

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

A Guide to the Boyd Family Papers

Summary Information

Repository

Albany Institute of History & Art Library

Creator

Emma Boyd Ehrmann

Title

Boyd Family Papers

Identifier

MG 82

Date

1835-1978

Physical Description

6 boxes

Physical Location

The materials are located onsite in the Museum.

Language of the Material

English

Abstract

James Boyd (1742-1832) and Jane MacMaster Boyd (1751-1831) arrived in Albany, New York, from Scotland in 1774. In 1796, James founded the Arch Street Brewery, which would later become the Albany Brewing Company.

This collection contains correspondence, personal papers, and photographs.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Boyd Family Papers, 1835-1978, MG 82. Albany Institute of History & Art Library, Albany, New York.

Conditions Governing Access and Use

Restrictions on Access

None

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Accession: # unidentified

Accession Source/Date: Gift of the Estate of Emma Boyd Ehrmann, 1997

Processing Information

Processed by E. Corbett, August 1998; finding aid updated by H. Cox, June 2021.

Biographical/Historical

Members of the Boyd family have lived in Albany, New York since 1774, when James Boyd (1742-1832) and Jane MacMaster Boyd (1751-1831) arrived from Scotland. In 1796, James founded the Arch Street Brewery, which would ultimately become the Albany Brewing Company. The brewing business was passed down through generations of Boyds. In 1850, two of James Boyd's grandsons, John Scott (1820-1900) and David I. (1828-1891), renamed the growing company Boyd & Brother. In 1852, David I. Boyd

married Joanna March (1829-1887), the daughter of Alden March (1795-1869), a prominent Albany doctor and founder of Albany Medical College.

David and Joanna Boyd had six children, although only Elizabeth (1855-1916), Margaret Wood (1856-1921), Josephine March (1860-1897), and Alden March (1863-1945) survived past childhood. Both Josephine and Alden eventually moved out to California, where a large branch of the Boyd family remains today.

The donor of the collection, Emma Boyd Ehrmann, known as "Charlie," was the great-granddaughter of David I. Boyd

Scope and Contents

The Boyd Family papers span the period from 1835 to 1978, and contain personal papers, correspondence, and photographs of the Boyd and March families. The collection is divided into two series: Correspondence and Personal Papers and Photographs.

Correspondence and Personal Papers is arranged in two subseries: Correspondence and Personal Papers. The series contains a variety of records and documents belonging to the Boyd and March families. Included are correspondence of Alden Boyd, Joanna March Boyd and others, family birth records and obituaries, an example of Joanna March Boyd's writing, genealogical records, and miscellaneous papers including David I. Boyd's calling card, Alden March's passports, and a listing of the attendants at the wedding of Margaret Boyd Bush.

Photographs is arranged in three subseries: People, Places, and Miscellaneous Images. The series primarily contains portraits of Boyd family members, although others are included as well. Particularly well represented in the collection are Josephine March Boyd (1860-1897), wife of Allan Stuart Boyd (1860-1920), and her children, Stuart, Janet, Olive, and Scott. The subseries of Places holds photographs of the Boyd homes in California and Switzerland. From 1882 to 1884, J.M. Boyd (Joanna March or Josephine March?) traveled to Europe. J.M.'s photograph album, picturing scenes in France, Switzerland, Italy, and Germany, is in the collection. Although most of the photographs in the collection are identified, many are undated.

Contents List

The following section contains a listing of the materials in the collection.

Description	Box	Folder
Correspondence and Personal Papers, 1835-1978		
Correspondence		

Alden Boyd, undated	1	1
Alden and Joanna March Boyd, undated		2
Joanna March Boyd, [?] 1887, undated		3
Alden March, 1841-1842		4
March family, unidentified, 1835		5
William McBean, 1920		6
Personal Papers		
Allan Stuart Boyd, Birth Record, Draft of Obituary, Obituary 1888, 1971		7
Janet Boyd, Birth Certificate, Obituary, 1890, undated		8
Joanna March Boyd		
Albany Female Academy program of the thirty- fourth annual examination (two copies); Albany Argus extra [March won a gold medal award for her composition in French], 1847		9
"Reminiscences of an Old Man," 1847		10
Last Will and Testament [fragment, presumably Joanna March Boyd's], undated		11
Obituary, 1887		12
Josephine March Boyd, Obituary, 1897		13
Kate Bennett Boyd, Annual Christmas listings, 1902-1934		14
Archibald McClure Bush, Resolution by the Young Men's Association Upon His Death, 1877		15
Margaret [Irwin?], "The Story of Montrose," undated		16
Alden March, Passports, 1848, 1856		17
March/Boyd Families		
<i>The Boyds of Albany: Three Generations</i> , by Joanna B. Newton, 1978		18
Genealogical Information, undated		19
Miscellaneous March/Boyd Documents, 1877-1978, undated		20
<i>Noticas</i> , (bulletin of the Santa Barbara Historical Society) cover illustration is annotated in pencil with "my father charted this train to bring my mother to Los Olivos," 1971		21
Photographs, 1853-1931, undated		
People		
Elizabeth K. Boyd Allen (1855-1916)		
Two cased portraits of Allen as a child, undated	2	1
Cased portrait of Allen as a young woman, undated		2
Portrait in a footed frame, undated		3
James H. Armsby, framed		4
Alden March Boyd (1863-1945)		

With his wife, Margaret Elizabeth Alexander Boyd, at Rancho Los Olivios, undated		5
Portrait with his sister Josephine, framed, 1890		6
Allen Stuart Boyd, Jr. (1888-1971), in military uniform, undated	3	1
David I. Boyd (1828-1891)		
Cabinet Card by W. Kurtz, NYC; Carte De Visite, undated		2
Framed portrait at 25 years, circa 1853		3
David I. Boyd Family		
Group of miniature albumen portraits of family members mounted on paper, including David I. Boyd (1828-1891), Joanna March Boyd (1829-1887), and four unidentified family members, undated		4
Elisabeth Scott Boyd (1821-1900), Photograph of a miniature portrait painting, at 22 years		5
James Boyd (1742-1832), Two photographs of a painted portrait, framed, undated		6
J.M. Boyd, Photograph Album of European Tour, 1882-1884		7
Joanna March Boyd (1829-1887)		
Cabinet Card by W. Kurtz, NYC, undated;		8
Two portraits by Atelier Thiele, Dresden, 1883		
Framed portrait by Atelier Thiele, Dresden, 1883		9
John I. Boyd (1780-1856), Two photographs of an oil portrait, framed, undated		10
Josephine March Boyd (1860-1897)		
Carte de Visite by Wagoner, Albany, 1870;	4	1
Matted Tintype by Wood's Gen Gallery, Albany, 1868;		
Carte de Visite by Churchill & Denison, Albany, 1863;		
Carte de Visite by M. Nestler, Vevey, undated;		
Carte de Visite with dog by Cooks, Santa Barbara, undated;		
By Atelier Thiele, Dresden, 1883;		
Photograph cut into a circle, undated;		
Two (2) by Ormsby, Oakland, California, undated		
Josephine March Boyd and her children		
Two of Josephine with son Stuart (Allan Stuart), 1889;		2
Josephine with her children, undated;		
Boyd children (Scott, Olive, Janet, Stuart), undated		

Framed portrait of Josephine and children, undated		3-4
Kate Bennett Boyd, taken on Long Island, undated		5
Mary Grey Boyd (1853-1855) by Churchill & Denison, Albany, matted and framed, undated		6
Mary Scott Boyd (1783-1857)		
Framed portrait, undated		7
Portrait, undated;		8
Photograph of an oil portrait, undated		
Robert Boyd (1777-1867), Photograph of an oil portrait, undated		9
Robert and Marjory Boyd, undated		10
Sarah Root Boyd (1821-1897), framed, undated	5	1
Rev. Isaac Brayton		
Photograph of an oil portrait, framed, aged 24 years, undated;		2
Framed portrait, undated		
Dressed in cloak, framed, undated		3
"Brownie" [household staff], matted, undated		4
Margaret W. Boyd Bush (1856-1921)		
Two Cartes de Visite by Haines, Albany, undated;		5
Carte de Visite by Schemboche, Florence, undated;		
Cased Portrait, undated		
Framed portrait, undated		6
Framed portrait [on verso: Boyd-widowed at 22-on their/wedding trip-raised a whole/family of nieces and nephews), undated	6	1
Emma Boyd Ehrmann ("Charlie"), 1931		2
Mary S. Greet		
Portrait, by the Carbon Studio, undated		3
Framed portrait, by the Carbon Studio, undated		4
Unidentified		
Man in military uniform (possibly Alden M. Boyd?) by Carl Pietzner, Vienna, undated;		5
Man, by M.B. Brower Studio, Miami, undated;		
Woman, cabinet card by Horton, Albany, undated		
Children, girl, carte de visite by Churchill & Denison, Albany; boy, carte de visite by Horton, Albany; boy at rustic gate, tintype; boy seated on hassock, tintype, undated		6
Places		
Houses		
Mt. St. George Montecito, the Boyd's first home in California), with modern copy print, undated		7

Exterior scene, (on verso: "House where father and his family lived in Santa Barbara"), undated; Interior scene, (on verso: "Father's old house in El Bosque?"), undated	8
Postcards, French and Swiss (six), including one of Geneva, Switzerland (on verso: "Where we lived at Geneva, Suisse. AMB"), undated	9
Miscellaneous Images	
Unidentified photographs (five; people and buildings), undated	10