

William H. H. and Emma Dickinson Papers, 1823-1908

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Dickinson, William H.H., 1840-1910Dickinson, Emma, d. 1927
Title	William H. H. and Emma Dickinson Papers
Dates	1823-1908 (inclusive) 1823 1908
Quantity	0.25 linear feet, (1 box)
Collection Number	Mss 255
Summary	William H.H. and Emma Dickinson were early residents of Missoula, Montana. The collection contains a Dickinson family genealogy, Mr. Dickinson's Civil War diary and a later autobiographical account based on the diary, Mrs. Dickinson's reminiscence of early Missoula, an autograph book from Mr. Dickinson's family, personal and business financial records, an essay report, and early photographs of Missoula.
Repository	University of Montana, Mansfield Library, Archives and Special Collections Archives and Special Collections Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library University of Montana 32 Campus Dr. #9936 59812-9936 Missoula, MT Telephone: 406-243-2053 Fax: 406-243-4067 library.archives@umontana.edu
Access Restrictions	Researchers must use collection in accordance with the policies of Archives and Special Collections, the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, and The University of Montana--Missoula.
Languages	English
Sponsor	Funding for creating this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Historic Publications and Records Commission. Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Biographical Note

William H. H. Dickinson was born in Ohio in 1840, where he received a business education. When he was twenty years old, he went to Kansas, and served in the Third Kansas Infantry (later consolidated with the Fourth Kansas Regiment to become the Tenth Regiment, Kansas Volunteer Infantry) during the Civil War. He emigrated to Montana after 1868, moving to Fort Peck, Fort Benton, and then to the Bitterroot Valley, where he taught school, mined, and took photographs. In 1872 he was appointed

postmaster in Missoula, Montana. He continued in that post, was one of the city's first merchants, and served as school clerk and superintendent of schools.

In 1871, Dickinson married Emma C. Slack, who had come to Montana from Baltimore, Maryland, in 1869. They were the first couple married in Missoula. She taught in Missoula's first public school beginning fall of 1869. She was one of the organizers of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Missoula, and remained active in that organization.

The Dickinsons had three children. Mr Dickinson died in 1910; Mrs. Dickinson died in 1927.

Content Description

The collection contains a Dickinson family genealogy, Mr. Dickinson's Civil War diary, Mrs. Dickinson's reminiscence of early Missoula, an autograph book from Mr. Dickinson's family, personal and business financial records, an assay report, and early photographs of Missoula. The collection offers information on early life in Missoula, including residents, business, education, and the physical appearance of the town.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

Researchers are responsible for using in accordance with 17 U.S.C. and any other applicable statutes. Copyright not transferred to The University of Montana.

Preferred Citation

[Name of document or photograph number], William H. H. and Emma Dickinson Papers, Archives and Special Collections, Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, The University of Montana--Missoula.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

The papers were in the possession of Richard Giffin, the Dickinsons' great-grandson, until time of donation to the Archives.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Richard Giffin, 1969.

Processing Note

The original processor arranged the papers, described them as the W. H. H. Dickinson Papers, and separated photographs to the photograph collection. In 2004, the finding aid was expanded, the collection was re-named the William H. H. and Emma Dickinson Papers, and the photographs were re-integrated into the collection. The 2004 finding aid listed two 1861 diaries - a closer examination of the materials in 2007 showed that one of the diaries was actually an autobiographical account based on the

1861 diary. In 2011 the biographical note for William was edited and updated - the original note indicated he'd served in the 8th Infantry when, in fact, he'd served in the 3rd.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box/Folder		
1/1	Genealogy	1897
1/2	William H.H. Dickinson diary	1861
1/3	William H. H. Dickinson autobiographical account based on 1861 diary	undated
1/4	Emma Dickinson reminiscences	undated
1/5	Autograph book	1847-1850
1/6	Correspondence	1870
1/7	Financial records	1823-1895
1/8	Dickinson store ledger	1879
1/9	Legal documents	1887-1907
1/10	Assay report	1906
	69-0001: View of Missoula, Montana, and Mount Jumbo	circa 1890
	69-0002: View of Missoula, Montana, taken from Waterworks Hill	1883
	69-0003: Rattlesnake Creek during the Flood of 1908. Greenough Mansion on Vine Street in the background. Missoula, Montana	1908
	73-0052: Missoula, Montana, view from Waterworks Hill looking south. Black line to the left is road to Bitterroot Valley.	1876

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Soldiers--United States--Diaries

Corporate Names :

United States. Army. Kansas Infantry Regiment, 8th (1861-1866)

Family Names :

Dickinson family

Geographical Names :

Kansas--History--Civil War, 1861-1865

Missoula (Mont.)--History

Missoula (Mont.)--Photographs

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Personal narratives

Form or Genre Terms :

Autograph albums

Diaries

Financial records

Genealogies

Personal papers--Montana --Missoula

Photographs--Montana--Missoula

Reminiscences--Montana--Missoula

Occupations :

Businessmen--Montana --Missoula

Other Creators :**Personal Names :**

Dickinson family

Dickinson, Emma Slack, d. 1927

Dickinson, W. H. H. (William Henry Harrison), 1840-1910

Finding aid prepared by Dale Johnson (1969) and Jodi Allison-Bunnell (2004)
2004



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