



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 slaves, 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](http://www.shsmo.org). 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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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Hickman-Bryan Family Papers* (C0045); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

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).

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 slaves 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 slaves. There are also numerous documents pertaining to slave and land purchases 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.

Container List:

- f. 1-2 Bryan, John H., Receipts, 1828-1872
- f. 3 Bryan, Milton, Correspondence, 1852-1876
- f. 4-5 Bryan, Morgan H., Papers, 1796-1808
- f. 6 Bryan, William W., Account Book, 1856
- f. 7 Bryan, William W., Business Papers, 1831-1838
- f. 8 Bryan, William W., Business Papers, 1845-1856
- f. 9-10 Bryan, William W., Business Papers, 1848-1879
- f. 11 Bryan, William W., Business Papers, 1844-1876
- f. 12 Bryan, William W., Business Papers, 1877-1879
- f. 13 Bryan, William W., Business Papers, 1880-1886
- f. 14 Bryan, William W., Business Papers, 1818-1879
- f. 15 Bryan, William W., Business Papers, 1854-1877
- f. 16 Bryan, William W., Business Papers, 1855-1878
- f. 17-28 Bryan, William W., Correspondence, 1845-1879
- f. 29-30 Bryan, William W., Tax Receipts, 1854-1885
- f. 31 Hickman, David H., 1853-1878
- f. 32-34 Hickman, David M., Deeds, 1819-1859
- f. 35 Hickman, David M., Receipts, 1833-1854
- f. 36 Hickman, David M., Account Book, 1848-1873
- f. 37 Hickman, Mrs. David M., Day Book, 1849-1855
- f. 38 Hickman, David P., 1847-1853
- f. 39 Hickman, John L., Correspondence, 1854-1887
- f. 40 Hickman, John L. and Thomas H., Correspondence, 1866-1882
- f. 41-43 Hickman, John L. and Thomas H., Documents, 1859-1884
- f. 44 Hickman, Thomas H., Account Books, 1868, 1881
- f. 45-48 Hickman, Thomas H., Accounts, 1852-1882
- f. 49-52 Hickman, Thomas H., Correspondence, 1848, 1857-1859, 1866-1908
- f. 53 Hickman, Thomas H., Notebooks, circa 1858
- f. 54 Hickman, Mrs. Thomas H. 1879-1920
- f. 55 Hickman, Thaddeus B., Account Books, 1848-1891
- f. 56 Hickman, Thaddeus B., Bank Books, 1869-1877
- f. 57-62 Hickman, Thaddeus B., Accounts, 1858-1891
- f. 63-65 Hickman, Thaddeus B., Correspondence, 1872-1887
- f. 66 Young, Sarah Hickman, 1876-1886

- f. 67-68 Miscellaneous Letters, 1853-1886
- f. 69-70 Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1828-1883
- f. 71 Newspapers, 1878, 1882
- f. 72 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1836-1843
- f. 73 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1845-1856
- f. 74 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1857-1865
- f. 75 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1854-1859
- f. 76 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1853
- f. 77-78 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1854
- f. 79-81 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1855
- f. 82-83 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1856
- f. 84 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1857
- f. 85 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1858-1859
- f. 86 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1860
- f. 87 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1861-1862
- f. 88 Hickman, Peter T., Correspondence, 1861
- f. 89 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1835-1837
- f. 90-91 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1838
- f. 92-94 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1839
- f. 95 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1840
- f. 96 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1841
- f. 97 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1842
- f. 98-99 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1843
- f. 100-101 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1844
- f. 102-104 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1845
- f. 105 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1846
- f. 106 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1847
- f. 107 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1848
- f. 108 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1849
- f. 109 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1850
- f. 110 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1851
- f. 111 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1852
- f. 112-115 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1853
- f. 116-124 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1854
- f. 125-132 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1855
- f. 133-137 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1856
- f. 138 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Sales of cotton, 1856
- f. 139-145 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1857
- f. 146-150 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1858
- f. 151 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1858
- f. 152-158 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1859
- f. 159 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Sales of cotton, 1859
- f. 160-161 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1859
- f. 162-167 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1860
- f. 168 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Sales of cotton, 1860
- f. 169-172 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1861

- f. 173 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Sales of cotton, 1861
- f. 174 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1862-1863
- f. 175 Hickman, Peter T. and Thomas J., Accounts, 1865-1866
- f. 176-179 Hickman, Peter T., and Thomas J., Correspondence, 1846-1852
- f. 180-186 Flint Papers, 1834-1866
- f. 187 Hickman, Peter T., and Thomas J., Maps, 1859
- f. 188 Hickman, Peter T., and Thomas J., Maps, n.d.
- f. 189-190 Hickman, Peter T., and Thomas J., Title Papers, 1796-1845
- f. 191-196 Hickman, Louise Desiree Gaiennie, Accounts, 1865 April-1868
- f. 197 Hickman, Thomas J., Correspondence, 1842-1853
- f. 198 Hickman, Mrs. Thomas J., Account Book, 1859
- f. 199 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1809-1837
- f. 200-201 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1838
- f. 202 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1839
- f. 203-204 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1840
- f. 205 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1840-1844
- f. 206 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1840-1852
- f. 207-210 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1841
- f. 211 Hickman, William P., Accounts, sales of cotton, 1841-1847
- f. 212 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1841-1851
- f. 213-215 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1842
- f. 216-220 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1843
- f. 221-224 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1844
- f. 225-230 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1845
- f. 231-234 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1846
- f. 235-238 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1847
- f. 239 Hickman, William P., Accounts, sales of cotton, 1848-1851
- f. 240-243 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1848
- f. 244-246 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1849
- f. 247-249 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1850
- f. 250-253 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1851
- f. 254 Hickman, William P., Accounts, sales of cotton, 1852-1853
- f. 255-259 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1852
- f. 260-262 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1853
- f. 263 Hickman, William P., Accounts, sales of cotton, 1854
- f. 264-266 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1854
- f. 267-269 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1855
- f. 270 Hickman, William P., Accounts, sales of cotton, 1856
- f. 271-273 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1856
- f. 274-275 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1857
- f. 276 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1858
- f. 277-278 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1859
- f. 279-281 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1860
- f. 282 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1862
- f. 283 Hickman, William P., Accounts, 1863
- f. 284 Hickman, William P., Accounts, Analysis, 1839-1853

- f. 285 Hickman, William P., Notes and Checks, 1839-1845
 f. 286 Hickman, William P., Miscellaneous Papers, 1839-1845
 f. 287 Hickman, William P., Inventory of estate, 1842
 f. 288 Hickman, William P., Tableau of estate, 1844
 f. 289-290 Hickman, William P., Papers, Estate, 1839-1850
 f. 291 Hickman, William P., Inventory, 1839-1845
 f. 292 Slave Papers, Bryan, John H., 1831-1835
 f. 293 Slave Papers, Hickman, David M., 1818-1850
 f. 294 Slave Papers, Miscellaneous, 1836-1861
 f. 295-297 Slave Papers, Hickman, Peter T., 1831-1861
- v. 1 Hickman, David H., Account Book, 1856-1861
 v. 2 *Robinson's Shorter Course in Arithmetic*, 1875
 v. 3 Recipe book

Index:

Subject	Folders	Volumes
Account books--Personal	6,36,37,44,55,198	v. 1
Accounts, 1830s	199-201,284	
Accounts, 1840s	97-108,176,204-206,213-246	
Accounts, 1850s	109-161,177,182,183,206-212,247-278,284	
Accounts, 1860s	162-175,191-196,279-283	
Advertising, 1880s	70	
Agriculture, 1840s	73	
Agriculture, 1850s	73,76-85,177	
Agriculture, 1860s	50,51,87	
Agriculture, 1870s	69,70	
Alabama, 1880s	52	
American Herd Book	69	
Baillio family	181,183,203-205,214-215,245,285,287,290,291	
Bank books	44,56	
Berry, Daniel D.	31	
Bills of lading	48	
Black, G. F.	50-51	
Bogguss family	296,297	
Bonne Femme Church, Boone County, Missouri	50,51	
Boynton, L. C.	67	
Brown, Nathaniel	176	
Bryan family	2,5,8,17,22,23,25-28,35,43,50,52,63,64,67,292-294	v. 1
Bryan family--Genealogy	1	

Subject	Folders	Volumes
Burges family	180,181	
Calomb, P.	177	
Casson, John	199,228	
Cattle breeding	62-65,69	
Children's Aid Society	69	
Churches, Missouri	50-51	
Clark, John B., Jr.	69	
Cole, John H.	22,23,25,27	
Cookbook, 1850s		v. 3
Cookery, 1850s		v. 3
Cornelius, William	18	
Cotton--Prices	68,72-74,76-87,89-179,197,199-283	
Crump, John W. (-1880)	8,13,29	
Deeds, 1830s	7,33,34,295	
Deeds, 1840s	8,32-34,286,290	
Deeds, 1850s	32,33,41	
Deeds, 1860s	11,14,41	
Deeds, 1870s	2,9,23	
Deeds, 1880s	13,43,66	
Doll, Charles L.	51,52,129	
Doyle, James N.	8, 9, 12, 22, 27, 28	
Dye		v. 3
Eads, John L.	286, 287, 291, 296, 297	
Estate inventories, 1840s	287, 288, 291	
Flint family	180-186,189	
Flint, Adelia Elizabeth Thomas	180-186	
Flint, Ebenezer Hubbard	180-186	
Flint, James Timothy	180,182,186	
Floor wax--Recipes		v. 3
Folk life		v. 3
Gaiennie family	85-87,152,153,161,169,195,208,223	
Glenn, Hugh (-1835)	8,11,22,28	
Gordon, David	2	
Green, Littleberry	199	
Hickman family	49-53,63-66,72,73,75,78-80,83-88,124,131,133,135-137,139,140,142-150,152,154-157,160,162,164-166,175,189,191-196,204,205,208,217,230,234,240,242-283,285,286,289,292-297	v. 1-3

Subject	Folders	Volumes
Hickman family, Louisiana--Genealogy	1	
Hickman family, Missouri--Genealogy	1	
Hickman, Cornelia Ann Bryan	3,294	
Hickman, David H. (1821-1869)	31	
Hickman, David P.	38	
Hides and skins--Prices, 1850s	112,268	
Horticulture	51,69,70,85	
Huffman, Louis Laprairie	180-182,185	
Indelible ink--Recipes		v. 3
Indentures	7	
Insurance	69	
Insurance, 1850s	179	
Insurance, Life, 1870s	57-59,68	
Johnston family	183	
Kelly, Henry B.	179	
Kirby, N. G.	176	
Lamme, David D.	17,34	
Land grants, 1830s	189-190	
Land patents	41-43	
Land records	1,3,4,6-17,32-35,40-43,50,57,59,63,66,99,119,180-190,199,214,287,290	
Landownership	1,6-28,31,35,40-43,50-51,59,63,64,66,67,72-75,77,79,85,99,109,119,123,178-186,199,201,253,287,290	
Langham family	17-19,73	
Lansom, R. P.	63,64	
Loans, 1790s	4	
Loans, 1800s	5,189	
Loans, 1830s	1,89-94,180,189,199,202,285,286,289	
Loans, 1840s	35,95-108,176,181,190,199,203-205,207-246,285,286,289,290	
Loans, 1850s	16,21,73,76,79-81,83,109-115,117-130,132-137,139,140,142-161,177,179,183,206,212,290	
Loans, 1860s	14,68,164,174,183,195	
Loans, 1870s	9,57,58,64	
Loans, 1880s	64	
Louisiana, Natchitoches Parish	50,51,72-74,187-188	
Louisiana, Rapides Parish	52,65,73,86,87,100,109-111,120,125-127,147,180-188,	

Subject	Folders	Volumes
	199,204-205,210,215,217,222,227,228,235,238,272,277,285,287,290	
Lovelace family	189,190	
Maps--Louisiana, Rapides Parish, 1850s	187, 188	
Missouri Mutual Life Insurance Company, St. Louis	57	
Molasses--Prices, 1850s	110-116	
Molasses--Prices, 1860s	166	
Monroe, James (1758-1831)	32	
Mortgages, 1840s	99, 190	
Mortgages, 1850s	184	
Mortgages, 1860s	185	
Neal, A. B.	63, 64	
Norment family	190, 213, 220, 285	
Obear, Bryan	40, 43	
Oliver, James H.	16	
Pauley, John C.	13	
Phillips family	181	
Philosophy, natural		53
Plantation life, Louisiana	51, 74, 76, 77, 83, 136, 152, 166, 169, 172, 177, 189-190, 240, 247-250, 252, 257-259, 261, 264, 267, 268, 275, 277, 279, 281-283, 285, 287-289, 292-297	v. 1-3
Plantation life--Louisiana	51, 74, 76, 77, 83, 136, 152, 166, 169, 172, 177, 189-190, 240, 247-250, 252, 257-259, 261, 264, 267, 268, 275, 277, 279, 281-283, 285, 287-289, 292-297	v. 1-3
Post cards, 1876	10	
Post cards, 1880s	48	
Price Current, Kansas City, Missouri, 1882	71	
Raymond, N. C.	17	
Receipts, 1820s	1	
Receipts, 1830s	1, 89-94, 201-203	
Receipts, 1840s	2, 8, 9, 35, 73, 95-108, 176, 180, 203, 204, 207-243	
Receipts, 1850s	73-76, 78-81, 85, 109-115, 117-130, 132-137, 139-161, 177, 247-278	
Receipts, 1860s	45, 46, 57, 68, 86, 87, 162-172, 191-196, 279-283	
Receipts, 1870s	9, 46, 57-59, 63	
Receipts, 1880s	60-62, 64, 65	

Subject	Folders	Volumes
Receipts, Mercantile, 1830s	1, 89-94, 201-203	
Receipts, Mercantile, 1840s	2, 95-108, 180, 214-223, 227, 229, 232, 233, 236, 242, 244-246	
Receipts, Mercantile, 1850s	76, 79, 109-115, 117-130, 132-137, 139-172, 183, 247-253, 255- 278	
Receipts, Mercantile, 1860s	45, 46, 162-175, 191-196, 279-283	
Receipts, Mercantile, 1870s	46, 50, 57-59	
Receipts, Mercantile, 1880s	47, 60-66	
Rice--Prices, 1850s	116	
Richardson, Allen P.	18, 19	
Ringgold, Jacob	125, 180, 245, 248, 260, 287	
Robinson family	67, 68, 85	
Robinson, Ann Hickman	22	
Robinson, J. M.	24, 64-66, 86	
Robinson's Shorter Course in Arithmetic, 1875		v. 2
Scobie, James B.	2, 63	
Slavery--Arkansas	295, 297	
Slavery--Kentucky	293	
Slavery-Louisiana	78, 87, 88, 98, 112, 122, 124, 129, 133, 137, 139, 143, 146, 150, 153, 156, 164, 166, 169, 171, 172, 174, 179, 180, 189, 190, 209, 213, 217, 218, 238, 251, 273, 281-283, 285, 287, 294-297	
Slavery--Louisiana	78, 87, 88, 98, 112, 122, 124, 129, 133, 137, 139, 143, 146, 150, 153, 156, 164, 166, 169, 171, 172, 174, 179, 180, 189, 190, 209, 213, 217, 218, 238, 251, 273, 281-283, 285, 287, 294-297	
Slavery--Missouri	3, 88, 292-294, 296	
Slavery--Virginia	293	
Smith, James O.	11, 13	
Smith, William	187-188	
Solebellas, Joseph Marshall	101, 189-190, 217	
Southern Live Stock Journal, Starkville, Mississippi, 1878	71	
Steamboats-Records	45-48, 78-89, 109-115, 117-128, 132-137, 139-175, 191-196, 233, 247, 249-278, 281	
Sugar Prices, 1850s	73-85, 110-121	
Sugar--Prices, 1850s	73-85, 110-121	
Swormstedt, L. H.	22-25	
Tax records	9, 12, 14, 23, 25-31, 35, 38, 45-48, 58, 66,113, 114, 120,	

Subject	Folders	Volumes
	126, 127, 137, 138, 147, 152, 158, 164, 165, 170, 171, 174, 201, 210, 215, 220, 236, 243, 248, 251, 253, 262, 266, 271, 273, 275, 276, 278, 281	
Thomas, Emeline Hubbard Flint	180-186	
Thomas, Isaac	180-186, 189	
University of Missouri	1, 2	
Vail, C. B.	63	
William Jewell College, Liberty, Missouri	65	
Williams, Dan	178, 179	
Wool-Prices	69	
Wool--Prices	69	
Young family	287-289	
Young, Sarah Ann Hickman	49, 64, 66	