

R Drake-McGraw, Papers, 1829-1918
1371 .25 cubic feet (3 folders)

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at research@shsmo.org.

INTRODUCTION

The Drake-McGraw papers document the personal and professional lives of several members of Drake and McGraw families. The McGraw family lived in Greene County, and the Drake family lived in Benton County. The collection consists of professional documents, correspondence, and a journal collected from multiple members of these families.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were loaned for photocopying to the University of Missouri by Gabriel McGraw on 30 August 1984 (Accession No. 242) and Elizabeth Drake on 22 February 1985 (Accession No. 275).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John L. McGraw was born in 1808 in Hawkins County, Tennessee. He married Elizabeth Kenner in 1836 and shortly after moved to Greene County. The couple had eight children together. The family owned a large farm, McGraw was elected county surveyor several times, serving a total of thirty years. During the Civil War, McGraw was a strong supporter of the Union and became a Republican. He died on April 2, 1882.

The Drake family owned a farm in Benton County located north of the town of Warsaw. The family was wealthy and quite prominent in the County. Elemelech S. Drake was the patriarch of the family. He was born in Kentucky in 1809 and died in Warsaw in 1873. He served as a judge and public administrator for Benton County. His children continued to establish the Drake family as storeowners, farmers, and professionals.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

One folder of the collection is dedicated to the professional correspondence and papers of John McGraw. This includes correspondence from John S. Phelps of the US House of Representatives and official documents about McGraw's time as the elected surveyor of Greene County, Missouri. Another folder of the collection contains the personal correspondence of Kentucky State Senator John Smith Barlow, an ancestor of the Drake family. The third folder contains a detailed journal of a camping trip the Drake family and their friends took to Ha Ha Tonka. The account includes copies of several photographs taken on the trip.

FOLDER LIST

- f. 1 McGraw Papers, 1829-1913
- f. 2 Barlow Correspondence, 1871-1918

f. 3 Account of Camping Trip, 1912

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