

Millard Fillmore Papers

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LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm81020537>

Prepared by Michelle Krowl

Collection Summary

Title: Millard Fillmore Papers

Span Dates: 1839-1925

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1839-1870)

ID No.: MSS20537

Creator: Fillmore, Millard, 1800-1874

Extent: 35 items ; 1 container ; 0.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Summary: U.S. President, vice president, and representative, lawyer, and educator. Chiefly correspondence of Fillmore relating to slavery; the Compromise of 1850; the Fugitive Slave Law (1850), John Brown's Raid, 1859, Harpers Ferry, W. Va.; the Whig Party; and congressional politics. Includes several letters of and an obituary notice for Fillmore's daughter, Mary Abigail Fillmore, as well as a detailed index to volumes 1-44 of the Millard Fillmore papers in the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, Buffalo, N.Y.

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

Benton, Thomas Hart, 1782-1858.

Brown, John, 1800-1859.

Calhoun, John C. (John Caldwell), 1782-1850.

Fendall, Philip Ricard, 1794-1868--Correspondence.

Fillmore, Mary Abigail, 1832-1854--Correspondence.

Fillmore, Millard, 1800-1874.

Harrison, William Henry, 1773-1841.

Haven, Solomon G. (Solomon George), 1810-1861--Correspondence.

Marshall, Humphrey, 1812-1872--Correspondence.

Organizations

United States. Congress.

United States. Fugitive slave law (1850)

Whig Party (U.S.)

Subjects

Antislavery movements--United States.

Compromise of 1850.

Fugitive slaves--United States.

Slavery--New York (State)

Slavery--United States.

Places

Harpers Ferry (W. Va.)--History--John Brown's Raid, 1859.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Causes.

United States--Politics and government--19th century.

Occupations

Educators.

Lawyers.

Presidents--United States.

Representatives, U.S. Congress--New York (State)

Vice-Presidents--United States.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Millard Fillmore, educator, lawyer, president of the United States, U. S. representative, and vice president of the United States, were acquired by gift, purchase and transfer during the years 1909-2013.

Processing History

The papers of Millard Fillmore were arranged in 1981. Subsequent additions were arranged in 2014. The finding aid was created in 2016.

Related Material

Related collections in the Manuscript Division include the microfilm edition of the Millard Fillmore Papers, 1809-1874, held by the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society in Buffalo, N.Y. A guide to the collection is available in the Library of Congress Manuscript Division, and online through the website of the Buffalo History Museum, <http://www.buffalohistory.org/>.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Millard Fillmore is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Millard Fillmore 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.

Online Content

The papers of Millard Fillmore are available on the Library of Congress Web site at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/collmss.ms000050>.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Millard Fillmore Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1800, Jan. 7	Born, Locke (now Summerhill), Cayuga County, N.Y., to Nathaniel Fillmore and Phoebe Millard Fillmore
1818	Taught school, Scott, N.Y.
1818-1821	Studied law under Judge Walter Wood, Montville, N.Y.
1821	Moved to Aurora, N.Y.
1822	Clerked at law firm of Asa Rice and Joseph Clary, and taught school, Buffalo, N.Y.
1823	Admitted to practice law by the Court of Common Pleas, Buffalo, N.Y.
1823-1830	Practiced law, East Aurora, N.Y.

- 1826 Married Abigail Powers (1798-1853), daughter of Lemuel Powers and Abigail Newland, Moravia, N.Y.
- 1828 Birth of son Millard Powers Fillmore, Aurora, N.Y. (died 1889)
- 1828 Elected to the New York state assembly as Anti-Masonic Party candidate; served three one-year terms
- 1830 Formed law partnership with Joseph Clary, and moved to Buffalo, N.Y.
- 1832 Birth of daughter Mary Abigail (“Abbie”) Fillmore, Buffalo, N.Y. (died 1854)
- 1833-1835 Served in the U.S. House of Representatives
- 1834 Formed law firm of Fillmore & Hall with Nathan K. Hall
- 1836 Formed law firm of Fillmore, Hall & Haven with Solomon G. Haven
- 1837-1843 Served in the U.S. House of Representatives; declined to be renominated in 1842
- 1844 Defeated in New York gubernatorial election
- 1846-1874 Chancellor, University of Buffalo, Buffalo, N.Y.
- 1848-1849 Comptroller of the State of New York; resigned Feb. 1849
- 1849 Inaugurated vice president of the United States
- 1850 Sworn in as president of the United States following death of Zachary Taylor, July 9, 1850
- 1852 Failed to win nomination of Whig Party as presidential candidate
- 1853, Mar. 30 Death of wife Abigail at City Hotel, Washington, D.C.
- 1854 Tour of southern and western United States
- 1855-1856 Tour of Europe; attended International Exposition, Paris, France
- 1856 Defeated in presidential election as the American Party candidate
- 1858 Married Caroline Carmichael McIntosh (1813-1881), daughter of Charles Carmichael and Tempe W. Blachly, Albany, N.Y.
- 1862 Chairman, Buffalo Committee of Public Defense, Buffalo, N.Y.
- 1862-1867 President, Buffalo Historical Society, Buffalo, N.Y.
- 1866 Second tour of Europe
- 1870 President, Buffalo General Hospital, Buffalo, N.Y.

1874, Mar. 8

Died, Buffalo, N.Y.; interred Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, N.Y.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Millard Fillmore (1800-1874) span the years 1839-1925, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1839-1870. Fillmore's correspondents during this time include Philip Ricard Fendall, Solomon G. Haven, and Humphrey Marshall, and the subject matter focuses primarily on political issues such as slavery, the Compromise of 1850, and congressional politics. The correspondence also includes several letters from Fillmore's daughter Mary Abigail Fillmore to Susan E. Johnson, and an 1854 obituary notice for Fillmore's daughter. The remainder of the papers consists of a detailed index compiled in 1925 to volumes 1-44 of the Millard Fillmore papers in the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society, Buffalo, N.Y.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Correspondence 1839-1848 Digital content available 1848-1852 (reproductions) Digital content available 1849-1853 Digital content available 1853-1859 Digital content available 1859-1870 , undated Digital content available Correspondence (2014 addition) 1840 , 1845 Digital content available Index to letters in the Buffalo and Erie County, N.Y., Historical Society, 1925 Vols. 1-12 Folder 1 of 3 Digital content available Folder 2 of 3 Digital content available Folder 3 of 3 Digital content available Vols. 13-26 Folder 1 of 3 Digital content available Folder 2 of 3 Digital content available Folder 3 of 3 Digital content available Vols. 27-44 Folder 1 of 3 Digital content available Folder 2 of 3 Digital content available Folder 3 of 3 Digital content available