

John W. Davis, Lawyer, Papers A&M 2963

John W. Davis, Lawyer, Papers
1842, 1861-1897, 1918-1927, 1946-1953, 1978



Title Statement

John W. Davis, Lawyer, Papers A&M 2963

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

A&M 2963

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

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Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/1091

Unit Date

1842, 1861-1897, 1918-1927, 1946-1953, 1978

Language

English .

Creator

Davis, John W. (John William), 1873-1955

Extent

3.54 Linear Feet 3 ft. 6.5 in. (4 document cases, 5 in. each); (1 small flat storage box, 3 in.); (1 large flat storage box, 3 in.); (1 large flat storage box, 3.5 in.); (1 box, 4 in.); (2 boxes, 4 1/2 in. each); (5 reels of microfilm, 1.75 in. each)

Physical Location

West Virginia and Regional History Center / West Virginia University / 1549 University Avenue / P.O. Box 6069 / Morgantown, WV 26506-6069 / Phone: 304-293-3536 / URL: West Virginia & Regional History Center

Repository

West Virginia and Regional History Center

Administrative Information

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Scope and Contents

Scrapbooks, diaries, correspondence and papers of the noted lawyer and 1924 presidential aspirant for the Democrats, John W. Davis, kept by his daughter, a famous author, Julia (McDonald) Davis Adams. Noteworthy is a 1948 official publication in tribute to Davis' career as Solicitor General of the United States (1913-1918). There is a typescript copy of his diary recounting his wartime and post-war tenure (1918-1921) as the U.S. ambassador to Great Britain. His letters include some of his candid feelings about the political events of his day such as the New Deal and tributes to his scholarly approach to practicing law from Supreme Court Justices Robert H. Jackson and Felix Frankfurter.

Keywords

Clarksburg (W. Va.)

England

Great Britain

United Kingdom.

Diaries and journals.

Lawyers - letters and papers.

Politics and government.

Slaves and slavery.

Universities and colleges
World War, 1914-1918
United States. Supreme Court
Davis, Julia, 1900-1993
Arnold, Jackson.
Jewel, Izetta, 1883-1978
Cornwell, John J. (John Jacob), 1867-1953
Davis, Ellen Graham.
Davis, John W. (John William), 1873-1955
Davis, Julia, 1900-1993
Fisher, Jake.
Frankfurter, Felix, 1882-1965
Jackson, Robert H.
Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826
MacCorkle, William Alexander, 1857-1930
Neely, Matthew Mansfield, 1874-1958
Post, Melville Davisson, 1869-1930
Rose, Herschel H.
Davis family

Description of Subordinate Components

John W. Davis ambassador diary [pp. 1-72]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180175

Unit Date ca. 1918-1921

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 1 (Folder)

John W. Davis ambassador diary [pp. 114-259]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180176

Unit Date ca. 1918-1921

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 2 (Folder)

John W. Davis ambassador diary [pp. 260-343]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180177

Unit Date ca. 1918-1921

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)

John W. Davis ambassador diary [pp. 344-426]

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180178

Unit Date ca. 1918-1921

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 4 (Folder)

Davis diary, Lord Curzon sections

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180179

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 5 (Folder)

Davis diary notes by Mrs. Healy

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180180

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 6 (Folder)

Clippings regarding John W. Davis

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180181

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 7 (Folder)

Clippings regarding Julia Davis Adams

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180182

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 8 (Folder)

WV Mountain Songs collected by A.D. Richardson

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180183

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 9 (Folder)

Letters congratulating ambassadorship and from Julia Davis Adams about the United Kingdom

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180185

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 1 (Folder)

English correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180186

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 2 (Folder)

Visit to Ottawa

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180187

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)

Letters from John W. Davis to Julia Davis Adams

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180188

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 4 (Folder)

Miscellaneous letters to Mrs. [Julia] Davis

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180189

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 5 (Folder)

Letters to Nell Davis potentially from John W. Davis

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180190

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 6 (Folder)

Miscellaneous correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180191

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 7 (Folder)

Accounts

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180192

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 8 (Folder)

Doctor's diagnosis

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180193

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 9 (Folder)

Pamphlets and other material

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180194

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 10 (Folder)

Fiftieth Anniversary booklet and other material

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180195

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 11 (Folder)

Miscellaneous clippings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180196

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 12 (Folder)

Duplicate clippings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180197

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 13 (Folder)

Miscellaneous material

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180198

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 14 (Folder)

Davis family photographs

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180199

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 15 (Folder)

Photograph album (labeled "England on exterior and credited to Julia Davis on first page. Includes candid images of Davis with family and friends in England.")

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180200

Unit Date 1920-1921

Mixed Materials Oversize 1 (Box)

Photograph album (includes wedding portraits of Julia Davis and William M. Adams as well as Davis' parents, friends, family, and wedding party. Also includes images of Davis and others in costumes; scenes in Europe, England and Havana, Cuba; and many family photographs. Image of J.W.D. and wife Ellen Bassel Davis in wedding album in WV History OnView, number 037414.)

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180201

Unit Date ca. 1923

Mixed Materials Oversize 1 (Box)

Photograph album (includes photographs and postcards of the Davis family in Europe and England; also includes some autographs, including J. M. Barrie and D. Lloyd George.)

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180202

Unit Date 1918-1927

Mixed Materials Oversize 1 (Box)

Photographs of John W. Davis, family members, and contemporaries (Images in WV History OnView database are numbers 037409-037413 and 037415-037429)

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180203

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials Oversize 2 (Box)

Container 1 (Folder)

Photographs of John W. Davis, family members, and contemporaries (Images in WV History OnView database are numbers 037430-037437)

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180204

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials Oversize 2 (Box)

Container 2 (Folder)

Unscanned photographs and other material (includes portraits of John W. Davis; J.W.D. and a law class at Washington and Lee, June 1897; Charles Evans Hughes; Robert Lansing; John W. Foster; negatives of Davis' campaigning; Bachrach photographs of Davis at a Banquet; photographs of the Platt bust of J.W.D.; portrait of John J. Davis; Washington and Lee Crest; and an enlargement of campaign material with Davis and his 1924 running mate, Bryan.)

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180205

Unit Date ca. 1897-1924, undated

Mixed Materials Oversize 2 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)

Guest register (includes signatures of J.M. Barrie, D. Lloyd George, Queen Mary, Prince Edward and other members of the British Royal family; Walter Lippman; Nathan Goff; Cyrus Vance; Edith Wilson; and Arthur Murray.)

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180206

Unit Date 1918-1946

Mixed Materials Oversize 3 (Box)

Visiting list**Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/180207**Unit Date** 1918-1920**Mixed Materials** Oversize 4 (Box)**Album of letters and cards in celebration of John W. Davis' 80th birthday.****Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/180208**Unit Date** 1953**Mixed Materials** Oversize 4 (Box)**Law update with bound and stapled insert -- Copy of Public Law 95-561, 95th Congress, which addresses several issues in education acts/laws.****Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/180209**Unit Date** 1978 November 1**Mixed Materials** Oversize 4 (Box)**The Poetical Works of John Milton, published by William P. Nimmo, London, EN****Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/180210**Unit Date** 1878**Mixed Materials** Oversize 4 (Box)**Dramatic Works of Shakespeare, published by William Andrus [fragile item]****Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/180211**Unit Date** 1842**Mixed Materials** Oversize 4 (Box)**Leather case with awards and diplomas of John W. Davis (On top of box there are (loose) metal, engraved awards of the New York State seal, the New York Bar Association seal, and the American Bar Association Medal for 1876. Inside the box are papers of accomplishment for school and organizations, such as Colombia University, Yale University, West Virginia University, University of Glasgow, Washington and Lee University, Concord University, Dartmouth College, Inspector General of New York, and the Freemasons.)****Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/180212**Unit Date** 1886, 1915-1923, 1953**Mixed Materials** Unboxed (Box)**Scrapbook (includes the following: 1861 full newspaper; 1924 newspaper clippings, magazine articles, pamphlets of political topics, such as speeches, West Virginia governor, and the democratic convention. Most [if not all] materials pertain to John W. Davis, his career and his political ongoing for the year. This artifact is VERY FRAGILE; handle with care.)****Unit ID** [Archival Resource Key](#)**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival_objects/180213**Unit Date** 1861, 1924, undated**Mixed Materials** Oversize 5 (Box)

Addendum of 1986 January 27, Four postcards from John W. Davis to his daughter Julia Davis Adams (includes one note from Julia Davis Adams explaining why her father referred to her as "Pickles")

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180184

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Container 10 (Folder)

Addendum of 1991 August 3, Photographs, clippings, and other material

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180214

Unit Date 1924, undated

Scope and Contents

This addendum includes assorted Davis family photographs, newspaper clippings, and other material.

Loose photographs and calling cards of John W. Davis and Julia Davis Adams

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180216

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 1 (Box)

Container 1 (Folder)

McDonald family photograph album

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180217

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 1 (Box)

Container 2 (Folder)

Presidential campaign photographs of John W. Davis

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180218

Unit Date 1924

Mixed Materials ADD 1 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)

John W. Davis photographs

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180219

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 1 (Box)

Container 4 (Folder)

Mrs. Woodrow Wilson photo

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180220

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 1 (Box)

Container 5 (Folder)

Photographs of Julia Davis Adams' trip to Russia

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180221

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 1 (Box)

Container 6 (Folder)

Family photographs

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180222

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 1 (Box)

Container 7 (Folder)

Miscellaneous papers

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180223

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 1 (Box)

Container 8 (Folder)

Four Score Years: Excerpts of McDonald Family Letters compiled by John Y. McDonald

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180224

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 2 (Box)

Container 1 (Folder)

Script of a two act play about John Brown at Harpers Ferry entitled "The Anvil"

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180225

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 2 (Box)

Container 2 (Folder)

Typescript copies of John W. Davis diary

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180226

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 2 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)

Clarksburg photograph album

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180227

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 2 (Box)

Container 4 (Folder)

John W. Davis house photographs

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180228

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 2 (Box)

Container 5 (Folder)

Davis-Adams New Jersey home photographs

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180229

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 2 (Box)

Container 6 (Folder)

Miscellaneous photographs and prints

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180230

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 2 (Box)

Container 7 (Folder)

Newsclippings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180231

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 2 (Box)

Container 8 (Folder)

Book review clippings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180232

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 2 (Box)

Container 9 (Folder)

Personal clippings

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180233

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials ADD 2 (Box)

Container 10 (Folder)

Addendum of 1992 February 25, Microfilmed material

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180215

Unit Date 1918-1954

Scope and Contents

This addendum consists of five reels of microfilmed letters, diaries, and newsreel.

Reel #1. Correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180234

Unit Date 1921-1952

Microform 1 (Reel)

Reel #2. Correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180235

Unit Date 1920-1954

Microform 2 (Reel)

Reel #3. Correspondence

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180236

Unit Date 1921-1952

Microform 3 (Reel)

Reel #4. Diaries

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180237

Unit Date 1918-1921

Microform 4 (Reel)

Reel #5. Newsreel

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/180238

Unit Date ca. 1924

Microform 5 (Reel)