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### Descriptive Summary

**Identifier**  
ICU.SPCL.DURRETTGOVERNMENT

**Title**  
Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Government Records

**Date**  
1775-1888

**Size**  
3.75 linear feet (7 boxes)

**Repository**  
Special Collections Research Center  
University of Chicago Library  
1100 East 57th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

**Abstract**  
Reuben Thomas Durrett (1824-1913) was a lawyer, manuscript and book collector, and Kentucky historian. This collection contains county and land records from Kentucky, Virginia, and the Indiana Territory from his collection. The collection includes military and civilian commissions, land entry records, including patents, warrants and surveys, and county records, including birth, marriage, and death records, estate records, and county court records. The collection spans the years 1775-1888, with the bulk of the material dating between 1780 and 1860.

### Information on Use

**Access**  
This collection is open for research.

**Citation**  
When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Government Records, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library.

### Acquisition Information

The existence of the Durrett library first came to the attention of the University of Chicago through William E. Dodd, a professor of American history at the University who had consulted the library as a student. Like other faculty members of the Division of the Social Sciences early in the century, Dodd was concerned about the University’s lack of extensive research materials for history and related subjects, and since he was aware of Durrett’s advanced age, he persuaded A. C. McLaughlin, also of the history department, to accompany him to Louisville in June, 1910, to see the collection and to make discreet inquiries about plans for its disposition. The two found Durrett himself uncertain about his plans, but learned that the Durrett family opposed making a donation of the collection, and that they were in communication with Princeton University and the University of Illinois about selling the library.
Dodd himself was very enthusiastic about the research potential which Durrett’s library represented, and won the support of many of his colleagues on the social science faculties in his efforts to persuade President Judson to consider the purchase by the University of the entire library, numbering some 30,000 volumes. Convinced that the collection would be a valuable addition to the University’s holdings, but wary of the expense involved, Judson agreed cautiously to investigate the idea. Although Dodd and his colleagues were anxious to conclude the agreement quickly, fearing competition from other would-be purchasers or the dispersal of the collection upon Durrett’s apparently imminent death, the task of deciding upon a fair offer was made difficult by the fact that the collection had never been adequately catalogued.

Durrett’s own suggestion made in December, 1912 of $45,000 seemed high, so in February 1913, the University engaged Walter Lichtenstein, a Northwestern University librarian who had previously acted as purchasing agent for the University of Chicago libraries, to assess the value of the Durrett collection. Lichtenstein’s report was submitted to President Judson on February 21, 1913, following a trip to Louisville to sample the collection.

The assessment, made on terms of commercial market value rather than scholarly significance, divided Durrett’s library into four parts. Some 20,000 bound volumes (including 500 volumes of Kentuckiana) he estimated at $7,200. Two hundred fifty file folders of pamphlet material had no apparent commercial value. Numerous manuscripts and newspapers were difficult to assess but Lichtenstein thought they could be fairly purchased for $15,000. A collection of maps was estimated to have a value around $50. Lichtenstein’s estimate, therefore, totaled $22,000-$22,500, considerably less than Durrett’s own. When the University authorized Lichtenstein to make this offer to the Durrett family, however, they accepted it, apparently favoring Chicago as the repository of their collection. The purchase sum, which was too high to be taken from the University’s ordinary budget, was raised among outside donors, and under Lichtenstein’s supervision, the library was dismantled and shipped to Chicago by early May. It filled 287 large packing crates. Its arrival provoked considerable comment in the Louisville and Chicago press, and almost immediately the University began to receive research inquiries from scholars and requests from several libraries for copies of some of the Durrett material to add to their own collections.

In his report Lichtenstein had warned President Judson that considerable effort and expense would be required to process the collection once it was at the University. His warning proved to be justified. Aside from the massive undertaking of unpacking, sorting, and cataloguing the collection, much of the material was found to be in poor condition, requiring cleaning, repair, and binding or rebinding. To facilitate the efficient processing of the Durrett acquisition, the entire operation was assigned to Edward A. Henry of the library staff, who, with the help of his assistants, was to devote most of his attention to the Durrett project for some seven years. It was decided that duplicates should be disposed of, that a number of Filson Club possessions in Durrett’s library should be returned to the Club, and that most of the non-manuscript material in the collection would be distributed according to subject matter among the University’s various departmental libraries. On several occasions between 1913 and 1937, items of an official character were returned to Kentucky upon request, including records of Jefferson County, journals of Kentucky constitutional conventions, and certain manuscripts and photographs of the Filson Club identified by the club’s president, R. C. Ballard Thurston. Most of Henry’s
time seems to have been devoted to preparing the material for this dispersal. His assignment was expanded in 1914 when the University purchased a collection totaling 436 volumes of Kentucky newspapers and miscellaneous books from Mrs. Joel R. Lyle, sister of Robert C. Boggs of Lexington, Kentucky. It was deemed appropriate to merge the Boggs-Lyle acquisition with the Durrett, and the two were processed together.

By the end of the 1915-16 academic year, about 9,000 of the Durrett and Boggs-Lyle volumes had been processed and distributed to the departmental libraries. It was then that Henry and his staff turned some of their attention to the manuscripts—that is, to the material comprising the Durrett Collection as described in this guide. At that time the Durrett manuscripts were apparently divided into four large groups—the Joel Tanner Hart Papers, the Joshua Lacy Wilson Papers, miscellaneous manuscripts, and miscellaneous separately bound items—either mounted in scrapbooks or bound together. A card catalog was compiled for at least the first three of these groups.

The Durrett Collection remained in this state until the mid-1950s. By then it had been incorporated within the holdings of the Department of Special Collections (1951), and it became clear that reorganization of the manuscripts was necessary. Paul Angle, a member of the staff of the Chicago Historical Society, who had surveyed the University of Chicago’s manuscript collection as a consultant in 1944, had pointed out that the Durrett miscellaneous bound manuscripts in particular were of little use to scholars as they were then arranged and described. Moreover, the Special Collections staff had observed that the mountings and bindings done by Henry’s staff were detrimental to the lives of the manuscripts, and that the existing catalog and descriptions provided inadequate access to the documents. The manuscripts, therefore, were removed from their bindings and divided into smaller and more coherent sub-collections.

In the 1970s, an effort was undertaken to edit the 1956 guide, to enhance the descriptions of the Durrett codices for greater detail and accuracy, and to differentiate between transcripts and original manuscript material bound together in the codices. Manuscript material also received conservation treatment. In 1983, another attempt was made to write a comprehensive guide to the entire collection. This guide remained in use until 2015. The current guide was completed in 2016.

**Biographical Note**

Born in Henry County, Kentucky, on January 22, 1824, Reuben Thomas Durrett took pride in his descent from a family with an early history of intellectual achievement. The family was of French background (the surname was originally Duret) and counted among its members the authors of several mid-sixteenth and early seventeenth century French treatises on various scientific subjects. The Saint Bartholomew religious persecutions in France forced one branch of the family to emigrate to England. From there three brothers, John, Richard, and Bartholomew Durrett, migrated to Spotsylvania County, Virginia, early in the nineteenth century. Francis Durrett, the grandfather of Reuben, was born there and he returned after serving in the Illinois campaign of George Rogers Clark in 1778-79. Soon after the turn of the century, however, Francis moved to the western country, settling with his family in Henry County, Kentucky.
The son of William and Elizabeth Rawlings Durrett, Reuben Durrett received his primary education in the Henry County schools, and studied at Georgetown College, Georgetown, Kentucky, from 1844 until 1846. He received the degree of A.B. from Brown University in 1849 and returned to Kentucky where he enrolled as a law student at the University of Louisville. Upon receiving the LL.B. in 1850, he began a practice that was to continue for some thirty years. He served a term in 1853 as a member of the Louisville city council, and from 1857 until 1859, edited the Louisville Courier, of which he was a half-owner. In 1852 Durrett married Elizabeth H. Bates, daughter of Caleb and Elizabeth Humphreys Bates of Cincinnati. The couple had four children, of whom only one, William T. Durrett, lived to adulthood.

The success of his legal practice enabled Durrett to retire in 1880, and for the remainder of his life he devoted himself to his historical and literary interests. Earlier (about 1856) he had begun systematically to build an extensive library on a wide variety of subjects, and now he dedicated his resources particularly to enriching his collection of materials on Kentucky. Having initially “made it an object to secure every book about Kentucky or Kentuckians or that was written by a Kentuckian or even printed in Kentucky,” Durrett expanded his goals and seems in the end to have hoped to acquire every conceivable kind of source material on the history of Kentucky and much of the surrounding region. His Library grew to include not only printed but also manuscript works (including many brief genealogical or anecdotal sketches written in answer to Durrett’s queries by descendants of prominent Kentuckians), transcripts of manuscript material on Kentucky located in private collections or in archives outside the state, and sundry books and manuscripts which, whatever their subject, Durrett deemed historically significant because they had once been owned by prominent Kentuckians.

Not content with simply amassing historical source materials, Durrett also made an effort to publish the results of his own researches into his collections. Moreover, in 1884 he persuaded nine other historically-minded Kentuckians to join him in founding the Filson Club, an organization dedicated to collecting primary source materials on Kentucky, encouraging historical study, and publishing literature on historical topics. The club was named after John Filson, who published in 1784 The Discovery, Settlement and Present State of Kentucke, a promotional tract that was later recognized as the first history of the state. From 1884 until his death, Durrett served as president of the society. Durrett also established the Louisville Public Library in 1871, and throughout his life made his own collection available to scholars interested in Kentucky affairs.

Durrett was an active member of his community in many other ways. He served on the Board of Park Commissioners and the Board of Councilmen. He was President of the Children’s Free Hospital and the Episcopal Orphans’ Home. At various points in his life he directed the Kentucky Title Company, the Kentucky Title Savings Bank, the First National Bank, the Kentucky Heating and Lighting Company, and the Louisville Lighting Company.
To assure that his library would remain accessible to scholars after his death, Durrett began in the last years of his life to make tentative plans to donate his collection to the city of Louisville. His family, however, thought it unwise to make an outright gift of such a valuable collection, and encouraged him to consider offers from would-be purchasers. A stroke in July, 1912, left Durrett unable to take a very active role in the disposition of his library, and after some consideration of other offers, the family concluded a purchase agreement with the University of Chicago early in 1913. Durrett died in Louisville on September 16, 1913.

**Scope Note**

Series I, Commissions, contains civilian commissions, primarily issued by state governors, with a small collection of military commissions. The majority are commissions for positions as county Judges, Justices of the Peace, and Notary Publics. Most of the material pertains to Jefferson County Kentucky, with some materials from Mercer County, Virginia and the Indiana Territory. The first folder of the series contains military commissions, with all other materials organized under issuing governor’s name and arranged chronologically.

Series II, Federal Land Records, contains records that document the formal transfer of public lands from the U.S. Government to private ownership. This series includes land warrants, survey materials, land patents, land grants, and entries from land tract books. Materials included are from Kentucky and Virginia and are arranged chronologically.

Series III, County and Municipal Records, contains administrative and genealogical records from the municipal and county level. This series is split into four subseries. Materials are arranged chronologically within subseries.

Subseries 1, Estate Records, contains wills, estate appraisals and estate accounts.

Subseries 2, Vital Records, contains birth, marriage, and death records, and obituaries.

Subseries 3, Land Records, contains deeds transferring land between individuals, mortgages, tax records, and town planning materials.

Subseries 4, Court Records, contains depositions, affidavits, and warrants as well as circuit, county, and chancery court records from Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Missouri.

Series IV, Oversize, contains a list of land proprietors and taxable properties, a land survey, two land grants and a letter to the North American Land Company. Materials are arranged chronologically.
Related Resources

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/

Researchers interested in topics represented in the Durrett Collection should check the author, title, or subject headings relevant to their interests in the Library catalog for potentially useful books and pamphlets from the Durrett Library, which were dispersed among the existing departmental libraries at the time of acquisition. Some of these items have since been transferred to the Rare Books collection and to the Reuben T. Durrett Collection of Broadsides, Pamphlets, and Leaflets, in the Special Collections Research Center.

The Durrett rare book collections include works of literature, travel and description, early histories of Kentucky such as Mann Butler’s, biographies, legislative acts, and other legal documents.

Examples include Henry McMurtrie’s Sketches of Louisville and Its Environs (1819); a collection of humorous verses, The Kentucky Miscellany, by Thomas Johnson, Jr. (1821), one of two known copies of the fourth edition, the first known to survive; and The Confession of Jereboam O. Beauchamp ... (1826).

Among the newspapers are 135 titles published in Kentucky, beginning in 1788 with the Kentucky Gazette, the first newspaper established in the state. Other important titles include the Mirror, the Palladium, the Guardian of Freedom, the Farmer’s Library or Ohio Intelligencer, and numerous campaign newspapers such as The Patriot and The Spirit of ’76 from 1826.

Included in the American Paper Currency Collection in the Special Collections Research Center is Durrett’s collection of confederate currency, among which are many examples of notes issued by the Bank of Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Correspondence, reports, and clippings concerning the acquisition of the Reuben T. Durrett Collection for the University of Chicago are found in the University of Chicago Library Records Addenda.

In addition, the following collections contain material related in subject matter to various portions of the Durrett Collection:
Codex MS 798 Lettres de Mr. Cahusac, Américain, juge de paix à Fleurance, 1806-1836

Church History Documents Collection

Codex MS 790, Letters to Virgil David, 1828-1838

Douglas, Stephan A. Papers

English, William H. Papers

Ethno-History Collection

Lafayette Manuscripts

Lafayette-Bonaventure. Collection

Lane, Ebenezer, Family. Papers

Lewis, Fielding. Papers

Robertson, Wyndham. Papers

All Durrett sub-collections are as follows:

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Boggs Family. Papers

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Boone Family. Papers

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Broadsides, Broadsheets, Pamphlets, and Leaflets

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Christopher Columbus Graham. Papers
Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. George and William Croghan. Papers

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. George Nicholas. Papers

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. George Rogers Clark. Papers

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Government Records

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Edmund Lyne Estate. Records


Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Joel Tanner Hart. Papers


Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Lewis Family. Papers

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Louisville, Kentucky Board of Trustees. Records

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Mann Butler. Papers

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Michael Walsh Cluskey. Papers

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Miscellaneous Manuscripts and Codices

Durrett, Reuben T. Collection. Portraits, Illustrations, and Cartographic Material


Subject Headings

- Durrett, Reuben T. (Reuben Thomas), 1824-1913
- Kentucky--History--18th century
- Kentucky--History--19th century
- Military History
- Public Lands -- Virginia
- Public Lands -- Kentucky
- Court Records -- Kentucky
- Land titles -- Registration and transfer -- Kentucky
- Vital records

INVENTORY

Series I: Commissions

Box 1
Folder 1
Military Commissions, 1776 to 1780
- No Signature – Appointing Matthew Lyon a Second Lieutenant, under the authority of Major General Schuyler - July 19, 1776 – A.D. 1 p.

Box 1
Folder 2
Jefferson, Thomas, Governor of Virginia

Box 1
Folder 3
Nelson, Thomas, Governor of Virginia

Box 1
Folder 4
Harrison, Benjamin, Governor of Virginia

Box 1
Folder 5
Randolph, Edmund, Governor of Virginia

Box 1
Folder 6
Garrard, James, Governor of Kentucky
• Robert Breckenridge – Assistant Judge, Jefferson County Court – June 5, 1803 – D.S. 1 p.

Box 1
Folder 7
Harrison, William Henry, Governor of the Indiana Territory
• Charles Gratiot, Augustine Chouteau, James Mackay, Jacque Clarmorgan, John Mulanthy, Alexander McNair, and David Delannay – Justices of the Court, District of St. Louis – October 1, 1804 – A.D.S. 1 p.

Box 1
Folder 8
Greenup, Christopher, Governor of Kentucky
• John Speed – Assistant Judge, Circuit Court, Jefferson County, Kentucky – February 9, 1808 – A.D.S. 1 p.

Box 1
Folder 9
Scott, Charles, Governor of Kentucky
• Nicholas Clarke – Notary Public, Jefferson County – October 30, 1811 – D.S. 1 p.

Box 1

Folder 10

Slaughter, Gabriel, Governor of Kentucky

Box 1

Folder 11

Adair, John, Governor of Kentucky
• Benjamin Head – Paymaster, 33rd Regiment of the Kentucky militia – February 12, 1822 – D.S. 1 p.

Box 1

Folder 12

Desha, Joseph, Governor of Kentucky

Box 1

Folder 13

Thomas Metcalfe, Governor of Kentucky
• Charles G. Dorsey – Sherriff, Jefferson County, Kentucky – November 13, 1828 – D.S. 1 p.
• Charles G. Dorsey – Justice of the Peace, Jefferson County – April 8, 1831 –D.S. 1 p.

Box 1

Folder 14

Breathitt, John, Governor of Kentucky

Box 1
Folder 15
Morehead, James T., Governor of Kentucky

Box 1
Folder 16
Clark, James, Governor of Kentucky
• Jesse Chrisler – Notary Public for Jefferson County, Kentucky – August 24, 1835 – D.S. 1 p.

Box 1
Folder 17
Wickcliffe, Charles A., Governor of Kentucky
• Philip B. Thompson – Notary Public, Jefferson County, Kentucky – August 20, 1840 – D.S. 1 p.

Box 1
Folder 18
Letcher, Robert P., Governor of Kentucky
• Robert De Hart – Notary Public, Jefferson County, Kentucky – April 11, 1843 – D.S. 1 p.

Box 1
Folder 19
Owsley, William, Governor of Kentucky

Box 1
Folder 20
Crittenden, John J., Governor of Kentucky

Box 1
Folder 21
Helm, John L., Governor of Kentucky
• Robert Tyler – Notary Public, Jefferson County, Kentucky – February 8, 1851 – D.S. 1 p.

**Box 1**

**Folder 22**
Powell, Lazarus, W., Governor of Kentucky
• Henry F. Smith – Notary Public, Jefferson County, Kentucky – October 19, 1854 – D.S. 1 p.

**Box 1**

**Folder 23**
Morehead, Charles S., Governor of Kentucky
• John J. Harvey – Notary Public, Jefferson County, Kentucky – August 16, 1859 – D.S. 1 p.

**Box 1**

**Folder 24**
Magoffin, Beriah, Governor of Kentucky

**Box 1**

**Folder 25**
Robinson, James F., Governor of Kentucky
• Benjamin Rankin – Notary Public, Jefferson County, Kentucky – November 11, 1862 – D.S. 1 p.

**Box 1**

**Folder 26**
Leslie, Preston H., Governor of Kentucky

**Series II: Land Records**

**Box 1**

**Folder 27**
Smith, Daniel – Surveyor’s notes – 1770 to 1773 – Codex Manuscript. 46p.
• Surveyor’s notes, abstracts of land entries; Codex 170

**Box 1**

**Folder 28**

**Box 1**

**Folder 29**

**Box 1**

**Folder 30**
Box 1
Folder 30

Box 1
Folder 31

Box 1
Folder 32

Box 1
Folder 33
Land Office Treasury – Land Survey Warrants – 1779 – 1783 – 32 D.S.

Box 1
Folder 34
• Entitling Cowan to 400 acres and preemption 1000 adjoining acres on the Ohio River

Box 1
Folder 35
• To secure land warrant for preemption right

Box 1
Folder 36
• From the Virginia land office

Box 1
Folder 37

Box 1
Folder 38

Box 1
Folder 39

Box 1
Folder 40
Weedon, George – Land Grant – September 1, 1780 – A.D.S. 1 p.
• Land grant to heirs of Hugh Mercer for service of George Weedon during the French and Indian War. Signed by Thomas Jefferson, Governor of Virginia.
Land Survey Correspondence – September 15, 1780 to August 10, 1797 – Copy of A.L.S 1 p.0
  • Multiple notes; Brownlow, John - September 15, 1780; Carneal, Thomas, August 10, 1797; Craig, John, August 10, 1797.

Box 1
Folder 42

Box 1
Folder 43

Box 1
Folder 44

Box 1
Folder 45

Box 1
Folder 46
Harrison, Benjamin, Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia to Samuel Bryan – Land Grant – June 1, 1782 – Copy of A.D.S. 2 p.
  • Granting 1400 acres in Kentucky County

Box 1
Folder 47
Sanders, John – Memos of Land Entry – December 4, 1782 – A.D.S. 4 p. (two 2 p. copies)
  • Surveyors Office - [Fayette County], Kentucky

Box 1
Folder 48

Box 1
Folder 49

Box 1
Folder 50
Henry, Patrick, Governor of Virginia to John Tennant – Land Grant – May 17, 1786 – D.S. 2 p.

Box 2
Folder 1
Henry, Patrick, Governor of Virginia to James Dean - Land Warrant – August 30, 1786 – A.D.S 1 p.

Box 2
Folder 3

Box 2
Folder 4
• Notes that Lewis Craig withdraws land entry to enter another

Box 2
Folder 5

Box 2
Folder 6
Randolph, Beverly, Governor of Virginia – Land Grant – August 16, 1787 – A.D. 1 p.
• Granting 1000 acres to William Fountain

Box 2
Folder 7

Box 2
Folder 8
Randolph Beverley, Governor of Virginia to Samuel Willit – Land Grant – February 24, 1790 – A.D.S. 2 p.

Box 2
Folder 9
"Meetings of the commissioners for apportioning the lands granted to the Illinois Regiment at the Falls of Ohio" – Meeting minutes – 1791-1851 – Codex Manuscript. 118 p.
• Copy of Rolls of various regiments and companies with index, 1832-1847; Cdx 139

Box 2
Folder 10

Box 2
Folder 11
• Order to appear at survey made by John Boone to select share in settlement of Owen and Jackson vs. Whitaker

Box 2
Folder 12
• Land for Thomas Bledsoe; Deeding land to Joseph Bledsoe in Franklin County, Kentucky

Box 2
Folder 13

Box 2
Folder 14

Box 2
Folder 15
• For lands on the Ohio and Penther Creek; Signed by Stephen Cleven for C.Helm, showing interference with lands of William May and William Meriweather

Box 2
Folder 16

Box 2
Folder 17
Garrard, James to William Clark, Governor of Kentucky – Land Grant – May 22, 1803 – D.S. 1 p.
• 14 acres in Jefferson County

Box 2
Folder 18

Box 2
Folder 19
Jefferson County, Kentucky – Land Survey – March 22, 1805 – A.D. 2 p
• Lands belonging to John Bowman, Isaac Hite; on reverse is memo of survey of land of the heirs of John Carpenter

Box 2
Folder 20
• Survey of land for John Bledsoe and Robert Johnston

Box 2
Folder 21
Scott, Charles, Governor of Kentucky to Samuel Oar – Land Grant – December 30, 1808 – D.S. 1 p.
• For land in Logan County, Kentucky

Box 2
Folder 22

Box 2
Folder 23
- Plot of land involved in chancery case between George R.C. Floyd and Daniel Rudy

Box 2
Folder 24
United States Pension Office and General Land Office – Blank forms, separate acts, printed matter, clippings, manuscript data, and letters – 1817-1853 – CodexTypescripts. 33 p.
- Material pasted on the recto of the volume's folios; Codex190

Box 2
Folder 25
- Deeding land in Jefferson County, Kentucky

Box 2
Folder 26

Box 2
Folder 27

Box 2
Folder 28

Box 2
Folder 29
Slaughter, Gabriel – Land Grant – June 1, 1819 – D.S. 1 p.
- Granting four hundred acres in Logan County

Box 2
Folder 30
Lincoln, Mordecai, Louisville, Kentucky to Benjamin Bridges

Box 2
Folder 31
- Deeding land to Arthur L. Campbell; Witnessed by Alexander Fontaine

Box 2
Folder 32
- Deeding land in Jefferson County, Kentucky to Diana M. Bullit

Box 2
Folder 33
- Granting land to Willis Bledsoe, Sangamon County, Illinois
Folder 34
Morehead, Charles, S., Governor of Kentucky – Land Grant – August 11, 1857 – D.S. 1 p.
Box 2
Folder 35
Box 2
Folder 36
Box 2
Folder 37
Box 2
Folder 38

Series III: County Records
Subseries 1
Box 3
Folder 1
• Appraised by Isaac Cox, Isaac Davis and Azzington Wickliffe
Box 3
Folder 2
• Appraised by Marsham Brashear, George Owens, and Edward Holman
Box 3
Folder 3
• Order that Henry Floyd, Edward Holeman, Edward Tyler and James Patton appraise the estate of Joseph Irwin
Box 3
Folder 4
• Appraised by Henry Floyd, Edward Holeman, and James Patton
Box 3
Folder 5
• Appraised by George Leech, Samuel Burks, Daniel Sullivan, and Aquilla Whitaker
Box 3
Folder 6
• Account with the estate of William Christian
Box 3
Folder 7
• Appraised by George Wall, W. Clark, and G.I. Johnston

Box 3
Folder 8
• Appraised by John Lowth, J. Davis, and Richard Eastin

Box 3
Folder 9

Box 3
Folder 10
• Appraised by William Johnston

Box 3
Folder 11
Campbell, John – Amendments to Will – April 5, 1791 – A.D.S. 2 p.

Box 3
Folder 12
• Account with the estate of William Christian

Box 3
Folder 13
• Account with the estate of William Christian

Box 3
Folder 14

Box 3
Folder 15
• Appraised by Alexander Butler and Prather Smiley

Box 3
Folder 16
• Appraised by Adam Rankin

Box 3
Folder 17
• Appraised by Richard Eastin and Archibald Armstrong

Box 3
Folder 18

Box 3
Folder 19
• Appraised by John Moore

Box 3
Folder 20

Box 3
Folder 21

Box 3
Folder 22

Box 3
Folder 23

Box 3
Folder 24

Box 3
Folder 25
• Codex 47

Box 3
Folder 26

Box 3
Folder 27

Box 3
Folder 28
• Will Watkins, administrator

Box 3
Folder 29

Subseries 2

Box 3
Folder 30
• Witnessed by Benjamin Ogden
- Witnessed by William Kavanaugh

Box 3
Folder 32
- Witnessed by William Kavanaugh

Box 3
Folder 33
Birth, Marriage and Death Records – circa 1802 – A.D. 1 p.
- For William Allen, Sarah Meredith Scroggin, Thomas Millar Allen, Ann Mastin Allen, and Deborah Montgomery Allen

Box 3
Folder 34
- Guarantee for the marriage of John Edwards to Nancy Geiger

Box 3
Folder 35

Box 3
Folder 36
- For marriages performed in 1805 and 1806

Box 3
Folder 37

Box 3
Folder 38
Sale, Edmund and Mary Harding, Jefferson County, Kentucky – Marriage Li – April 8, 1811 – A.D.S. 2 p.
- Certified by Worden Pope

Box 3
Folder 39

Box 3
Folder 40

Box 3
Folder 41
• Recording the marriage licenses of Stephen Stone and Sally Foulkson, James Lyon and Polly Burton, and Joseph McCoy and Fanny Vandike

Box 3
Folder 42

Box 3
Folder 43
Willey, John F. and Milly Morrisett, Dickson County, Tennessee – Marriage License – May 13, 1828 – A.D.S. 1 p.
• Issued by Field Farrar, clerk

Box 3
Folder 44

Box 3
Folder 45
Obituaries for Robert E. Lee – 1870 – 20 newspaper clippings

Box 3
Folder 46
Obituary of Obadiah Floyd Meriwether – August 8, 1886 – Manuscript Copy 2 p.
• Written by George Clark Rogers

Box 3
Folder 47

Subseries 3

Box 4
Folder 1

Box 4
Folder 2
• Tax Book containing records of levies collected by the sheriff; Cdx 114

Box 4
Folder 3
• Granting land in Louisville to John Donne

Box 4
Folder 4
• Petition to establish the town of Louisville

Box 4
Folder 5
Box 4
Folder 6

Box 4
Folder 7
• Proposal for laying of a town at the Lower Falls; settlement

Box 4
Folder 8

Box 4
Folder 9
• Kentucky Title Company letterhead; Cdx116

Box 4
Folder 10

Box 4
Folder 11

Box 4
Folder 12
• Tax Book containing records of levies collected by the sheriff with record of writs executed, capias ad satisfaciendum and fieri facias for debt; Cdx115

Box 4
Folder 13

Box 4
Folder 14
Taylor, Richard – List of Certificates Received – September 20, 1787 – A.D.S. 1 p.

Box 4
Folder 15

Box 4
Folder 16

Box 4
Folder 17

Box 4
Folder 18
Box 4
Folder 19

Box 4
Folder 20
Mercer County, Kentucky – List of Taxable Properties – April to August, 1791 – A.D. 8 p.

Box 4
Folder 21

Box 4
Folder 22

Box 4
Folder 23

Box 4
Folder 24
O’Cannon, John, Woodford County, Kentucky to Abraham Hite, Jefferson County – Bond – October 31, 1794 – A.D.S. 2 p.

Box 4
Folder 25
• Abstracts of deeds, conveyances, and mortgages; Codex 180

Box 4
Folder 26
List of Names by County – 1795 – A.D. 1 p.

Box 4
Folder 27
Logan, John, Treasurers Office, Logan County, Kentucky – Tax Receipt – August 1, 1795 – A.D.S. 1 p.
• For taxes on land owned by Henry [D]uarles

Box 4
Folder 28
Board of Trustees, Williamsville, to Caleb Noell – November 1, 1796 – A.D.S 2 p.

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Folder 29
• Deeding to George Washington lands in Jefferson County, Kentucky; official copy certified by county clerk.

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Folder 30
• Typed transcript of a manuscript found by Lyman Draper among the papers of Colonel Robert Patterson in Dayton. Includes list of early settlers in Cincinnati (Losantiburg); Cdx 59

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• Tax vouchers with list of names, amounts and types of property, including acreage, carriages, horses, indentured servants, and slaves; Cdx168

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  Floyd, John and George Floyd - Return of Taxable Property – August 14, 1805 – A.D.S. 1 p.
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Land Plot Assignments – August 9, 1818 – A.D.S. 2 p.

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**Box 5**

**Folder 24**
- Deeding land to Robert Breckenridge; Certified by Joseph Watson, Mayor of Philadelphia and Worden Pope

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**Folder 25**
- Deeding land to John D. Colmesnil; Certified by Joseph Watson, Mayor of Philadelphia and Worden Pope

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**Folder 27**
- Granting land in Madison County, Kentucky to James Blythe

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**Folder 29**
Harrison, Charles C. – Statement of Taxes Due – August 5, 1841 – A.D.S. 1 p.

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**Subseries 4**

**Box 6**
**Folder 1**
Kentucky County Court, Virginia – Copy of Court Announcement – April 7, 1779 – A.D.S. 2 p.

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Folder 2
Kentucky County Court, Virginia – Memorandum – December 28, 1779 – A.D.S 2 p.
• Court decision on the claim of William Deal to lands held by William Hay; Account on reverse

Box 6
Folder 3
Kentucky County Court, Virginia – Jury Finding – July 1, 1780 – Copy of A.D.S 2 p.
• Escheating the lands of Connolly and McKee; Signed by George May, Nathanial Randolph, Walter Overton, Robert McAfee, Edward Cather, Henry Wilson, Joseph Willis, Paul T[ru]man, Jeremiah Jefford, and Thomas Grant.

Box 6
Folder 4
Fayette County Court, Shepherds ville, Kentucky – Copies of Court Documents – September, 1780 – Copy (1812) of D.S. 2 p.
• Indenture of land by Levi Todd and notice that escheat lands of John Connolly and Alexander McKee were ordered recorded in court.

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• J. Ormsby, complainant.

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Folder 7
• Summoning Dennis Sullivan to appear for non-payment of debt to John Abbott.

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Folder 8
• For the arrest of James Delaney for unpaid debt; On reverse is endorsement of full satisfaction of all claims.

Box 6
Folder 9
Lancaster County Court, Pennsylvania – Copy of Court Records – April 15, 1785 – A.D.S. 1 p.
• Case of John Smith vs. Robert W. Keon

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Folder 10
• Wilkinson and Chapman, executors, and the sons and devisees of Sir John Clay, decd., v. John, Mary, Henry, and Elizabeth Watkins, and Augustine Eastham in Chancery Court, Richmond Virginia; Codex 49

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Folder 11
• Order to the sheriff to levy upon John Campbell for damages and costs awarded Mark Thomas

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Folder 13
• Mercer County Court, Kentucky – Affidavit – June 11, 1787 – A.D.S. 1 p.
• That James Denny will give bond for Edward Tyler in suit of Thomas Hughes

Box 6
Folder 14
• Mercer County Court, Kentucky – Record of Deposition of Peter Tardiveau – April 21, 1788 – A.D.S. 2 p.

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Folder 15
Court of Aberville, Justices to the inhabitants of Nolechucky, French-Broad and Holstein – Address – July 9, 1788 – Typed copy of D.S. 3 p.

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• Statement of Benjamin Sebastian in reply to Bill of Complaint preferred by Alexander and Jane Breckenridge

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• Bourbon County Court, Kentucky – Deposition of David Hughes – June 29, 1790 - A.D. 1 p

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• Bourbon County Court, Kentucky – Deposition of John Holding – August 10, 1790 – A.D.S. 2 p.
• Riddle vs. McCandless

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Folder 19
• Bourbon County Court, Kentucky – Affidavit of William Johnston – June 12, 1790 – A.D.S. 2 p.

Box 6
Folder 20
Jefferson County Court, Kentucky – Summons – August 11, 1795 – A.D.S. 1 p.
• For Henry Churchill to appear before a Justice of the Peace

Box 6
Folder 21
Jefferson County Kentucky Circuit Court – Depositions – 1795-1828 – Codex Typescript and manuscript transcript. 225 p.
• With index; Codex 113

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• Issued by Rebecca Hite for "Burk"

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Folder 23
Court of Equity, Washington District – Bill of Complaint – October 1, 1796 – Typed Copy 3 p.
• John Rhea, complainant

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• Has no account against Samuel R. Lawrence

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• Issued by Robert Kearney Moore for "Nanny"

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• For the arrest of John Williams for the murder of Indians

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• Maury vs. John Nelson, regarding military lands

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Folder 28
Montgomery Thomas, Lincoln County Court to the Sheriff of Lincoln County, Kentucky – Warrant – June 10, 1806 – A.D.S. 1 p.
• Warrant for payment from the estate of Rankin Chandler Luke Johnson

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"President, Recorder, and Trustees of the town of Cincinnati vs. Joel Williams" – Court Proceedings – November 2, 1807 – Codex Typescript transcript. 74 p.
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Circuit Court, Jefferson County, Kentucky – circa 1809 – A.D.S. 1 p.
• Apportionment and evaluation of slaves of Jacob Gieger

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• In reply to an injunction filed against him and George Gretsinger by Nathan Estes

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Chancery Court, District of Kentucky – Court Records Extract – May 27, 1812 – A.D.S. 12 p.

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Chancery Court, Jefferson County – Court documents – 1815 – Codex Typescript transcript. 39 p.
• With a pleading, depositions, inventory of goods of the late Mrs. Jane Floyd Breckenridge, and will of Col. John Floyd; Codex 68

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• Appointing James Hunter, William Vernon, Levi Tyler, Archibald Allen, and Daniel Fetter appraisers of the estate of Edmund Clark, deceased; Witnessed by Isaac, Tyler

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• For the arrest of James Adams

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Clay Circuit Court to the Sheriff of Madison County, Kentucky – Order – February 12, 1817 – A.D.S. 1 p.

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Bourbon County Court, Kentucky – Deposition of James Gray – April 7, 1817 – A.D.S. 4 p.
• In the case of Trabue’s heirs vs. Ruddell and others, regarding claims in 1779

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• Certifying that James Blythe attended court

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• For the arrest of Irvin Broadus and Angelina Broadus; Upon the oath of Charles A. Withers

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Daviess County Court, Montana – Warrant and Affidavit – October 2, 1865 – A.D.S. 4 p.

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Court of Appeals, Kentucky – Opinion – October 10, 1900 – Typed Document 7 p.

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List of Land Proprietors – circa 1758 to 1759 – A.D. 2 p,
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• Granting land in Kentucky to William Preston

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• Survey ordered for the case of John T. Gray vs. the Trustees of Louisiana