

A Guide to the Margaret B. Burruss Collection of Scott and Saufley Family Papers, 1786-1912 SC 0118

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1786-1912



Title Statement

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Publication Statement

Publisher: James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

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MSC 1704
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22807
Telephone: (540) 568-3612
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URL: <https://www.lib.jmu.edu/special/>



September 1990, October 2013, January 2018

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2023-08-07 13:34:11 -0400.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Revision Description

Feb 19, 2004	PUBLIC "-//James Madison University::Carrier Library::Special Collections//TEXT (US::ViHarT::vihart00013::Margaret B. Burruss Collection)//EN" "vihart00013.xml" converted from EAD 1.0 to 2002 by v1to02.xsl (sy2003-10-15).
Feb 25, 2004	converted to conform to eadVIVA.dtd by vivastrict.xsl
2013-11-21	Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.
October 2013	Revised by Alicia Henneberry
2017	Collection renumbered.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 0118

Unit Date

1786-1912

Unit Date

1991

Language

English .

Abstract

The Margaret B. Burruss Collection of Scott and Saufley Family Papers, 1786-1912, 1991, is comprised of correspondence, transcripts, photographs, and the Hanna family Bible.

Creator

Scott, Reuben A., 1838-1912

Creator

Scott, Mary Catherine Saufley, 1833-1920

Creator

Scott family

Creator

Saufley family

source

Burruss, Margaret Brooks, 1923-2011

Extent

1.10 cubic feet 3 boxes

Repository

James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

Administrative Information

Access

Collection is open for research. Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection. Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the James Madison University Special Collections Library to use this collection.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have been transferred to the James Madison University Special Collection Library. For more information, contact the Special Collections Library Reference Desk (library-special@jmu.edu).

Acquisition Information

Donated in July 1990 by Mrs. Margaret B. Burruss, a great-granddaughter of Reuben A. Scott and Mary (Mollie) Saufley Scott.

Processing Information

At some point after acquiring this collection, Special Collections staff separated the correspondence from their corresponding envelopes. The separated envelopes have penciled notations on them referring back to their original letter. In an effort to not further lose original order by trying to marry each letter with an envelope, the two remain separated. In order to streamline the process of applying collection numbers, Special Collections staff completed a large-scale renumbering campaign in the spring of 2017. (The collection was also minimally reprocessed during this time.) **This collection was previously cataloged as SC 2097.**

Preferred Citation

[identification of item], [box #, folder #], Margaret B. Burruss Collection of Scott and Saufley Family Papers, 1786-1912, 1991, SC 0118, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

Bio/Historical Information

Rueben A. Scott and his fiancée, later wife, Mary (Mollie) Catherine Saufley, lived near Port Republic in

Rockingham County, Virginia. She was slightly older than Reuben, and was well educated, having attended Fair View Academy and Miami Seminary in Missouri. Reuben Scott joined the Confederate forces as a private in the Company B, 10th Regiment, Virginia Infantry, at least by April 1861 when he was in his twenties. He suffered a wound to the arm at the Battle of Chancellorsville in May 1863. He was then taken prisoner of war at Port Republic in September 1864, and later paroled on May 23, 1865. He returned to live a prosperous life as a farmer in Port Republic, where he died in 1912.

Scope and Content

The Margaret B. Burruss Collection of Scott and Saufley Family Papers, 1789-1912, consists of three boxes containing letters, family records, photos, letter transcripts, and the Hanna family Bible. The collection relates to the Scott and Saufley families of Rockingham County, Virginia.

Keywords

Chancellorsville, Battle of, Chancellorsville, Va., 1863
Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives
Virginia -- Social life and customs
Port Republic (Va.) -- History
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives, Confederate
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Campaigns
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Regimental histories
Photographs
Letters (correspondence)
Family papers
Burruss, Margaret Brooks, 1923-2011
Confederate States of America. Army. Virginia Infantry Regiment, 10th
Scott, Reuben A., 1838-1912
Scott, Reuben A., 1838-1912 -- Correspondence
Scott, Mary Catherine Saufley, 1833-1920
Scott, Mary Catherine Saufley, 1833-1920 -- Correspondence
Scott family -- Correspondence
Saufley family -- Correspondence
Hanna family -- Sources
Whitmer family -- Correspondence
Ewing family -- Correspondence
Brown family -- Correspondence
Graham family -- Correspondence

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in five series:

- Scott-Saufley Correspondence, 1861-1865
- Family Letters, 1768-1912
- Miscellaneous, 1859-1861
- Photographs, circa 1860s, 1912
- Envelopes, 1861-1912
- Transcripts, 1991

Description of Subordinate Components

Scott-Saufley Correspondence

Unit Date 1861-1865

Scope and Content

Series 1: Scott-Saufley Correspondence, 1861-1865, is comprised of six folders of Civil War correspondence between Reuben A. Scott and his wife Mary Catherine Saufley Scott (called Mollie). His letters describe

camp life, preparation for battles, and his assignment of searching out and arresting deserters. Her letters describe events and news about family members and home. There are also several documents included that are relevant to the correspondence, such as the April 7, 1861 letter from Mollie's father giving her permission to marry, a leave of absence for Scott in Septmeber 1861, and copies of his muster rolls.

Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence

Unit Date April 7, 1861-June 5, 1861

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence

Unit Date June 8, 1861-July 20, 1861

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence

Unit Date July 23, 1861-September 8, 1861

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence

Unit Date September 26, 1861-December 23, 1861

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence

Unit Date January 5, 1862-March 24, 1862

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence

Unit Date April 12, 1862-May 23, 1865, undated

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Family Letters

Unit Date 1768-1912

Scope and Content

Series 2: Family Letters, 1786-1912, contains miscellaneous letters from members of the Whitmer, Ewing, Brown, Graham, as well as the Scott and Saufley family. Letter from both R.A. Scott and M.C. Saufley to various relatives are filed here. Also filed here are notes of debts and R.A. Scott's obituary and will.

Family letters

Unit Date 1786-1857

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Family letters

Unit Date 1858-1861

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Family letters

Unit Date 1861-1912, undated

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Miscellaneous

Unit Date 1859-1861

Scope and Content

Series 3: Miscellaneous, 1859-1861, contains M.C. Saufley's daybook and pamphlet, The Soldier's Mission in the Crisis of 1861 that contains a note by R. A. Scott ("found on battlefield"). This folder also holds several clippings that were photocopied onto preservation paper for placement with the letters they accompanied. The Hanna Family Bible also forms part of this series and includes two pages of genealogical data.

Miscellaneous

Unit Date 1859-1861

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Hanna family Bible

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [1000898370] OV 1 (box)

Photographs

Unit Date circa 1860s

Unit Date 1912

Scope and Content

Series 4: Photographs, ca. 1860s, 1912, consists of three cases photos of R.A. Scott, one cased photo of Mollie Scott identified and dated by the donor as 1861, and one mounted photo of R. A. Scott in his casket.

Photographs

Unit Date circa 1860s

Unit Date 1912

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Envelopes

Unit Date 1861-1912

Scope and Content

Series 5: Envelopes, 1861-1912, correspond to the letters in Series 1 and Series 2. They were separated from their letters during an initial processing campaign. The separated envelopes have penciled notations on them referring back to their original letter.

Envelopes

Unit Date 1861-1912

Mixed Materials [1000886565] 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Transcripts

Unit Date 1991

Scope and Content

Series 6: Transcripts, undated, is comprised of typed transcripts of all correspondence located in Series 1 and Series 2.

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott
correspondence dated April 7, 1861-June 5, 1861**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott
correspondence dated June 8, 1861-July 20, 1861**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott
correspondence dated July 23, 1861-September 8, 1861**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott
correspondence dated September 26, 1861-December 23, 1861**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott
correspondence dated January 5, 1862-March 24, 1862**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott
correspondence dated April 12, 1862-May 23, 1865, undated**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Transcripts to Family letters dated 1786-1857

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Transcripts to Family letters dated 1858-1861

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Transcripts to Family letters dated 1861-1912, undated

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 9 (folder)