



Dunnegan Family Papers (SP0046)

Collection Number: SP0046

Collection Title: Dunnegan Family Papers

Dates: 1852-1997

Creator: Dunnegan Family

Abstract: The Dunnegan Family Papers consist of photographs, military papers from the Civil War and World War I, souvenirs and ephemera from Civil War reunions, legal and official documents, maps, local history publications and a notebook featuring the notes about a Middle School student's favorite 1940s college sports teams. The papers were collected by members of the Dunnegan family from Bolivar, Missouri, but information about the Stalling family is also included.

Collection Size: 0.4 cubic foot
(22 folders, 50 photographs)

Language: Collection materials are in English and French.

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

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given, assigned, and transferred to the Society all copyrights, and associated rights the Donor may possess in the materials.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Dunnegan Family Papers* (SP0046); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Springfield].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Jo Roberts on May 3, 2019 (Accession No. SPA0053).

Related Materials: Additional Materials related to the Dunnegan Family Papers can be found in the following collection:

Bolivar Board of Trade Collection (R1178)

Freemasons, Bolivar Lodge No. 195 Records (R0756)

Processed by: Processed by Erin Smither and intern, May 23, 2019

Biographical Note:

Matthew Dunnegan was born May 11, 1815, in Williamson, Tennessee. Sometime prior to 1837 Matthew moved to Polk County, Missouri, where he met and married Priscilla Akard in October 1837. Together they had five children, Jonas Akard, Thomas Hart Benton, Cordelia A., Francis Marion, and Mary. Matthew worked as a farmer in Polk County, passed away in 1871, and was buried in the Akard Cemetery in Fair Play, Missouri. Priscilla was buried in the same cemetery when she passed away in 1895.

Thomas Hart Benton Dunnegan was born April 1, 1842, in Polk County, Missouri. He married Sallie Beggs on April 5, 1866, and together they had three sons, Willard Bentley, Joseph M., and Thomas B., though Thomas likely died young. Sallie passed away in 1876, at age 36. The Dunnegan family continued to support Sallie's mother Annie Goa Beggs, until her death in 1882.

Thomas remarried on June 15, 1880, to Ella Angelica Carothers. Together they had seven children, Anna Sally (who died at age 2), Grace Benton, Elizabeth Eleanor, Olive Louise, Dorothy, Thomas Hart Benton, and John C. On March 21, 1920, Ella passed away and was buried in Greenwood Cemetery in Bolivar, Missouri.

Thomas served in the 8th Missouri Cavalry of the Union Army in the Civil War. He also worked as a banker and eventually became the president of the Missouri Bankers' Association. His sons Willard and Joseph became bankers as well, possibly working at the same bank as their father. Thomas was incredibly involved in the Bolivar community, serving as a member of the board of education, a trustee of the Missouri Historical Society, a charter member of Bolivar's Masonic lodge, and the superintendent of Greenwood Cemetery. For a time, he served as the mayor of Bolivar. He also donated to the public library and gave land for the Dunnegan Memorial Park, a park dedicated to war veterans.

David Randolph Stallings Sr. was born in Tennessee on September 7, 1845. He married Martha C. Hurt after moving to Missouri, and they had four children, Leora, Annie, Lawrence, and Perry. Martha passed away in 1888 and David remarried Ollie Price Woodard on January 20, 1895. Together they had two children, Alzana and David Randolph Jr. Ollie raised the children on her own when David Sr. passed away in 1901.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following seven series:

Official Documents
Veteran Events
Volumes
Maps
Funerary
Photographs
Oversize

Scope and Content Note:

Official Documents

This series consists of official documents such as checks and property deeds, military payment and pension records for David R. Stallings Sr. who fought in the Civil War, and the World War I pay book for David R. Stallings Jr. for 1918 and 1919. Legal documents in the collection span the years 1845 to 1885. Of particular interest is a loyalty oath signed in 1866 by schoolteacher John C. Smith. T.H.B. Dunnegan signed the oath. Land patent and property deeds document the transfer of property to T.H.B. Dunnegan from his father Matthew in 1861, 1868 and 1870.

Veteran Events

This series contains documents related to military reunions and events. Of particular interest is a Bolivar, Missouri hotel register from 1878, that may have been signed by veterans attending a Civil War reunion. There are also souvenirs collected by Civil War veterans from the 1908 and 1909 reunions of the 8th Missouri Cavalry Regiment. The series includes an itinerary pamphlet from the Golden Jubilee 50th Annual Encampment, which included memorial services and a presentation of flags, and a 1934 speech by William McCracken on the topic of the “Boy Rangers” of Polk County in 1859.

Volumes

This series consists of a notebook, three WWI postcard books, three history booklets, and an advertisement for a history book series. The notebook contains advertisements for the Springfield Grocer Co. in Springfield, Missouri, and was owned by John Dickey, a ninth-grade student at Jarrett Middle School. Dickey filled the notebook with predictions and rankings of his favorite college sports teams, his sports brackets, and an alphabetized list of his favorite teams and their statistics from A through H.

This series also contains three French souvenir postcard books, likely brought home by a World War I soldier. Two of the postcard books feature photographs of French castles and manors, while the third features wartime scenes.

There are three history booklets in this series, including a 1917 history of the American flag and two souvenir local history books from Windsor and Papinville, Missouri. The Windsor book is from the town’s centennial celebration in 1955, and the Papinville book is from the town’s 150th anniversary in 1997.

Maps

This series contains county maps of Henry and Bates County, Missouri and a plat book of Henry County. There's also a partially filled in map of properties in an unknown county. None of the maps are dated, but the Henry County documents appear much older than the map of Bates County.

Funerary

This series consists of a notice of rules and regulations for Greenwood Cemetery in Bolivar, Missouri, and a memorial card for M. I. Misemer, who died in 1889. The cemetery rules are printed on fabric and list T. H. B. Dunnegan as the superintendent. Thomas was buried in the same cemetery when he died in 1934.

Photographs

This series consists of photographs of the Dunnegan family taken in studios across the country. Most of the labeled photos were taken in Ash Grove or Springfield, Missouri, but the series also contains photos from studios in New York, Illinois, and Indiana. Very few of the photos have names on them and none are dated. The photographs are organized by subject.

Oversize

This series consists of oversize documents from the Legal Documents series and the Hotel Register from the Veteran Reunions series.

Container List:

f. 1-3	Official Documents
Box 001 f. 1	Checks, 1899-1920
f. 2	Stallings pension and payment records, 1918-1930
f. 3	Legal documents, 1852-1885
f. 4-8	Veteran Documents
f. 4	Hotel register, 1878
f. 5	8 th Regiment reunion, 1908
f. 6	8 th Regiment reunion, 1909
f. 7	Golden Jubilee Fiftieth Annual Encampment, 1931
f. 8	"Boy Rangers" of Polk County, 1934
f. 9-12	Books
f. 9	John Dickey notebook, no date
f. 10	World War I postcard books, 1918
f. 11	History booklets, 1917-1997
f. 12	Advertisements, no date
f. 13	Maps
f. 13	County maps, no date
f. 14-15	Funerary

	f. 14	Cemetery rules, no date
	f. 15	Memorial card, 1889
f. 16-20		Photographs
	f. 16	Portraits – women, no date
	f. 17	Portraits – men, no date
	f. 18	Portraits – children, no date
	f. 19	Portraits – group, no date
	f. 20	Other photographs, no date
f. 21-22		Oversize
Box 002	f. 21	Legal documents, 1852-1885
	f. 22	Hotel register, 1878

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Greene County (Mo.)	3, 16-19	
Henry County (Mo.)	11, 13	
J. C. Shinkle, Photographer (Ash Grove, Mo.)	19	Yes
Lybarger Photography (Ash Grove, Mo.)	18	Yes
Misemer, M. I., 1817-1889	15	
Mrs. G. W. Sittler Photography (Springfield, Mo.)	16-17	Yes
Paul, Photographer (Springfield, Mo.)	19	Yes
Polk County (Mo.)	1-6, 8, 14	
Stallings, David R., 1897-1982	2	
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Stallings, Ollie Price, 1861-1938	2	
Walker, Seth, 1816-1885	3	
Wickiser Photography (Springfield, Mo.)	19	Yes