Brandt and Grant Family Papers
(SP0042)

Collection Number: SP0042

Collection Title: Brandt and Grant Family Papers

Dates: 1933-2000

Creator: Winzeler, Lena K. Brandt Grant, 1916-2014

Abstract: The collection contains 35 diaries written by Lena K. Grant. They document the travels of her family during her husband’s many deployments, in places like the Philippines, Korea, and Crown Point, Indiana. The collection also contains clippings, pamphlets, a baby book, and other mementos from the family’s life.

Collection Size: 4 cubic feet
(70 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield. If you would like more information, please contact us at springfield@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given and assigned to the Society all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor’s works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the Society from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] Brandt and Grant Family Papers (SP0042); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Springfield [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Springfield].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Linda Myers on November 14, 2018 (Accession No. SPA0049).
Historical Note:

Lena K. Brandt was born February 28, 1916, the daughter of Charles Brandt and Louise Demanche Brandt. She was born in Marionville, Missouri, and attended high school there. On March 24, 1940, she married Ben Grant, who was a career military man who served in the United States Army. Ben joined the Armed Forces on June 6, 1932. During World War II, he served in the Pacific. Ben remained in the Army following the war, and the family moved frequently. Places Ben served included Fort Riley, Kansas, Joplin, Missouri, Aschaffenburg, Germany, Warsaw, Indiana, Crown Point, Indiana, and Korea. Lena meticulously recorded their travels in a series of scrapbooks and diaries. In November 1942, they had a son, John, who also went into the military. They retired to their hometown of Billings, Missouri, in the late 1960s. Ben and Lena were married for 38 years, until his death in 1978.

On September 4, 1982, Lena married Elmer Winzeler. They resided in Nixa, Missouri, until his death on November 19, 2005. Lena volunteered her time at the Republic Senior Center and enjoyed gardening. She was a member of the Greater Ozarks Hosta (plant) Society. Lena died December 6, 2014, at the age of 98 and was buried in the Springfield National Cemetery.

Arrangement:

This collection was arranged into two series:

Family Papers
Diaries

Scope and Content Note:

Family Papers

This series consists of correspondence, clippings, pamphlets, a baby book, and other mementos Lena K. Grant collected about the family’s life. It includes pamphlets and invitations to events the family attended from 1936 to 1986, and clippings chronicling stories about family and friends, including obituaries of loved ones. Booklets published by organizations, such as the Republic Senior Friendship Center, which Lena volunteered for, give insight into her later life. Also included is private correspondence between Lena and her husband Ben. The contents of this series have been arranged chronologically.

Diaries

This series consists of 35 diaries kept by Lena K. Grant from 1933 until 1976. The diaries detail the family’s travels as they moved with the army and documents living in the Philippines, Germany, Fort Riley, Kansas, Crown Point, Indiana, and Korea. It also chronicles their return to their home town of Billings, Missouri. The diaries have been kept in their original numbered order and maintain their original organization.
Container List:

f. 1-9 Family Papers
Box 001
f. 1 Memoir of Thelma May Findley Paschall Smith, no date
f. 2 Pamphlets and invitations, 1936-1986
f. 3 Play Script, 1938
f. 4 John A. Grant baby book, 1942
f. 5 Scrapbook, 1942
f. 6 Clippings, 1983-2005
f. 7 Marionville High School reunion, 1985
f. 8 Republic Senior Friendship Center booklet, 2000
f. 9 Correspondence, 1936-1938

f. 10-70 Diaries
Box 002
f. 10 Diary, 1933-1936
f. 11 Vol. 1, The Trip Across, 1946
f. 12 Vol. 1, Manila, Philippine Islands, 1946
f. 13 Vol. 2 Manila, 1946
f. 14 Vol. 2 Las Pinas, 1946
f. 15 Vol. 3 Cook and Baker’s School, 1946
f. 16 Vol. 3 Cook and Baker’s School, 1947
f. 17 Vol. 4 New Guinea, Okinawa, no date
f. 18 Vol. 4 Wisconsin, 1949
f. 19 Vol. 5 Missouri, 1949-1950

Box 003
f. 20 Vol. 6 Joplin, Missouri and Galena, Kansas, 1950-1953
f. 21 Vol. 7 Tour of Europe, 1954
f. 22-23 Vol. 8 Aschaffenburg, 1955
f. 24-25 Vol. 9 Towns in Germany, 1955
f. 26-27 Vol. 10 Towns in Germany, 1955
f. 28 Vol. 11 England and Ireland, no date
f. 29 Vol. 12 France, no date
f. 30 Vol. 12 Holland, no date
f. 31 Vol. 13 Southwest Kansas, 1955-1956
f. 32 Vol. 14 History of the Army and 1st Infantry Division, no date
f. 33 Vol. 15 Kansas History, 1956
f. 34-35 Vol. 16 Kansas Towns, no date

Box 004
f. 36 Vol. 17 Fort Riley, Kansas, 1956
f. 37 Vol. 18 Fort Riley, Kansas, 18th Infantry and 2nd Infantry Division, 1957
f. 38 Vol. 18 Pennant of 2nd Infantry Division, 1957
f. 39 Vol. 18 Fort Riley, Kansas 18th Infantry and 2nd Infantry Division, 1957
f. 40-41 Vol. 19 Indiana, 1958
f. 42-43 Vol. 20 Indiana, 1958
f. 44-45 Vol. 21 Crown Point, Indiana, 1958-1959
f. 46-47 Vol. 22 Crown Point, Indiana, 1960
f. 48-49 Vol. 23 Crown Point, Indiana, 1960
Box 004  f. 54  Vol. 26 Independence, Kansas, 1963-1964
f. 55  Vol. 26 Independence, Kansas, 1965
f. 56  Vol. 27 Kennedy Assassination, 1963
f. 57  Vol. 27 Pictures from Korea, 1961
f. 58  Vol. 27 Dalton’s Capture, 1888
f. 59-60  Vol. 28 Billings, Missouri, 1965-1967
f. 61  Vol. 29 Billings, Missouri, 1967
f. 64-65  Vol. 31 Billings, Missouri, 1969-1971
f. 66-67  Vol. 32 Billings, Missouri, 1972-1974
f. 68  Vol. 33 Chipmunk Hollow Lake, 1967-1976
f. 69  Vol. 34 The New House, 1971
f. 70  Vol. 34 Travels, 1975-1980

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