

Joseph J. Roberts Family Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

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Revised and expanded by Patrick Kerwin



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2003

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/mss.contact>

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R.
Gardner, 2010

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Collection Summary

Title: Joseph J. Roberts Family Papers

Span Dates: 1839-2001

ID No.: MSS61507

Creator: Roberts, Joseph J. (Joseph Jenkins), 1808-1876

Extent: 30 items; 1 container plus 1 oversize; 0.2 linear feet; 1 microfilm reel; 5 microfiches

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: President of Liberia. Correspondence, land grants, ship registrations, wills, genealogical material, photographs, and other papers relating to land sales by the Liberian government and to acquisition of property in Liberia by the Davis and Roberts families.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Davis family.

Roberts family.

Roberts, Joseph J. (Joseph Jenkins), 1809-1876.

Subjects

Land grants--Liberia.

Real property--Liberia.

Occupations

Presidents--Liberia.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The Joseph J. Roberts Family Papers were given to the Library of Congress by William R. Davis in 1983, 1991, 1993, and 2001. Items were purchased in 1918 and 1978.

Processing History

The Roberts Family Papers were processed and described in 1983. Additions and revisions were made in 1996 and 2003.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of members of the Joseph J. Roberts family is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of the Joseph J. Roberts family are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm and Microfiche

The collection also contains one reel of microfilm and five microfiches, consisting of correspondence, land grants, ship registrations, wills, and miscellaneous items. Consult reference

staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container, microfilm reel, or microfiche number, Joseph J. Roberts Family Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of the Joseph Jenkins Roberts family span the years 1839-2001 and consist of certificates, correspondence, documents relating to the government of Liberia (chiefly land grants and ship registrations), wills, and miscellaneous genealogical material. Present also are one reel of microfilm and five microfiches of correspondence, land grants, ship registrations, wills, and miscellaneous items.

The focus is on land sales, mainly 1841-1883, to individuals by the Liberian government and the acquisition of property by members of the Davis and Roberts families in Monrovia, Liberia. Joseph J. Roberts, the first president of Liberia, signed many of the land grants.

Arrangement of the Papers

Arranged alphabetically by type of material or topic.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Certificates
BOX 1	Ancient Arabic Order of the Mystic Shrine, 1898
BOX 1	Palm Grove Cemetery Company of Monrovia, undated
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1849-1977
	Microfiche shelf no. 20,502.1
BOX 1	Debt list, 1856
BOX 1	Genealogical material, 1977, 1997, 2001 <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 1	Land grants, 1839-1891
	Microfiche shelf no. 20,502.1
BOX 1	<i>Land Record of Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia vol. 7</i> , (land grants, ship registrations and wills), 1849-1854
	Microfilm shelf no. 20,502
BOX 1	Liberian army information, 1979
BOX 1	"Liberian National Anthem"/"The Lone Star Forever," undated
BOX 1	"Notes on the acquisition of the estate papers of William McCall Davis, April 1892," undated
	Microfiche shelf no. 20,502.1
BOX 1	Photographs, undated
BOX 1	Republic of Liberia v. Brownell, 1955
BOX 1	Wills
BOX 1	Davis, William McCall, 1883
BOX 1	Ellis, Colinet, 1911
BOX 1	King, William Henry, 1903
BOX 1	Miscellaneous, 1856-1977
	Microfiche shelf no. 20,502.1
BOX 1	Roberts, Joseph Jenkins, 1875, undated
BOX 1	Teage, Colin, undated
BOX 1	Teage, Francis, 1845
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Genealogical chart, 1977 (Same container)