

Gloucester Point (Va.)
Camp Morton (Ind.)
Fort Warren (Mass.)
Camp Chase (Ohio)

Document Types

Military records.
Letters.
Orders (military records) -- United States.

Related Collections

W.W. H. Davis Papers are held by the Bucks County Historical Society, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University, the University of South Carolina, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Collection Overview

The Civil War Manuscripts span the period from 1854 through 1868, and includes material documenting people who participated directly in the war as well as civilians living during wartime. The collection both predates and postdates the war, but remains together as it was assembled at the Library Company in the late nineteenth century. It is arranged in three series: Papers of Individuals (1854-1867); Miscellaneous Papers (1861-1868); and Confederate States of America Papers (1861-1864). With the exception of Series III, the material concerns the Union side of the war, and the content is largely administrative in subject. Primarily collected for their autographs, most of the papers in all three series were pulled individually from office files and sent to John A. McAllister in Philadelphia. Therefore, for the most part the letters and documents lack their original context and, with the exception of the material in Series I, their contents do not relate to each other in any meaningful way beyond the current artificial groupings created when the collection was processed in 2007.

However disconnected the papers have become, they do present some of the few items in the McAllister Collection that can be directly connected to a particular source. Frederick Webber, working in the Transportation Department of the Assistant Quartermaster's Department in Louisville, wrote to John A. McAllister on December 3, 1863, "I duly received your favour yesterday – tho I had not written I had not forgotten my promise. I had laid by some things for you & was waiting till I had time to hunt up more." Webber wrote again on December 7, "I enclose you some specimens – let me know how you like them more of same sort can be had with a little collecting." McAllister received another shipment in November 1864: "I enclose you 6 Reb. Letters will send you more before long." Webber annotated a number of the pieces with his name, and occasionally added a statement such as "Presented to Jno A. McAllister Esq by his friend Fred Webber." Most of these papers are now filed in Series II, Division of Kentucky.