographs. The papers series have been divided into two parts: those concerned with the business and G.A.R. activities of George Johnston, and letters from George Johnston to his son William. George Johnston's papers (Box 1, Folders 2–14) are largely concerned with the building of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. They discuss fund-raising activities, the participation of the G.A.R. in the monument project, and correspondence with contractors. Also included are sample checks from the monument project and from Johnston's personal finances, as well as contracts and deeds. A few of Johnston's letters written during the Civil War, and pension materials related to his service are also in the collection (Box 1, Folders 15–24).

The second series is of photographs. The photographs are black and white and include scenes of the west from the

late-nineteenth to the early-twentieth centuries, family portraits, and the Soldiers & Sailors Monument in downtown Indianapolis. There are seven folders of oversize photographs and one photo album with cartes-de-visite of family portraits.

## **SERIES CONTENTS**

### **Series 1: Papers**

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Inventory, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 1
Sarah Alice Holmes diary, 1873–74	Box 1, Folder 2
Executive Committee meeting minutes, Soldiers and Sailors Monument, Mar.–June 1886	Box 1, Folder 3
Civil War letters, 1862–64	Box 1, Folder 4
Military pension records, 1896–1916	Box 1, Folder 5
G.A.R. correspondence, 1887–98	Box 1, Folder 6
Correspondence, 1891	Box 1, Folder 7
Correspondence, 1892	Box 1, Folder 8
Correspondence, 1893–94	Box 1, Folder 9
Correspondence, 1895	Box 1, Folder 10
Correspondence, 1907–11	Box 1, Folder 11
Contracts and deeds, 1884–1912	Box 1, Folder 12
Checks, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 13
Checks, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 14
Correspondence, 1900–02	Box 1, Folder 15
Correspondence, 1903–04	Box 1, Folder 16
Correspondence, 1905–06	Box 1, Folder 17
Correspondence, 1907–09	Box 1, Folder 18
Correspondence, 1910–11	Box 1, Folder 19
Correspondence, 1912–13	Box 1, Folder 20
Correspondence, 1914–15	Box 1, Folder 21
Correspondence, 1916	Box 1, Folder 22
Mine Survey Sheets, 1917–18	Box 1, Folder 23

Miscellaneous papers and letters, n.d.

Box 1, Folder 24

Scrapbook, 1868–87

BV 2512

## **Series 2: Photographs**

### CONTENTS

Lake near La Porte, Indiana, stereocard, July 1878

Miscellaneous Artillery, 1864

Artillery troops with cannon, n.d.

Artillery troops with cannon, n.d.

“The Slave,” “The Soldier,” cartes-de-visite, 1862

Battery A and Indianapolis Light Artillery, n.d.

Camping trip (?), Mt. Thunder, 30 Dec. 1898–1 Jan. 1899

Maryville College football team, Second team, 1902

Survivors of Fourth Indiana Battery, National Encampment, Toledo, Ohio, 1908

Grand Army of the Republic parade, Washington D.C., Sept. 1915

Chipley, Florida residence, 1899

Pensacola, Florida residence, n.d.

### CONTAINER

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 1

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 2

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 3

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 4

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 5

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 6

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 7

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 8

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 9

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 10

Visual Collections:  
Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 11

Visual Collections:

	Photographs, Box 1, Folder 12
Old settlers meeting in Florida, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 1, Folder 13
Florida views (?), n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 1, Folder 14
Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colorado, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 1, Folder 15
Golden, Colorado, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 1, Folder 16
Mining and mills, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 1, Folder 17
Mining snapshots, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 1, Folder 18
Postcards, 1909–15	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 1, Folder 19
Wyoming camping trip, 1907	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 1
Black sulphur springs, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 2
Camping scenes, 1903	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 3
Western snapshots, n.d. (folder 1 of 3)	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 4
Western snapshots, n.d. (folder 2 of 3)	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 5
Western snapshots, n.d. (folder 3 of 3)	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 6

Views of Rawhide, Nevada, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 7
Portraits, George W. Johnston and wife (?), n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 8
Portrait of "Booze," n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 9
Unidentified portraits, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 10
Unidentified residences, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 11
Holmes family, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 12
Soldiers and Sailors Monument , Circle Park, Indianapolis, 1888	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 13
Family portraits, tintypes, n.d.	Visual Collections: Photographs, Box 2, Folder 14
Soldiers and Sailors Monument , n.d.	Visual Collections: OVB Photographs, Box 1, Folder 1
Plaque on Soldiers and Sailors Monument, n.d.	Visual Collections: OVB Photographs, Box 1, Folder 2
Models of statues on Soldiers and Sailors Monument, n.d. (folder 1 of 2)	Visual Collections: OVB Photographs, Box 1, Folder 3
Models of statues on Soldiers and Sailors Monument, n.d. (folder 2 of 2)	Visual Collections: OVB Photographs, Box 1, Folder 4
Holmes family, n.d.	Visual Collections: OVB Photographs, Box 1, Folder 5
Parade in Washington D.C., July 1881	Visual Collections: OVB Photographs, Box 1, Folder 6

Indianapolis home of Sarah Alice Holmes, ca. late  
1860s

Visual Collections:  
OVB Photographs,  
Box 1, Folder 7

Photo album of family portraits, n.d.

Visual Collections:  
Album Storage,  
PAB

## **CATALOGING INFORMATION**

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0518).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.