

Collection #
M 0116
BV 1304–1316
BV 1319–1326

JOHN KENNEDY GRAHAM COLLECTION, 1786–1961

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Processed by

Charles Latham

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 manuscript boxes; 2 boxes index cards; 21 bound volumes; 1 box photographs; 1 box OVA photographs; 1 box OVB photographs; 1 OVC photograph; 1 OVA graphics folder; 8 cased images; 2 miniature portraits (cased images); 2 panoramic photographs.

COLLECTION DATES: 1786–1961

PROVENANCE: Robert W. Mouser, Indianapolis, Indiana, September 1964; Florence McBride Salyards, Pass Christian, Missouri, September, 1984

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1964.0903; 1984.0921

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John Kennedy Graham (1783-1841) was born in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. He moved first to Kentucky, then in 1804 to Indiana. Six years later, after a stay in Louisiana, he married Elizabeth G. Weach. This marriage produced seven children. A second marriage, in 1823, to Mary Ann Huff, produced eight more.

Graham first settled in Clark County, on the east side of Silver Creek, on land either near or belonging to Jonathan Jennings. He later purchased a farm in Floyd County in the bottom lands north of New Albany, Indiana.

In 1813 Graham laid out part of what became the city of New Albany. He later surveyed most of the land in Floyd County, ran several county boundaries, and surveyed parts of the Michigan Road and the Wabash River. In addition to being a surveyor, he is also listed as a teacher, merchant, farmer, and poet.

In 1816 Graham was elected to the convention which met in Corydon to write a constitution for the new State of Indiana. He served in the Indiana House of Representatives for several terms: 1816-1817, 1825, 1827-1828. In 1826-1827 he was elected to fill a seat vacated in the state Senate.

In 1818-1819 Graham was sent by the people of New Albany along with Nathaniel Scribner to lobby for the establishment of a new county. In 1825 he was authorized to draw a new map of New Albany, for a total cost of \$6.

The source of a great many of these papers, and of their editing and transcription, was Graham's great-granddaughter, Evelyn Mae Shipman. Her father, Harry Shipman, was a river pilot. She was born in 1899 in New Albany, married Dr. Sylvan L. Mouser in 1929, and thereafter resided in Indianapolis. She did a great deal of work in genealogy.

Sources:

Materials in collection.

Indiana Magazine of History, June 1943, p. 206

Biographical Directory of the Indiana General Assembly, Vol. I

History of the Ohio Falls Cities and Their Counties; Cleveland, 1882

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of correspondence, business papers, surveys, and genealogical cards of the Graham family. It is arranged chronologically within category.

The first part of the collection consists of the papers of John K. Graham. Of particular interest are fourteen letters written to Graham by Jonathan Jennings between 1809 and 1826. They indicate a close friendship between the two when they were young men, later cooling a bit because of financial and other difficulties. In the early letters Jennings makes several derogatory comments about William Henry Harrison, then Governor of Indiana Territory, with whom he was frequently at odds. There is a diary for parts of 1825 and 1826. In Boxes 2 and 3 are surveys made by Graham, including several made of the Wabash River (Box 3 Folder 3). Typed transcripts of the Graham material, made by Evelyn Mouser with penciled annotations, are in BV 1312-1315 and 1319-1326.

A second part of the collection, genealogical work done by Evelyn S. Mouser. Other genealogical material has been transferred to the Genealogy Division of Indiana State Library.

Other items and transcripts from the Shipman family including Harry Shipman's river log books used between 1882 and 1896; a folder of New Albany items and a folder of clippings; and the diary (1851-1931) of Graham's daughter Maria Graham Grant (1836-1924), with transcriptions in BV 1304-1311.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: John Kennedy Graham Papers, 1786–1866

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Correspondence, 1785–1805	Box 1, Folder 1
Correspondence, 1806–1810	Box 1, Folder 2
Letters from Jonathan Jennings, 1809–1826	Box 1, Folder 3
Transcripts of Jennings Letters	Box 1, Folder 4
Correspondence, 1811–1815	Box 1, Folder 5
Correspondence, 1816–1817	Box 1, Folder 6
Correspondence, 1818–1820	Box 1, Folder 7
Correspondence, 1821–1824	Box 1, Folder 8
Correspondence, 1825	Box 1, Folder 9
Diary, 1825–1826	Box 1, Folder 10
Transcripts of Graham's Diary, 1825–1826; 1831–1841	BV 1319
Correspondence, 1827	Box 1, Folder 11
Correspondence, 1828	Box 1, Folder 12
Photostats	Box 1, Folder 13
Correspondence, 1829–1830	Box 1, Folder 14
Photostats of Letters, 1829–1846	Box 1, Folder 15
Correspondence, 1831–1832	Box 1, Folder 16
Correspondence, 1833–1834	Box 1, Folder 17
Correspondence, 1835	Box 1, Folder 18
Correspondence, 1836–1837	Box 1, Folder 19

Correspondence, 1838–1841	Box 1, Folder 20
Correspondence, 1845–1866	Box 1, Folder 21
Genealogical Material on Graham; Transcripts of Graham’s Correspondence, 186–1815	BV 1312
Transcripts of Graham’s Correspondence, 1816–1825	BV 1313
Transcripts of Graham’s Correspondence, 1827–1834	BV 1314
Transcripts of Graham’s Correspondence, 1835–1868	BV 1315
Graham Family Photographs	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 1
J. K. Graham and Wife Photograph	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Photograph, Frank Graham, Capt., “Boys in White,” 19 May 1907	OVB Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Surveys-Public, A-N, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 22
Surveys-Public, O-Z, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 23
Private Surveys, A-L, n.d.	Box 2, Folder 1
Private Surveys, M-Z, n.d.	Box 2, Folder 2
Wabash River Surveys, 1829; n.d.	Box 2, Folder 3
Transcripts of Graham’s Surveys	BV 1320
Carbon Copies of BVs 1319–1320	BV 1321–1322
Carbon Copies of BVs 1312–1313	BV 1323–1326

Series 2: Genealogy Materials, 1950s–1961

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Genealogy Queries, Letters to Mrs. Mouser, 1953–1961	Box 2, Folder 4
Genealogy—Bear, Fismire, Garretson, Hicks, Smith	Box 2, Folder 5

Genealogy–Francois Gillot	Box 2, Folder 6
Genealogy–Graham Family	Box 2, Folder 7
Genealogy–Hand	Box 2, Folder 8
Genealogy–MacDonald, Pickens	Box 2, Folder 9
Genealogy–Reese I	Box 2, Folder 10
Genealogy–Reese II	Box 2, Folder 11
Genealogy–Rogers, Ward, Shipman; Copy of Papers Belonging to Dr. Meyer	Box 2, Folder 12
Genealogy–Rogers, Ward, Shipman	Box 2, Folder 13
Genealogy–Robbins, Ward, Shipman and Allied Families; Documents and Correspondence	Box 2, Folder 14
Genealogy– Robbins, Ward, Shipman and Allied Families; Documents and Correspondence	Box 2, Folder 15
Genealogy–Rogers	Box 2, Folder 16
Genealogy–Schmidlapp	Box 2, Folder 17
Genealogy–Smith	Box 2, Folder 18
Genealogy–Tilford	Box 2, Folder 19
Genealogy–Tingley	Box 2, Folder 20
Genealogy index cards on related families	Box 4
Genealogy index cards on related families	Box 5
Bear Family Photographs, n.d.	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 3
Belton–McDonald Family Photographs, n.d.	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 4
Mouser Family Photographs, n.d.	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 5

8 Cased Images and 2 Miniature Portraits of Graham and Shipman Families

Cased Images:
Boxes 1-3

Mouser Family Photograph, n.d.

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 3

S. L. Mouser in Delta Sigma Tau Fraternity Photograph, 1914

OVC Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Jacob Mouser and Wife Photograph, n.d.

OVB Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Smith Family Photographs, n.d.

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 11

Graduation Photograph, n.d.

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Photographs: Clemens, Petre, Martin, Mann, Williams and Voyles Families, n.d.

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 12

Series 3: Shipman/Maria Graham Grant Family Papers, 1798–1931

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CONTAINER

Shipman Papers, 1798–1859

Box 3, Folder 1

Shipman Papers, 1860–1904

Box 3, Folder 2

Letters, Maria Graham Grant to Leila Bell Shipman, 1913–1916

Box 3, Folder 3

Harry Shipman, River Log Books, 1882–1896

Box 3, Folder 4

Harry Shipman, River Log Books, 1880–1887

Box 3, Folder 5

Shipman Family Items

Box 3, Folder 6

Balloon Races at Speedway Track (2), Harry Shipman Identified, 1909, 1910

Panoramic Photographs

Harry Shipman Photograph, n.d.

OVA Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

New Albany Items

Box 3, Folder 7

Newspaper Clippings	Box 3, Folder 8
Maria Graham Grant Diary, 1851–1931	BV 1316
Maria Graham Grant Diary Transcriptions, 1851–1880 with index	BV 1304
Maria Graham Grant Diary Transcriptions, 1880–1895	BV 1305
Maria Graham Grant Diary Transcriptions, 1895–1904	BV 1306
Maria Graham Grant Diary Transcriptions, 1904–1921	BV 1307
Carbon Copies of BVs 1304–1307	BV 1308–1311
Loose Items Removed for Diary of Maria Graham Grant	Box 3, Folder 9
Maria Graham Grant Photograph, n.d.	OVA Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Luella Smith's Scrapbook (1 of 2)	Box 3, Folder 10
Luella Smith's Scrapbook (2 of 2)	Box 3, Folder 11
Luella Smith's Parlor Cards	OVA Graphics Folder 1 of 1
Pictorial Items Removed from Lucinda Smith's Scrapbook	Box 3, Folder 13
Scrapbooks	Box 3, Folder 14
Grant Family Photographs	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 6
New Albany Persons Photographs	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 7
Cassius Clay Shipman Photographs	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 8
Shipman Family Photographs	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 9
Harry Shipman Photographs	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 10

