

Sandy, Thomas O., Papers

Thomas O. Sandy Papers
1910-1928



Title Statement

Sandy, Thomas O., PapersThomas O. Sandy Papers, 1910-1928 Ms.2006.022

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2006.022

Unit Date

1910-1928

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The collection includes correspondence, receipts, farm records, and other papers of Thomas O. Sandy, a farmer in Nottoway County, Virginia, and the first state demonstration agent for agricultural extension in Virginia. The papers relate to Sandy's farm, extension work, and estate.

Creator

Sandy, Sallie Thweat Miller

Creator

Sandy, Thomas O. (Thomas Oldham), 1857-1919

Extent

0.5 Cubic Feet 1 box

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Thomas O. Sandy Papers were donated to Virginia Tech and transferred to Special Collections in 2006.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Thomas O. Sandy Papers was completed in October 2008. Preliminary work had been performed November 2006-February 2007.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Thomas O. Sandy Papers, Ms2006-022], Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Thomas Oldham Sandy (better known as T. O. Sandy) was born February 22, 1857, in Essex County, Virginia. He matriculated at Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College (now Virginia Tech) in 1875 but did not complete a degree and departed the following year. He married Sallie Thweat Miller, and the couple settled at "Locust Grove, her Nottoway County ancestral farm located a few miles from Burkeville. With their two sons--T. O. (Oldham) and E. S. (Scott)--the Sandys raised Holstein cattle, Burkeshire hogs and Plymouth Rock chickens. Sandy also served as rector of the Virginia Normal and Industrial Institute's board of visitors.

In 1907, Sandy was appointed Virginia's first county farm demonstration agent. Working from the state's first extension office in Burkeville, Sandy served a three-county region and hired other agents to assist him. Under his leadership, boys' corn clubs and girls' canning clubs were developed. In 1914, the agency's administration was transferred to Virginia Polytechnic Institute, becoming the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service. Sandy served as a demonstration agent until 1917, when illness and his sons' absence from the farm forced him to retire. Thomas O. Sandy died on June 7, 1919. Sandy Hall, on the Virginia Tech campus, is named in his honor.

Scope and Content

This collection contains correspondence, farm records, receipts and other papers relating to Thomas O. Sandy, a Nottoway County, Virginia farmer and the first state demonstration agent for agricultural extension in Virginia. Sandy's correspondence relates largely to his farm business and extension work, though some personal matters are also addressed--particularly, Sandy's attempt to secure a military discharge for his son to return home and oversee the farm's operation. The collection also contains correspondence (mostly incoming), to Sandy's wife and sons, primarily relating to the settlement of Sandy's estate following his 1919 death. Also included, however, are letters regarding Thomas O. Sandy Jr.'s own farming business, as well as personal matters. Significant correspondents include Ella Agnew, J. D. Eggleston, L. M. Levering, G. S. Ralston, William C. Schmidt, and A. G. Smith Jr. Among the collection of receipts are many from local businesses for household goods, services and utilities, as well as receipts for farming expenses. The collection also contains Sandy's farm record book for 1914, and a published copy of briefs filed in the 1915 right-of-way dispute case of Norfolk & Western Railway Co. v. T. O. Sandy et als. Also included are a few other legal and financial papers, relating primarily to Sandy's estate, and a small set of Cooperative Extension information.

Keywords

Agriculture
Agricultural extension work
Home demonstration work
Students and alumni
Sandy, Sallie Thweat Miller
Sandy, Thomas O. (Thomas Oldham), 1857-1919
Sandy, Thomas O., Jr.
Virginia Cooperative Extension Service

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged by document type. Correspondence is divided by family member, then further subdivided by outgoing and incoming, with outgoing mail arranged chronologically; incoming, alphabetically by sender's name. Receipts are arranged alphabetically by name of business, then chronologically. Other papers are arranged chronologically.

Description of Subordinate Components

Thomas O. Sandy outgoing correspondence

Unit Date 1910-1919

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Thomas O. Sandy incoming correspondence

Unit Date 1914-1919

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Sallie Sandy outgoing correspondence

Unit Date 1919-1924, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Sallie Sandy incoming correspondence

Unit Date 1919-1924, n.d.

A-R

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

S-Z

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

E. Scott Sandy incoming correspondence

Unit Date 1919-1920

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Thomas O. Sandy Jr. incoming correspondence

Unit Date 1919-1925

A-Q

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

R-Z

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Receipts

Unit Date 1914-1924

Businesses A-M

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Businesses N-Z

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Farm record book

Unit Date [1914]

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Norfolk & Western Railway Co. v. T. O. Sandy et als.

Unit Date 1915

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

General legal and financial papers

Unit Date 1914-1928, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Cooperative extension forms and publications

Unit Date 1912-1922, n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)