

Collection #  
P 0518

**MARY E. DAVIS  
ESTATE MATERIALS, CA. 1860-1951**

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

**VOLUME OF COLLECTION:** 1 half size box of photographs, 1 OVB photograph, 6 tintypes, 4 folders of manuscripts

**COLLECTION DATES:** ca. 1860s-1951

**PROVENANCE:** Maureen Grannan, Indianapolis, IN

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:**

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 1980.1108

**NOTES:**

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

The Davis family were residents of Jeffersonville, Indiana. Thomas Davis, a tax collector, and his wife Anna had three children, Jesse, Elizabeth (Bessie), and Mary. Jesse Davis (1888-1938) was at one time employed as a manager at Western Union Telegraph Company, served in World War I, and was killed fighting in the Spanish Civil War. Elizabeth Louise Davis (1889-1950) graduated from Indiana University and began her teaching career in Jeffersonville. She later moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, where she began teaching Latin at Emmerich Manual Training High School in 1916. Later, she served as the Head of the Language Department and as Director of Visual Education until her retirement in 1949. Nothing is really known about Mary E. Davis (1893-1980).

Sources:

Thomas Davis Obituary. Jeffersonville National Democrat, July 21, 1905.

Materials in the collection.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection contains photographs, tintypes and manuscript materials belonging to members of the Davis and Deuser families of Indianapolis, Indiana. The majority of photographs and the tintypes are unidentified but are most likely portraits of relatives of the Davis and Deuser families. The identified photographs are of siblings Mary, Elizabeth, and Jesse Davis. There is also a folder of portraits and a snapshot of a theatre, all of which relate to John A. Victor, who, according to a note on the envelope containing the photographs, brought Vaudeville acts to Indianapolis. It is unclear if he was related to the Davis family in some way.

There are also four folders of manuscripts in the collection. There is a small booklet, which was a souvenir from China, as the Davis siblings' aunt, Florence Davis Curtis, was a missionary there. There are also personal items that belonged to Mary Davis and her sister Elizabeth, such as handwritten notes, a notebook, and notecards decorated with exotic birds. Finally, there are a variety of examples of letterhead from various steamboat/transportation companies.

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### CONTENTS

Memorial, Jacob and Elizabeth Deuser, n.d.

Portrait of Unidentified Man, n.d.

Unidentified Portraits, ca. 1860s-80s

Portraits, Jesse Davis, 1889-1909

Florence Davis Curtis at Chinese Mission, ca. 1890s

Portraits, John A. Victor, ca. 1890s-1910

Portraits, Elizabeth Louise Davis, 1906-24

Snapshots, Elizabeth Louise Davis with friends, ca. 1910

Snapshot, Mary E. Davis, 1915

Unidentified Portraits, ca. 1920s

Davis Family, New York Botanical Gardens, 1921

Elizabeth Louise Davis With Her Latin Students, ca. 1930s-40s

Tintypes Unidentified Portraits, n.d.

Florence Davis Curtis, Chinese figures, ca. 1890s

Elizabeth Louise Davis materials, 1901-51

Steamboat Letterhead, ca. 1905-23

Mary E. Davis, Notebook and Notecards, ca. 1926

### CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

OVB Photographs,  
Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

Box 1, Folder 7

Box 1, Folder 8

Box 1, Folder 9

Box 1, Folder 10

Box 1, Folder 11

Tintypes:  
Box 1

Manuscripts, Folder 1

Manuscripts, Folder 2

Manuscripts, Folder 3

Manuscripts, Folder 4