

William Allen Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
1995

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm75010520>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms001006>

Prepared by John R. Monagle

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Collection Summary

Title: William Allen Papers

Span Dates: 1796-1879

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1840-1876)

ID No.: MSS10520

Creator: Allen, William, 1803-1879

Extent: 3,000 items

Extent: 23 containers

Extent: 5 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm75010520>

Summary: Lawyer, farmer, and U.S. representative and senator from and governor of Ohio. Correspondence, speeches, memoranda, financial records, printed material, maps, and other papers largely relating to Allen's service as United States senator (1837-1848) and governor (1873-1875) of Ohio.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Allen, William, 1803-1879.

Faran, James John, 1808-1892--Correspondence.

Graham, James, 1793-1851--Correspondence.

Hough, John, active 1831-1845--Correspondence.

Layman, Amos--Correspondence.

Morgan, George, 1777-1846--Correspondence.

Whitman, Henry A.--Correspondence.

Organizations

Ohio. Militia. Chillicothe Independent Blues.

Stoney Mill Salt Works.

Subjects

Greenbacks.

Mexican War, 1846-1848.

Oregon question.

Salt industry and trade--Ohio--Chillicothe.

Places

Northwest boundary of the United States.

Ohio--Politics and government--1787-1865.

Ohio--Surveys.

Oregon Territory--History.

Oregon--Boundaries.

Texas--Annexation to the United States.

United States--Politics and government--1815-1861.

Occupations

Farmers.

Governors--Ohio.

Lawyers.

Representatives, U.S. Congress--Ohio.

Senators, U.S. Congress--Ohio.

Provenance

The papers of William Allen, lawyer, farmer, and politician, were purchased from Effie Allen Scott together with the Duncan McArthur Papers in 1905.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William Allen is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of William Allen are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, William Allen Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

| Date | Event |
|---------------|--|
| 1803, Dec. 27 | Born, Edenton, N.C. |
| 1819 | Moved to Chillicothe, Ohio |
| 1827 | Admitted to Ohio bar |
| 1833-1835 | Member, United States House of Representatives |
| 1837-1849 | United States Senator |
| 1849-1874 | Resided on estate near Chillicothe, Ohio |
| 1874-1876 | Governor of Ohio |
| 1879, July 11 | Died, Chillicothe, Ohio |

Scope and Content Note

The papers of William Allen (1803-1879) span the years 1796-1879, with the bulk of the items concentrated in the period 1840-1876. The collection focuses on his career in Ohio politics, first as United States representative and senator, then as governor of Ohio. Included are correspondence, speeches, memoranda, financial records, printed matter, maps, and other material. The papers are arranged in a bound [Chronological File](#) and a [Miscellany](#).

The [Chronological File](#) consists primarily of correspondence, financial records, maps, and other material concerning Ohio and national politics during the 1840s and the 1870s. Topics include support of the United States annexation of Texas, the Mexican War, Oregon claims, land surveys, and the Greenback movement. Correspondents include James Faran, James Graham, John Hough, Amos Layman, George Morgan, and Henry A. Whitman.

The [Miscellany](#) consists of an account book of the Stoney Mill Salt Works, Chillicothe, Ohio, dating from 1811 to 1823, which Allen used partially as the backing for a scrapbook of clippings from 1825 to 1827. Also in the series are cancelled bank checks, an 1838 directory of the United States government, memoranda books containing jottings and accounting notes, newspaper clippings, a notebook, a promissory note, political literature, a scrapbook, speeches by Allen and others, and the records of the Chillicothe Independent Blues, an Ohio militia corps.

Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in two series:

- [Chronological File, 1825-1879](#)
- [Miscellany, 1796-1877](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1-21

Series

Chronological File, 1825-1879

Correspondence, speeches, memoranda, financial records, printed matter, and other papers largely related to Allen's career as a United States congressman (1833-1835) and senator (1837-1848) and governor of Ohio (1874-1876).

Bound and arranged in chronological order.

BOX 22-23

Miscellany, 1796-1877

Account book, scrapbooks, memorandum books, notebooks, political literature, records of the Chillicothe Independent Blues Militia Corps, speeches, and other material.

Arranged in alphabetical order by name of organization or type of material.

Container List

| Container | Contents |
|------------------|---|
| BOX 1-21 | Chronological File, 1825-1879 Correspondence, speeches, memoranda, financial records, printed matter, and other papers largely related to Allen's career as a United States congressman (1833-1835) and senator (1837-1848) and governor of Ohio (1874-1876). Bound and arranged in chronological order. |
| BOX 1 | 19 Apr. 1825-24 Sept. 1831 |
| BOX 2 | 27 Sept. 1831-21 Jan. 1840 |
| BOX 3 | 28 Jan. 1840-22 Jan. 1844 |
| BOX 4 | 27 Jan.-28 Nov. 1844 |
| BOX 5 | 29 Nov. 1844-12 Jan. 1845 |
| BOX 6 | 13 Jan.-21 Feb. 1845 |
| BOX 7 | 22 Feb.-29 Mar. 1845 |
| BOX 8 | 30 Mar.-1 Dec. 1845 |
| BOX 9 | 2 Dec. 1845-4 Jan. 1846 |
| BOX 10 | 5 Jan.-1 Feb. 1846 |
| BOX 11 | 2-27 Feb. 1846 |
| BOX 12 | 28 Feb.-1 Apr. 1846 |
| BOX 13 | 2 Apr.-21 May 1846 |
| BOX 14 | 22 May-13 July 1846 |
| BOX 15 | 16 July 1846-24 Jan. 1847 |
| BOX 16 | 25 Jan. 1847-20 Mar. 1850 |
| BOX 17 | 27 Mar. 1850-15 Oct. 1873 |
| BOX 18 | 17 Oct. 1873-30 July 1875 |
| BOX 19 | 31 July 1875-30 May 1879 |
| BOX 20 | Undated |
| BOX 21 | Undated |
| BOX 22-23 | Miscellany, 1796-1877 Account book, scrapbooks, memorandum books, notebooks, political literature, records of the Chillicothe Independent Blues Militia Corps, speeches, and other material. Arranged in alphabetical order by name of organization or type of material. |
| BOX 22 | Bank checks, 1860-1873 (2 folders) Chillicothe Independent Blues Militia Corps, records, 1821-1834 Memorandum books, 1854-1871 (3 folders) Newspaper clippings, 1863-1876, undated |
| BOX 23 | Notebook, 1845, undated Political literature, 1823-1856 Printed matter, 1796, 1824 Promissory note, 1833 |

Miscellany, 1796-1877

Container

Contents

Scrapbook, undated

Speeches

By Allen, 1834-1876

By others, 1840-1877

Stoney Mill Salt Works, Chillicothe, Ohio, account book and scrapbook, 1811-1827

United States government directory, 1838