Guide to the Kenneth A. Bernard Papers, 1945-1994

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Kenneth A. Bernard Papers,  
1945 – 1994 
(Part of the Lincoln Group of Boston Collection)  
(MSS-008.004) 

Finding Aid Compiled by  
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and  
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**Volume:** 1.2 linear feet (5 document boxes)

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**Kenneth A. Bernard Papers**

**Biographical Sketch**

Kenneth Bernard taught history at Boston University for thirty-five years, with a focus on Abraham Lincoln. Over twenty of his students would go on to become members of the Lincoln Group of Boston, and four would serve as president of the group. Bernard joined the Lincoln Group in 1949. He served as secretary, 1954-1960, and as president, 1960-1969, and was an active member until his death in 1994.

Bernard presented many papers to the Lincoln Group. “Campaign Issues in 1860,” at the November 1949 meeting, was the first of many presentations on topics ranging from slavery and emancipation, to Lincoln scholarship, to Lincoln’s English ancestors. His last publication in 1993 was “A Lincoln Connection: Wisconsin-Massachusetts.” This publication recalls his friendship with Dr. Arthur Hansen of Wauwatosa, WI, and both this publication and Hansen are represented in the collection. Bernard had an interest in the music of the Civil War, and wrote, “A Song in His Heart” (published by Archille St. Onge, 1970) and “Lincoln and the Music of the Civil War (published by Caxton, 1966), which received the 1966 Benjamin Barondess Award for the book’s “contribution to the greater appreciation of the life and works of Lincoln.”

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**Scope and Content Note**

This collection is a part of the Lincoln Group of Boston Collection. It was originally donated by, and worked on, by Sylvia Larson, the daughter of Kenneth Bernard. It is divided into three series: Bernard and the Lincoln Group of Boston; the Bernard/Hansen Papers; and the Bernard/Kim Papers. Correspondence is contained in all three series. Series 2, the Bernard/Hansen Papers, contains correspondence between the two men, research material on Lincoln, and published works by Hansen. Arthur Hansen was a Wisconsin resident who communicated frequently with Bernard. Series 3, the Bernard/Kim Papers, contains correspondence, photographs, and material on Kim’s imprisonment in South Korea in the 1970s because of his Democratic ideals. Dr. Donggill Kim, of Seoul, South Korea, wrote the first full-

Related collections include the Lincoln Group of Boston Collection, which contains many letters and other items from and to Bernard, and the sub-collections of fellow members of this organization. Two of Donggill Kim’s books are in the Lincoln book collection, including, Abraham Lincoln: A Biography, “the first authentic biography of Lincoln ever written by a Korean, in his own language, for his own people.”

Box and Folder List

Series 1: Bernard and the Lincoln Group of Boston

Box 1
Folder
1. Early LGB correspondence, 1950s - 1960s
2. Lincoln Group Correspondence, 1973-1974
3. Lincoln Group Correspondence, 1974-1976
4. Lincoln Group Correspondence, 1977-1978
5. LGB Programs 1949-1977
6. Lincoln Memorial University and other Lincoln organization correspondence, 1973
8. Material and photographs pertaining to Lincoln’s visit to Hingham, MA, 1977-1978
9. LGB newsletters, 1975-1978
10. LGB meeting schedule, June 1961
11. LGB meeting, Feb. 4, 1978
13. Paper delivered to the LGB by John Y. Simions, untitled, 1976
15. “Was the ‘Public Man’ Well-informed?” by Elwin L. Page, undated
17. “Will the Friends of Abraham Lincoln Please Stand Up: Massachusetts and the Campaign of 1862,” by Judith Saunders, October 2, 1976
18. Correspondence between Bernard and the Lincoln Herald, 1973-1978

Series 2: Bernard/Hansen Papers

Box 2
Folder
1. Notes on Bernard/Hansen Papers, 1994
   - Letter: Kenneth Bernard to Mabel Bates, turning papers over, 1994
   - Copy of Lincoln Herald Spring 1994, Publication/Playback Review
   - Letter of the Barondess/Lincoln Award of the Civil War Round Table to a David H. Donald 1996.
2. Rough draft of “A Lincoln Connection,” an essay honoring Arthur C. Hansen by Kenneth Bernard, 1993
   - Correspondence from Dr. Arthur Hansen’s daughter Suzanne, Oct. 12, 1993
   - Arthur Hansen memorial service program, 1991
   - Correspondence from the Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin, 1993
3. John L. Roll (Lincoln’s friend) in Sangamon Town and Springfield – story and photographs
   - Correspondence, Arthur Hansen to Kenneth Bernard, 1988
   - Photographs; Gravesites of Lincoln associates
4. Pamphlets, brochures, newspapers, and postcards on Illinois Lincoln sites sent from Hansen to Bernard
   - Facsimile of New York Times 15, April 1865
5. Miscellaneous Lincoln items sent from Hansen to Bernard

**Box 3**

**Folder**
1. Correspondence between Bernard and Hansen, 1979-1983
2. Correspondence between Bernard and Hansen and other related correspondence, 1984-1987; 1991-1992

**Box 4**

*(published/presented/copyrighted papers written by Hansen)*

**Folder**
1. “A Pilgrimage to the Lincoln Country,” published by the Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin, 1945
5. “Postmaster Lincoln’s Successor,” Wauwatosa, WI, 1978
7. “A Tale of Two Brothers,” Wauwatosa, WI, 1979
8. “A Dual Tribute,” Wauwatosa, WI, 1979
10. “Abram Lincoln Was Here,” Wauwatosa, WI, 1980
11. “Camp Randall in the Civil War,” Wauwatosa, WI, 1980
12. “Racine College and the Lincoln Connection,” Wauwatosa, WI, 1983
Series 3: Bernard/Kim Papers

Box 5
Folder
1. Correspondence (personal and professional) between Bernard and Donggill Kim, including news items and material concerning Kim’s imprisonment, 1969-1992
2. Correspondence (personal and professional) between Bernard and Donggill Kim, including photographs, and news items and material concerning Kim’s imprisonment, 1974-1976
3. Lincoln Group of Boston material involving Donggill Kim; correspondence between Bernard and Donggill Kim and his sister; some material on Kim’s political career, 1973-1993