

Gardner Family Papers

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1889-1937



Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2008.096

Unit Date

1889-1937

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The collection contains the papers of the Gardner family of Shawsville (Montgomery County), Virginia, including letters from Joseph Sessler Gardner, property tax receipts of William R. Gardner, and ephemera.

Creator

Gardner family

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

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 Gardner Family Papers were purchased by Special Collections in 2008. The papers had been identified as a collection of Shawsville miscellanea but were determined to relate specifically to the Gardner family.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Gardner Family Papers commenced and was completed in December 2008.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Gardner Family Papers, Ms2008-096, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

George Wesley Gardner was born March 31, 1839 in Montgomery County, Virginia. He married Ruth Annette McDonald (born 1842), and the couple had nine children: Ida, John Sessler, George, William Redman, Harvey, Lou Emma, Nannie Sue, Joseph, and Frank. George Wesley Gardner died September 20, 1916.

John Sessler Gardner, a son of George Wesley Gardner and Ruth Annette McDonald, was born in Montgomery County, Virginia, on May 1, 1865. Around 1887, he moved to Florida, where he married Jennie Paige. Gardner died November 23, 1937 in Zellwood, Florida.

William Redman, younger brother of John Sessler Gardner, was born in Montgomery County, Virginia on August 16, 1871, and died April 6, 1952. His essay on store inventory indicates that he operated a mercantile business.

Scope and Content

This collection contains papers of the Gardner family of Shawsville (Montgomery County), Virginia. The collection includes two letters home from John Sessler Gardner in Florida. Within Gardner's letters are lengthy tributes to his parents and the family dog. He also briefly mentions the orange crop, investment in local real estate, the 1890 election, and Florida tycoon Henry Flagler. Also within the collection is a set of Montgomery County property tax receipts for William Redman Gardner, a Shawsville High School grade report and 1937 commencement program, a lighthearted essay by William R. Gardner about end-of-year store inventories, and assorted ephemera.

Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South
Montgomery County (Va.)

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged by document type, then chronologically.

Description of Subordinate Components

Description of Subordinate Components

Papers

Unit Date 1889-1937

folder 1