



**State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives**

Clarkson Family Papers, 1779-1947

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:

Clarkson, Thomas A.

Inclusive Dates:

1779-1947, bulk 1868-1916

Scope & Content:

Consists of approximately 335 items, including 135 photographs, and spans the years 1779-1947. The bulk of the collection covers the years 1868 to 1916. A large part of the collection centers on the fund-raising efforts to build a monument in the memory of Sam Davis, who was hanged at Pulaski, Tennessee, after being convicted as a spy for the Confederate Army. Some of the correspondence belongs to Mr. T. A. Clarkson, who was associated with the Nashville and Decatur Railroad, and later with the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railroad.

Also included in the collection are various items associated with the Tennessee Centennial Exposition, such as programs, passes, an account book for the admissions department, memorabilia, charter and by-laws for the Centennial Exposition of Tennessee, and other items. Other subjects addressed in the collection are the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railroad, the John W. Thomas Monument at what is now Centennial Park, and the tributes paid to Major E. C. Lewis.

The collection also includes numerous photographs featuring subjects such as the Christ Episcopal Church and the First Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tennessee; The Hermitage in Hermitage, Tennessee; the statue of Andrew Jackson at the State Capitol; the summer home of Bishop E. E. Hoss; railroad scenes; scenes of Nashville; identified and unidentified individuals, as well as several miscellaneous photographs. The collection also holds several World War II service pins.

Physical Description/Extent:

1.5 cubic feet

Accession/Record Group Number:

90-258; 683

Language:

English

Permanent Location:

ASRS

Repository:

Tennessee State Library and Archives, 1001 Rep. John Lewis Way North,
Nashville, Tennessee, 37219-1115

Administrative/Biographical History

The Clarkson Family Papers, 1779-1947, focus on Thomas A. Clarkson, who was involved with the fund-raising efforts for the statue of Sam Davis in Smyrna, Tennessee. Thomas A. Clarkson was born around 1872 in North Carolina. By 1920, he lived in Nashville, Tennessee, and was married to Sarah E. Clarkson. Their son, Thomas A. Clarkson, Jr., was born in 1911. By 1940, Thomas A. Clarkson had remarried to Bessie W. Clarkson. Clarkson was a secretary for various railroads including the North Pacific Coast Railroad and Linman Railroad.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

Arranged alphabetically by document type.

Conditions of Access and Use**Restrictions on Access:**

No restrictions.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

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item is still protected under current copyright law. Users are solely responsible for determining the existence of such instances and for obtaining any other permissions and paying associated fees that may be necessary for the intended use.

Index Terms

Personal/Family Names:

Clarkson family
Clarkson, T. A., active 1908-1947
Davis, Sam, 1842-1863
Hoss, E. E. (Elijah Embree), 1849-1919
Lewis, Eugene Castner, 1845-1917
Thomas, John Wilson, 1830-1906

Corporate Names/Organizations/Government Bodies:

Christ Episcopal Church (Nashville, Tenn.)
First Presbyterian Church (Nashville, Tenn.)
Moore Memorial Presbyterian Church (Nashville, Tenn.)
Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad Company
Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway
Nashville & Northwestern Railroad Company
YMCA of the USA

Subjects:

Tennessee Centennial and International Exposition (1897: Nashville, Tenn.)

Geographic Names:

Davidson County (Tenn.) -- History -- Sources
Hermitage (Hermitage, Tenn.) -- History -- Sources
Nashville (Tenn.) -- History -- Sources
New York (State) -- History -- Sources
Tennessee -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
Smyrna (Rutherford County, Tenn.) -- History -- Sources
Sumner County (Tenn.) -- History -- Sources

Document Types:

Accounts
Account books
Advertisements
Booklets
Bulletins

Church records
Clippings (information artifacts)
Correspondence
Coupons
Deeds
Envelopes
Invitations
Leaflets (printed works)
Legal documents
Memorabilia
Official reports
Photographs
Postcards
Programs (documents)
Speeches (documents)
Tributes

Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition:

Adlen C. Clarkson of Franklin, Tennessee, donated the collection to the Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Processing and Administrative Information

Preferred Citation:

Clarkson Family Papers, 1779-1947, Tennessee State Library and Archives.

Processing Information:

Processed by Nancy C. Norfleet and Mary Bell in October 11, 1990.
Updated by Kimberly Mills in 2008. Finding aid reformatted by Catherine Colbran, January 2021.

Existence and Location of Copies:

Mf. 1906

DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

CONTAINER LIST

Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Folder
Account books -- Admissions Department -- Tennessee Centennial	1897	1	1
Accounts -- Bills, notes and receipts	1868-1909	1	2
Accounts -- Bills, notes and receipts -- John W. Thomas Monument	undated	1	3
Advertisements -- Theatre Vendome	undated	1	4
Associations, institutions, etc. -- Centennial Expositions Company of Tennessee -- Charter and By-laws	1896	1	5
Associations, institutions, etc. -- Commercial Club of Nashville	March 1, 1919	1	6
Associations, institutions, etc. -- <i>Tennessee Mason</i> , Newsletter	November, 1919	1	7
Church records -- Bulletin -- Moore Memorial Presbyterian Church	November 2, 1919	1	8
Church Records -- Covenant -- First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Nashville, Tenn.	undated	1	9
Clippings -- <i>The American</i> -- Centennial Executive Committee	December 14, 1900	1	10
Clippings -- Sam Davis Memorial	1908-1952	1	11
Clippings -- <i>The Evening Journal</i> , Nashville, Tenn.	February 24, 1883	1	12
Clippings -- Lewis, E. C.	1913	1	13
Clippings -- Miscellaneous	undated	1	14
Clippings -- Tennessee Centennial	1901	1	15
Clippings -- Thomas, John W. Monument	undated	1	16
Correspondence -- Anderson-Byrne	undated	1	17
Correspondence -- Cabaret-Curry	undated	1	18
Correspondence -- Day-Hughes	undated	1	19
Correspondence -- Jennings-Kennedy	undated	1	20
Correspondence -- Lee-Nicolson	undated	1	21
Correspondence -- Patterson-Zolnay	undated	1	22
Envelopes -- Miscellaneous	undated	1	23
Invitations -- Executive Committee -- Tennessee Centennial Park	1910-1911	1	24
Invitations -- Unveiling of John W. Thomas statue - Centennial Park	November 24, 1907	1	25

Land records -- Abstract of Title -- Original plan -- Nashville, Tenn., Lot No. 133	undated	1	26
Land records -- Deed -- McComb, James W. to John Thompson	May 18, 1857	1	27
Legal documents -- Contract -- Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad Co. and Memphis and Charleston Railroad Company	June 1, 1858	1	28
Lists -- Addresses -- Names and states	undated	1	29
Maps, charts, etc. -- Floor plan -- The Polk, Nashville, Tenn.	undated	1	30
Memorabilia -- Service Pins -- Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad	undated	1	31
Memorabilia -- Tennessee Centennial Exposition -- New York	May 1-October 31, 1897	1	32
Minutes -- Stockholders -- Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad Company	December 15, 1852	2	1
Passes -- Tennessee Centennial Exposition, Nashville, Tenn.	1897	2	2
Postcards -- The Parthenon -- The Capitol, Nashville, Tenn.	undated	2	3
Prints and drawings -- Miscellaneous	undated	2	4
Printed materials -- Booklet -- <i>Picturesque Tennessee: Monteagle Tennessee Springs, Tenn.</i>	undated	2	5
Printed materials -- Bulletins -- <i>Amusement Mirror</i>	September 28, 1902	2	6
Printed materials -- Catalogs -- <i>Gray's Canadian Catalogue</i>	undated	2	7
Printed materials -- Circular -- Harry Lauder	undated	2	8
Printed materials -- Leaflet -- St. Mary's on the Mountain	1919	2	9
Reports -- Taxable property -- Tennessee	undated	2	10
Sketches -- "The Development of Civic Improvement in Tennessee"	undated	2	11
Printed materials -- Newsletter -- <i>Nashville Railway and Light Company Weekly</i>	May-Nov. 1907	2	12
Printed materials -- Pamphlet -- Presidential Election	1896	2	13
Printed materials -- Publication -- Masonic Theater	December 27, 1896	2	14
Printed materials -- Publication -- "Before Railroads..." -- The Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway	undated	2	15
Printed materials -- Coupons -- <i>The Independent</i>	undated	2	16
Printed materials -- Publication -- YMCA -- "Better Nashville"	November 19, 1911	2	17

Printed materials -- Publication -- <i>The Visitor</i>	November 19, 1911	2	18
Programs -- Father and Son Dinner -- “The Lad-Dad Special”	February 2, 1918	2	19
Programs -- Tennessee Centennial Exposition	undated	2	20
Programs -- Tennessee Centennial Exposition, Nashville, Tenn.	May 1-October 31, 1897	2	21
Programs -- Thomas, John W. Statue -- Unveiling - Centennial Park, Nashville Tenn.	undated	2	22
Reports -- City Council of Nashville -- Nashville and Northwestern Railroad Company	1859	2	23
Speeches, addresses, etc. -- Tennessee Centennial Executive Committee Annual Dinner	undated	2	24
Speeches, addresses, etc. -- Opening of Tennessee Centennial	1897	2	25
Speeches, addresses, etc. -- Lewis, E. C. to Executive Committee of Tennessee Exposition Company	December 13, 1909	2	26
Speeches, addresses, etc. -- Unveiling of Sam David Monument	undated	2	27
Speeches, addresses, etc. -- Notes -- Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railroad Company	undated	2	28
Speeches, addresses, etc. -- Payne, Bruce R. -- “George Peabody”	February 18, 1916	2	29
Speeches, addresses, etc. -- Tennessee Centennial	undated	2	30
Tributes -- Sam Davis Monument	undated	2	31
Photographs -- Andrew Jackson Statue, Nashville, Tenn.	approximately 1895	3	1
Photographs -- Christ Episcopal Church, Nashville, Tenn.	undated	3	2
Photographs -- First Presbyterian Church, Nashville Tenn.	undated	3	3
Photographs -- Miscellaneous	undated	3	4
Photographs -- Nashville, Tennessee	approximately 1895	3	5
Photographs -- Nashville, Tennessee	approximately 1917	3	6
Photographs -- People -- Identified	1887-1894	3	7
Photographs -- People -- Unidentified	undated	3	8
Photographs -- Railroads	undated	3	9
Photographs -- Summer home of Bishop E. E. Hoss	undated	3	10
Photographs -- The Hermitage, Nashville, Tenn.	undated	3	11