

IHLC MS 1167

William Henderson Dorris
Papers, 1858-1898

Manuscript Collection Inventory

Illinois History and Lincoln Collections
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Note: Unless otherwise specified, documents and other materials listed on the following pages are available for research at the Illinois Historical and Lincoln Collections, located in the Main Library of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Additional background information about the manuscript collection inventoried is recorded in the [Manuscript Collections Database](http://www.library.illinois.edu/ihx/archon/index.php) (<http://www.library.illinois.edu/ihx/archon/index.php>) under the collection title; search by the name listed at the top of the inventory to locate the corresponding collection record in the database.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Illinois History and Lincoln Collections
<http://www.library.illinois.edu/ihx/>
phone: (217) 333-1777
email: ihlc@library.illinois.edu

**William Henderson Dorris.
Papers, 1858-1898.**

Contents

Diaries.....	1
Correspondence of William Henderson Dorris, 1862-1903.....	1
Correspondence of William Henry Dorris, 1865-1903.....	3
Correspondence of Tabitha Dorris, 1862-1903.....	3
Correspondence of Dorris Family, 1863-1896	4
Other Correspondence, 1858-1898.....	4
Personal Papers	5
Envelopes	5
Research Notes	5
Binder.....	5

Sensitive Content Statement: This collection contains materials which represent sensitive topics and that were written from perspectives using outdated and/or biased language. The Library condemns discrimination and hatred on any grounds. As a research library that supports the mission and values of this land grant institution, it is incumbent upon the University Library to preserve, describe, and provide access to materials to accurately document our past, support learning about it, and effect change in the present. In accordance with the American Library Association's Freedom to Read statement, we do not censor our materials or prevent patrons from accessing them.

Diaries

Box 1

Diary, February 2, 1864 – August 29, 1864

Diary, August 30, 1864 – March 31, 1865

Diary, April 1, 1865 – January 13, 1866

Correspondence of William Henderson Dorris, 1862-1903

This series includes correspondence sent and received by William Henderson Dorris.

William Henderson Dorris to Tabitha Dorris

1862

January 14, 1862

January 26, 1862

December 17[?], 1862

1863

February 20, 1863
 April 5, 1863
 April 5, 1863
 April 10, 1863
 April 21, 1863
 April 22, 1863
 April 27, [1863]
 May 26, 1863
 May 26, 1863, and May 27, 1863
 June 14, 1863
 June 14, [1863]
 June 22, 1863
 June 27, 1863
 August 14, 1863
 September 1, 1863
 September 18, 1863
 October 25, 1863
 November 1, 1863
 November 16, 1863
 December 1, 1863
 December 7, 1863
 December 7, 1863
 December 9, 1863

1864

January 6, 1864
 February 10, 1864
 February 14, 1864
 March 20, 1864
 April 8, 1864
 April 9, 1864
 April 12, [1864]
 May 12-13, 1864
 July 10, 1864
 July 12, 1864
 November 14, 1864
 December 9, 1864
 December 25-26, 1864
 December 26, 1864

1865

January 18, 1865
 March 6, 1865
 March 11, 1865
 March 21, 1865
 March 21, 1865

William Henderson Dorris to Dorris Family

June 17, 1863

October 29, 1864
 November 12, 1864
 February 15, 1864
 April 25, 1865
 William Henderson Dorris to William Henry Dorris
 May 18, 1863
 October 2, 1863
 November 16, 1863
 September 15, 1864
 March 11, 1865
 March 19, 1865, and March 21, 1865
 April 19, 1865
 William Henderson Dorris to William Henry Dorris and Eveline Dorris
 December 9, 1864
 William Henderson Dorris to Smalley Family
 February 24, 1863
 November 12, 1864
 February 9, 1865
 William H. Dorris to S. M. Dorris, September 30, 1886
 T.A. Nichols to William Henderson Dorris, March 10, 1865
 S.E. Davidson to William Henderson Dorris, January 31, [18??]

Correspondence of William Henry Dorris, 1865-1903

This series includes correspondence sent by William Henry Dorris.

William Henry Dorris and Tabitha Dorris to William Henderson Dorris, April 16, 1865
 [William] Henry Dorris to Tabitha Dorris, August 18, 1903
 William Henry Dorris and Mary Dorris to William Henderson Dorris and Tabitha
 Dorris; William Henry Dorris to James Dorris [one letter], May 7, 1874

Correspondence of Tabitha Dorris, 1862-1903

This series includes correspondence sent and received by Tabitha Dorris.

Tabitha Dorris to William Henderson Dorris
 June 19, 1864
 October 2, 1864
 December 12, 1864
 February 12, 1865
 April 16, 1865
 Eveline Dorris and Martha H. Garham[Gorham?] to Tabitha Dorris, September 29, 1862
 Nancy Dorris to Tabitha Dorris
 April 9, 1863
 May 25, 1863
 February 11, 1864
 March 13, 1865
 W. C. Dorris to Tabitha Dorris, April 4, 1864
 W.C. Dorris and M.J. Dorris to Tabitha Dorris

August 27, 1862
 July 18, 1863
 W.C. Dorris, M.J. Dorris, and Nancy Dorris to Tabitha Dorris, September 30, 1863
 J. L. Dorris to "Sister," August 17, 1903

Correspondence of Dorris Family, 1863-1896

This series includes correspondence from the extended Dorris family that have been addressed to more than one member of William Henderson Dorris's immediate family. Many of the letters within this series are addressed to both William Henderson Dorris and Tabitha Dorris, "Brother and Sister," or William Henderson Dorris and family.

J. L. Dorris to "Brother and Sister" [William Henderson Dorris and Tabitha Dorris],
 August 31, 1865
 Nancy Dorris and Ad [Adeline] Knapp to Tabitha Dorris and Mary Dorris
 February 8, 1863
 August 16[?], 1864
 W. C. Dorris and Jennie Dorris to "Brother and Sister" [William Henderson Dorris and
 Tabitha Dorris], April 3, 1866
 W. C. Dorris and M. J. Dorris to William Henderson Dorris and family
 December 4, 1860
 February 5, 1861
 February 18, 1861
 June 9, 1875
 June 10, 1875
 W.C. Dorris, M.J. Dorris, and Nancy Dorris to Tabitha Dorris, September 30, 1863
 Adeline Knapp to William Henderson Dorris and Tabitha Dorris
 January 25, 1864
 Ad [Adeline] Knapp to "Mother," Tabitha Dorris, and Mary Dorris
 November 30, 1864
 W. B. Dorris to Cousin James and family, October 7, 1879
 Ellen Dorris to Tabitha Dorris and family, May 3, 1896
 A.J. Garham[Gorham?] and Martha Garham[Gorham?] to "Brother and Sister," January
 11, 1869

Other Correspondence, 1858-1898

This series includes correspondence between members of the extended Dorris family.

Ad [Adeline] Knapp and Maria Knapp to Nancy Dorris
 July 14, 1869
 Mary Brown to "Mother," October 26, 1873
 Mike Brown to "Uncle"
 July 14, 1898
 August 2, 1898
 D. Forbes, August 1[?], 1858
 Mary Dorris to Eva Dorris, May 7, 1874

Personal Papers

Account book and manuscript describing Dorris' experiences serving in the Mexican American War, 1846-1854

Writings

August 7, 183[?]

November 1852

Lio[?] E. Dorris poem, no date

Photocopy of military discharge papers of William Henderson Dorris, June 26, 1865. (2 copies)

Photocopy of Mexican American War military service certificate of William Henderson Dorris, January 16, 1893.

Photocopy of Civil War military service certificate of William Henderson Dorris, January 16, 1893.

Envelopes

This series contains envelopes addressed to Mrs. Tabitha and Henry [William Henry] Dorris at Swan Creek, Warren County and Young America, Warren County. Prior to their archival arrangement, the letters in this collection were placed in plastic folders within two binders. As part of this arrangement process, the letters were separated from the envelopes in which they were sent. The letters that the envelopes were previously housed with in the binders are indicated on the Permalife folders housing the envelopes.

Research Notes

Research notes on the William Henderson Dorris Papers created by unknown individual, undated.

Binder

This binder served as the original housing for correspondence dated from April 8, 1864, to August 17, 1903. Letters were enclosed in plastic folders within the binder. Correspondence dating from August 1, 1858, to February 15, 1864, was housed in a white binder with red designs and similarly enclosed in plastic folders. The white and red binder was discarded, as it contained traces of mold. The blue binder included within this collection bears numerous drawings likely created by a child.