

Mary Louisa Slacum Benham Papers Finding Aid MS062

Mary Louisa Slacum Benham Papers (MS062)
1802-1884



Title Statement

Mary Louisa Slacum Benham Papers Finding Aid MS062

Author: Aaron Hoppenstedt

Publication Statement

Publisher: Local History and Special Collections Branch, Alexandria Library

717 Queen Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Business Number: 703-746-1791
lhsc@alexlibraryva.org
URL: <http://alexlibraryva.org/lhsc>



26 May 2017

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2023-12-15 14:26:59 +0000.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MS062

Unit Date

1802-1884

Text

02 (Assorted Box)

Language

English .

Creator

Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Extent

.184 Cubic Feet 22 folders Contents include fragile handwritten documents. Handle with care.

Repository

Local History and Special Collections Branch, Alexandria Library

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[item identification], Mary Louisa Slacum Benham Papers, MS062, Alexandria Library, Local History and Special Collections, Alexandria, Virginia.

Content Description

Notes and reminiscences of Mrs. Benham's life from her childhood and youth in Alexandria to her adult travels along the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers. Also covers the settlement of Oregon (through her brother William's experiences there), the careers of her siblings and her elderly musings. Alexandria sections include materials on Mrs. Benham's family life, the Potomac River, Monsieur Generis' dancing school, the Woods and Warren Play Actors (the summer theater), Parson Muir, Bishop Meade, Christ Church, Mount Vernon, Washington Lodge, Washington City and President Monroe's daughter's wedding. Also highlighted are many prominent Virginia and Washington D.C. families such as the Washington's, Lewis', Moore's, McCormick's, Meade's and Vowell's. Local customs, social life and institutions are discussed.

Keywords

Alexandria (Va.) -- Social life and customs -- 19th century.

Benham family

Benham, Mary Louise Slacum, 1802-1884

Oregon -- History -- To 1859

Reminiscences

Slacum family

Washington (D.C.) -- Social life and customs -- 19th century

Accruals

No accruals are expected.

Biographical Information/Organizational History

Daughter of George Slacum (1756-1810), an Alexandria, Virginia, merchant and Jane Howard. Sister of George Washington Slacum, a State Department consul, and William Slacum, a purser in the Navy. Ms. Benham grew up in Alexandria. She moved to Cincinnati, Ohio in 1830 upon her marriage to lawyer, Joseph S. Benham. They had three daughters. In 1839, the Benham's moved to New Orleans. From c. 1870-1884, she lived in San Francisco with her daughter, where she wrote these memoirs.

Custodial History

Material was acquired from the Lloyd House (Alexandria, VA.), through Mrs. Betsy Stark, the descendant of Mrs. Benham.

Existence and Location of Originals

Local History and Special Collections, Alexandria Library

Arrangement

Description of Subordinate Components

Memoirs

Unit Date 1870-1884

Language English.

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Early Memories

Unit Date 1870-1880

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-1 (folder)

Language English.

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Potomac River

Unit Date Undated

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-2 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Dancing School

Unit Date 1882

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-3 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Alexandria Theater

Unit Date 1882 May

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-4 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

My Father - "Why won't he come?"

Unit Date 1880 September 7

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-5 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

My Childhood

Unit Date 1882 March

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-6 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Around the World [Parson Muir]

Unit Date Undated

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-7 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Meade's Virginia Families and Churches

Unit Date 1883

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-8 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Bishop Meade/Meade Family

Unit Date 1881-1882

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-9 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Mount Vernon

Unit Date 1882

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-10 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Washington Lodge

Unit Date Undated

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-11 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Washington City

Unit Date Undated

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-12 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Monroe Wedding

Unit Date 1820

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-13 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Trips to Ohio, 1830

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-14 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Maryatt, 1838

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-15 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Autumn, 1839. "William"

Unit Date Autumn 1839

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-16 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

[Summer], 1839

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-17 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

George D. Prentice [c. 1860-1865]

Unit Date Undated

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-18 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Oregon

Unit Date 1882 October 14

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-19 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

"The Swallow, Homeward Fly"

Unit Date Undated

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-20 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884

Musings

Unit Date Undated

Text 02 (Assorted Box)

Container 62-21 (folder)

Creator Mary Louisa Slacum Benham, 1802-1884