

Collection #  
OM 0688  
BV 5371

**NICHOLSON FARMSTEAD  
COLLECTION, 1822–1876**

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 oversize manuscript folder, 1 bound volume

COLLECTION DATES: 1822–1876

PROVENANCE: Mary E. Nicholson, Mishawaka, IN; April 2007

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2006.0465

NOTES:

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

**Simon Nicholson** was an early settler of Steen township, Knox County, Indiana. Born in Ireland, Simon moved to Steen from Pennsylvania. In April 1825, Simon paid James Abbott \$375 for 300 acres of land along the old State road, where he settled with his family.

**Andrew Nicholson**, the son of Simon Nicholson, was born in 1812 in Pennsylvania. Andrew married Caroline Boyd on 28 December 1854 in Knox County. Together they had at least six children: Mary Ellen, Martha Ann, John Simon, Charles, Andrew Ellis, and William Elworth. Andrew died on 25 August 1876. In his will, Andrew gave his wife "control and management" of his land until his sons came of age, when the land would be divided among them. William Elworth received the land upon which the farmstead buildings stood.

The **Nicholson Farmstead** is located along Indiana State Road 550 in Steen Township. The site is about a quarter mile west of Wheatland, Indiana. The house was originally constructed around 1863, with periodic updates and additions made on that building and others until 1937. The farmstead is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Sources:

Goodspeed Brothers. *History of Knox and Daviess Counties, Indiana*. Chicago: Goodspeed Pub. Co., 1886. <https://archive.org/details/historyofknoxdav00good>

Greene, George E. *History of Old Vincennes and Knox County, Indiana*. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1911. Vol 1. [https://archive.org/details/historyofoldvinc01gree\\_0](https://archive.org/details/historyofoldvinc01gree_0)

Greene, George E. *History of Old Vincennes and Knox County, Indiana*. Chicago: S.J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1911. Vol 2. [https://archive.org/details/historyofoldvinc02gree\\_0](https://archive.org/details/historyofoldvinc02gree_0)

Indiana, Death Certificates, 1899-2011, via Ancestry.com

Indiana, Marriage Index, 1800-1941, via Ancestry.com

Indiana, Wills and Probate Records, 1798-1999, via Ancestry.com

National Park Service. "Andrew Nicholson Farmstead–Asset Detail." National Register of Historic Places. Accessed July 3, 2018.

<https://npgallery.nps.gov/NRHP/AssetDetail?assetID=75f96bbb-cb31-443e-8f38-7a3a46815149>

U.S., Find A Grave Index, 1600s-Current, via Ancestry.com

U.S., Indexed County Land Ownership Maps, 1860-1918, via Ancestry.com

1810, 1830, and 1870 U.S. Federal Census, via Ancestry.com

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection contains three items related to the land on which the Nicholson Farmstead was built. The first item is a land document granting 400 acres to James Abbott, dated 25 July 1822. The second item is a land deed, granting Simon Nicholson 300 acres in Knox County for \$375 paid to James Abbott, dated 7 April 1825. The last item is Andrew Nicholson's day book from about 1859 to 1876. The book records money paid out for goods and for services of those who worked on Nicholson's land.

## **CONTENTS**

### CONTENTS

Land documents, 1822–1825

Andrew Nicholson daybook, 1859–1876

### CONTAINER

OM 0688, Folder 1

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