Guide to the Anthony J. Griffin Papers
Manuscripts and Archives Division
New York Public Library
Accession # *86 M 49

Title ANTHONY J. GRIFFIN. Papers.

Approximate inclusive dates 1885-1935, bulk dates 1910-1930

Date of receipt April 1935

Received from Mrs. Katherine Griffin

Volume on arrival 4 crates, 10 tin boxes

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 13 AB, 7 RC, 5 FB (14 linear feet)

Condition good (some carbons brittle)

Restrictions none

Description see attached sheets

Special Formats x\(\)Photographs \(\square\)Maps \(\square\)Audio Tapes \(\square\)Films \(\square\)Graphics

\(\times\)Artifacts \(\square\)Machine-readable records

\(\times\)Other (list) negatives, drafting tools

Temporary catalog card added entries

Bryan, William Jennings

Prohibition

Diaries

Roosevelt, Franklin Delano

Emigration and immigration law

Submarine

Accessioned by CRK

rescue vehicles

Legal documents

Taxation

Date 6-17-86

New York City - Politics
Anthony J. Griffin (1866-1935) was a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the Bronx and Harlem from 1918 until his death in 1935. A captain in the New York Volunteers, he served in the Spanish American War, 1898-1899, practiced law in the Bronx throughout his Congressional career, was founder and editor of the *Bronx Independent* in 1906, and served four terms as New York State Senator from 1911-1915. He was elected to the House seat held by Henry Bruckner in a special election, and throughout his career was a staunch and loyal Democrat (though supported by both Republicans and Democrats in his district). He was however relatively untouched by the Tammany Hall scandals that characterized Democratic party politics in New York City at the time of his career. While in the House, he served on the Appropriations Committee, was an advocate of a "gross income tax", supported the repeal of the Volstead Act (Prohibition) and sponsored legislation liberalizing restrictive immigration laws and quotas (the Griffin Bill). A graduate of Cooper-Union in New York City, before embarking upon his legal studies, Griffin remained an inventor throughout his life, patenting several inventions for improving submarine safety. Also an amateur author, he wrote poetry, drama and short fiction, publishing several titles, including *Chaos*, an epic poem.
The Anthony J. Griffin Papers are composed of 11 principal series: correspondence, 1885-1935; Legal Records, 1885-1930; Writings, 1887-1935; Diaries, 1886-1930; Notes and Notebooks, 1883-1934; Military and Patent Records; Political Papers; Financial Records; Personal Memorabilia; Graphic Materials; and Printed Matter. The correspondence is largely related to Griffin's political activities: a significant portion of the material relates to his election and re-election campaigns - meetings with constituents, arrangements for speeches, events, and election paraphernalia (buttons, banners, etc.). The remainder of the correspondence addresses his legislative and political concerns, such as compulsory arbitration in labor disputes, monetary and tax policy, immigration law, the repeal of the Volstead Act (Prohibition), and the "Red Scare" of the 1920s. There are also many letters from constituents needing aid in immigration matters, as well as some personal correspondence. Correspondents include William Jennings Bryan, John Nance Garner, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Rosika Schwimmer.

The Legal Papers include case files, estate files and title abstracts (a separate list is appended to this accession record). Griffin's Writings consist of manuscript and typescript drafts of unpublished poems, plays and stories, and manuscript and typescript versions and galley proofs of his self-published epic poem Chaos. The Diaries and Notes and Notebooks include Griffin's observations on many subjects, both personal and related to his professional activities, in addition to subject files on topics relevant to his legislative concerns and a card file of correspondents for the 1930 Congressional session. The Military and Patent Records concern his military service, and endeavors in submarine safety (separate listing appended); the Political Papers are a combination of printed matter, notes and memoranda (separate listing appended). Griffin's Financial Records are his accounts from 1887 to 1934.
The Personal Memorabilia includes his drafting tools from his student days, a special Congressional Passport, calling cards, invitations and menus, while the Graphic Materials include personal photographs, negatives, prints, the original paintings used to illustrate *Chaos*, and several maps. Finally, the Printed Matter includes reprints, government manuals, and clippings.
Box  | Contents
--- | ---
1  | Correspondence
   | 1885-1913
   | 1914-1919
   | 1926-1919
   | 1930-1932
   | 1933-1935, N.D.
6  | Legal Records (separate listing available)
   | Case Files
   | A-M
   | M-T, Sickles et al.
   | Estates
8  | Land Titles
   | A-P
   | Dempsey, Joseph
   | Falvella, Augusta
   | Sickles, George
9  | Land Titles
   | A-P
   | S-W
   | Unsorted Legal Records
10-11 | Legal Records (separate listing available)
12  | Writings
   | Books
   | Articles
13  | Poetry
   | Fiction
   | Drama
   | Speeches
14-15 | Diaries
16  | Notebooks and Notes
   | Notebooks
   | Notes
   | Index Cards
17  | Military and Patent Records
   | (separate listing available)
18  | Political Papers
   | (separate listing available)
Anthony J. Griffin Papers
Container Listing - Continued

Box 22

Contents
Financial Records
Accounts

Personal Memorabilia
Calling Cards
Invitations
Menus
Drafting tools

Graphic Materials
Photographs
Maps
Prints
Drawings

Printed Matter
Clipping Books
Congressional reprints
Unsorted printed material
Listing of Legal Papers - Estates section

Estates, "A" - "J"

Bagioli, Eliza C., 1894-99 (2 folders)
Boland, John P., 1902 (folder)
Brennam, Edward, 1919 (folder)
Broderick, Stephen, also known as Stephen Buratovich, 1917 (folder)
Clark, Julia, 1899-1902 (folder)
Coakley, Edward, 1907-09 (folder)
Coakley, Patrick, 1907-10 (folder)
Connor, Catherine, 1915-16 (folder)
Crosson, John, 1921 (folder)
Curtin, Michael D., 1916 (folder)
Davis, Thomas F., [1917] (folder)
Bretz, Clara, 1914 (folder)
[Falvella, Augusta, 1902-06, 1902-06] - SEE: box# (folder)
Gamble, Frank A., 1890 (folder)
Giles Family - Abstract of title to 176 Canal Street, New York City, c.1890. (folder)
Hellrung, Adam Bernhard, 1893-94 (folder)
Judge, Mary, 1917-18 (folder)

Estates, "K" - "T"

Karow, Herman J., 1916 (folder)
Kennedy, James, 1912-16 (5 folders)
McArdle, Henry J., 1911 (folder)
McCort, Sarah, 1895 (folder)
McKinstry, Elizabeth E., 1928 (folder)
O'Hagan, Arthur, 1892 (folder)
Pollock, Julia, 1907-09 (folder)
Quinn, Bridget, 1924-30 (4 folders)
Rossseau (sic), Charlotte Francoese (sic), 1916 (folder)
[Sickles, George G., 1887-1907] - SEE: box # (folder)
Troontaieff (sic), Pancratieff (sic), 1913-14 (folder)
Truelsen, Hans F.N., 1916 (folder)

Estates,-Eugene Joseph Dempsey,11918-32
Records of preliminary investigation (11 folders)
Legal records, 1931-32 (11 folders)
Accounting, 1931-32 (11 folders)
Correspondence, 1918-32 (11 folders)

Estates,-Augusta Falvella, 1902-06
Corresp. & papers, 1902-06 (4 folders)

Estates,-George G. Sickles, 1887-1907 (9 folders)
Anthony J. Griffin Papers
Supplemental Listing - continued
(revised inventory)

Listing of Legal Papers - Land Titles

Land Titles, "A" - "G"

Title of Antonio Bagioli, to 119 Mercer Street, N.Y.C., 1850 (C)
Title of Francis Bossung (Boysong) to 148½ East 40th St., N.Y.C., 1909
In the matter of acquiring title to Cruger Avenue, Bronx, N.Y.C., 1914-22 (3 folders)
Title of Tomas Cubucci to a lot of land on Pelham Road in the City and County of New York, 1900
Title of William Dunn to 476 Cherry Street, N.Y.C., 1893
Title of Benedickt (sic) Fischer to certain lots in Englewood, Bergen County, N.J., 1896
Title of Benedickt Fischer to 211-13, 215 West 32nd St. and 21¼ West 33rd St., N.Y.C., 1897
Title of Mrs. Maria C. Fossa to 649 Union St., Bklyn, New York, 1903
Title of Annie M. Glover to a lot in Williamsbridge, N.Y.C., 1894-95
Title of Green Shrier and Co. to lots on East 77th St., 1907

Land Titles, Griffin, A.J., etc.

Title of Anthony J. Griffin to 891 Cauldwell Ave, N.Y.C., 1908 (2 folders)
Title of Anthony J. Griffin to house and lot at 2346 Aqueduct Ave, N.Y.C., 1909
Title of Anthony J. Griffin to 8 acres of land at Bohemia in the township of Islip, Suffolk Co., N.Y., 1897-1906
Title of James Harvey Griffin to 506 West 26th St., N.Y.C., 1904-05
Title of Joseph T. Griffin to 6 lots on Coney Island Ave, in the 31st Ward of the Borough of Bklyn, 1908
Title of Lulu A. Martin Griffin (Mrs. Gerald S. Griffin) to 374 Grand St., N.Y.C., 1879
Title of Lulu Alexina Griffin and Gerald S. Griffin to 326 East 120th St., N.Y.C., 1893-1910
Title of property at 151 Mercer St., N.Y.C. which was exchanged by Gerald and Lulu Griffin for property at 6 West 102nd St., N.Y.C. which was owned by Philip Braender, 1897
Title of Mary A. and Susan A. Griffin to 111 Clymer St., Brooklyn, N.Y., 1902
Title of Susie and Sarah Griffin to 2042 East 8th St., Brooklyn, N.Y., 1907-08

Land Titles, H-P
Title of Daniel F. Higgins to 741 Greenwich St., N.Y.C., 1903 Jun. 11 (2 folders)
Title of Daniel J. Hurley to 447 77th St., Brooklyn, N.Y., 1909
Title of Mayer Lefkowitz to 133 Madison St, N.W.C., 1898
A.J. Griffin - listing of Legal Papers - Land Titles
Supplemental Listing - continued

(cont'd.)
Title of Henry Muller to premises on south side of 159th St, 250 ft. west of Elton Ave, N.Y.C., c.1897
Title of Henry Muller, Sr. to premises 80.54 ft. east of northeast corner of Brook Ave. and 162nd St., Bronx, 1898 Apr. 7
Title of Mary Muller (Mrs. Henry Muller) to lots in Bedford, Westchester Co., N.Y., 1899-1910 (3 folders)
Title of John Paul to a lot of land on the west side of Third Ave or Old Boston Road between 156th and 157th Streets in N.Y.C., 1877.
Title of Angelo Fedevillano to two lots in Passaic, N.J., 1900-03
Title of lots in Hollis Heights, Jamaica, Queens Co., N.Y. which were bought by Ferdinand Petruschak from Ferdinand Sievers in exchange for personal property of the Tremont Brewery at Tremont, Pennsylvania, 1910
Title of Daniel Phelan to 40 lots of land in the 9th Ward of Brooklyn, Kings Co., N.Y., 1856, May 15.

Land Titles, S-W
Title of John Sheridan to 1243 and 1245 Tinton Ave, N.Y.C., 1895
Title of Daniel E. Sickles to 7 Hubert St. & 418 Cherry St., N.Y.C., 1893
Title of George G. Sickles to lot on the northeasterly corner of Ewen St. & Deval St., Williamsburg, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Title of George S. Sickles to the Flanagan or Rose of Sharon Farm in New Rochelle, Westchester Co, N.Y., 1878
Title of Mrs. Leah Solomon & Mrs. Sarah Eisenberg to 134½ Monroe St, N.Y.C., 1892-93
Title of Franz Voellmeke to premises situated on the south side of 88th St. distant 275 easterly from Ave. A in N.Y.C.
Title of Wilhemina Wackenreuter to 10 acres of land in Middletown, Staten Island, Richmond Co., N.Y., 1885 Aug. 25
Title to lots 97 and 112 in Yonkers, N.Y. and to lots on Brook Ave. in the 23rd Ward, N.Y.C., 1895-98
A. J. Griffin Papers - listing of Legal Papers - Miscellaneous

Legal Papers - Miscellaneous

1899 - Manhattan Fireproof Stabling - certificate of incorporation

1900-03 - Papers in re Sebastiano Ranno's application for a patent for an improvement in composition and process for the manufacture of artificial stone

1902-09 - Papers as counsel for the Griffin Roofing Co.

1903, Apr. 10 - Agreement between Ernest L. Tschantre and Joseph T. Griffin for the sale of Tschantre's interest in an invention for the purpose of giving illusion of a trip to the center of the earth.

1906 - New York Vacant Lot Cultivation Assoc. - certificate of incorporation

1907 - Independence Publishing Co. - certificate of incorporation [A. J. Griffin served as director]


1908 - Papers relative to the adjustment of fire loss on property of Susie and Sarah Griffin at 2042 East 8th St, Brooklyn, N.Y.

1909-14 - Miscellaneous papers

1910-11 - Pan American Lumber Milling Co. [A.J. Griffin served as director and treasurer of the company]

1914-16 - Papers as counsel for X. Y. Z. Audit Co.

1925-24 - Milano Specialty Corporation

1925 - In re encroachment of Max Michaelson on the boundary of Mrs. Assunta Carnesale's land on the N.W. corner of Clay Ave and East 174th St., Bronx

Memoranda relative to legal services rendered to Margaret Nast, formerly Mrs. Margaret Kopeky, nee Margaret Nagengast

no date - Contract between A.J. Griffin and Sebastiano relative to the organization of the American Brirce Co. [fragment]

no date - Legal forms
Military Papers / Patent Papers

Military Papers

By-Laws of Companies "B", "C", and "F", 69th Regiment, National Guard of the State of New York
Enlistment papers of Company "F", 69th Regiment, National Guard of the State of New York
Map of practice march and field movements of 3rd Batt., 69th N.Y.V.I. under direction of Maj. Ed. T. McCrystal, 1899, Jan. 4
Miscellaneous, 1898-1914
Newspaper clippings
Notes
The "National Guard" Roll Book, 1898-99
Old Guard Camp No. 19, United Spanish War Veterans Veterans Corps, 69th Regiment, Inc., 1919-25

Patent Papers

1899, Apr. Plan for a steel monitor's turret accompanied by drawings.
1890, Sept. 8. A device to check the descent of an Incline Railway Carriage. Description & drawings.
1905, Jul. 12. Grappling safety rings for submarines
1906?. Submarine safety chamber
1910, May 24. Submarine vessel. Letters patent no. 958,742
1914, Jul. 21. Submarine boat. Letters patent no. 1,103,958
n.d. Submarine. Letters patent, 271, 725 (fragments)
n.d. Calculations for submarines
n.d. Composite roof covering
n.d. Miscellaneous inventions
Miscellaneous Political Papers (arranged chronologically)

1. Election returns, NY. State and City, 1896-1908
2. Democratic Party, 35th A.D. (Bronx) - list of names for member of the Democratic County General Committee, etc.
3. Proposed primary ballot, 1904
4. Note on the Democratic platform of 1908, 1908
5. Memorandum for Democratic Convention, 1910
6. Certificate of election as Senator of the 22nd District of N.Y., 1910 Dec. 15
7. Official ballots for 2nd Election District, 35th A.D., Co. of N.Y., 1911, 1914
8. Bills introduced by Griffin in Senate, State of New York (printed), 1912-13
9. Notes on arbitration between capital and labor made by Griffin while chairman of the Committee on Labor and Industry, New York State Senate
10. Independent League Party - Minutes of meeting of the 22nd Senatorial District 1912, Aug. 25 County of New York
11. Cert. of the Bd. of Election, N.Y.C. certifying Griffin's nomination as candidate for State Senator, 22nd District, County of New York, 1913, Sept. 21
13. Democratic Fusion Committee of One Hundred and Seventy, 1917
15. Non-Partisan Congressional League 22nd District, N.Y.C. - list of officers & members [1918?]
16. United States Food Administration Campaign, N.Y.C., [1918?]
17. Election returns at Special Election, 22nd Cong. Dist, N.Y.C., 1918, Mar. 5
18. House Joint Resolution, 66th Cong., 1st Session, introduced by Griffin, 1919
19. Record of speeches and votes by Griffin in Hse. of Rep., 1918-20, 1920
20. Election returns, 22nd Congressional Dist, N.Y.C., 1920, Nov. 2
21. Voting record in Hse. of Rep., 1920, Dec. 6-23
22. Election returns, 22nd Cong. Dist, N.Y.C., 1928
23. Association against the Prohibition Amendment, 1927
25. Garner Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution to repeal the 18th amendment 1932, Dec. 5
Miscellaneous Political Papers (cont'd)

26. Political addresses by various persons 1930-33
27. Resolutions and bills introduced by A.J. Griffin in HSe of Rep., 1931-34
29. The Griffin Bill to amend the naturalization laws [H.R. 297], 1932
30. Annotations on issue of The New York Times containing F.D.R's speech acceptance speech at Democratic Convention 1932, Jul. 3
31. Preamble and rules adopted by the Democratic Caucus, 1933
32. Proposed bills for levying a surtax of $1 on each $1000 of assessed valuation on certain lands.