ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

A Guide to the Burdick Family Papers

Summary Information

Repository

Albany Institute of History & Art Library

Creator

Joel Burdick

Title

Burdick Family Papers

Identifier

MG 233

Date

circa 1850s - 1995

Physical Description 3 boxes

Physical Location

The materials are located onsite in the Museum.

Language of the Material English

Abstract

Joel W. Burdick accepted a position as a clerk with the D & H (Delaware and Hudson) Railroad Company in 1879, and moved with his wife to Albany, New York. He eventually rose to the position of passenger agent, and he and his wife traveled extensively throughout the United States and Canada.

This collection contains correspondence, newspaper clippings, and photographs.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Burdick Family Papers, circa 1850s-1995, MG 233. 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: # LIB 2012.15 Accession Source/Date: Donated by William B. Evans, April 2012

Processing Information

Processed by T. Ostrander, July 2013; finding aid updated by H. Cox, June 2021.

Biographical/Historical

In 1879, Joel W. Burdick took a job as a clerk with the D & H (Delaware and Hudson) Railroad at their Albany office. He and his second wife Ella, whom he had married the previous year, moved from their home in central New York to the Capital city. Burdick rose rapidly in the company, becoming manager of the railroad's telegraph system and then general passenger agent in 1885. As passenger agent, Burdick was responsible for all of the railroad's passenger services, a position that allowed him to purchase a large house in the Pine Hills neighborhood of west Albany.

The Burdicks traveled extensively throughout the United States and Canada, likely as a result of Joel's position with the D & H Railroad. In addition to destinations in the United States and Canada, the family also toured abroad. In 1922 and 1923, Joel and Ella traveled aboard the ship Franconia, the first passenger cruise ship to circumnavigate the globe. Joel Burdick later documented this trip around the world in his book *Our World Tour, 1922-23*.

Scope and Contents

The documents contained in this collection mainly revolve around Joel Burdick's personal life. The two largest portions of his personal life that are focused upon are his houses and his family. The primary formats of documentation are photographs, newspaper clippings, and correspondence, with the bulk of this material from between the 1890's and the 1920's.

The documents in this collection are organized into three boxes, the third of which is an oversize box. The first box contains correspondence, photographs, clippings, copies of documents, books, genealogy, and a videocassette. The second box contains a photo album containing pictures of the children of the Burdick and Evans family. The third box contains a family photograph of Joel Burdick and his wife, with their children and grandchildren in front of one of their houses, along with a photo album consisting of pictures of the Burdick family and their house in Albany.

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Photograph of Joel Burdick in Red Cross officers' uniform;	
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Photograph of Joel Burdick on his world tour at the Iron Pillar of Delhi,	
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Photograph of unidentified woman, signed Bachrach – 25-;	5
Portrait photograph of Joel Burdick;	
Photograph of unidentified woman, with copy;	
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Cartoon caricature of Joel Burdick in Albany newspaper, April 9, 1906,	
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Obituary of Joel Burdick, with copy;	
Copy of photograph of Joel Burdick in Red Cross officers' uniform;	
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Cross and their cline marticl,	

Document signed by Senior United States Circuit Judge Jos. Buffington to certify Joel Burdick as "one of the leading citizens of Pittsburgh;" Christmas and New Years' card from Mrs. Ella Pixley Burdick with picture of her Pittsburgh home on the front; Portrait photograph of Joel Burdick by Pirie MacDonald; Photograph of Joel Burdick at his daughter Marion's and his son-in-law Lewis Evans' camp on Route 9N between Elizabethtown and Keene, New York; Letters sent between Marion Burdick and Daniel Boone Evans, spanning from September 15, 1906 to December 15, 1915; Copy of photograph of Joel Burdick on his world tour at the Iron Pillar of Delhi, 1922-1923; Copy of pages 73, 81, 100, 101, 112, and 115 from Joel Burdick's book <i>Our World Tour: 1922-1923</i> ; Photograph of Ella Pixley Burdick on her world tour with Joel Burdick	
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