



Hickman-Bryan Family Papers (C0045)

Collection Number: C0045

Collection Title: Hickman-Bryan Family Papers

Dates: 1796-1920

Creator: Hickman family

Abstract: This collection contains the papers of two families named Hickman, one of Boone County, Missouri, and the other of Alexandria, Louisiana. Related by marriage, the families had business dealings in enslaved people, agriculture, and livestock. The papers of the Bryan family, related to the Boone County Hickmans by marriage are also in this collection.

Collection Size: 2.8 cubic feet
(297 folders, 3 volumes; also available on 13 rolls of microfilm)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Mr. and Mrs. Thad B. Hickman on December 7, 1944 (Accession No. CA0190).

Alternate Forms Available: Digital images and transcriptions of folders [292-297](#) are available online in the [Missouri Slavery Documents](#) collection.

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Hickman-Bryan Family Papers can be found in the following collection:

Hickman Family Papers (C1009)

C1009 contains additional information pertaining to David M. Hickman, Thaddeus Bryan Hickman, and other members of the Boone County, Missouri, Hickman family.

Processed by: Processed by The State Historical Society of Missouri-Columbia staff, date unknown. Finding aid revised by John C. Konzal, April 21, 2020.

Historical Note:

Persons who figure prominently in the collection include brothers Peter Terry Hickman of "New Hope," Thomas J. Hickman of "Flag Land," and William P. Hickman of "Fairmount," all of Louisiana. The latter plantation underwent frequent name changes throughout the collection, being also known as "Grand Bend," "North Bend," and "Bellevue." The Hickman brothers were maternally descended from and married into the French families of Baillio and Gaiennie, and numerous other French surnames are scattered throughout. Included to a lesser extent are David M., Thaddeus B., and Thomas H. Hickman, members of the Missouri branch of the family and John H. Bryan, Milton, Morgan H., and William W. Bryan.

Arrangement:

The papers are arranged by family member, with subdivisions of correspondence and financial records.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains business and personal correspondence, accounts, deeds, mortgages, and other land records, loans, receipts both personal and mercantile, steamboat records, estate inventories and tableaus, Rapides Parish, Louisiana, court records, limited genealogical material, folk recipes for floor wax, indelible ink, candles, dye, and soap, and bills of sale for beef hides, cotton, molasses, rice, sugar, pork, and wool. Scattered throughout are bills of sale, transportation costs, doctor bills, overseer salary receipts, and other documents pertaining to slavery in Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, and Virginia. The papers are arranged by family member, with subdivisions of correspondence and financial records.

The bulk of the material is from the first half of the nineteenth century with the most complete papers pertaining to the Hickmans living along the Red River, near Alexandria, Louisiana. The

accounts in particular detail extensively the logistics required in the administration of the four family plantations: listing the prices and amounts of household goods, hardware, food, clothing, dry goods, agricultural equipment, livestock, schoolbooks and other educational expenses, tax records, and enslaved people. There are also numerous documents pertaining to land purchases and purchases of enslaved people in Arkansas, Louisiana, Missouri and Texas, cotton and other crop sales, and the settlement of estates. The correspondence is a mixture of business letters, many from cotton factors and bankers in New Orleans, and personal letters.

Volume 1 contains the account book for David H. Hickman, which provides day by day accounts, notations in connection with land, and lists of apple trees planted at Elmgate in 1859. Volume 2 contains *Robinson's Shorter Course in Arithmetic*, dated 1875. Volume 3 contains recipes for food as well as directions for making floor wax, indelible ink, candles, dye and soap.

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