



Raff Family Papers (R0124)

Collection Number: R0124

Collection Title: Raff Family Papers

Dates: 1852-1923

Creator: Raff family

Abstract: The Raff Family Papers contain the correspondence and miscellaneous papers of the Raff family of Crawford County, Missouri. Included are letters from George Raff of Greenock, Scotland and the letters of Archie Raff from Camp Funston, Kansas and Fort Sill, Oklahoma during his service in World War I.

Collection Size: 0.02 cubic foot
(1 folder)

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-Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Raff Family Papers* (R0124); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by the Crawford County Historical Society on August 25, 1982 (Accession No. RA0138). An addition was made on August 25, 1982 by Ruth Capehart (Accession No. RA0139).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Raff Family Papers can be found in the following collections:

Ruth Capehart Collection (R0045)

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, September 28, 1982. Revised by Kathleen Seale, April 28, 2020.

Biographical Note:

George Raff was born in Forres, Scotland, in 1803, to Alexander and Catherine Eddie Raff. He worked as an accountant in Greenock, Scotland. He married Jean Nielson in 1839, and they had at least four sons together, William, Alexander, George, and Thomas. Jean died in 1852. At least two of their sons moved to the United States and fought for the Union during the Civil War. George remarried in 1872, to Elizabeth Crawford.

Archibald 'Archie' Raff was born in Mississippi to Norman and Sarah Raff. The family, including Archie and his sister Louisa, moved to Sarah's home state of Missouri. Archie started his World War I service in September 1917, with a train ride from Cuba, Missouri to Camp Funston, Kansas. Originally assigned to the Field Artillery, he was soon transferred to the 110th Motor Supply Train and was sent to its camp at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He unit had just begun training when it was quarantined due to an outbreak of measles. Raff contracted the disease, and spent the remainder of his brief military career in the quarantine camp and the base hospital. He was given a medical discharge in February 1918. Archie worked as a farmer in Crawford County, Missouri where his mother lived with him after the death of his father in 1939. Archie died in 1979, and was buried in the Delhi Cemetery in Cuba, Missouri.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order in one folder.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains letter from George Raff to his nephew, Sandy, who probably lived in Potsdam, St. Lawrence County, New York. The letters are filled mostly with family news, but one dated March 1865, includes Raff's views on the American Civil War, slavery, and emancipation. He notes that he has two sons serving in the Federal forces.

The second group of correspondence includes the letters of Archie Raff during his service in World War I. Written to his parents and sister, he notes different aspects of training, travel, and his being quarantined due to measles. An item level index is available in the administration folder. The papers are organized chronologically.

Container List:

Box 001 f. 1 Correspondence and family papers, 1852-1923, no date

Index:

Index Term	Folder
Camp Doniphan (Okla.)	1
Camp Funston (Kan.)	1
Crawford County (Mo.)	1
Fort Sill (Okla.)	1

Index Term	Folder
Goode, Burton, 1926-2001	1
Greenock (Scotland)	1
Military bases--Kansas	1
Military base--Oklahoma	1
Raff, Archibald, 1892-1979	1
Raff, George, 1803-	1
Raff, Louisa, 1888-1975	1
Saint Lawrence County (N.Y.)	1
World War, 1914-1918	1