

Collection #
SC 3037

JULIAN FAMILY PAPERS, 1861–CA. 1971

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Processed by

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 4 manuscript folders, 1 photograph folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1861–ca. 1971

PROVENANCE: William E. Julian, Indianapolis

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: William E. Julian Donation. Manuscript Collection: M 1104

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2004.0461

NOTES:

SKETCH

The Julians are among the more historically prominent families in eastern Indiana. The first Julians, then known as St. Juliens, arrived in the Carolinas from France in the seventeenth century, and made their way to Indiana in the early nineteenth century. A number of them were Quakers and abolitionists, and several were involved in Henry County's initial organization in 1821. Rene Julian was elected as the first County Clerk and Recorder in 1822, and his name appears repeatedly in local histories. Another individual active in Henry County's founding was Shubal Julian, on whose land Prairie Township's first schoolhouse was built in 1824 or 1825. Other notable individuals include J.B. Julian, listed as Circuit Prosecutor for the year 1844, and Emsley Julian, who served as Treasurer for the county in the 1860s. The Julians are also associated with Wayne County, where Isaac Julian served as the area's first schoolteacher in 1808–09. The same Isaac Julian won a seat in the Indiana State House of Representatives in 1822.

Note: both Rene and Isaac were common family names, so there are several Julians in the historical record who share each name.

By far the most well-known figure in the family is United States Representative George Washington Julian. After serving in the Indiana House of Representatives, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives for Indiana's Fourth District as a Free-Soil candidate (1849–51). He later served four more terms (1861–71) as a Radical Republican. Julian's politics were indeed radical for the time, as he supported abolitionism, women's suffrage, and labor and temperance movements. During his later terms in Congress, he became the leading House member of the Committee on the Conduct of the War, and is known to have corresponded with President Abraham Lincoln. Julian married twice, first to Anne Elizabeth Finch, with whom he had three children. After Anne's death in 1860, he married Laura Giddings, the daughter of abolitionist Congressman Joshua R. Giddings. The couple had two children, and in 1873 moved to Irvington, where Julian opened a law practice. George Washington Julian died in Irvington in 1899.

Sources:

William E. Julian Donation. Manuscript Collection: M 1104

Collection Materials.

Indiana State Library. "George Washington Julian." <http://www.in.gov/library/4749.htm>

Pleas, Elwood. *Henry County, Past and Present, a Brief History of the County from 1821 to 1871*. New Castle, Indiana: Pleas Brothers, 1871.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This short collection is devoted to Julian family history. The most significant document contains the typed notes of Rebecca Downey White and Isaac Hoover Julian, each of whom contributed greatly to understanding of the family's history. The document includes recollections, research notes, and transcriptions of letters and wills. Other documents in the collection are Ralph W. Clevenger's "Short History of Irvington" and E.R. Meek's "The Old Julian Mansion and the Turtle Doves," which mostly concerns itself with the childhood of Grace Julian Clarke (daughter of George Washington Julian). In addition to these histories, the collection contains a photograph of Isaac Julian's grave in Tippecanoe County and two letters: one from J.B. Julian to President Abraham Lincoln (facsimile) and another from George Washington Julian to Edwin Lyons.

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Grave of Isaac Julian, not dated

Ralph W. Clevenger, "Short History of Irvington," not dated

Correspondence, 1861–95

Genealogical Notes from Rebecca Downey White and Isaac Hoover Julian, ca. 1901–37

E.R. Meek, "The Old Julian Mansion and the Turtle Doves," 1971

CONTAINER

Photographs
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CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 3037).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.