

Wills/Quimby Family Collection

Adams County Historical Society

Accession No(s): 2007.035

Home Location: Rm 203, Rack 7, Shelf F

PREFACE

The Adams County Historical Society was established to “foster interest in the history of Adams County and vicinity, conduct research, preserve records and objects, mark sites, and pursue such activities as may be related to the history of the community”. The Society’s collections are privately held, maintained, and made available to the public for research purposes at the discretion of the governing authority of the institution and its staff.

INTRODUCTION

The Joseph Berger Collection was acquired by the Adams County Historical Society in June of 2007 from Joseph Berger. The collection was processed in September of 2013 by John Lustrea. The collection is housed in two boxes.

ACCESS

This collection is open for research, and viewing access to the materials is unrestricted. However, restrictions apply concerning the use, duplication, or publication of items. Please consult research room staff for specific information regarding the Society’s policies.

PREFERRED CITATION

Wills/Quimby Family Collection, Adams County Historical Society, Gettysburg, PA.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The Wills house was the residence of David Wills, one of the wealthier Gettysburg residents at the time of the battle in 1863. It sits right on the town square between York and Baltimore Streets. After the battle, Wills began organizing the efforts to create what was to become the Gettysburg National Cemetery. His house played host to Abraham Lincoln, Edward Everett, Governor Curtin, and 35 other dignitaries on November 18, 1863. The next day the National Cemetery in Gettysburg was dedicated by several of Wills’ houseguests.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection is made up of books, pamphlets, and newspapers pertaining to the Wills house, Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address and time in the town, and the town of Gettysburg itself.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

Series I – Collection of postcards, letters, pencil sketches and recipes.

This series consists of several postcards, several books titled Lincoln & Gettysburg, A short story of the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1938 Reader's Digest, from the Civil War Times – Gettysburg, the Blumhaven Digest August 1956, the Dauphin County Historical Review – December 1954, several pencil drawings, letters, a list of wedding gifts and who gave them, a blank envelope from Jacobs Brothers, a Musical Center of Philadelphia, recipes for wine making and bread making.

Series II – Collection of postcards, letters, booklets, pictures and newspaper clippings.

This series consists of several postcards, letters, several newspaper articles, and pictures.

CONTAINER LISTING

Box #1

- 1-1 = Post cards.
- 1-2 = (nothing in folder)
- 1-3 = Book – Lincoln & Gettysburg.
- 1-4 = Book – A Short Story of the Battle of Gettysburg.
- 1-5 = Book – Readers Digest, July 1938.
- 1-6 = Book – Gettysburg (from the Civil War Times).
- 1-7 = Book – The Blumhaven Digest, August 1956.
- 1-8 = Book – The Dauphin County Historical Review, December 1954.
- 1-9 = Pencil sketches.
- 1-10 = Book – Lincoln at the Wills Home.
- 1-11 = Book – Biography of Abraham Lincoln, dated 1909, and booklet on Lutheran Church Work
And Observer, dated February 1916.
- 1-12 = Books – 2 on Lincoln and the Wills House.
- 1-13 = Several pictures on The Round Tops Summer.
- 1-14 = Postcard of the Wills house.
- 1-15 = Wedding guest list and gifts received.
- 1-16 = Letter about the Wills House.
- 1-17 = Blank envelope from the Jacobs Brothers Musical Center.
- 1-18 = Postcard of the Wills House.

1-19 = Recipes on wine making and bread/cake making.

1-20 = Letters to Mr. Wills on other people's deaths.

Box #2

1-1 = 2 small pictures of Lincoln with a Christmas greeting.

1-2 = Small prayer book, 1900 Calendar for quotations, newspaper clippings.

1-3 = Photo Albumn.

1-4 = A letter.

1-5 = An article written by Jennie Wills Quimby.

1-6 = Small articles on the Lincoln Room.

1-7 = A booklet on the Buena Vista Spring Hotel.

1-8 = Small newspaper clippings.

1-9 = Newspaper from the Adams Sentinel, November 1863.

1-10 = Letters to and from the Department of Interior.

1-11 = Newspaper articles (copies).

1-12 = Letters from the Department of Interior.

1-13 = A sort of genealogy on David Wills. Handwritten.

1-14 = Small newspaper articles.

1-15 = Newspaper article on Lincoln.

1-16 = List of Hymns and psalms.

1-17 = Copies of newspaper articles and a speech delivered by Rev. Mr. Campbell.

1-18 = Newspaper articles.

1-19 = Poems by Anne Campbell.

1-20 = Newspaper articles, marriage announcements.

1-21 = Newspaper articles & poems.

1-22 = Newspaper clippings.

1-23 = Photocopies pertaining to the Collection.

1-24 = Church programs.

1-25 = Letter to Blumhaven Library and Gallery.

1-26 = Newspaper Clippings, letters and photograph.

1-27 = Letters to the Dept. of Interior.