

Charles Julius Allen and Grace Elizabeth Allen Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2009

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm82051540>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009330>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R. Gardner, 2010

Collection Summary

Title: Charles Julius Allen and Grace Elizabeth Allen Papers

Span Dates: 1865-1976

ID No.: MSS51540

Creator: Allen, Charles Julius, 1840-1915

Creator: Allen, Grace Elizabeth, 1886-1976

Extent: 500 items

Extent: 9 containers

Extent: 3.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm82051540>

Summary: Correspondence, diaries, family history, personal reminiscences, notes, clippings, and printed material chiefly of Charles Julius Allen and his daughter, Grace Elizabeth Allen, relating largely to his life as a cadet at the United States Military Academy and during the Civil War, and to her life as recorded in her diaries.

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 family.

Allen, Charles Julius, 1840-1915. Charles Julius Allen papers.

Allen, Grace Elizabeth, 1886-1976. Grace Elizabeth Allen papers.

Canby, Edward Richard Sprigg, 1817-1873.

Patton, George S. (George Smith), 1885-1945--Correspondence.

Organizations

American Association of the Red Cross.

United States Military Academy.

United States. Army. Corps of Engineers.

Subjects

Voyages and travels.

World War, 1939-1945.

Places

Alabama--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Fort Gaines (Ala. : Fort)--History.

Louisiana--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Mississippi River--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Mobile (Ala.)--History--Siege, 1865.

Mobile Bay (Ala.)--History.

New Orleans (La.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

New York (N.Y.)--Social life and customs.

Spanish Fort (Ala.)--History.

Texas--History--1846-1950.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Washington (D.C.)--Social life and customs.

Titles

Allen family papers

Charles Julius Allen papers

Grace Elizabeth Allen papers

Provenance

The papers of Charles Julius Allen and Grace Elizabeth Allen were given to the Library of Congress by Grace Elizabeth Allen in 1973 and by her nephew, Charles K. Allen, in 1977.

Processing History

The collection was processed in 1981. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Transfers

Items have been transferred from the Manuscript Division to other custodial divisions of the Library. Some maps have been transferred to the Geography and Map Division. Photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division. All transfers are identified in these divisions as part of the Charles Julius Allen and Grace Elizabeth Allen Papers.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Charles Julius Allen and Grace Elizabeth 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, Charles Julius Allen and Grace Elizabeth Allen Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Charles Julius Allen (1840-1915) graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1864. He served in the army corps of engineers until 1904, including in the Military Division of West Mississippi and Department of Louisiana, 1864-1866, during the Civil War period. Allen was in charge of defenses of Washington, D.C., during the Spanish-American War. He was promoted to brigadier-general in 1904 and retired at his request that same year. He died in 1915.

Grace Elizabeth Allen, his daughter (1886-1976), was educated at Columbia Hospital in Washington, D.C., the New York School of Social Work, and Columbia University. She engaged in welfare work in North Carolina and for the United States government and served on behalf of the American Red Cross.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Charles Julius Allen (1840-1915) and Grace Elizabeth Allen (1886-1976), father and daughter, span the years 1865-1976 and consist of correspondence, diaries, family histories, personal reminiscences, notes, clippings, and printed matter.

Charles Allen, a brigadier general on his retirement, spent much of his life in the United States Army Corps of Engineers. His papers contain correspondence and other items from his Civil War service, plus later material that he retained and

collected as part of an unpublished Allen family history. Included are personal reminiscences of Allen's life in the military, especially as a cadet at the United States Military Academy, as an engineer in the army corps of engineers, and during the Civil War at Mobile Bay, Alabama, August 1864, and in the Mobile Campaign, March-April 1865.

The papers of Grace Allen consist mainly of diaries started by her parents in her infancy and kept throughout her life. They include references to her service with the American Red Cross, to Washington, D.C., and New York social life, including observations about Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, to her world travels, and to various world, national, and local affairs. Also included are letters from George S. Patton (1885-1945), with whom the Allen family had a long association, written during World War II.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged according to name of family member and therein by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Allen, Charles Julius
BOX 1	Brief sketch of the Allen family, 1909
BOX 1	History of the family, personal reminiscences, and memorabilia
BOX 1	Vol. 1 (1865-1921), 1910
BOX 1	Vol. 2 (1865-1956), 1911
BOX 1	Vol. 3 (1865-1968), 1911
BOX 1	Memory book of correspondence, notes, and miscellany, 1866-1914
BOX 1	Partial memoir, typewritten, 1973
BOX 2	Maps, 1865, undated
BOX 2	Miscellaneous printed matter
BOX 2	Allen, Grace Elizabeth
BOX 2	Correspondence
BOX 2	General, 1882-1960
BOX 2	Patton, George S. (1885-1945), 1943-1959 <i>See Container 9, Formerly restricted</i>
BOX 2	Last will
BOX 2	Miscellaneous writings, notes, jottings, prescriptions, and clippings
BOX 3	Diaries
BOX 3	1888-1916 (23 vols.)
BOX 4	1917-1931 (15 vols.)
BOX 5	1932-1945 (14 vols.)
BOX 6	1946-1958 (13 vols.)
BOX 7	1959-1971 (13 vols.)
BOX 8	1972-1976 (5 vols.)
BOX 9	Formerly restricted
BOX 9	Allen, Grace Elizabeth
BOX 9	Correspondence, George S. Patton (1885-1945), 1943-1959 (Container 2)