

**Guide to the Anthony J. Griffin Papers**  
**Manuscripts and Archives Division**  
**New York Public Library**

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ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # \*86 M 49

Location Annex 5-b-3/6 (R)

Title ANTHONY J. GRIFFIN. Papers.

Approximate inclusive dates 1885-1935, bulk dates 1910-1930

Date of receipt April 1935

Received from Mrs. Katherine Griffin

Volume on arrival 4 crates, 10 tin boxes

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 13 AB, 7 RC, 5 FB (14 linear feet)

Condition good (some carbons brittle)

Restrictions none

Description see attached sheets

Special Formats  Photographs  Maps  Audio Tapes  Films  Graphics  
 Artifacts  Machine-readable records  
 Other (list) negatives, drafting tools

Temporary catalog card added entries .

Bryan, William Jennings Prohibition

Diaries Roosevelt, Franklin Delano

Emigration and immigration law Submarine Accessioned by CRK  
rescue vehicles

Legal documents

Taxation Date 6-17-86

New York City - Politics

Anthony J. Griffin Papers

Biographical Note

Anthony J. Griffin (1866-1935) was a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the Bronx and Harlem from 1918 until his death in 1935. A captain in the New York Volunteers, he served in the Spanish American War, 1898-1899, practiced law in the Bronx throughout his Congressional career, was founder and editor of the Bronx Independent in 1906, and served four terms as New York State Senator from 1911-1915. He was elected to the House seat held by Henry Bruckner in a special election, and throughout his career was a staunch and loyal Democrat (though supported by both Republicans and Democrats in his district). He was however relatively untouched by the Tammany Hall scandals that characterized Democratic party politics in New York City at the time of his career. While in the House, he served on the Appropriations Committee, was an advocate of a "gross income tax", supported the repeal of the Volstead Act (Prohibition) and sponsored legislation liberalizing restrictive immigration laws and quotas (the Griffin Bill).

A graduate of Cooper-Union in New York City <sup>in engineering</sup> before embarking upon his legal studies, Griffin remained an inventor throughout his life, patenting several inventions for improving submarine safety. Also an amateur author, he wrote poetry, drama and short fiction, publishing several titles, including Chaos, an epic poem.

## Anthony J. Griffin Papers

### Scope and Content

The Anthony J. Griffin Papers are composed of 11 principal series: correspondence, 1885-1935; Legal Records, 1885-1930; Writings, 1887-1935; Diaries, 1886-1930; Notes and Notebooks, 1883-1934; Military and Patent Records; Political Papers; Financial Records; Personal Memorabilia; Graphic Materials; and Printed Matter. The correspondence is largely related to Griffin's political activities: a significant portion of the material relates to his election and re-election campaigns - meetings with constituents, arrangements for speeches, events, and election paraphanelia (buttons, banners, etc.). The remainder of the correspondence addresses his legislative and political concerns, such as compulsory arbitration in labor disputes, monetary and tax policy, immigration law, the repeal of the Volstead Act (Prohibition), and the "Red Scare" of the 1920s. There are also many letters from constituents needing aid in immigration matters, as well as some personal correspondence. Correspondents include William Jennings Bryan, John Nance Garner, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Rosika Schwimmer.

The Legal Papers include case files, estate files and title abstracts ( a separate list is appended to this accession record).Griffin's Writings consist of manuscript and typescript drafts of unpublished poems, plays and stories, and manuscript and typescript versions and galley proofs of his self-published epic poem Chaos. The Diaries and Notes and Notebooks include Griffin's observations on many subjects, both personal and related to his professional activities, in addition to subject files on topics relevant his legislative concerns and a card file of correspondents for the 1930 Congressional session. The Military and Patent Records concern his military service, and endeavors in submarine safety (separate listing appended); the Political Papers are a combination of printed matter, notes and memoranda (separate listing appended). Griffin's Financial Records are his accounts from 1887 to 1934.

Anthony J. Griffin Papers

Scope and Content - Continued

The Personal Memorabilia includes his drafting tools from his student days, a special Congressional Passport, calling cards, invitations and menus, while the Graphic Materials include personal photographs, negatives, prints, the original paintings used to illustrate Chaos, and several maps. Finally, the Printed Matter includes reprints, government manuals, and clippings.

Anthony J. Griffin Papers  
Container Listing

<u>Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
	<u>Correspondence</u>
1	1885-1913
2	1914-1919
3	1926-1919
4	1930-1932
5	1933-1935, N.D.
	<u>Legal Records</u> (separate listing available)
	<u>Case Files</u>
6	A-M
7	M-T, Sickles et al.
	<u>Estates</u>
8	A-Z
	Dempsey, Joseph
	Falvella, Augusta
9	Sickles, George
	<u>Land Titles</u>
	A-P
10-11	S-W
	<u>Unsorted Legal Records</u>
	<u>Writings</u>
12	Books
	Articles
13	Poetry
	Fiction
	Drama
14-15	Speeches
	<u>Diaries</u>
16	
	<u>Notebooks and Notes</u>
17	Notebooks
18	Notes
19	Index Cards
	<u>Military and Patent Records</u> (separate listing available)
20	
	<u>Political Papers</u> (separate listing available)
21	

Anthony J. Griffin Papers  
Container Listing - Continued

<u>Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
22	<u>Financial Records</u> Accounts
23	<u>Personal Memorabilia</u> Calling Cards Invitations Menus Drafting tools
24	<u>Graphic Materials</u> Photographs Maps Prints Drawings
25	<u>Printed Matter</u> Clipping Books Congressional reprints Unsorted printed material

Anthony J. Griffin Papers  
Supplemental Listing - continued  
(revised inventory)

Listing of Legal Papers - Estates section

Estates, "A" - "J"

Bagioli, Eliza C., 1894-99 (2 folders)  
Boland, John P., 1902 (folder)  
Brennam, Edward, 1919 (folder)  
Broderick, Stephen, also known as Stephen Buratovich, 1917 (folder)  
Clark, Julia, 1899-1902 (folder)  
Coakley, Edward, 1907-09 (folder)  
Coakley, Patrick, 1907-10 (folder)  
Connor, Catherine, 1915-16 (folder)  
Crosson, John, 1921 (folder)  
Curtin, Michael D., 1916 (folder)  
Davis, Thomas F., [1913?] (folder)  
[Demesy, Eugene Joseph, 1918-32] - SEE: box #  
(sic) Ehet, Clara, 1914 (folder)  
[Falvella, Augusta, 1902-06, 1902-06 ]-SEE: box#  
Gamble, Frank A., 1890 (folder)  
Giles Family - Abstract of title to 176 Canal Street,  
New York City, c.1890. (folder)  
Hellrung, Adam Bernhard, 1893-94 (folder)  
Judge, Mary, 1917-18 (folder)

Estates, "K" - "T" Z

Karow, Herman J., 1916  
Kennedy, James, 1912-16 (5 folders)  
McArdle, Henry J., 1911  
McCort, Sarah, 1895  
McKinistry, Elizabeth E., 1928  
O'Hagan, Arthur, 1892  
Pollock, Julia, 1907-09  
Quinn, Bridget, 1924-30 (4 folders)  
Rosseau (sic), Charlotte Francoese (sic), 1916  
[Sickles, George G., 1887-1907] - SEE: box #  
TroontaiEFF (sic), Pancratieff (sic), 1913-14  
Truelsen, Hans F.N., 1916

Estates, -Eugene Joseph Dempsey, 1918-32  
Records of preliminary investigation  
Legal records, 1931-32  
Accounting, 1931-32  
Correspondence, 1918-32 (11 folders)

Estates, -Augusta Falvella, 1902-06  
Corresp. & papers, 1902-06 (4 folders)

Estates, -George G. Sickles, 1887-1907 (9 folders)  
(ALSO, LAURA B. & MARY S. SICKLES)



Anthony J. Griffin Papers

Supplemental Listing - continued  
(revised inventory)

Listing of Legal Papers - Land Titles

Land Titles, "Q" - "G"

- Title of Antonio Bagioli, to 119 Mercer Street, N.Y.C. <sup>1850</sup> (C)  
Title of Francis Bossong (Bossong) to 148½ East 40th St.  
N.Y.C., 1909 (C)  
In the matter of acquiring title to Cruger Avenue,  
Bronx, N.Y.C., 1914-22 (3 folders) (C)  
Title of Tomaso Cubucci to a lot of land on Pelham Road  
in the City and County of New York, 1900 (C)  
Title of William Dunn to 476 Cherry Street, N.Y.C.,  
1893 (C)  
Title of Benedickt (sic) Fischer to certain lots in  
Englewood, Bergen County, N.J., 1896 (C)  
Title of Benedickt Fischer to 211-13, 215 West 32nd St.  
and 214 West 33rd St, N.Y.C., 1897 (C)  
Title of Mrs. Maria C. Fossa to 649 Union St., Bklyn,  
New York, 1903 (C)  
Title of Annie M. Glover to a lot in Williamsbridge,  
N.Y.C., ~~1894~~ 1894-95  
Title of Green Shrier and Co. to lots on East 77th St.,  
1907 (C)

Land Titles, Griffin, A.J., etc.

- Title of Anthony J. Griffin to 891 Cauldwell Ave, N.Y.C.,  
1908 (2 folders)  
Title of Anthony J. Griffin to house and lot at 2346 Aqueduct  
Ave, N.Y.C., 1909  
Title of Anthony J. Griffin to 8 acres of land at Bohemia in  
the township of Islip, Suffolk Co., N. Y., 1897-1906  
Title of James Harvey Griffin to 506 West 26th St., N.Y.C.,  
1904-05  
Title of Joseph T. Griffin to 6 lots on Coney Island Ave,  
in the 31st Ward of the Borough of Bklyn, 1908  
Title of Lulu A. Martin Griffin (Mrs. Gerald S. Griffin)  
to 374 Grand St, N.Y.C., 1879  
Title of Lulu Alexina Griffin and Gerald S. Griffin to  
326 East 120th St., N.Y.C., 1893-1910  
Title of property at 151 Mercer St., N.Y.C. which was ex-  
changed by Gerald and Lulu Griffin for property at 6  
West 102nd St., N.Y.C. which was owned by Philip  
Braender, 1897  
Title of Mary A. and Susan A. Griffin to 111 Clymer St,  
Brooklyn, N.Y., 1902  
Title of Susie and Sarah Griffin to 2042 East 8th St.,  
Brooklyn, N.Y., 1907-08

Land Titles, H-P

- Title of Daniel F. Higgins to 741 Greenwich St., N.Y.C.,  
1903 Jun. 11 (2 folders)  
Title of Daniel J. Hurley to 447 77th St., Brooklyn, N.Y.,  
1909  
Title of Mayer Lefkowitz to 133 Madison St, N.Y.C.,  
1898

A.J. Griffin - listing of Legal Papers - Land Titles  
Supplemental Listing - continued

(cont'd.)

- Title of Henry Muller to premises on south side of 159th St,  
250 ft. west of Elton Ave, N.Y.C., c.1897
- Title of Henry Muller, Sr. to premises 80.54 ft. east of northeast  
corner of Brook Ave. and 162nd St., Bronx, 1898 Apr. 7
- Title of Mary Muller (Mrs. Henry Muller) to lots in Bedford,  
Westchester Co., N.Y., 1899-1910 (3 folders)
- Title of John Paul to a lot of land on the west side of Third Ave  
or Old Boston Road between 156th and 157th Streets in N.Y.C.,  
1877.
- Title of Angelo Pedevvillano to two lots in Passaic, N.J.,  
1900-03
- Title of lots in Hollis Heights, Jamaica, Queens Co., N.Y. which  
were bought by Ferdinand Petruschak from Ferdinand Sievers in  
exchange for personal property of the Tremont Brewery at Tremont,  
Pennsylvania, 1910
- Title of Daniel Phelan to 40 lots of land in the 9th Ward of Brooklyn,  
Kings Co., N.Y., 1856, May 15.

Land Titles, S-W

- Title of John Sheridan to 1243 and 1245 Tinton Ave, N.Y.C.,  
1895
- Title of Daniel E. Sickles to 7 Hubert St. & 418 Cherry St.,  
N.Y.C., 1893
- Title of George G. Sickles to lot on the northeasterly corner of  
Ewen St. & Deval St., Williamsburgh, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- Title of George S. Sickles to the Flanagan or Rose of Sharon Farm  
in New Rochelle, Westchester Co, N.Y., 1878
- Title of Mrs. Leah Solomon & Mrs. Sarah Eisenberg to 134½ Munroe  
St, N.Y.C., 1892-93
- Title of Franz Voellmeke to premises situated on the south side of  
88th St. distant 275 easterly from Ave. A. in N.Y.C.
- Title of Wilhemina Wackenreuter to 10 acres of land in Middletown,  
Staten Island, Richmond Co., N.Y.,  
1885 Aug. 25
- Title to lots 97 and 112 in Yonkers, N.Y. and to lots on Brook Ave.  
in the 23 rd Ward, N.Y.C., 1895-98

Anthony J. Griffin Papers  
Supplemental Listings - Continued

A. J. Griffin Papers - listing of Legal Papers - Miscellaneous

Legal Papers - Miscellaneous

- 1899 - Manhattan Fireproof Stabling - certificate of incorporation
- 1900-03 - Papers in re Sebastiano Ranno's application for a patent for an improvement in composition and process for the manufacture of artificial stone
- 1902-09 - Papers as counsel for the Griffin Roofing Co.
- 1903, Apr. 10 - Agreement between Ernest L. Tschantre and Joseph T. Griffin for the sale of Tschantre's interest in an invention for the purpose of giving illusion of a trip to the center of the earth.
- 1906 - New York Vacant Lot Cultivation Assoc. - certificate of incorporation
1907. Independence Publishing Co. - certificate of incorporation [A.J. Griffin served as director].
- 1907, Jul. 15. Daniel W. Burrows v. Interborough Metropolitan Co. et al. Clipping from "Law Journal" annotated by Griffin.
1908. Papers relative to the adjustment of fire loss on property of Susie and Sarah Griffin at 20<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> East 8th St, Brooklyn, N.Y.
- 1909-14. Miscellaneous papers
- 1910-11. Pan American Lumber Milling Co. [A.J. Griffin served as director and treasurer of the company].
- 1914-16. Papers as counsel for X. Y. Z. Audit Co.
- 1923-24. Milano Specialty Corporation
1925. In re encroachment of Max Michaelson on the boundary of Mrs. Assunta ~~Carne~~ Carnesale's land on the N.W. corner of Clay Aven and East 17<sup>4</sup>/<sub>th</sub> St., Bronx
- Memoranda relative to legal services rendered to Margaret Nast, formerly Mrs. <sup>M</sup>argaret Kopsky, nee ~~M~~ Margaret Nagengast
- no date. Contract between A.J. Griffin and Sebastiano relative to the organization of the American Bricroe Co. [fragment]
- no date. Legal forms

Military Papers / Patent Papers

**Military Papers**

By-Laws of Companies "B", "C", and "F", 69th Regiment,  
National Guard of the State of New York

Enlistment papers of Company "F", 69th Regiment, National  
Guard of the State of New York

Map of practice march and field movements of 3rd Batt., 69th  
N.Y.V.I. under direction of Maj. Ed. T. McCrystal,  
1899, Jan. 4

Miscellaneous, 1898-1914

Newspaper clippings

Notes

The "National Guard" Roll Book, 1898-99

Old Guard Camp No. 19, United Spanish War Veterans

Veterans Corps, 69th Regiment, Inc., 1919-25

**Patent Papers**

1899, Apr. Plan for a steel monitor's turret accompanied by  
drawings.

1890, Sept. 8. A device to check the descent of an Incline Railway  
Carriage. Description & drawings.

1901, Jul. 16. Guiding device for trolleys. Letters Patent no.  
678, 617.

1905, Jul. 12. Grappling safety rings for submarines

1906?. Submarine safety chamber

1910, May 24. Submarine vessel. Letters patent no. 958,742

1914, Jul. 21. Submarine boat. Letters patent no. 1,103,958

n.d. ~~Letters~~ Submarine. Letters patent, 271, 725 (fragments)

n.d. Calculations for submarines

n.d. Composite roof covering

n.d. Miscellaneous inventions

Miscellaneous Political Papers (arranged chronologically)

- 1 a. Election returns, N.Y. State and City,  
1896-1908
- 2 b. Democratic Party, 35th A.D. (Bronx) - list of names for member of the  
1901-02 Democratic County General Committee, etc.
- 3 c. Proposed primary ballot,  
1904
- 4 d. Note on the Democratic platform of 1908,  
1908
- 5 e. Memorandum for Democratic Convention,  
1910
- 6 f. Certificate of election as Senator of the 22nd District of N.Y.,  
1910 Dec. 15
- 7 g. Official ballots for 2nd Election District, 34 A.D., Co. of N.Y.,  
1911, 1914
- 8 h. Bills introduced by Griffin in Senate, State of New York (printed),  
1912-13
- 9 i. Notes on arbitration between capital and labor made by Griffin while  
1912-13 chairman of the Committee on Labor and Industry,  
New York State Senate
- 10 j. Independent League Party - Minutes of meeting of the 22nd Senatorial District  
1912, Aug. 23 County of New York
- 11 k. Cert. of the Bd. of Election, N.Y.C. ##### certifying Griffin's nomination  
as candidate for State Senator, 22nd  
District, County of New York,  
1913, Sept. 21
- 12 l. Constitutional Convention of the State of New York,  
1915
- 13 m. Democratic Fusion Committee of One Hundred and Seventy,  
1917
- 14 n. Citizens Judicial Committee of the First Judicial Department  
1917 Aug. 14 of the City of New York - Resolutions
- 15 o. Non-Partisan Congressional League 22nd District, N.Y.C. - list of officers  
[1918?] & members
- 16 p. United States Food Administration Campaign, N.Y.C.,  
[1918?]  
~~/Ad/United/States/Food/Administration~~
- 17 q. Election returns at Special Election, 22nd Cong. Dist, N.Y.C.,  
1918, Mar. 5
- 18 r. House Joint Resolution, 66th Cong., 1st Session, introduced by Griffin,  
1919
- 19 s. Record of speeches and votes by Griffin in Hse. of Rep., 1918-20,  
1920
- 20 t. Election returns, 22nd Congressional Dist, N.Y.C.,  
1920, Nov. 2
- 21 u. Voting record in Hse. of Rep.,  
1920, Dec. 6-23
- 22 v. Election returns, 22nd Cong. Dist, N.Y.C.,  
1928
- 23 w. Association against the Prohibition Amendment,  
1927
- 24 x. Committee for Progressive Political Action. Conf. of the Women's National  
1929, Dec. 18 Democratic Club
- 25 y. Garner Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution to repeal  
1932, Dec. 5 the 18th amendment

Miscellaneous Political Papers (cont'd)

- 26. Political addresses by various persons  
1930-33
- 27. Resolutions and bills introduced by A.J. Griffin in HSe of Rep.,  
1931-34
- ~~28. Miscellaneous~~
- 28. Annotations on issue of The New York Times, July 2, 1932 /  
S.A. The Griffin Bill to amend the naturalization laws [H.R. 297], 1932
- 28. Annotations on issue of The NY Times containing F.D.R.'s speech  
1932, Jul. 3 acceptance speech at Democratic Convention
- 29. Preamble and rules adopted by the Democratic Caucus,  
1933
- 30. Bronx Co. Italian-American Citizens Committee for the re-election of  
n.d. Hon. Joseph V. McKee
- 31. Proposed bills for levying a surtax of \$1. on each \$1000. of  
n.d. assessed valuation on certain lands