

# **Guide to the John Dreisbach Papers**

## **1810-1965**



## John Dreisbach Papers

1810-1965

0.46 cubic feet

gcsh.ms.628

The purpose of this finding aid is to help you understand the nature of this collection and to assist you in the retrieval of material from this collection. The following pages contain a brief biographical history of the person, or persons, who created or collected these papers, followed by a general description of the collection in the scope and content note. If more detailed information is warranted then series descriptions also appear. The container listing appears last and is the listing of material in each box, or container, of this collection. To request material you need to turn to the container listing section. It is essentially a listing of file folders, or artifact items, in the collection. Each folder, or item, has a call number associated with it. Each folder also lists the inclusive dates of the material in the folder. On the material request form list both the call number and the folder, or item, title. Use a different line for each folder, or item, requested. When your request sheet is complete, or full, bring it to the archivist and the material will be retrieved.

### Biographical Note

John Dreisbach was an Evangelical Association minister and co-laborer of Jacob Albright. He was born in Buffalo Valley, Union County, Pennsylvania in 1789. He married Catherine Eyer and, after Catherine died, married her sister, Fanny. There were thirteen natural children and one adopted child in the Dreisbach household.

Dreisbach was the first presiding elder of the Evangelical Association, and served as an itinerant preacher until his health forced him to locate in local congregations. He was instrumental in setting up the publishing interests for the Association in New Berlin, Pennsylvania. Dreisbach served as editor of the *Evangelical Messenger*.

By 1827, Dreisbach had moved to Ohio to oversee the Association's work in what was known then as the Western Conference. He died on August 20, 1871 and was buried near Circleville, Ohio.

### Scope Note

The John Dreisbach Papers contains his printed sermon book, sermon outline book (1853-1854), and a personal diary - all written in German. In the sermon outline book, there is a reference to an 1876 date which relates to A. E. Dreisbach's estate; a descendant's of John. After the A. E. Dreisbach entry, writings from the childhood of Arthur W. Dreisbach, another descendant, can be found. There are extra copies of his John's sermons with English translations. The images include two glass ambrotype portraits of John and his and two additional photographs of John. There is correspondence to a Reverend A. Stapleton, as well as other correspondence, which gives information about Dreisbach and items within the collection.

Records pertaining to Dreisbach's family history are in notation format. There are other personal papers which include poems, hymns, a copy of John's final testament and a couple of passages from his journal. These records are written in both German and English. The sole artifact is a lamp bracket from the First Evangelical Church in Dayton, Ohio, which was used by John Dreisbach as a potato masher.

### Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner. All paper files are arranged by date from those without dates in the front and the rest in chronological order. The lamp bracket is stored in the Artifacts vault.

### Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding this collection.

## **Preferred Citation**

When citing material from this collection please use the following format: Direct reference to the item or its file folder, John Dreisbach Papers, United Methodist Church Archives - GCAH, Madison, New Jersey. Do not make use of the item's call number as that is not a stable descriptor.

## **Index Terms**

### ***Subject Names - Personal***

Albright, Jacob  
Dreisbach, A. E  
Dreisbach, Arthur W  
Dreisbach, John  
Eller, Paul H  
Ness, John Harrison (1919- )  
Spreng, Samuel P  
Yeakel, Reuben

### ***Subject Topics***

Biography  
Bishops  
Church history-19th century  
Family  
Periodicals  
Political, Practical  
Prayers  
Sermons  
Wills

### ***Subject Geographic***

United States

### ***Genre***

Artifacts  
Correspondence  
Diaries  
Histories  
Hymns  
Journals  
Newsletters  
Newspapers  
Photographs  
Poetry  
Portraits  
Sermons  
Wills

### ***Occupations***

Minister  
State Representative

## Container List

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1553-6-6:1	Ambrotype portraits of John Dreisbach and Wife	Undated
1553-6-6:2	Pictures of John Dreisbach	Undated
1553-6-6:3	Bibliographical Materials on Dreisbach	1965
1553-6-6:4	Information on Dreisbach's Family	1891
1553-6-6:5	Newspaper Clippings	1810-1829
1553-6-6:6	Personal Papers	1813-1953
1553-6-6:7	Dreisbach Diary (original copy)	1817-1818
1553-6-6:8	Dreisbach Diary Translation By Rev. George Goetz	1817-1818
1553-6-6:9	Printed Dreisbach Sermon	1820
1553-6-6:10	Handwritten and typed copies of Dreisbach Sermons	1820
1553-6-6:11	John Dreisbach's Book (sermons and personal information)	1853-1854
1553-6-6:12	Correspondence about Dreisbach	1889-1965
5011-4-9:1	Artifact: Potato Masher	Undated