

**See also UPA microfilm:**

MF 5750, Series E, Reels 28-31

**EVA SCOTT AND FAMILY PAPERS**

Mss. 2994

Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

Reformatted 2007

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**SUMMARY**

- Size.** 1.25 linear ft., 10 manuscript volumes
- Geographic locations.** East Feliciana Parish, La.; Baton Rouge, La.; Avoyelles Parish, La.; St. Landry Parish, La.; New Orleans, La.; Clinton, La.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Shreveport, La.; Washington, D.C.; New York, N.Y.; Santa Barbara, Calif.; Oakland, Calif.; Dallas, Tex.; Norway; England; France; Italy; Egypt; Syria; China; Philippines
- Inclusive dates.** 1832-1959
- Bulk dates.** 1870-1945
- Language.** English
- Summary.** Plantation business and personal papers of Eva Scott and family, planters owning The Shades Plantation near Wilson, East Feliciana Parish, Louisiana. The papers reflect family affairs, plantation administration, and social activities.
- Organization.** Arranged by series, then chronologically
- Restrictions on access.** None.
- Related collections.** None.
- Copyright.** Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
- Citation.** Eva Scott and Family Papers, Mss. 2994, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
- Stack location(s).** Y:101-102, H:10
- Also available on:** Microfilm 5750, Series E, Reels 28-31

### **BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Eva Scott (1877-1961) was a resident and owner of The Shades Plantation near Wilson in East Feliciana Parish, Louisiana. She was the granddaughter of Major E. A. Scott, and Eva lived on the plantation with her aunt, Kate Scott (died 1936) and uncle, Gus Scott. Other family members found in the collection include cousins, James W. Reily and William B. Reily, and Eva's brother Ned Scott (died 1898).

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Early papers consist chiefly of correspondence (1866-1877) written to Bettie Gordon Scott by friends and relatives in New Orleans and Avoyelles, Saint Landry, and East Feliciana parishes. Letters concern social activities and family matters. Family papers (1892-1900) pertain to social events and the Spanish-American War and include letters of condolence upon the death of Ned Scott (1898). Papers (1900-1959) largely consist of correspondence of Eva and Kate Scott concerning friends and family, gardening and horticulture, plantation administration, and local culture.

Several social letters and cards (1921-1941) of Louisiana author Lyle Saxon and two letters of writer Sherwood Anderson (undated) are included.

Business papers (1853-1941) pertain to the administration of The Shades Plantation and include tax records, bills, receipts, dairy records, and legal documents. Manuscript volumes include 5 ledgers (1889-1913) recording supplies and wages paid to hired laborers, a file book (1898-1901), a list of poll tax payers in East Feliciana Parish (1909-1910), and three notebooks (undated).

Printed items relate to Silliman Female Collegiate Institute in Clinton, Louisiana, and Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Poetry, recipes, and three photographs are included.

**LIST OF SERIES**

**Series I. Correspondence and Notes, 1832-1959, undated**

**Series II. Business Papers, 1853-1941, undated**

**Series III. Printed Items, 1897-1938, undated**

**Series IV. Manuscript Volumes, 1889-1913, undated**

## **SERIES DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Series I. Correspondence and Notes, 1832-1959, undated**

Early correspondence consists mostly of letters and valentines to Bettie Gordon Scott from friends or family members (1866-1877). Many other letters are addressed to Eva and come from her brother, Ned Scott, from Louisiana State University (1892) and later from New Orleans after having passed his physical for the Army (1898). Letters also come from her mother (1897-1898) and various friends (1892-1899). These discuss family affairs, mutual friends, and some social activities. Also included is a list of "prophecies" for the class of 1896 at Silliman Female Collegiate Institute. A series of correspondence, involving Kate Scott, Eva Scott, Major E. A. Scott, and Gus A. Scott, discusses Ned's illness in the hospital and his subsequent death (1898). A number of condolence letters and telegrams are also included (September-October 1898).

Other letters come from Major James W. Reily from France during the First World War to his cousin Kate Scott, including one discussing the armistice (1918). Also included is a letter to E. A. Scott containing the obituary of Dr. W. J. Allen, an old friend (1927). Other letters from friends and family members thank Eva and Kate for pleasant visits at The Shades Plantation, send gardening advice, and one letter from Mary Ratcliff to her cousin Eva discusses genealogy of the Scott family (1930). A number of letters from William B. Reily on his travels are addressed to the family and talk of trips to Norway, London, Marseilles, Venice, Naples, Pompeii, Cairo, and Syria (1935).

Also included are a great many letters, cards, and telegrams sent to Eva upon the death of her aunt and companion Kate (November 1936). Letters sent to Eva after the death of Kate generally ask after her well-being, send news from other family members, and plan visits to the plantation (1936-1940). There are also letters sent from a cousin stationed in the Philippines (1945), and from Ruth Ingram, an American nursing instructor working in Chinese hospitals describing conditions in China, hospital work, travel, and political unrest (1945-1947).

A number of letters for Eva and Kate come from Louisiana author Lyle Saxon in New Orleans (1921-1941). These discuss visits to the plantation, social events, furniture for the plantation, and books Saxon is writing. Three letters from writer Sherwood Anderson are also included, which discuss a recent visit to the plantation (undated).

Notes in the collection are comprised of poems written by various people. One is written to Bettie Gordon, entitled "Leaf by Leaf, the Roses Fall," while some are written about Eva and Kate Scott or The Shades. Other notes are recipes written down by family members.

### **Series II. Business Papers, 1853-1941, undated**

Business papers are comprised of various documents connected with The Shades Plantation. Early papers include receipts for certain goods, bills of sale for slaves to E. A. Scott (1858-1859), tax receipts, and account sheets signed by Scott family members (1860-1869). Other papers include a Certificate of Attendance at the Peabody Teachers' Institute for Kate Scott (1900) and

a certificate appointing Kate Scott Commissioner for the Registration of Women in the Gurley Precinct in East Feliciana Parish (1917). Also included is a transfer of ownership of a cow (1916), certificates from the Louisiana State Board of Health (1921), certificates of foal registration (1910, 1914), and certificates of registration in the Swine Breeders' Association (1915-1917). Later business papers include account statements, letters from Sun Oil Company, and tax exemption certificates (1930-1941).

**Series III. Printed Items, 1897-1938, undated**

Among the printed items in the collection are Commencement Programs from the Louisiana State University Agricultural and Mechanical College (1897, 1917), a dance card for the Reception and Inaugural Ball in honor of Hon. and Mrs. Ruffin G. Pleasant (1916), the Preliminary Announcement of General Sessions and Conferences to be held in connection with the Dedicatory Program of Louisiana State University (1938), and various issues of *The Reveille* (1898). Other items come from the Silliman Institute; these include "The Silliman Collegian" (February 1913), programs for an alumnae reunion (1916), a recital (1929), a banquet (1930), and for Commencement (1930). Miscellaneous printed items include pamphlets from Feliciana Gardens (undated), a pamphlet entitled "Ethiopia in Scripture Prophecy" (undated), an "Imperial Passport" card issued to G. A. Scott by the Imperial Klan of the Invisible Empire, Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (Atlanta, Georgia; 1924-1925), postcards and information from the Southwestern Game Farm in Canyon, Texas (undated), an invitation to the unveiling of statues of Jefferson Davis and James Z. George in Statuary Hall (1932), the announcement of the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual East Feliciana Parish Fair (1930), a newspaper clipping "Louise Garig Honored" (undated), and a tribute entitled "Dr. Carl Austin Weiss as Pictured by Former Teacher" written by Mercedes Garig (undated).

There are also three photographs in the collection. One is of an unknown woman taken by J. G. Davis, another is of an unknown group of men, and another is of a home (all undated).

**Series IV. Manuscript Volumes, 1889-1913, undated**

Volumes include ledgers for the years (1889-1913) recording supplies and wages paid to hired laborers, a file book (1898-1901), a list of poll-tax payers in East Feliciana Parish (1909-1910), and three notebooks (undated) with various calculations, notes, and English lessons.

**CROSS REFERENCES**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description of relevant documents</b>
Anderson, Sherwood, 1876-1941.	undated	2 letters and an unsigned humorous verse.
Avoyelles Parish (La.)-- Social life and customs-- 19th century.	1866-1877	Social letters pertaining to social life; health conditions; daily activities.
China--Description and travel.	1945, 1947	Letters from an American nursing instructor working in Chinese hospitals describing conditions in China, hospital work, travel, political unrest.
Dorman, Caroline.	1935-1938	Letters from, May 24, 1935; June 1, 1937; November 14, 1938.
East Feliciana Parish (La.)--Social life and customs.	1892-1959, undated	Collection of family papers pertaining to ownership and management of "The Shades" plantation (near Wilson); social life; education, including Silliman Institute; gardening and plant life.
Europe--Description and travel.	1935	Series of letters describing extended trip through Europe, Britain, and the Middle East, 1935.
Field, Rachel, 1894-1942.	1930-1931	4 social letters from, December 18 and 29, 1930; January 22 and 30, 1931.
Foster, Murphy J. (Murphy James), 1849- 1921.	1898	Letter of condolence from, September 22.
Henry, Carmelite Garrett, 1871-1948.	1936	Letter of condolence from, November 12, 1936.
Knapp, Seaman Ashahel, 1833-1911.	1899-1903	Social letters from, April 6, 1899; January 17, 1900; June 15, 1901; January 19, 1903

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description of relevant documents</b>
Landscape gardening--Louisiana--East Feliciana Parish.	1892-1959, undated	Collection of family papers pertaining to ownership and management of "The Shades" plantation, near Wilson, East Feliciana Parish, including information about landscape gardening and local plant life; included are letters from Caroline Dorman, Louisiana naturalist and botanical artist.
Long, Huey Pierce, 1893-1935.	1935	2 letters discussing European reactions to Long's career and assassination, and evaluating his impact on Louisiana, October 9 and November 15.
Louisiana--Description and travel.	1925	Letter describing auto trip through Louisiana, 1925.
Louisiana--Social life and customs.	1832-1959, undated	Letters of planter family pertaining to aspects of social life in Louisiana – letters, 1866-1877, pertain mainly to activities in Avoyelles-St. Landry area – letters, 1892-1959, pertain mainly to East Feliciana Parish, particularly "The Shades" plantation.
Middle East--Description and travel.	1935	Series of letters describing extended trip through Europe, Britain, and the Middle East, 1935.
Nicholson, J. W. (James William), 1844-1917.	1898	Letter of condolence from, September 21; letter concerning obituary of former student, September 26.
Pleasant, Ruffin Golson, 1871-1937.	1899-1908	4 letters of thanks, January 14, 1899; January 7, 1900; January 25, 1901; April 7, 1908
Rosedown Plantation (La.)	1927	Letter concerning selling of house furnishings by Bowman sisters, March 25.
Saxon, Lyle, 1891-1946.	1921-1941, undated	22 letters and cards, written from New Orleans and New York, discussing his writing career, social life, activities of friends, personal activities; reference to, December 7, 1936.
Scandals--Louisiana.	1935	Letter discussing personalities and impact, November 15.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description of relevant documents</b>
Shades Plantation (La.)	circa 1890-1959, undated	Papers of owners pertain to management and financial affairs; social life; gardening and plant life; maintenance of house and grounds.
Silliman Female Collegiate Institute.	1896, undated	Student letters and graduation speech, 1896; also, undated memoirs, printed items.
Spanish-American War, 1898.	1898	Soldier's letters from New Orleans and Florida; letters from family members concerning hospital conditions in Florida.
West (U.S.)--Description and travel.	1920	Letter giving daily accounts of auto trip from New Orleans to Los Angeles, 1920.
World politics--1933-1945.	1939	Letter discussing international situation, January 18.
World War, 1939-1945.	1941, 1945	Letter discussing impact of war on college student, December 16, 1941; letter discussing war in Philippines, March 22, 1945

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>			
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
			<b>Series I. Correspondence and Notes, 1832-1959, undated</b>
<b>Y:102</b>	1	1-30	Correspondence, 1832-1959, undated
		31	Lyle Saxon letters, 1921-1941, undated
		32	Sherwood Anderson letters, undated
		33	Poetry, undated
		34	Recipes, undated
<b>Y:101</b>	2	1-10	<b>Series II. Business Papers, 1853-1941, undated</b>
			<b>Series III. Printed Items, 1897-1938, undated</b>
		11	Louisiana State University
		12	Silliman Institute
		13	Miscellaneous
		14	Photographs, undated
			<b>Series IV. Manuscript Volumes, 1889-1913, undated</b>
		15	Business papers removed from ledgers
		16	Volume 8: Notebook, undated
		17	Volume 9: Notebook, undated
		18	Volume 10: Notebook, undated
<b>H:10</b>	--	--	Volume 1: List of poll-tax payers, East Feliciana Parish, 1909-1910
	--	--	Volume 2: Ledger, 1889-1890, 1905, 1909
	--	--	Volume 3: Ledger, 1890-1891, undated
	--	--	Volume 4: Ledger, 1898-1900, 1904
	--	--	Volume 5: Ledger, 1898-1903
	--	--	Volume 6: Ledger, 1903-1913
	--	--	Volume 7: File book, 1898-1901
<b>MF:5750</b>	--	--	Series E, reels 28-31: Eva Scott and Family Papers (with omissions)