

THE WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

REGISTER: Robert E. Donelon Family Papers

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Processor: Regina Costello

Editor: Michael McCormick

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The Robert E. Donelon family originated in Bohola, County Mayo, Ireland. The first family member to immigrate to the United States was an aunt, who chose Cleveland, Ohio, to live with her relatives. Donelon's father, John Donelon came to the United States in 1904. He too settled in Cleveland, and married Alice T. Doherty (b. 1933) in 1955. Together they had seven children. John Donelon worked as a night watchman for the Wilbur Wright Junior High School. In 2003, Robert Donelon continued to reside in Cleveland, Ohio, and was a member of the West Side Irish American Club, as well as a past participant in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

The Robert E. Donelon Family Papers, 1890-2002, consist of a certificate of birth, a certificate of naturalization, an Irish Christmas Yule card, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and an obituary.

The collection is arranged alphabetically by document type, and then chronologically.

This collection is of value to researchers studying Irish American history in northeast Ohio. It will also be of interest to those researching the life and times in rural Ireland during the 1940s, as depicted in the correspondence, which references marriage match making, local feuds, and the impact of World War II. Genealogists seeking information on the Donelon family from Bohola, County Mayo, Ireland will find pertinent data in this collection.

Provenance: Robert E. Donelon, 2001, 2002.

Number of Containers: 1    Oversize Folders: 0    Oversize Volumes: 0

Size: 0.20 linear feet / 0.06 linear meters

Restrictions: None.

Container

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|---|---------------|---|
| 1 | <u>Folder</u> | 1: Certificate of birth, Catharine McNicholas, photocopy, 1890.   |
|   | <u>Folder</u> | 2: Certificate of naturalization, John Donelon, photocopy, 1912.  |
|   | <u>Folder</u> | 3: Greeting card, Irish Yule Card, including a poem about social justice, 1940.                               |
|   | <u>Folder</u> | 4: Letters, to Katie, (surname unknown) from her sister in County Mayo, 1914, 1916.                           |
|   | <u>Folder</u> | 5: Letter, Baby (full name unknown) in County Mayo to her brother and sister in the United States, 1926.      |
|   | <u>Folder</u> | 6: Letters, "B" in County Mayo to her sister Maria and unidentified brother in the United States, 1931, 1936. |
|   | <u>Folder</u> | 7: Letter, Marie to Katie, (surnames unknown) 1944.   |
|   | <u>Folder</u> | 8: Letter, Jack and family to his brother John, (surnames unknown) undated.                                   |
|   | <u>Folder</u> | 9: Letter, B. Reilly in County Meath Ireland, to her family, undated.   |
|   | <u>Folder</u> | 10: Newspaper clippings, <i>Plain Dealer</i> , 1965, and undated.   |
|   | <u>Folder</u> | 11: Obituary, Martin Patrick Donelon, (brother of Robert E. Donelon), <i>Plain Dealer</i> , undated.          |