

**The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

**William Conrad Kopper and Serena Deas Murphy Center
Genealogical Research Files
1816-1986
MssCol NYGB 18125**

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March 2009**

**Revised by Kit Messick
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Summary

- Main entry:** Kopper, William Conrad
- Title:** William Conrad Kopper and Serena Deas Murphy Center genealogical research files, 1816-1986
- Size:** 3 linear feet (7 boxes)
- Source:** Gift of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 2008.
- Abstract:** The William Conrad Kopper and Serena Deas Murphy Center genealogical research files contain family papers and genealogical research pertaining to the Belknap, Center, Innes, Murphy, and allied families. Included in the collection are genealogical notes, pedigrees, genealogical charts, as well as original family documents such as wills, contracts, diaries, scrapbooks, and photographs.
- Access:** Advance notice required. Apply at <http://www.nypl.org/mssref>
- Preferred citation:** William Conrad Kopper and Serena Deas Murphy Center genealogical research files, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.
- Special formats** Deeds, Diaries, Financial records, Genealogies, Photographs, Scrapbooks, Wills

Related materials note

Belknap Family Papers, 1861-1960. The Winterthur Library, Henry Francis du Pont Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, DE

Biographical note

Belknap, Center, Innes, and Murphy were notable names in New England as early as the 17th century. Robert Lenox Belknap, the New York businessman most prominently represented in this collection, was a direct descendant of Abraham Belknap (d. 1643), an early settler in Salem, Massachusetts; and Joseph Belknap (1630-1712) of Boston. The Center and Innes families counted author Henry Livingston and Francis Lewis, signer of the Declaration of Independence, among their ancestors. Dr. Deas Murphy, father of Serena Deas Murphy Center, served as Chief of Surgery at St. Luke's Hospital, New York, N.Y.

Scope and content note

The William Conrad Kopper and Serena Deas Murphy Center genealogical research files contain family papers and genealogical research pertaining to the Belknap, Center, Innes, Murphy, and allied families. Included in the collection are genealogical notes, pedigrees, genealogical charts, as well as original family documents such as wills, contracts, diaries, scrapbooks, and photographs.

The family papers contain original documents such as correspondence, deeds, certificates, wills, and financial and legal records. New York businessmen and philanthropists Aaron Betts Belknap and his son Robert Lenox Belknap are prominently represented. Items of note include the Murphy family's Alabama war claims; Center family photographs including images of Robert Lenox Belknap's home and schooner; and diaries kept by an unidentified member of the Innes family.

Genealogical research concerning the Belknap, Center, Innes, Murphy and allied families consists of correspondence; notes; clippings; ancestral pedigrees; and ephemera. Material relating to family plots and crypts in a number of New York cemeteries and a copy of a "plan of vault in the New Dutch Church Yard, 1765" presented by W. C. Duyckinck are also included.

Arrangement note

The William Conrad Kopper and Serena Deas Murphy Center genealogical research files are organized in the following series:

- I. Family papers, 1816-1957
- II. General genealogical research, 1868-1986

Container list

I. Family papers, 1816-1957

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
		Belknap family, 1816-1955; undated
1	1	Correspondence, 1847-1898
	2	Ephemera, 1880-1955; undated Includes: Invitations, charts, family crests, and invitations.
	3	Financial records, 1816-1876 (Includes: Bond, mortgages, and receipts.)
	4	Legal records, 1831-1871 (Includes: Probates and deeds.)
	5	Notebooks, undated
	6	Photographs, undated
	7	Photographs of family letters, undated
	8	Transcripts of letters by Robert Lenox Belknap, undated
	9	Pedigree of Belknap family, undated
		Genealogical research, 1891-1976; undated
	10	Belknap, Maitland, 1940-1969; undated
	11	Financial records, 1916-1962; undated (Includes: Records pertaining to the Belknap Trust.)
2	1-6	General, 1891-1976; undated
		Center family, 1865-1957; undated
	7	Certificates, 1895-1898; 1913
	8	Legal records, 1897-1916; 1957 (Includes: Contracts and appraisals.)
	9	Photographs, 1865-1888; undated
	10	Scrapbook, 1898
	11-	Genealogical research, 1895; 1947-1974; undated
	12	
3	1-2	Genealogical research, 1895; 1947-1974; undated
	3	Ellison family documents, 1827-1849; undated
		Innes family, 1825-1903; undated
	4	Correspondence, 1890-1903; undated
	5-6	Diaries, undated
	7	Legal records, 1825-1888
		Genealogical research, 1902-1984; undated
4	1	Innes and Center, 1925-1976; undated
	2	Lloyd, McAlister, 1957-1978; undated
	3-5	General, 1902-1984; undated
		Murphy family, 1831-1932; undated
5	1	Alabama war claims, 1871-1887; undated
	2	Certificates, 1846; 1932 (Includes: Deas Murphy's Physician's license.)
	3	Correspondence, 1831-1931; undated
	4	Financial records, 1832-1900; undated Includes: Inventory lists and accounts of rents received.
	5	Legal records, 1903-1925; undated (Includes: Contracts and wills.)
		Genealogical research, 1894-1981; undated
	6	Murphy, Deas, 1905-1976; undated
	7	Murphy, Serena Deas, 1971; undated
	8	Murphy, Matt, undated
	9	Notebooks, undated
6	1-3	General
	4-5	Allied families, General, 1982; undated

II. General genealogical research, 1868-1986

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
		Cemeteries, 1868-1986; undated
7	1	Greenwood Cemetery, undated
	2	New York City Marble Cemetery, 1930-1986; undated
	3	Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, 1896-1982; undated (Includes: 1896 deed to burial plot, maps.)
	4	Trinity Cemetery, 1938-1986; undated
	5	Woodlawn Cemetery, 1868-1978; undated
X-17		<i>Plan of vault in the New Dutch Church Yard, 1765</i> , undated
	6	Clippings, undated
	7	Heraldry, 1969; undated
	8	New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1968-1977
	9	New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 1944-1984; undated