John Austin Moon Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2011

Contact information: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79033282

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012050

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Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2012

Collection Summary

Title: John Austin Moon Papers
Span Dates: 1832-1921
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1860-1921)
ID No.: MSS33282
Creator: Moon, John Austin, 1855-1921
Extent: 50 items
Extent: 10 containers plus 1 oversize
Extent: 2.5 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79033282
Summary: Lawyer, jurist, and U.S. representative from Tennessee. Correspondence and petitions relating to statehood for the Indian Territory, 1902; merchant ledgers belonging to Austin M. Appling, Moon's grandfather, from Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Bristol, Virginia; and newspaper clippings concerning Moon's political campaigns and the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People
Appling, Austin M. (Austin Maurice), 1794- Austin M. Appling account ledgers. 1832-1862.
Moon, John Austin, 1855-1921.

Organizations
Chattanooga (Tenn.). City Attorney.
Dodson & Moon.
Hawaii. Organic Act.
Tennessee. Supreme Court.
United States. Congress. House. Committee on Post Office and Post Roads.
United States. Post Office Department.

Subjects
Federal aid to transportation.
Indians of North America--Government relations.
Law--United States--Territories and possessions.
Merchants--Virginia--Bristol.
Parcel post--United States.
Postal service--United States.
Practice of law--Tennessee--Chattanooga.
Public works--Tennessee River Valley.
Roads--United States.

Places
Bristol (Va.)--Commerce.
Chattanooga (Tenn.)--Commerce.
Circuit courts--Tennessee.
Indian Territory--Politics and government.
Tennessee--Politics and government.
United States--Politics and government--1865-1933.
United States--Territories and possessions.

Occupations

Judges.
Lawyers.
Representatives, U.S. Congress--Tennessee.

Provenance

The papers of John Austin Moon, lawyer, jurist, and U.S. representative from Tennessee, were given to the Library of Congress by his daughter, Anna Mary Moon, in 1936 and 1948.

Processing History

The papers of John Austin Moon were bound by the Library of Congress in 1950. In 1948 Moon's daughter, Anna Mary Moon, removed select newspaper clippings and other matter for return to the family. Penciled notes by her mark the location of each item removed. The finding aid was revised in 2005 and in 2011.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of John Austin Moon is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of John Austin Moon are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, John Austin Moon Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1855, Apr. 22	Born near Charlottesville, Va.
1857	Moved to Bristol, Va.
1870	Moved to Chattanooga, Tenn.
circa 1872	Attended King College, Bristol, Tenn.
1874	Admitted to Tennessee bar; commenced law practice in Chattanooga, Tenn
1880	Democratic nominee for General Assembly of Tennessee
1881-1882	City attorney, Chattanooga, Tenn.
1884	Married Adeline McDowell Deaderick
1888	Member, executive committee, Democratic Party of Tennessee
1897-1921	Represented Tennessee in the United States House of Representatives
1900	Delegate, Democratic National Convention
1921, June 26	Died, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of John Austin Moon (1855-1921) span the years 1832-1921, with the bulk of the material dating from 1860 to 1921. Moon, a city attorney for Chattanooga, Tennessee, circuit court judge, and United States representative from Tennessee, collected newspaper clippings concerning much of his career which he mounted into scrapbooks. The Library of Congress bound loose papers of similar nature included with the scrapbooks; the result is a collection containing items readily identifiable with specific parts of Moon's career. Subjects include legislation concerning parcel post, Tennessee River Valley public works, federal aid in construction of public roads, the Organic Act of Hawaii (1900), and other territorial legislation. The collection is organized by topic or type of material.

The Moon Papers consist primarily of scrapbooks, 1896-1921, recording his political career in Congress, where he served as a member of the U.S. House Committee on Post Office and Post Roads. Separate from these scrapbooks are folders of newspaper clippings, along with correspondence and petitions from the citizens of Bristow, Lehigh, McAlester, Sapulpa, and Wagoner, principal towns in Indian Territory, later Oklahoma, supporting legislation sponsored by Moon that would grant the territory statehood.

Also in the papers are newspaper clippings concerning the decisions of the Tennessee Supreme Court, 1861 and 1872-1877. Moon's wife, Adeline McDowell Deaderick, was the daughter of Tennessee's chief justice, James W. Deaderick; it is possible these were the papers of her father, whose service as chief of that court was during this time.

Moon's papers also contain three account ledgers belonging to his grandfather, Austin M. Appling, a merchant in Chattanooga and later in Bristol, Virginia. In the backs of each volume, in sections not used by Appling, Moon recorded notes concerning law. In these and other volumes are penciled notations marking the space formerly occupied by newspaper clippings and other items removed in 1948 by Moon's daughter, Anna Mary Moon, for return to the family.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by topic or type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Appling, Austin M. (grandfather of John Austin Moon), merchant ledgers
BOX 1	Chattanooga, Tenn., 1832-1835
BOX 1	Bristol, Va., 1860-1862
	(2 vols.)
BOX 2	Supreme court of Tennessee, newspaper clippings, 1861, 1872-1877
BOX 2	Indian Territory, Moon bill regarding statehood, 1902
BOX 3	Scrapbooks
BOX 3	circa 1896-circa 1897, undated
BOX 4	circa 1897-circa 1902, undated
BOX 4	circa 1898-circa 1902, undated
BOX 5	circa 1900, undated
BOX 6	circa 1902-circa 1910, undated
BOX 7	circa 1906, undated
BOX OV 8	circa 1909-circa 1912, undated (oversize)
BOX 9	circa 1912-circa 1916, undated
BOX 10	circa 1916-circa 1921, undated
BOX 11	circa 1919-circa 1921, undated