

Albany Institute of History & Art
Library

MG 82

BOYD FAMILY PAPERS

1835-1978

2.5 lin. ft., 6 boxes

- Series I. Correspondence and Personal Papers (1835-1978)
- Series II. Photographs (1853-1931)

August 1998

Biographical Note

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.

Further biographical information on, and family trees for, the Boyd family can be found in Joanna Newton's book, *The Boyds of Albany: Three Generations* (1978), copies of which can be found in box 1, folder 18 of this collection as well as in the McKinney Library's book collection.

Scope and Content Note

The Boyd Family papers span the period from 1835 to 1978, and contain records, correspondence and photographs of the Boyd and March families. The collection is divided into two series: Correspondence and Personal Papers and Photographs. The collection was donated to the Albany Institute of History & Art through the estate of Emma Boyd Ehrmann in 1997. Ehrmann, known as "Charlie," was the great-granddaughter of David I. Boyd. In addition to the manuscripts and photographs, Ehrmann also bequeathed five paintings (including portraits of Alden March, Joanna March and Joanna March Boyd), three prints, six drawings (by Margaret Boyd Bush), costumes, textiles, jewelry and personal items (walking stick, parasol, etc.) to the Institute's Curatorial Department (accession number 1997.45). Ehrmann's bequest of nine books have remained in the library but are incorporated within the main book collection; a listing of the books appears at the end of this finding aid

Series I. 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..

Series II. 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, such as "Brownie," a freed slave who is presumed to

have been a household staff member. A photograph of an oil portrait painting of James Boyd (1742-1832) illustrates the Albany Boyds' Scottish progenitor. 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. In 1882 to 1884, J.M. Boyd (Joanna March or Josephine March?) traveled to Europe (in fact, all of the Boyds and Marches were enthusiastic travelers). 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.

The Boyd Family Papers was processed by Elizabeth Corbett during the summer of 1998.

Box Folder

Series I. Correspondence and Personal Papers

Arranged in two subseries: Correspondence; and Personal Papers.

CORRESPONDENCE

1	1	Boyd, Alden	n.d.
	2	Boyd, Alden and Boyd, Joanna March	n.d.
	3	Boyd, Joanna March, presumably	1887, n.d.
	4	March, Alden	1841-42
	5	March family, unidentified	1835
	6	McBean, William	1920

PERSONAL PAPERS

	7	Boyd, Allan Stuart: birth record, draft of obituary, obituary	1888, 1971
	8	Boyd, Janet: birth certificate, obituary	1890, n.d.
		Boyd, Joanna March	
	9	Albany Female Academy program of the thirty-fourth annual examination (two copies); <i>Albany Argus</i> extra [March won a gold medal award for her composition in French]	1847
	10	"Reminiscences of an Old Man" 1847	
	11	Last will and testament [fragment, presumably Joanna March Boyd's] n.d.	
	12	Obituary	1887
	13	Boyd, Josephine March: obituary	1897
	14	Boyd, Kate Bennett: annual Christmas listings	1902-34

Box Folder

Series I. Correspondence and Personal Papers (cont.)

CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)

[1]	15	Bush, Archibald McClure: resolution by the Young Men's Association upon his death	1877
	16	[Irwin?], Margaret; "The Story of Montrose"	n.d.
	17	March, Alden: passports	1848, 1856
		March/Boyd families	
	18	<i>The Boyds of Albany: Three Generations</i> , by Joanna B. Newton	1978
	19	Genealogical information	n.d.
	20	Miscellaneous March/Boyd documents	1877-1978, n.d.
	21	<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

Series II. Photographs

Arranged in three subseries: People; Places; and Miscellaneous.

PEOPLE

Allen, Elizabeth K. Boyd (1855-1916)

2	22	Two cased portraits of Allen as a child	n.d.
	23	Cased portrait of Allen as a young woman	n.d.
	24	Portrait in a footed frame	n.d.
	25	Armsby, James H., framed	n.d.

Box Folder

Series II. Photographs (cont.)

PEOPLE (cont.)

Boyd, Alden March (1863-1945)

- | | | | |
|-----|----|--|------|
| [2] | 26 | With his wife, Margaret Elizabeth Alexander Boyd at Rancho Los Olivios | n.d. |
| | 27 | Portrait with his sister Josephine, framed | 1890 |
| 3 | 28 | Boyd, Allen Stuart Jr. (1888-1971), in military uniform | n.d. |

Boyd, David I. (1828-1891)

- | | | | |
|--|----|--|--------------|
| | 29 | Cabinet card by W. Kurtz, NYC
carte de visite | n.d.
n.d. |
| | 30 | Framed portrait at 25 years | ca.1853 |

Boyd, David I. family

- | | | | |
|--|----|---|---------|
| | 31 | 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 | n.d. |
| | 32 | Boyd, Elisabeth Scott (1821-1900): photograph of a miniature portrait painting, at 22 years | n.d. |
| | 33 | Boyd, James (1742-1832): two photographs of a painted portrait, framed | n.d. |
| | 34 | Boyd, J. M.: photograph album of European tour | 1882-84 |

Boyd, Joanna March (1829-1887)

- | | | | |
|--|----|---|--------------|
| | 35 | Cabinet card by W. Kurtz, NYC
Two portraits by Atelier Thiele, Dresden | n.d.
1883 |
| | 36 | Framed portrait by Atelier Thiele, Dresden | 1883 |

Box Folder

Series II. Photographs (cont.)

PEOPLE (cont.)

[3]	37	Boyd, John I. (1780-1856): two photographs of an oil portrait, framed	n.d.
		Boyd, Josephine March (1860-1897)	
4	38	Carte de visite by Wagoner, Albany	1870
		Matted tintype by Wood's Gen Gallery, Albany	1868
		Carte de visite by Churchill & Denison, Albany	1863
		Carte de visite by M. Nestler, Vevey	n.d.
		Carte de visite with dog by Cooks, Santa Barbara	n.d.
		By Atelier Thiele, Dresden	1883
		Photograph cut into a circle	n.d.
		Two (2) by Ormsby, Oakland, CA	n.d.
		see also box 2, folder 27	
		Boyd, Josephine March, and her children	
	39	Two of Josephine with son Stuart (Allan Stuart)	1889
		Josephine with her children	n.d.
		Boyd children (Scott, Olive, Janet, Stuart)	n.d.
	40	Framed portrait of Josephine and children	n.d.
	41	Framed portrait of Josephine and children	n.d.
	42	Boyd, Kate Bennett, taken on Long Island	n.d.
	43	Boyd, Mary Grey (1853-1855) by Churchill & Denison, Albany, matted and framed	n.d.
		Boyd, Mary Scott (1783-1857)	
	44	Framed portrait	n.d.
	45	Portrait	n.d.
		photograph of an oil portrait	n.d.

Box Folder

Series II. Photographs (cont.)

PEOPLE (cont.)

[4]	46	Boyd, Robert (1777-1867), photograph of an oil portrait	n.d.
	47	Boyd, Robert, and Marjory	n.d.
5	48	Boyd, Sarah Root (1821-1897), framed	n.d.
		Brayton, Rev. Isaac	
	49	Photograph of an oil portrait, framed, aged 24 years framed portrait	n.d. n.d.
	50	Dressed in cloak, framed	n.d.
	51	"Brownie" [household staff], matted	n.d.
		Bush, Margaret W. Boyd (1856-1921)	
	52	Two cartes de visite by Haines, Albany Carte de visite by Schemboche, Florence Cased portrait	n.d. n.d. n.d.
	53	Framed portrait	n.d.
6	54	Framed portrait [on verso: Boyd-widowed at 22-on their/wedding trip-raised a whole/family of nieces and nephews)	n.d.
	55	Ehrmann, Emma Boyd ("Charlie")	1931
		Greet, Mary S.	
	56	Portrait, by the Carbon Studio	n.d.
	57	Framed portrait, by the Carbon Studio	n.d.

Box Folder

Series II. Photographs (cont.)

PEOPLE (cont.)

Unidentified

[6]	58	Man in military uniform (possibly Alden M. Boyd?) by Carl Pietzner, Vienna	n.d.
		Man, by M. B. Brower Studio, Miami	n.d.
		Woman, cabinet card by Horton, Albany	n.d.

59	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	n.d.
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PLACES

Houses

60	Mt. St. George Montecito, the Boyd's first home in California), with modern copy print	n.d.
61	Exterior scene: (on verso: "House where father and his family lived in Santa Barbara") Interior scene: (on verso: "Father's old house in El Bosque?")	n.d. n.d.
62	Postcards, French and Swiss (six), including one of Geneva, Switzerland (on verso: "Where we lived at Geneva, Suisse. AMB")	n.d.

MISCELLANEOUS IMAGES

63	unidentified photographs (five; people and buildings)	n.d.
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BOYD FAMILY BOOKS

incorporated into the McKinney Library's main book collection.

A Brief Historical Notice of the Town of Ridgefield, Connecticut. Ridgefield: Village Improvement

Bull, Helen Louise, et al, compilers, *Julia Howard Bush* [memorial booklet]. [Troy, NY: 1962]

A Guide to Heidelberg and Its Environs. Heidelberg: Ernst Mohr, 1871. Front cover inscribed

Milton, John; *The Paradise Lost.* Edited by Rev. James Robert Boyd. New York: Baker and

Newton, Joanna B., *In Search of Dr. March* [a report of a trip to Albany Medical College in
Robertson, Charles A., A.M., M.D., *A Review of the Report Concerning the Last*
McNaughton, James, M.D., *Reply to Dr. C. A. Robertson's Review of the Report*

The Story of David Boyd [on the authority of Hester Boyd Jones, granddaughter of Mr. Boyd], n.d.

Thompson, James, *The Seasons. With Critical Observations of Various Authors on his Genius and*

Tribute to the Memory of Alden March, M.D., LL.D. Albany: Charles Van Benthuysen & Sons,

Wollman, Katherine Bard, compiler, *Western Drawings from the Sketchbooks of Margaret Boyd*