Naperville Heritage Society
Library/Archives Collections

Guide to Collection

Greene Family
Name of the Collection

17
Collection Number

1817- 1977
Date Range

4/4	582	CW/10/4/11
Linear Feet/Boxes	***Number of Folders/Items***	***Processed by/Date***

Description

William Briggs Greene, born 1818, came from Wallingford, Vermont to became one of the first settlers of Lisle in DuPage County, Illinois in 1841. He worked as a teacher and farmer until 1843 when he purchased 200 acres of land on Hobson Road from the Charles Goodrich family for $1000. In 1845 he went back east for his bride, Harriet Meeker. Upon this land was a log cabin that the family would eventually replace with the house known as Oak Cottage. Their son, William Spencer Greene married Jessie Hibbard of Chicago on September 29, 1880 and they resided with his parents at Oak Cottage. William Spencer Greene continued to expand the farm and was one of the first farmers in DuPage County to have a silo. His son, Arthur R. Greene continued to live in the homestead and farm the 732 acres that the Greene family now owned until his death in 1939.

The Greene Family collection contains family correspondence, the majority of which belongs to Jessie Hibbard Greene and William Spencer Greene. Throughout her life, Jessie wrote frequently to her family and friends. Suffereing from many illnesses, Jessie was frequently separated from her family. She was taken to Dr. Byford of Chicago who performed surgery. Seeing that she was still unwell, William Spencer took her to the Waukesha Springs Sanitarium where she stayed for almost a year. Jessie returned to Oak Cottage where she would stay the rest of her life.

Other items in this collection are family diaries, scrapbooks, account books, books and school materials. This collection is housed at Fort Hill.

Inventory

BOX 117/ Box 1

Correspondence
Dates: 1817- March 12, 1886

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Items: 220

BOX 118/Box 2

Correspondence
Dates: March 15-1886- November 29, 1903
Items: 183

BOX 119/Box 3

Correspondence
Dates: February 14, 1904- February 22, 1977
Items: 162

BOX 120/Box 4

*Account Book of W.B. Greene, 1879-1883
*Account Book of W.B. Greene, 1887-1892
*Christmas Lists
*Diary of Wm S. Greene, 1871
* Notes of Jesse Hibbard Greene
*Scrapbook of Rebecca Brown, 1881
*Cook Book of Jessie Hibbard Greene
*Scrapbook of Wm and Nancy (Greene) Stoneberg,
*Diary of Mrs. D.M. Greene, 1885
*Book, Our Boys, inscribed H.S. Greene, 1890
*Book, Sixth Reader, belonged to H.S. Greene, 1863
*Book, Primary Spelling, belonged to H.S. Greene, 1865
*Book, Hereditary Descent, belonged to Wm B. Greene 1848
*Book, Thomason Higher Arithmetic, belonged to Laura E. Greene, 1857
*Book, Am. Edal Reader, belonged to Aurthur/Laura/William
*Book, Little Journeys, belonged to Hibbard Greene, 1899
*12th Bi-annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction belonged to Mrs. W.S. Greene, 1877-1878