

Alexis Coquillard papers

S298

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November 18, 2014

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-3671

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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Coquillard, Alexis (1795-1855)
Creator	Coquillard, Alexis (1825-1890)
Creator	Coquillard, Mary Clark (1885-1985)
Title	Alexis Coquillard papers
Date	1795-1849; undated
Extent	0.06 Cubic feet 3 folders
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S298-3
Text [Folder]	S298-2
Text [Folder]	S298-1

Preferred Citation

Alexis Coquillard papers, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Alexis Coquillard (1825-1890) Biographical Note

Alexis Coquillard, son of Benjamin [Benedict] and Sophia Coquillard and nephew of Alexis Coquillard (1795-1855), was born April 28, 1825 in Detroit, Michigan and was one of at least eleven children. He married Maude M. Perley in St. Joseph County on February 23, 1881, and they had one child, Alexis (1882-1955). He traveled to California during the 1849 gold rush. He was nominated for membership to the Sons of the American Revolution. He died February 25, 1890 and is buried Cedar Grove Cemetery, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Information found within the collection

"Coquillard, Alexis". 1850 United States Federal Census. Retrieved 2014/09/24. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Coquillard, Alexis". Find a Grave Memorial. Retrieved 2014/09/24. <http://www.findagrave.com>

"Coquillard, Alexis". Indiana, Marriage Collection, 1800-1941. Retrieved 2014/09/24. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Coquillard, Alexis". U.S. Sons of the American Revolution Membership Applications, 1889-1970. Retrieved 2014/09/24. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

Mary J. Clarke (1885-1985) Biographical Note

Mary J. Clarke Coquillard was born May 27, 1885. She was graduated from the Manhattanville College in New York City, New York in 1906, and she married Alexis E. Coquillard (1882-1955) on June 17, 1914 in St. Joseph County, Indiana. They had five children, including Alexis E., Jr.(1915-2010). She was an active member of the Northern Indiana Historical Society and a frequent guest lecturer. She wrote a book about her husband's great-uncle Alexis Coquillard (1795-1855), *Alexis Coquillard - his time: a story of the founding of South Bend, Indiana* (1931). She taught at Muessel School and was a feature writer for the former *South Bend News-Times*. Her husband died January 27, 1955. She died December 28, 1985 and is buried in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Information found within the collection.

"Coquillard, Alexis". 1930 United States Federal Census. Retrieved 2014/09/24. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Clarke, Mary J.". Indiana, Marriage Collection, 1800-1941. Retrieved 2014/09/24. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Coquillard, Mary". 1930 United States Federal Census. Retrieved 2014/09/24. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

"Coquillard, Mary C." Find a Grave Memorial. Retrieved 2014/09/24. <http://www.findagrave.com>

"Coquillard, Mary C.". South Bend Tribune 30 Dec. 1985:B5. Paper.

Alexis Coquillard (1795-1855) Biographical Note

Alexis Coquillard was born in Detroit, Michigan while under British rule on September 28, 1795; he had a brother, Benjamin. He served in the American forces during the War of 1812 under the leadership of William Henry Harrison. After the war, he returned to the St. Joseph Valley where he became an employee of John Jacob Astor's American Fur Company. In 1823, Mr. Coquillard built a trading post on the St. Joseph River, naming it Big Joseph Station. In 1824, he married Frances Comparet, the daughter of his partner, Francis, and they had . Alexis established the first American home in St. Joseph County and is usually regarded as the founder of the city of South Bend. In 1842, he was visited by Father Edward Sorin, C.S.C., who was traveling on his way to the future home of the University of Notre Dame. He died on January 8, 1855, due to an accident in his burned flour mill. He is buried in Cedar Grove Cemetery's All Souls Chapel, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Information found within the collection.

"Coquillard, Alexis". Cedar Grove Cemetery. Retrieved 2014/09/24. <http://cemetery.nd.edu/news>
South Bend (Indiana, United States). Encyclopaedia Britannica. Retrieved 2014/09/24. <http://www.britannica.com>

Scope and Contents

This collection includes original and photocopied documents from Alexis Coquillard (1795-1855) in South Bend, Indiana ranging from 1795-1840 regarding business matters, contracts and lists of merchandise, an original diary from Alexis Coquillard (1825-1890) in 1849 written on a journey to California in 1849, and typed stories as told to Mary C. Coquillard regarding pioneers.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged by subject.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a donation from Mrs. Alexis (Mary C.) Coquillard on 1930/03/14, 1965/10/13 and 1965/11/09.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2014/09/24 by Edythe Huffman. EAD finding aid created 2014/09/24 by Edythe Huffman.

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- California
- Indianapolis (Ind.)
- South Bend (Ind.)

Subject(s)

- California Gold Rush, 1848-1852
- Correspondence
- Diaries
- Frontier and pioneer life
- Writing