

State Archives of Iowa

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Collections Recently Processed and Available for Research

- 1) Secretary of State. Land Office. Records, 1800-1890. 34.5 cubic feet.

This material was recently transferred to the State Archives of Iowa from the Secretary of State's Office. It includes correspondence, reports, abstracts, field notes, plats, maps, etc., relative to land sales and surveys.

Among the more interesting documents is one entitled "Plat of a survey of one million, two hundred and fifty thousand acres of land in the Territory of Iowa, purchased by the United States from the Confederated Tribes of Sac and Fox Indians at a treaty held at the city of Washington, September 21st, 1837." This was the second Black Hawk Purchase. Also included are maps and original field notes of lands in Minnesota and Wisconsin including Fort Snelling, the Oneida Reservation, and lands ceded by the Chippewa Indians in 1854 and 1855.

Documents dating from 1800 relating to one of three land grants by the Spanish in Iowa were also discovered. In French and English, they include the original field notes and

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a plat of Basil Giard's claim, which lay across the Mississippi from the village of Prairie Du Chien.

Many of these documents are extremely fragile or in pieces and are in the process of being repaired and encapsulated.

- 2) Secretary of State. Laws of Iowa, 1838-1969. 137 volumes.
These are the original handwritten laws (typescripts in later years) from which the printed copies were composed. Each bears the signatures of legislative officials and governors.
- 3) Secretary of State. Registers of Bills, 1868-1969. 112 volumes.
Includes date of introduction, committee referral, amendments, date signed by Speaker and sent to governor, etc.
- 4) Commerce Commission. Utilities Division. Annual Reports of Utilities, 1967-1969. 23 cubic feet.
- 5) Roman Catholic Diocese of Des Moines. Records of Visit of Pope John Paul II to Des Moines, October 4, 1979. .5 cubic feet.
Includes press releases, biographies, background information, itineraries, maps, Papal Liturgy, budgets, newspaper articles, photos, etc. Though not official state records, the State of Archives of Iowa is pleased to preserve records of a significant event in Iowa's history.

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