



Patton-Scott Family papers (C3710)

Collection Number: C3710

Collection Title: Patton-Scott Family papers

Dates: 1836-1983

Creator: Patton-Scott Family

Abstract: The correspondence, financial and legal documents, genealogy, poetry, prose, and miscellaneous volumes of the Patton and Scott families describes agriculture, economic conditions, overland travel, daily life, family activities, and tragedies. The papers contain firsthand accounts of the Civil War's influence on civilian life in Missouri, Mississippi, and Indiana.

Collection Size: 1.2 cubic feet
(72 folders and 1 volume)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at columbia@shsmo.org Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Patton-Scott Family papers* (C3710); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by - Olive Moffat Scott on December 4, 1980 (Accession No. CA2352).

Alternate Form Available: The [diary of Priscilla Thomas Ingram Patton in folder 64](#) has been digitized and is available online in the [American Civil War in Missouri Digital Collection](#).

Processed by: Processed by SHSMO staff, date unknown. Finding aid updated by Heather Richmond, August 1, 2022.

Historical Note:

This saga of the Thomas, Patton, and Scott families begins in the log cabin days of Mississippi in the 1810s and continues with antebellum life and descriptions of the domestic experiences of enslavers and their children. It also traces several Scott families in Missouri and as Texas pioneers during the 1840s and 1850s. Their descendants settled on farms in Boone County, Missouri.

In the meantime the Pattons had moved to Rocheport, Missouri, from which, as southern sympathizers, they fled to Mississippi, where Dr. Alfred Patton served as a surgeon for the Confederate Army until ill health forced him to resign. He took his family to Vincennes, Indiana, to escape from the war-torn South. The collection follows the last generation of the Patton-Scott family through the Depression and World War II, ending with the death of the last family member in 1983.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following 7 series:

- Correspondence
- Financial Records and Legal Documents
- Miscellaneous Printed Material
- Genealogy
- Fiction Writing
- Volumes
- Photographs

Scope and Content Note:

These papers trace the development of Thomas, Patton, and Scott families from their early days of pioneering in Mississippi, 1810s; Missouri, 1840s; and Texas, 1850s; to later generations which settled in Vincennes, Indiana, in the 1860s and the Florida wilderness in the 1870s and 1880s. The major portion of the material focuses on Columbia and Boone County, Missouri, where the Scott family was living in the 1840s. Priscilla Thomas Ingram Patton's nineteenth-century journal and the personal correspondence for the entire period provide a comprehensive view of the intimate lives and feelings of various family members. The other two important sections of the collection consist of the genealogies of eight related family names and the fictional literature written by Anna Beauchamp Patton Scott around the turn of the century.

Correspondence

This personal correspondence spans 130 years with numerous gaps and some undated letters. The majority of these letters were written by members of the Scott and Patton families, with the remainder written by relatives and friends. The latter include funeral condolences, family gossip, genealogy, and business letters. Many of the letters describe economic and personal problems including financial hardships, unemployment, poor health, and travel. See container list for details.

Financial Records and legal documents

This series contains personal property tax receipts, real estate transactions, warranty deeds, title abstracts, promissory notes, and mining company shares. There are also several estate inventories, executor's sale lists, wills, ledger sheets, and a marriage certificate.

Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1836-1944

Commencement invitations and a few political campaign notices are included. There is an assortment of playbills and bulletins for the Morse School of Expression in St. Louis, 1910s, and The Children's Players in New York, c. 1920s. There are six playbills from New York City theaters dating from the 1930s and 1940s.

Genealogy

Genealogies and family histories of eight interrelated family lines which are arranged in alphabetical order by family name as nearly as possible. The families are Beauchamp, Criddle, Hampton, Lane, Oldham, Patton, Scott, and Thomas. Much of the material is typewritten information copied from family Bibles and diaries. The series also includes handwritten bits and pieces of biographical information. It was compiled by a wide range of family members, several of whom were amateur genealogists. Some of the pages are missing and some of the dates and names are contradictory. There is also a family history written by Anna Beauchamp Patton Scott in 1922 which covers the years from 1820 to 1896.

Fiction Writing, late 1800s-early 1900s

This series contains poetry and prose written by Anna Beauchamp Patton Scott. Some of her major poetical themes are nature, romantic love, motherhood, growing old, feminism, and war. Her prose consists of short stories or novellas and a few novels. Several of these manuscripts are incomplete. The 393-page novel has two drafts for pages 300 to 311, and some of the pages are missing.

Volumes

This series contains a variety of materials, including the diary of Priscilla Thomas Ingram Patton, who began writing in 1855. It reveals her fears and anxieties in running a household and raising four children, as well as the anguish, which her family experienced during the Civil War. She expresses her frustrations in guiding her sons as they grow to manhood. The final entry is dated 19 August 1901. This diary is available online in the American Civil War in Missouri Digital Collection. The *Friendship Album* from 1860 contains a few handwritten poems and several engravings. The two composition books are filled with undated essays and poems written by Annie Beauchamp Patton. J.Z. Tyler's notebook records Professor J.W. McGarvey's lectures "On the Gospels" starting with 16 September 1868. The *Student's Plant Record* is a description of Boone County, Missouri, flora in 1875. Virginia Hampton Scott's graduation book, *The Girl Graduate*, 1909, includes the Columbia High School senior class roll, contemporary theater productions, her teachers, the class prophecy, etc. All of the photographs have been removed. The three play scripts are *The Ladies of Cranford*, 1889; *Sorority Mystery*, 1938; and *An Average Man*, undated. Folder 70 contains a notebook of daily expenses for Olive or Virginia Scott or both and their father for 1937-1939. Expenses are itemized, but there are numerous gaps. It also records the movies they saw from 1937-1939 and a few recipes. Also included is an account

book of the Scott sisters for 1948 to 1952 with big gaps in time, and miscellaneous expenses. Folder 71 includes two hand-written recipe books probably written by Olive Moffat Scott in the late teens or early twenties. One book is dated 1917. Folder 72 is a diary kept by Frank P. Scott for his Boone County farming operation, 1 February-13 March 1904. It includes a random list of the dogs which he raised between 1912 and 1933.

Photographs

This series includes a photograph album of the Patton-Scott family from the 1930s.

Container List:

Correspondence Series

- f. 1-2 Correspondence, 1844-1866. Letters written by members of the Scott family living in Farmington, Missouri, during the 1840s and 1850s to their siblings, and from their new home in Texas. Correspondence to and from Priscilla Thomas Patton and her family in Mississippi. Civil War letters concerning Dr. Alfred Patton, Confederate Army surgeon, and his in-laws in the South.
- f. 3-5 Correspondence, 1867-1912. Family correspondence between members of the Scott family in Farmington, Missouri, and those living in Sulphur Bluff and Paris, Texas, during the 1860s and 1870s. Letters written by Annie Patton Scott to her children and relatives from Columbia, Missouri. Death notices and letters of mourning.
- f. 6-8 Correspondence, 1907-1929. Leather postcards and picture postcards from Missouri, genealogical information on the Lane and Hampton families, letters from Thomas relatives in Terry, Mississippi, telegrams, and letters to Virginia Hampton Scott.
- f. 9-11 Correspondence, 1930-1934. Mainly personal and professional letters of Virginia Hampton Scott who was living and working in New York City, her horoscope for 1931-1932, letters to her mother, Annie Patton Scott, a few of her poems, a prolific correspondence among the three Scott daughters before and after their mother's death on 9 January 1934, and letters of condolence.
- f. 12-16 Correspondence, 1934-1959. Professional correspondence to and from Virginia Hampton Scott in New York City, letters from Herbert Scott Melloway, her nephew, to his mother, Patty Melloway Vanlandingham, several business letters concerning the sale of property, letters to the Scott sisters from friends and relatives, V-mail, and the exchange of genealogical data with relatives. A long series of letters from Herbert to Olive and Virginia Scott beginning shortly before the death of his second wife.
- f. 17-19 Correspondence, 1960-1983. Letters from Herbert Scott Melloway to Olive and Virginia Scott; detailed description of trip to Oklahoma, 1967; correspondence concerning the sale of family pictures, autographs, and other collectibles; and obituary of Olive Hampton Scott, 1863, the last member of the Patton-Scott family. Undated letters from Annie Patton Scott to Virginia and a folder of undated correspondence of relatives and friends.

Financial Records and Legal Documents, 1836-1948 Series

- f. 20 Financial records
f. 21-23 Legal documents, 1841-1948

Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1836-1944 Series

- f. 24-26 Miscellaneous Printed Material, 1836-1944

Genealogy Series

- f. 27-30 Genealogy

Fiction Writing, late 1800s-early 1900s Series

- f. 31-35 Poetry
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Volumes Series

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f. 65-66 Annie Beauchamp Patton composition books, undated
f. 67 J.Z. Tyler's notebook recording Professor J.W. McGarvey's lectures "On the Gospels," 1868, *Student's Plant Record*, 1875
f. 68 *The Girl Graduate*, 1909
f. 69 Play scripts, 1889-1938, undated
f. 70 "Composition book," containing daily expenses, 1937-1939; "Day Book," containing account book of the Scott sisters, 1948 to 1952
f. 71 Recipe books, 1917, undated
f. 72 Diary of Frank P. Scott, 1904

Photographs Series

- v. 1 Patton-Scott family photograph album, 1930s

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