



Robert L. Dillard Papers (SP0072)

Collection Number: SP0072

Collection Title: Robert L. Dillard Papers

Dates: 1849-2016

Creator: Dillard, Robert L., 1933-2019

Abstract: The Robert L. Dillard Papers contain historical records related to the Dillard and Dennis families of Greene and Webster counties in Missouri. The records include marriage and death certificates, land deeds, pension applications, correspondence, and photographs. The collection also contains a manuscript written by Dr. Robert L. Dillard on his family history and genealogy.

Collection Size: 1 cubic foot
(10 folders, 4 volumes, 30 photographs)

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-Springfield](https://www.shsmo.org/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] *Robert L. Dillard Papers* (SP0072); 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 Susan Dillard on January 24, 2022 (Accession No. SPA0095).

Processed by: Processed by Haley Frizzle-Green, February 7, 2022

Biographical Note:

Dr. Robert L. Dillard was born November 17, 1933, to George Perkins Dillard and Ruth Margaret *Dennis* Dillard in Springfield, Missouri. Dr. Dillard was the Professor of Speech Communication and Theatre at the University of Nevada, Reno. In 2016, he wrote the final edition of his family's history, documenting the Dillard family genealogy. Dr. Dillard died May 25, 2019, and was buried in Danforth Cemetery in Strafford, Missouri.

Dr. Robert L. Dillard is a descendant of William F. Dillard and Sarah *Gregory* Dillard, early white settlers of Greene County, Missouri. He is also a descendant of Benjamin F. Dennis and Margaret *Smith* Dennis of the Greene County and Webster County, Missouri, area.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following four series:

Historical Records
Photographs
Manuscript
Reference Materials

Scope and Content Note:

Historical Records

This series contains materials related to the Dillard and Dennis families. These include marriage and death certificates, birth records, correspondence, land deeds, a hand-written loan agreement, and newspaper articles. This series also contains pension applications for Mary Russell Douglas, grandmother to Ruth Margaret Dillard and great-grandmother to Dr. Robert L. Dillard. This series is arranged by subject and then chronologically.

Photographs

This series includes photographs of the Dillard and Dennis families, as well as an image of the Tribolet Store and Post Office located in the community of Palmetto, Greene County, Missouri. Some images are unidentified and were used in Dr. Dillard's manuscript. This series is arranged chronologically.

Manuscript

This series contains a manuscript written by Dr. Robert L. Dillard. The unbound manuscript includes the Dillard family history, as well as genealogy research on 50 related families. The manuscript traces the Dillard ancestry back to the 17th century through the Clopton families of England. This series is arranged in alphabetical order by surname and has been rehoused into three folders due to its size. A list of family names can be found in the appendix.

Reference Materials

This series consists of reference materials used by Dr. Dillard for genealogy research and the writing of his manuscript. The four titles include, *The Ancestry of William Clopton of York County, Virginia*; *King's Mountain and Its Heroes*; *West Saxony 452 – America 1992: Royalty Lineage of Gooch, Jarratt, Kimbrough, Mims, Patterson, and Smith Families*; *Volunteers for*

Union and Liberty: History of the 5th Tennessee Infantry, U.S.A. 1862-1865. This series is arranged by publication date.

Container List:

| | |
|---------|--|
| f. 1-6 | Historical Records |
| Box 001 | f. 1 Certificates, 1849-1930 |
| | f. 2 Correspondence, 1896-1926 |
| | f. 3 Land Deeds, 1893-1899 |
| | f. 4 Loan Agreement, 1870 |
| | f. 5 Newspaper Articles, 1941-1948 |
| | f. 6 Pension Applications, 1871-1926 |
| f. 7 | Photographs |
| | f. 7 1849-2007, no date |
| f. 8-10 | Manuscript |
| | f. 8 Introduction-Dunlavy, 2016 |
| | f. 9 Edmiston-Norvell, 2016 |
| | f. 10 Otey-Young, 2016 |
| v. 1-4 | Reference Materials |
| | v. 1 <i>The Ancestry of William Clopton of York County, Virginia</i> , 1939 |
| | v. 2 <i>King's Mountain and Its Heroes</i> , 1978 |
| | v. 3 <i>West Saxony 452 – America 1992: Royalty Lineage of Gooch, Jarratt, Kimbrough, Mims, Patterson, and Smith Families</i> , 1992 |
| | v. 4 <i>Volunteers for Union and Liberty: History of the 5th Tennessee Infantry, U.S.A. 1862-1865</i> , 1995 |

Index:

| Index Term | Folder | Medium | Image |
|--|---------------|---------|-------|
| Clopton family | 8 | v. 1, 3 | |
| Dennis family | 1-3, 5, 7-8 | | Yes |
| Dennis, Benjamin F., 1839-1916 | 1-3, 7-8 | | Yes |
| Dennis, Mattie C. Russell, 1872-1961 | 1-3, 7-8, 10 | | Yes |
| Dennis, William A., 1868-1958 | 1-2, 7-8 | | Yes |
| Dillard family | 1-2, 4-5, 7-8 | v. 2 | Yes |
| Dillard, Amanda M. Perkins, 1866-1940 | 7-8, 10 | | Yes |
| Dillard, Eliza J. Gibson, 1833-1911 | 1, 8-9 | | |
| Dillard, George A., 1826-1903 | 1, 8 | | |
| Dillard, George P., 1904-1985 | 2, 7-8 | | Yes |
| Dillard, James L., 1857-1941 | 2, 7-8 | | Yes |
| Dillard, Robert L., 1933-2019 | 7-10 | | Yes |
| Dillard, Ruth M. Dennis, 1905-1998 | 2, 7-8 | | Yes |
| Douglas family | 1-3, 6-8 | | Yes |
| Douglas, Mary R. Taylor Russell, 1846-1930 | 1-2, 6-8, 10 | | Yes |

| Index Term | Folder | Medium | Image |
|---|--------------|--------|-------|
| Greene County (Mo.) | 1-7 | | Yes |
| Palmetto (Mo.) | 1-2, 7 | | Yes |
| Russell family | 1-2, 6-7, 10 | | Yes |
| United States. Army. Tennessee Infantry Regiment, 5th | 6 | v. 4 | |
| Webster County (Mo.) | 1-2, 7 | | Yes |

Appendix: This appendix is a list of family names included in Dr. Robert L. Dillard's family history manuscript. Each name is given its own section in the manuscript and is arranged in alphabetical order.

| Folder | Family Name |
|--------|-------------|
| 8 | Beal |
| 8 | Booth |
| 8 | Brittain |
| 8 | Buchanan |
| 8 | Chaffin |
| 8 | Clopton |
| 8 | Dennis |
| 8 | Denton |
| 8 | Dillard |
| 8 | Dunlavy |
| 9 | Edmiston |
| 9 | Fox |
| 9 | Gibson, G. |
| 9 | Gibson, P. |
| 9 | Hamilton |
| 9 | Hays |
| 9 | Jarratt |
| 9 | Jones |
| 9 | Joyce |
| 9 | Kendrick |
| 9 | King |
| 9 | Knox |
| 9 | Martin |
| 9 | Michaux |
| 9 | Mitchell |
| 9 | Moore, M. |
| 9 | Moore, R. |
| 9 | Morgan |
| 9 | Morton |

| Folder | Family Name |
|--------|-------------|
| 9 | Noel |
| 9 | Norris |
| 9 | Norvell |
| 10 | Otey |
| 10 | Parks |
| 10 | Perkins |
| 10 | Reed |
| 10 | Richmond |
| 10 | Rochet |
| 10 | Russell |
| 10 | Sherley |
| 10 | Sherwood |
| 10 | Smith |
| 10 | Steele |
| 10 | Taylor |
| 10 | Thompson |
| 10 | Vaughan |
| 10 | Williamson |
| 10 | Young |