Guide to the Durst Family Papers
MSS.0461

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists’ Toolkit
March 05, 2013
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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### Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repository</th>
<th>University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Durst Family Papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date [bulk]</td>
<td>Bulk, 1861-1868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date [inclusive]</td>
<td>1708-1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>0.4 Linear feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>Letters, newspapers, and miscellaneous documents from the Durst family. There is also a World War One era panoramic photograph and United Stated Service, or Blue Star Mother's flag.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Preferred Citation note

Durst Family papers, W. S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama.
Biographical/Historical note

The Durst family settled in South Carolina in 1765. Thomas Nicholson Durst served in the 7th South Carolina Volunteer Infantry Regiment during the Civil War and was killed on November 10, 1864.

Scope and Contents note

This collection consists of letters, newspapers, miscellaneous documents, one panoramic photograph and a United States Service flag, also known as the Blue Star Mother’s flag. The photograph and the flag are both from the World War I era.

The letters and documents cover a wide range of topics and date from 1708 to 1977. Most of the letters were written in the 1860s by various authors to generally unnamed correspondents. There are a few genealogical statements compiled by members of the Durst family and others, as well as several legal documents. These are from North and South Carolina and include a formal contract dated 1868 January 27 between James E.S. Morrison and Mariah Gray, Sarah Morrison and Mariah Morrison, hiring three of his former slaves. Other legal documents include land purchases and receipt of inheritance. There are also instructions for knitting an unknown garment, the text of the song Dixie Land, Confederate paper money, and pages of The Daily Citizen, Vicksburg, Mississippi dated 1863 July 3. The earliest pieces in the collection are various pages from A Report of Divers Cases in Pleas of the Crown, Adjudged and Determined; in the Reign of the late King Charles II printed in London in 1708.

There are two booklets in the collection: Souvenir of St. Augustine Under Three Flags, Pictorial History of Fort Marion published by W. J. Harris Company, copyrighted 1925, and Miss Rutherford’s Scrap Book – Valuable Information about the South: History of Slavery ~~ The South Did Not Fight to Hold Slaves by Mildred Lewis Rutherford, Athens, Georgia, 1925.

There are several newspaper issues also in the collection, including The Saturday Evening Post, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (1855 April 14, 21, May 19, September 1 and 8), the Charleston Daily Courier, Charleston, South Carolina (1863 September 17 and 1863 November 10), Daily National Intelligencer, Washington, D.C. (1865 January 12), Charleston Daily News, Charleston, South Carolina (1866 June 21), Edgefield Advertiser, Edgefield, South Carolina (1867 January 23), The Graphic Christmas Number (1876 December 25), Tuscaloosa News and Times Gazette, Tuscaloosa, Alabama (1916 May 29, 30, June 1 and October 25), Birmingham News, Birmingham, Alabama (1938 September 11), and The Index-Journal, Greenwood, South Carolina (1959 June 24 and 1978 May 11).

The flag (now in Artifacts box 5430) was originally known as the War Mother’s Flag, but is now known as the United States Service Flag. It is an official flag/banner authorized by the United States Department of Defense for display by families who have members serving in the Armed Forces during any period.
of war or hostilities the United States may be engaged in. The blue star in the center of the red-bordered white rectangle signifies a member (which in 1917 was generally a son – which is why it sometimes called the Sons in Service Flag) of the household was in active service during times of hostilities. The blue star was covered or replaced by a gold star if the family member died in action. Additional stars were sewn onto the flag when there were several members of the family in active service at the same time.

The panoramic photograph, with the title R.O.T.C. Artillery at the Target Range Chickamauga Park, GA, is undated. There is no marking on the photograph to indicate if there is a member of the Durst family in the group.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama 2008; 2009

Revision Description

March 2013

Conditions Governing Access note

None

Conditions Governing Use note

None

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Gift of Claudia Johnson, 1988

Processing Information note

Martha Bace, 2008; updated by Martha Bace, 2013

Controlled Access Headings
Corporate Name(s)

- University of Alabama. Army ROTC.

Family Name(s)

- Durst Family

Genre(s)

- Artifacts
- Booklets
- Contracts
- Family histories
- Flags
- Genealogies
- Legal documents
- Letters (correspondence)
- Newspapers
- Photographs
- Songs (document genre)

Geographic Name(s)

- Castillo de San Marcos (Saint Augustine, Fla.)
- Confederate States of America--History
- South Carolina
- South Carolina--History
- United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865
- Vicksburg (Miss.)—Newspapers

Subject(s)

- Broadsides--Vicksburg (Miss.)
- Civil War
- Daily Life and Family
- Money--Confederate States of America
• University of Alabama
• War and Military
• World War I
• World War, 1914-1918
# Collection Inventory

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Correspondence</td>
<td>0461-0001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contracts and Miscellaneous Documents (1 of 2)</td>
<td>0461-0001</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracts and Miscellaneous Documents (2 of 2)</td>
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