

Decker Collection
2014-09

Scanning and Finding Aid by GFO Manuscripts Committee Volunteers



Manuscripts Committee
Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Inc.

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Summary

Title: Decker Collection

Accession Number: 2014-09

Creator: Jack Leland Decker (1927-2013) and Mary (McMurtrie) Decker (1929-2014)

Extent: 3 boxes consisting of 121 files (4243 pages)

Language: English

Abstract: The Decker collection contains research and photographs collected by Jack and Mary Decker. The research notes reference vital records, census records, city directories, military records, correspondence, and other sources. There are copies of many documents, as well as several original documents such as an 1885 marriage certificate and an 1892 naturalization certificate. The many photos range from snapshots taken on a trip to Scotland to cabinet cards dating from the late 1800s. Most are identified.

The most common surnames include Decker, McMurtrie, Robertson, Hoffman, and Baier. The most common locations were Oregon, New York, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Scotland.

Administrative Information

Provenance: The genealogical collection of Jack and Mary Decker was acquired by the Genealogical Forum of Oregon in 2014.

Retention and Access: Scanned images of the collection are currently retained by the GFO Manuscripts Committee in three separate digital storage locations and can be accessed at the GFO library or by contacting manuscripts@gfo.org.

Copyright Status: The status of copyright in the unpublished writings and research papers of Jack and Mary Decker is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Biographical Note

Jack Decker was born in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, on 2 October 1927. He was the son of Lee Ransler Dewey Decker and Anna Frieda Hoffman. Jack married Mary McMurtrie in New Birmingham, England, in 1950, after which they came home to Portland. Mary was born on 10 March 1929 in Detroit, Wayne, Michigan, the daughter of Robert Campbell McMurtrie and Sarah Robertson. Jack worked as a chemist and manager for paper companies in Washington and internationally. He and Mary focused on genealogy after his retirement.

Finding Aid

Box	File	Description	Prominent Surnames	Locations	Pages
1	1	Family group sheets, tax rolls, Bible records, pension records, census notes	Decker, Odell, Dunifon	New York, Pennsylvania	71
1	2	Descendant chart, census notes	Decker	Pennsylvania	10
1	3	Family group sheets	Decker, Bouton, Odell	Pennsylvania, New York	21
1	4	Pedigree charts, notes, Oregon Donation Land Claim	Brown, McMurtrie, Lyon	Tennessee, Oregon	18
1	5	Research notes	Bouton/Boughton, Decker	New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois	19
1	6	Census summaries, notes	Decker	New York, Pennsylvania	39
1	7	Transcribed land records and wills	Decker, Gates, Haxton, Bouton	New York	60
1	8	Family group sheets, research notes, military records, census summaries, death records, photos, copy of Bible record	Decker, Morton, Baier, Palmer, Brace, Thompson	Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Oregon	131
1	9	Military Records and notes	Decker, Drake	Illinois	13
1	10	Research notes	Decker, Thompson, Davis, Huntley	New York, Wisconsin	29
1	11	Family group sheets, pedigree charts, photos, research notes, obituaries, copies of vital records, correspondence	Decker, Grimes, Sherman, Krebs	Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Illinois	28
1	12	Family group sheets, obituaries, military records, census summaries, correspondence	Decker, Williams, Prial, Horan	Illinois	57
1	13	Correspondence, death records, military records	Decker	Wisconsin, California	16
1	14	Marriage, death records, and census summaries	Decker, Boatman	California, Wyoming	9
1	15	Biographical sketch, notes, photographs, and military records	Decker, Hoffman	Wisconsin, Oregon	34
1	16	Marriage certificate, photographs, census summaries, obituaries	Decker, Hoffman	Oregon	11

1	17	Birth certificate, military records, news clippings with photos	Decker, Hoffman	Oregon	11
1	18	Funeral announcements, birth and marriage records, census summaries	Decker, McMurtrie, Prestwood, Hoffman	Oregon	35
1	19	Census summaries, research notes	Decker, Huntley, Rensselaer	New York, Pennsylvania	89
1	20	Census summaries, military records, Bible records, notes	Davis, Haxton	New York	72
1	21	Research notes, naturalization record, photos, death certificate	Clostermann	Germany, Oregon	17
1	22	Research notes, death and marriage records, pedigree chart, photos, correspondence, naturalization record	Hoffman, Kronebach	Germany, Oregon	68
1	23	Research notes, death and burial records, photographs, census summaries	Dittman, Peterman	Germany, Minnesota, Oregon	20
1	24	Correspondence, photographs, Bible records, research notes, death certificates	Means, Baier, Spindler, VanWagenen	Germany, New York, Oregon	74
1	25	Pedigree chart, photographs, naturalization papers, death records, research notes	McMurtrie, Robertson, Holland	Scotland, Michigan, Oregon	54
1	26	Pedigree chart, family group sheets, notes	Robertson, Holland, Hutchison, Murdoch	Scotland	31
1	27	Notes	Haxton	New York, Wisconsin	16
1	28	Census summaries, research notes	Baier, Cortwright	Minnesota, Wisconsin, Oregon	19
1	29	Research notes, copies of vital records, census summaries	Decker, Ward, Palmer, Cortwright, Thompson, Brown, DeAtley	Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Oregon	72
1	30	Family group sheet, pedigree chart, photos	Means, Morton, Baier, Decker	Wisconsin, Minnesota, Oregon	13
1	31	Research notes, family group sheet, Bible records, photographs, marriage and death records	Ryel, Means, Baier, Patton	Wisconsin, Oregon	47
1	32	Census summaries, death record, land record	Spindler, Vogl, Thompson	Oregon	8

1	33	Family group sheets, funeral records, naturalization records, photographs, pedigree chart, notes	McMurtrie, Drennan, Waidley, Robertson, Campbell	Scotland, Pennsylvania, Michigan	99
1	34	Family group sheets, newspaper clippings, notes	Robertson, Hutchison, Drennan	Scotland, Oregon	32
1	35	Family group sheets, death records, photographs, notes	Brown, Baier, DeAttly, Ring, Berry	Minnesota, Oregon	64
1	36	Correspondence, family group sheet, photographs, death and marriage records, court records, census summaries, notes	Baier, Meyer, Spindler, Ryel, Thompson, Morton, Courtwright, Decker	Minnesota, Oregon	80
1	37	Service awards, photographs, newspaper clippings	Means	Oregon	22
1	38	Family group sheets, photographs, death records, notes	Spindler, Baier, Thompson, Vogl, Vogel	Minnesota, Oregon	37
2	1	Family group sheets	Bouton, Decker	Pennsylvania, New York	2
2	2	Correspondence, cemetery records, descendant chart	Decker, Robinson, Vroman, Driscoll, Haxton	Pennsylvania	22
2	3	Notes, land record, pedigree charts	Brown, Koch	Oregon, Minnesota	21
2	4	Military records, photographs, newspaper clippings, notes	Clostermann	Germany, California, Oregon	23
2	5	Correspondence, notes, descendant charts	Decker, Dittman, Baier, Dunifon, Odell	Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, California	144
2	6	Grave marker photo, notes	Davis	New York	2
2	7	Correspondence, reunion program, descendant reports, death records, family group sheets, notes, postcards, photos, military pension records, biographical sketches	Decker, Palmer, Baier, Thompson, Gray, Adams, Odell	New York, California, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin	255
2	8	"The Civil War Diary of Albert E Decker"	Decker	Illinois	25
2	9	Census summaries, notes	Decker	New York	19
2	10	Cemetery lists, notes	Decker	Pennsylvania	4
2	11	Manuscript "The Deckers and Related Families," correspondence	Decker		31

2	12	Manuscript version 2	Deckers and Related Families		37
2	13	Correspondence, research notes	Decker	New York	28
2	14	Pedigree Charts	Decker, Morton, Hoffman, Dittman	Germany, Pennsylvania, Oregon	10
2	15	Photos, notes, correspondence, news clippings	Dittmann	Germany, Minnesota, Oregon	43
2	16	Marriage certificate, naturalization certificate	Hoffman, Dittman	California, Oregon	2
2	17	Photos, notes, correspondence	Rangeloff	Bulgaria, Oregon	35
2	18	Court record, photo, notes	Baier, Clostermann	Illinois, Oregon	22
2	19	Correspondence, descendant list	Wilsey, Odell, Hazard, Decker	New York, Pennsylvania	37
2	20	Correspondence, letter dated 1892, DAR application	Eves, Johnson, Hanson, Hathaway	Maryland, Delaware	17
2	21	Correspondence	Decker, Palmer	Illinois	24
2	22	Correspondence, research notes	Davis, Decker		28
2	23	Family group sheets, news items, correspondence	Decker, Williams	New York, Illinois	15
2	24	Correspondence, assessment records	Decker	New York, Pennsylvania	13
2	25	Correspondence (in German) dated the 1920s-1960s, photos	Hoffmann, Clostermann	Germany	57
2	26	Photographs	Means	Minnesota, Wisconsin	18
2	27	Photographs	Hoffmann, Dittman, Clostermann	Germany, Oregon	75
2	28	Bible records, correspondence	Davis, Haxton	New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio	25
2	29	Oregon Death Certificates, descendant chart, will transcript, correspondence, notes	Hoffman, Dittman	Germany, Oregon	53
2	30	Notes	Huntley	New York	1
2	31	Family group sheets, correspondence, notes	Krebs, Policheri, Galloway	Illinois	80
2	32	Census summary	Berry, Ring	Wisconsin	1
2	33	Correspondence, photos, school programs, notes	Means	Wisconsin, Washington, Oregon	36
2	34	Notes	Morton		4

2	35	Family group sheets, correspondence	Grimes, Palmer, Webb, Freer	New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania	5
2	36		Decker, Means, Palmer, Grimes, Thompson, Courtwright	Wisconsin	9
2	37	Correspondence, research log, excerpts from church and cemetery record books	Decker	New York	45
2	38	Correspondence, notes	Decker	Pennsylvania	16
2	39	Correspondence, cemetery notes	Decker	New York	12
2	40	Photograph, correspondence of 1945 Washington High School reunion	Decker	Oregon	3
2	41	Correspondence, notes	Springsteen, Decker	New York	3
2	42	Correspondence, census summaries	Decker, Drake, Odell	Pennsylvania, New York	40
2	43	Correspondence, notes, excerpts from local history books	Decker, Morton, Marklee	Minnesota	27
2	44	Correspondence	Decker, Springsteen, Pollard	New York, Pennsylvania	7
2	45	Copies of photos, notes	Thompson	Illinois	3
2	46	Correspondence, excerpt from local history book, notes	Decker	New York	14
2	47	Death certificate, notes	Vogl, Vogel	Oregon	3
2	48	Naturalization papers, notes, descendant chart	McMurtrie, Robertson	Scotland, Oregon, Pennsylvania	45
2	49	Family group sheets, pedigree charts, notes	Robertson, Holland, McMurtrie, Drennan	Scotland, Oregon	36
2	50	Cemetery and family photos	Bouton, Hayes, Allen, Spindler, Brown, Atley	New York	71
2	51	Marriage announcement, cemetery and family photos	McMurtrie, Decker, Robertson, McBain, Hutchinson	Scotland, Oregon	67
2	52	Death records, photo, postcard, cemetery photos	Ryal, Pollard	Oregon	15
2	53	Cemetery photos, funeral announcement	Spindler	Oregon	4
2	54	Photos of Bible records, family photos (some copies, some originals)	Means, Ryel, Baier, Brown, Decker, Davis, Spindler, Vogel, Morton		191

2	55	Cemetery and family photos	Closterman, Baier, Mott, Atley		27
2	56	Photographs, citizenship papers	Hoffman		17
2	57	Cemetery and family photos	Decker, Thompson, Palmer, Courtwright		122
2	58	Family letters	Decker		40
3	1	Photographs	Holland	Scotland	19
3	2	Photograph copies, research notes	Robertson, Brown, McMurtrie	Scotland	43
3	3	Pedigree charts, family group sheets, research notes	McMurtrie, Robertson, Holland, Drennan, Brown	Scotland, Pennsylvania	152
3	4	Photographs, notes	Robertson, McMurtrie, Brown, Holland	Scotland, Oregon	77
3	5	Marriage Certificate, naturalization certificate, photo	Hoffman	California, Oregon	3
3	6	Correspondence, family history	Clostermann, Lauterer, Kerst	Germany, Oregon	4
3	7	Handwritten family history, "Ancestor Robert Means and Descendants," photographs, notes	Means, Baier, Ryel, Menzies	Wisconsin, Oregon	34
3	8	Photographs	McMurtrie, Robertson		30
3	9	Pedigree charts, family group sheets, notes, correspondence	Robertson, McMurtrie, Drennan, Lawrie, McLintock	Scotland, Oregon	32
3	10	Photos of Ann Campbell and others	Campbell	Scotland	8
3	11	Photos: folder labeled Isabell Boyd	Boyd, McCall	Scotland	4
3	12	Photos: folder labeled Mary Robertson	Robertson, McBain, McMurtrie	Scotland	14
3	13	Photographs	Robertson, McFarlane, Murdock, Holland, Bowman, Duncan	Scotland, North Carolina	21
3	14	Photographs, correspondence	McMurtrie, Robertson, Brown	Scotland, Michigan, Oregon	49
3	15	Photographs	Hutchinson, Boyle	Scotland	8
3	16	Photos: folder labeled Jack and Mary	McMurtrie, Decker	Oregon	18

3	17	Immigration correspondence	McMurtrie, Drennan	Scotland, Pennsylvania, Oregon	4
3	18	Photos: folder labeled Mary McMurtrie; correspondence	McMurtrie	Scotland, Oregon	29
3	19	Photos: medals, family, Mount Hood	Hoffman	Germany, Oregon	9
3	20	Photos: family, wedding, homes, Mount Hood	Closterman, Hoffman	Germany, Oregon	19
3	21	Photos: family, homes	Closterman, Decker, Dittman	Germany, Oregon	17
3	22	Photographs	Closterman, vonCrest	Germany	3
3	23	Photos: family, military, ships	Closterman, Hoffman	Oregon	14
3	24	Photos: family, school, wedding, homes	Closterman, Hoffman, Decker, vonCerst	Germany, Washington	19
3	25	Photographs	McMurtrie	Scotland, Oregon	36
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