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### John Drennen land grant, 1838

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# **John Drennen land grant**

## **SMC.007.013**

**Finding aid prepared by the Arkansas State Archives**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

October 05, 2020

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Arkansas State Archives  
One Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, Arkansas, 72201  
501-682-6900  
[state.archives@arkansas.gov](mailto:state.archives@arkansas.gov)

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Arkansas State Archives
<b>Title</b>	John Drennen land grant
<b>Date</b>	1838
<b>Extent</b>	0.2 Cubic feet 1 folder
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Language of Materials</b>	Materials entirely in English.

### Preferred Citation

John Drennen land grant, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

## **Biographical Note**

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John Drennen was born in Elizabeth, Pennsylvania, on February 5, 1801, to Thomas and Isabella Drennen. He married Emily Deadrick Stuart on March 21, 1826. They had three daughters: Caroline, Margaret, and Johanna. Emily died on August 20, 1844. He later married Kate Humphrey on March 28, 1848, and they had three sons: Charles Holden, Henry Clay, and William Moore.

Drennen settled in Arkansas in 1830, establishing a ferry business south of Van Buren in Crawford County with his brother-in-law David A. Thompson. Drennen later became postmaster and had the land surveyed and streets platted for the city of Van Buren. He donated the property for the county courthouse and town square.

In 1835, Drennen represented Crawford County at the Constitutional Convention, helping to write the state's first constitution. He was a member of the first Arkansas House of Representatives, 1836-1838. In June 1849, he was appointed by President Zachary Taylor as an agent for the Choctaw Indians. He later became Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southwest region. After the Little Rock and Fort Smith Railway was established in 1853, Drennen served as the railway's president. He donated ten acres to develop the area's first public cemetery, Fairview Cemetery. Drennen died of yellow fever in Indianapolis, Indiana, on September 27, 1855.

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## **Scope and Contents**

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This land grant was issued to John Drennen by President Martin Van Buren.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Arkansas State Archives 2/8/2011

### **Conditions Governing Access**

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### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Phillip D. Scott, 1943.

## Collection Inventory

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**Reel**

1838 August 3: Land grant, northwest quarter of Section 31 in fractional Township 17 South, Range 1 East of the 5th principal Meridian, containing 160 acres

MG00203