McLean County Museum of History

Paul J Abraham Collection

Processed by
Estefani Lopez, Illinois State University Library/Archives Intern
Spring 2023

Collection Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VOLUME OF COLLECTION:</th>
<th>1 Box</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COLLECTION DATES:</td>
<td>1936-1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESTRICTIONS:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROVENANCE:</td>
<td>Gift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:</td>
<td>Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OTHER FINDING AIDS:</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOCATION:</td>
<td>Archives</td>
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Brief History

Paul J. Abraham (1909-1989) was born in Flint, Michigan to Gregory and Elizabeth Nameth Abraham. He married Zelma D Riley on April 17, 1934. Paul J. Abraham served in the U.S Army from 1928 to 1934. He received the honorary grandfather title from the Rainbow Dancers Native Americans. He had worked as an electrical engineer at in Toledo, Ohio, and later in Peoria, Illinois.

Scope

The collection includes manuscripts, research, newspaper articles, and maps.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: General Information
1.1 “Homemade Knives Go to Army,” Pantagraph, January 30, 1944, p.3

Folder 2: Arrowsmith / Meskwaki Siege
2.1 “Blocus du Fort,” by Paul J. Abraham, 1974, 2 pp..
2.2 “The Jesuit Priest,” by Abraham, no date, 3 pp.
2.3 “Arrowsmith Battle Field,” by Abraham, no date, 1 p.
2.4 “Summary of Blocus du Fort,” by Abraham, no date, 1 p.
2.7 Notes, presumably Abraham’s, 1 p.
2.8 “Blocus du Fort 170s, Williams Brigham, Bloomington Illinois,” notes on Brigham’s “error,” 1 p.
2.9 “Etnataek,” notes on Brigham, 2 pp.
2.12 Map of Blocus du Fort site, by Abraham, 1979, 1 p.
2.14 Letter, unaddressed and unsigned, no date, 1 p.
2.15 Pencil / pen sketch of Kennekuk, Kickapoo Prophet,” unsigned, 1 p.
Folder 3: Horton, Kansas visit
3.1 Journal, typed, 5 ½ by 8 ½ paper, on 1955 visit to Kansas Kickapoo, photocopy, 37 pp.
3.3 Drawing of Prayer Stick (same as 5.2), 14 by 8½ inches, with note, “Copy of Prayer Stick Given to Paul Abraham by Ben Cadue.” 1 p.
3.4 Two copies of 2.15 pencil sketch of “Kan-Ne-Kuk.”

Folder 4: Braun Mound
4.1 Paper, typed, on findings of the Braun Mound, no date, author uncertain, 2 pp.
4.3 Letter from Paul J Abraham, 3439 Royal Dr., Peoria, IL, to Greg (no surname or address), no date, 1 p.
4.5 “Wilbern Skeletons Indians’: U of I Prof.” newspaper article, no source of date.
4.8 Map, 8½ by 11 inches of Illinois and Kickapoo sites, hand-drawn and colored with typed captions, by Paul J Abraham, no date.
4.9 “Land by Conquest,” manuscript by Paul J Abraham, no date, 6 pp.
4.10 Map, 14 by 8 1/2 inches, photocopy, partial of Illinois and Indiana territories with handwritten notes and markings, most in red ink, no date.

Folder 5: “Kan-Ne-Kuk’s” Church
5.1 “Indians Observe Religious Customs on Reservation Near Horton, Kas. Same as Ken Ne Kuk, Observed and Taught,” manuscript, typed photocopy, by Paul J. Abraham, no date, 4 pp.

Folder 6: Kenneuk and Kickapoo
6.3 “Isaac McCoy Baptist Mission, Hist of Indian Affairs,” typed, undated, 3 pp..
6.5 Excerpts from The Good Times in Mclean County by Dr. E Duis., 1874, typed, 1 p.
6.7  “The Purpose of this report is to review …” typed manuscript, no author, undated, 3 pp.
6.8  “Kannekuk The Prophet” by Paul J Abraham, no date, 4 pp.
6.9  “630 Souls Indian Grove …” 5 by 7 inches, with illustration, 6½ by 8½ inches, no date, 2 pp.
6.10 “Prayer Sticks of the Praying Kickapoo Indians,” no author, undated, 1 p.
6.12 “Kanakuk or Kannekuk,” speech before General Clark, typed, 1 p.
6.14 “No-Ma-Que: Kickapoo Indian, Kan-Ne-Kuk, band, Vermillion Tribe, Olivers Grove, Livingston Co Ill SE cor,” manuscript by P.J. Abraham, no date, 1 p.
6.16 “Mr. Catlin’s Indian Creed 1868,” typed, no date, 1 p.
6.17 “Mr. Catlin’s notes on the Kickapoo Indian (Illinois) 1831,” typed, no date, 1 p.
6.18 “Kanakuk’s Teaching of Heaven to his Followers,” no author, undated, 1 p
6.19 “Translation of the Characters on Stick and How Used,” by Issac [sp?] McCoy, 1 p.; with 6 pp. of notes on the Prayer Stick(s); and 6 pp. of “Characters Translated” notes—all typed, undated.
6.20 “The Prayer Stick of Kee An Ne Kuk,” Translation by Issac [sp?] McCoy …,” typed, with pencil illustration of Prayer Stick, 1 p.

Folder 7: Peoria
7.1 Map, hand-drawn, mostly in pencil, on folded manila envelope, of the Illinois River and the French Illinois Country, no author or date.
7.2 Set of seven maps, hand-drawn or traced, with typed notes, no author (presumably Abraham) or dates, 7 pp.
7.3 Map, 24 by 17½ inches, hand-drawn and colored, of Illinois River and Peoria area, no date
7.5 Letter to David B. McCullough from Aquilla J. Davis, Tremont, IL, copy, no date, 2 pp.

Folder 8: Kickapoo
8.1 “Issac [sp?] McCoy, Baptist Mission Hist of Indian Affairs,” 3 pp. on Kickapoo burial practices.
8.2 “Kannekuk The Kickapoo Prophet,” on 5 by 7 inch paper, typed, no author, undated, 1 p.
8.4 “Kickapoo Indians,” typed, no author, undated, 3 pp. (third page typed in reverse—to be viewed in mirror).
8.5 “The Indian,” typed, no author, undated, 2 pp.
8.6 “The Kickapoo Indian,” = no author, undated, 3 pp.
8.7 “The Indian,” one paragraph on facial hair, = no author, undated, 1 p.
8.9 “Land By Conquest,” no author, undated, 2 pp.
8.10 “Let Us Bear In Mind that the Indian Was a Lazy Man,” typed, no author (presumably Abraham), no date, 4 pp.
8.11 “No-Ma-Que, Kickapoo Indian Tried for Murder …,” no author, undated, 4 pp.
8.12 “No-Ma-Que …,” typed, undated, 1 pp.
8.14 Miscellaneous research notes / papers on the Kickapoo, 16 pp.

Folder 9: Native American Honor Ceremony
9.2 Flyer, Native American Honor Ceremony, Fort Creve Couer, June 29, 1996.

Folder 10: Livingston County
10.1 “History of Livingston County,” by Paul J Abraham, typed, no date, 8 pp. (includes material that appears in the Kickapoo folder).

Folder 11: 40 Acres

Folder 12: Bricks
12.1 Notes on local brick, 6 pp. of photocopied manuscript on 3 pp.
12.2 “The ‘un common’ Brick,” notes by Paul J Abraham, on 5 by 7 inch paper, includes two hand-drawn maps, June 1975.
12.3 Three maps, 5½ by 8½ inches, relating to Bloomington locations of dumps containing old bricks.

Folder 13: Butchering and Meat
13.2 “Kolbas (Magars) 40 Acres,” no author (presumed Abraham), no date, 6 pp.