

Belding-Gaines-Williamson papers

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Summary Information

Repository	Ouachita Baptist University Library
Title	Belding-Gaines-Williamson papers
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Biographical/Historical Note

The three families represented in this collection were related through three generations of women: Lydia Bassett Belding, Maria Belding Gaines, and Frances “Fannie” Gaines Williamson. Lydia Bassett (born May 1, 1799) married Ludovicus Belding (born November 25, 1791). Their daughter Maria (born March 12, 1821) married William Haney Gaines in Hot Springs, Arkansas, on April 23, 1849. Maria’s first daughter, Frances “Fannie” Lydia Gaines (born June 27, 1850), married Curnel Sam Williamson on October 18, 1875.

William Haney Gaines helped establish Gaines Landing in Chicot County. He was born on June 30, 1797, in Augusta County, Virginia, and was raised in Kentucky. As a teenager he worked as a blacksmith and a cartwright. About 1830 he settled in Chicot County, where he raised cotton on a government land grant. Gaines married Althea Early on June 10, 1839, but she died in 1849. By the time he married Maria Belding, he had amassed large landholdings. He died on January 1, 1894. Both he and Maria are buried in the Belding-Gaines Cemetery near Hot Springs.

Curnel Sam Williamson was born on April 5, 1851, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He and Fannie Gaines had four children: Maria; Etna; Curnel Sam, Jr.; and Mary Frances. The Williamsons divorced in 1902, and Sam died on October 2, 1944.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains correspondence, diaries, financial documents, and legal papers. The families represented in this collection are connected through three generations of women, descendants of Hot Springs area pioneers: Lydia Bassett Belding, Maria Belding Gaines, and Frances “Fannie” Gaines Williamson.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Ouachita Baptist University Library

Conditions Governing Access

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Conditions Governing Use

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Mary Frances Relyea Gibbs, Hot Springs, Arkansas, 1997.

Arkansas

Collection Inventory

Arkansas	
Correspondence	
	Box
1.1 1831 September 28: Ludovicus Belding (Scarborough's Washita Ferry) to Lydia Belding (Fourche Gulpher)	1
1.2 1837 August 20: Albert Belding (Gaines Landing) to "Mother" (Lydia Belding)	
1.3 1839 August 5: A.N. Sabin, as administrator of the L. Belding estate, to Dr. Nimrod Menefee (Hot Springs)	
1.4 1843 May 13: W. Byrd Powell (Little Rock) to Miss Belding	
1.5 1849 May 9: James M. Gocher (Hot Springs) to Mrs. Belding	
1.6 1849 June 21: Maria Belding Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)	
1.7 1849 September 28: Maria Gaines (on board the "William Armstrong") to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)	
1.8 1849 September 30: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding	

Correspondence

1.9 1849 October 14: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding

1.10 1849 October 14: A[lbert] Belding (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.11 1849 November 24: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.12 1850 January 29: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.13 1850 February 1: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.14 1850 February 19: Albert Belding (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.15 1850 February 19: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.16 1850 March 22: A[lbert] Belding (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.17 1850 April 10: A[lbert] Belding (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.18 1850 July 15: P[eter] Hanger (Little Rock) to Mrs. [Lydia] Belding (Hot Springs)

1.19 1850 October 15: Albert Belding (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.20 1851 January 7: Albert Belding (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.21 1851 January 26: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.22 1851 March 28: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

Correspondence

1.23 1851 April 12: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.24 1851 July 21: Albert [Belding] (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.25 1851 July 29: Albert [Belding] (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.26 1851 December 30: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.27 1852 February 20: Maria Gaines (Gaines Landing) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.28 1853 September 4: Louisa C. Chase (Bonnie Glen) to Maria Gaines ("at home")

1.29 1855 June 4: Nathaniel Bassett (Fairfield) to "Sister" [Lydia Belding]

1.30 1858 October 4: Albert Pike (Fort Smith) to William H. Gaines (Hot Springs)

1.31 1864 July 30: George Belding (Sevier County) to Lydia Belding (Hot Springs)

1.32 1867 November 21: A[lbert] Belding (Little Rock) to "Sister" [Maria Gaines?]

1.33 1869 September 28: A[lbert] Belding (Little Rock) to "Sister" [Maria Gaines?]

1.34 1870 March 13: Grandma L.C. Chase (Bonnie Glen) to "Dear Friend" [Maria Gaines?]

1.35 1886 June 11: John Fletcher (Little Rock) to W.H. Gaines (Hot Springs)

1.36 1923 November 22: Fannie Williamson (Hot Springs) to Ettie Powers (New Orleans)

Legal -- Deeds

1.37 1923 November 30: Fannie Williamson (Hot Springs) to Ettie Powers (Havana, Cuba)

1.38 Undated: Poem to Maria Belding (Gulpher Villa, Hot Springs)

1.39 Undated: Mary Whittington (Chullybeate [sic] Springs) to Maria Belding

Legal -- Deeds

1.40 1828: Augustus Woodford Gaines and Nancy Gaines to W.H. Gaines (Chicot County)

Box

2.1 1838 July 13: U.S.A. to James McGee, Hiram Crump (Chicot County) [patent]

2

2.2 1838 July 13: U.S.A. to William H. Gaines, assignee of James Garner and James Akins [patent]

2.3 1838 July 28: U.S.A. to Peter G. Rives, assignee of Mathew and Oliver Wallace [patent]

2.4 1838 August 20: U.S.A. to William Haney Gaines (Chicot County) [patent]

2.5 1838 October 23: U.S.A. to Erram Tidwell [patent]

2.6 1840 May 4: U.S.A. to William H. Gaines, assignee of John Grant and John Copeland [patent]

2.7 1840 May 4: U.S.A. to William H. Gaines, assignee of Fleming Ball [patent]

2.8 1840 July 3: U.S.A. to Frederick Smith (Chicot County) [patent]

Legal -- Deeds

2.9 1840 July 3: U.S.A. to John McGee (Chicot County) [patent]

Box

3.1 1843 April 11: Henry Pearce to Lydia Belding (Hot Spring County)

3

3.2 1843 November 15: Albert Webb to William H. Gaines (Chicot County)

3.3 1844 May 15: "Bill for Title" William H. Gaines v. Estate of Allen Oakley (Chicot County)

3.4 1848 June 3: Peter G. and Martha Biers[?] to William H. Gaines (Chicot County)

3.5 1854 January 2: State of Arkansas to Lemon Morgan (Chicot County)

3.6 1854 January 3: State of Arkansas to William H. Gaines (Helena Land Office)

3.7 1854 January 3: State of Arkansas to Lemon Morgan (Chicot County)

3.8 1854 July 12: L.C. Morgan to William H. Gaines (Helena Land Office)

3.9 1854 August 1: State of Arkansas to William H. Gaines (Helena Land Office, land in Chicot County)

3.10 1855 July 31: State of Arkansas to W.H. Gaines (Helena Land Office, land in Drew County)

3.11 1858 March 31: Tax certificate, J.W. Lampkin to William Gaines (Chicot County)

3.12 1858 April 1: Tax certificate, unknown to William H. Gaines (Chicot County)

Legal -- Deeds

3.13 1858 April 1: Tax certificate, unknown to William H. Gaines (Chicot County)

3.14 1858 April 1: Tax certificate, unknown to William H. Gaines (Chicot County)

3.15 1860 October 19: Jared C. Martin to William H. Gaines (Pulaski County)

3.16 1869 February 17: John Wassell (assignee of W.H. Gaines) to Maria Gaines (Hot Spring County)

3.17 1871 November 9: Albert Belding to Maria Gaines

3.18 1871 December 13: Jennie Jones and J.E. Ward to Charles Bass

3.19 1873 October 23: William H. Gaines, Jr. to Maria Gaines (Garland County)

3.20 1874 January 13: Certification of tract book records pertaining to Section 33, Township 2 South, Range 19 West, Belding and Gaines

3.21 1874 January 20: J.E. Ward and Jennie Jones to Maria H. Gaines (Garland County)

3.22 1874 November 21: Alexander McDonald to William H. Gaines

3.23 1875 January 14: O.A. Hobson to Francis Southerland (Garland County) [Hot Springs Hotel]

3.24 1875 May 29: Redemption Certificate (Saline County) redeemed by A.B. Burks (land in Hot Spring County)

3.25 1877 April 5: William H. and Maria Gaines to Albert Gaines (Garland County)

Legal -- Deeds

3.26 1877 September 24: William and Maria Gaines to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.27 1878 March 18: John D. Sammons to Maria Gaines (Garland County)

3.28 1879 December 11: William H. and Maria Gaines to Fannie Williamson (Garland County)

3.29 1883 March 3: James and Jennie A. Smith to Maria Gaines (Garland County)

3.30 1883 July 7: W.H. and Maria Gaines to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.31 1886 September 9: W.H., Maria, and A.B. Gaines to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.32 1889 April 27: W.H. and Maria Gaines to Robert Kinkead (Garland County)

3.33 1890 July 7: W.H. and Maria Gaines to F.G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.34 1890 August 9: James A. and Ida M. Smith to Maria Gaines (Garland County)

3.35 1890 December 1: Agreement dividing real estate of Maria Gaines, deceased (Garland County)

3.36 1891 January 16: A.L. Gaines to F.G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.37 1891 January 17: Release of property by William H. Gaines, Sr.

3.38 1891 January 24: E.S. and Louisa Blasdel to Curnel S. Williamson (Garland County)

3.39 1891 January 27: W.H. Gaines, Jr. and wife to Curnel S. Williamson (Garland County)

Legal -- Deeds

3.40 1891 April 13: W.H. Gaines Jr. and wife Katie to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.41 1891 July: James and Lula Nicholas to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.42 1893 June: Commissioner's Deed--Fannie G. Williamson and William H. Gaines, Jr., et al., plaintiffs, William H. Gaines, Sr., Vivanda Sappington, Mary P. Gaines, et al., defendants (Garland County)

3.43 1894 May 30: Louisa G. Blasdel to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.44 1894 June 20: William H. and Katie Gaines to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.45 1897 June 23: W.H. and Katie Gaines to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.46 1901 July 1: C.S. Williamson to Maria Haltom (Garland County)

3.47 1902 November 25: C.S. Williamson to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.48 1902 November 25: C.S. Williamson to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.49 1902 November 28: Curnel S. Williamson to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.50 1905 October 5: Fannie G. Williamson to C.S. Williamson (Garland County)

3.51 1907 July 12: C.S. and Ida Williamson to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.52 1908 September 2: Fannie G. Williamson to Ed Johnson (Garland County)

Legal -- Leases

3.53 1912 June 10: Collectors Certificate of Purchase, Sam Williamson, purchaser

3.54 1914 March 5: George and Mase Metcalf to Fannie Gaines Williamson (Palo Pinto County, Texas)

Legal -- Leases

3.55 1876 October 1: Receiver of Hot Springs Reservation to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.56 1915 May 15: United States Government to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

3.57 1923 May 21: Great Northern Hotel to Mrs. Watts (Garland County)

Legal -- Marriage License

3.58 1875: C.S. Williamson and Fannie Gaines (Garland County)

Legal -- Mortgage

3.59 1915 September 15: Cathrina Hutsell to Fannie G. Williamson (Garland County)

Legal -- Power of Attorney

3.60 1875 January 2: Louisa Blasdel to Maria Gaines

Legal -- Receipts

Legal -- Tax records

3.61 1835-1850: Receipts from land offices, William H. Gaines

3.62 1840-1877: Receipts for fees and taxes

3.63 1894: Martin and Murphy to Fannie Williamson, et al.

Legal -- Tax records

3.64 1910: Tax records, Garland County

3.65 1917: Tax records, Garland County

Legal -- Will

3.66 1923 December 29: Francis G. Williamson

Legal -- Miscellaneous

3.67 1870s: Schedule of Claimants, lots, blocks, Hot Springs Commission

3.68 Undated: List of Chicot County lands belonging to William H. Gaines

3.69 1903: Interrogatories to Etna Powers regarding Great Northern Hotel

3.70 1903 July 27: Bill of Assurance, from Fannie Williamson (Garland County)

Business

Business

3.71 1850s: Gaines accounts

3.72 1858: Account, Belding and Sons

3.73 1859 December 8: Account, W.H. Gaines

3.74 1860 April 7: Receipt, W.H. Gaines, Martin and Wade

3.75 1866-1867: Bills of lading

3.76 1914, 1915, 1916, 1923: Great Northern Hotel income/expense statements

3.77 1914-1915: Income tax, Fannie G. Williamson

3.78 1914, 1917: Income tax, Fannie Williamson

3.79 Undated: Deposition regarding Shelton-Byrd-Belding agreement

Personal

3.80 1812: Parole and certificate of citizenship for Ludovicus Belding

3.81 1819: Justice of the Peace commission (Franklin County, Indiana), Ludovicus Belding

Ohio and other states

3.82 1865: Pardon, William H. Gaines

3.83 Belding family Bible records

3.84 Obituaries, birth records, miscellaneous

3.85 Genealogical research notes

3.86 Hot Springs history notes [possibly by Maria Belding Gaines]

Ohio and other states**Correspondence**

3.87 1846 December 26: William Kirby (Niagara) to Elizabeth Kirby (Cincinnati)

3.88 1847 September 21: William Kirby (Niagara) to "Sister" Euclid Williamson (Cincinnati)

3.89 1849 January 23: William Kirby (Niagara) to Isaac Lemaire (Covington, Kentucky)

3.90 1851 June 13: Lizzie Williamson (Newport) to John A. Williamson (steamer Charles Hammond)

3.91 1851 June 17: William W. Meyers (aboard the Buckeye) to John Williamson (Memphis)

3.92 1851 June 20: William W. Meyers (aboard the Buckeye) to John A. Williamson (Natchez, Mississippi)

Correspondence

3.93 1851 July 21: ?? (York, England) to "Dear Cousin" Kirby (Niagara, Canada)

3.94 1855 April 28: W. Kirby (Niagara, Canada) to "Sister Mary"

3.95 1859 February 19: ?? (Hull) to "Nephew"

3.96 1860 April 2: W. Kirby (?) (Niagara) to "Dear Sister Jane"

3.97 1862 September 26: R.H. Beecroft (Hudson City) to "Dear Cousin"

3.98 1864 October 19: S.F. Stanley (Springfield, Texas) to Mrs. William H. Gaines (Hot Springs)

3.99 1865 November 4: John A. Williamson (Cairo) to "My Dear Wife"

3.100 1870 October 2: M.W. Beltzhoover (Vienna) to Captain John A. Williamson

3.101 1871 October 13: W. Kirby (Niagara) to "My Dear Lizzie"

3.102 1873 August 20: Lizzie Kirk (Versailles) to "My dearest Mother"

3.103 1874 January 22: John Kirby (Washington) to "My Dear Lizzie"

3.104 1874 February 7: John W. Kirk (Cincinnati) to Miss Williamson

3.105 1874 April 22: John W. Kirk (Cincinnati) to Lizzie Williamson

3.106 1874 April 27: John W. Kirk (Cincinnati) to Miss Williamson

Correspondence

3.107 1874 June 21: William Green (?) (Leeds) to John Kirby (Newport, Kentucky)

3.108 1874 October 4: Lizzie to "Mama"

Box

4.1 1874 October 27: Lizzie (St. Louis) to "Mama"

4

4.2 1874 November 1: Lizzie (St. Louis) to "Mama"

4.3 1874 November 18: Will (Cincinnati) to Lizzie

4.4 1875 July 5: Will to Lizzie

4.5 1875 August 4: Will (Cincinnati) to Lizzie

4.6 1875 August 20-21: Will to Lizzie

4.7 1875 August 25: Will (Cincinnati) to Lizzie Williamson (Newport, Kentucky)

4.8 1875 August 30: Will (Cincinnati) to Lizzie

4.9 1875 September 1: Will (Cincinnati) to Lizzie?

4.10 1875 September 3: Will (Cincinnati) to "Pardie" [Lizzie]

4.11 1875 September 7: Will (Cincinnati) to Pardie

Correspondence

4.12 1875 September 9: Will to Lizzie Williamson

4.13 1875 September 21: Will to Lizzie

4.14 1875 October 11: Will to Lizzie

4.15 1875 October 26: Will to Lizzie

4.16 1875 October 28: Will (Portsmouth, Ohio) to Lizzie

4.17 1875 November 8: Will (Cincinnati) to Lizzie

4.18 1875 November 23: Will to Lizzie

4.19 1875 December 10: Will to Lizzie

4.20 1876 February 16: John Kirby (Toronto) to Lizzie Williamson (Newport, Kentucky) [postcard]

4.21 1876 May 22: John Kirby (Fayetteville) to Lizzie

4.22 1876 May 23: Will (Cincinnati) to Pardie

4.23 1876 May 30: Will (Cincinnati) to Pardie

4.24 1876 September 18: Will (Cincinnati) to Pardie

4.25 1877 July 2: John Kirby (Fayetteville) to "My Dear Sir" (Newport, Kentucky)

Correspondence

4.26 1877 July 8: John Kirby (Halifax) to Lizzie

4.27 1877 July 21: John Kirby (Hull) to Lizzie and Jane

4.28 1877 September 11: William Beecroft (Hull) to "My dear Uncle"

4.29 1878 June 22: William Beecroft (Hull) to "My dear Uncle"

4.30 1878 August 2: Lizzie, John, and Bud (Newport) to "Mama and Papa"

4.31 1878 August 4: Lizzie Kirk (Newport) to "Mama and Papa"

4.32 1878 August 5: Lizzie Kirk (Newport) to "Mama and Papa"

4.33 1878 August 6: Lizzie to Mama and Papa

4.34 1878 August 9: John Williamson (Niagara) to John

4.35 1878 August 12: Lizzie Kirk (Newport) to "Mama and Papa"

4.36 1878 August 14: Lizzie Kirk (Newport) to "Mama and Papa"

4.37 1878 August 15: E. Williamson (Niagara) to Lizzie

4.38 1878 August 19: Lizzie Kirk to "Mama and Papa"

4.39 1878 August 21: Lizzie Kirk (Newport) to "Papa"

Correspondence

4.40 1878 August 24: Lizzie Kirk (Newport, Kentucky) to "Papa"

4.41 1879 June 24: Semple (Cincinnati) to Captain John A. Williamson (Newport, Kentucky) [postcard]

4.42 1879 June 27: John W. Zoller (?) to Captain John A. Williamson (Newport, Kentucky) [postcard]

4.43 1880 September 30: Daniel Moore (Mound City) to Captain John A. Williamson

4.44 1880 October 11: D. Moore (Cairo, Illinois) to Captain John A. Williamson

4.45 1880 October 12: Daniel Moore (Cairo, Illinois) to Captain John A. Williamson

4.46 1883 March 2: W. Kirby (Niagara, Ontario) to "My dear Sister"

4.47 1888 August 9: "Papa" (Cincinnati or Newport) to "My Darling Son" (Put-in-Bay Island, Ohio)

4.48 1894 October 29: Lizzie Williamson Kirk (Versailles, Kentucky) [good-bye message]

4.49 1901 February 17: W. Kirby (Niagara) to Mrs. J.A. Williamson (Newport, Kentucky)

4.50 1901 December 14: Aunt Lizzie and Aunt Mary Williamson (Newport) to Fannie

4.51 1905 November 23: "The Workman" (Newport) to Mrs. Captain John Williamson (Newport, Kentucky)

4.52 Undated: John Parker to ??

Legal

4.53 ??? April 4: Hannah Kirby Beecroft (Hull) to Dear Niece

4.54 ??? September 10: Lottie Williamson to "Pa"

4.55 Undated: John Kirby to "Eliz"

4.56 Undated: William and Elize Kirby to ??

4.57 ??? September 4: ?? to Lizzie Williamson (Niagara, Ontario) [dance card]

4.58 Undated: ?? to Lizzie

4.59 Undated: poetry by Will to ??

4.60 Envelopes

Legal

4.61 1865-1867: Tax bills and receipts, Williamson

4.62 1866-1874: Guardianship, C.S. Williamson

4.63 1875 April: Protest for check drafted by E.S. Blasdel

Business

Personal

4.64 1873-1875: Account book, John W. Kirk

Personal

4.65 1894-1942: John Williamson Kirk materials

4.66 Photo print of Lydia Bassett Belding portrait

4.67 1865: Oath of Allegiance, Lizzie Kirby Williamson

Diaries

J.A. Williamson

4.68 1879, 1881, 1884, 1888

4.69 1888, 1890, 1894, 1898

Elizabeth (Mrs. J.A.) Williamson

4.70 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866

Box

5.1 1867, 1868, 1869, 1872

5

5.2 1873, 1874, 1876, 1877

Diaries

5.3 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881

5.4 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884

5.5 1886, 1887, 1889, 1890

5.6 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894

5.7 1896, 1897, 1898, 1900

5.8 1901, 1902, 1904, 1905

5.9 1906 and miscellaneous loose pages

5.10 1880: typescript