

ROBERT THOMAS YOUNG FAMILY PAPERS

(Mss. 4548)

Inventory

Compiled by

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

Revised 2009

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SUMMARY

Size.	0.5 linear feet.
Geographic locations.	Louisiana, Virginia, Ohio, Colorado.
Languages.	English
Inclusive dates.	1793-1927
Bulk dates.	1830-1890
Summary.	Correspondence, legal documents, financial papers, slave lists and bills of sale, personal papers, and printed items document the lives and activities of Robert Thomas Young and family, cotton planters of the Plains region of Louisiana.
Restrictions.	Access to unprocessed collections requires the permission of the curator, subject to Special Collections' Policy on Access to Unprocessed Collections (http://www.lib.lsu.edu/special/unprocessed.html)
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Citation.	Robert Thomas Young Family Papers, Mss. 4548, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
Stack location.	Range E:35, OS:Y

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Robert Thomas Young (1812-1889) was a cotton planter in Port Hudson, Louisiana. His father, James Goodman Young (1761-1840) moved from Virginia to Louisiana and received a grant of 500 acres from the Spanish governor of Louisiana in 1796. He received more grants and purchased additional property and became a significant land owner. James and his wife, Judith Coleman Baker (1771-1823) had 12 children: Joseph, Lydia, Mary Ellen, John Goodman, James, Elizabeth, William, David, Patience (1809-1870, married E. A. Sherburne), Judith, Robert Thomas, and Edith. Robert Thomas was married three times. His first wife, Eliza Zemina Newport (1821-1857) had 6 children, Patience, Alex, Mary (1842-1924), Susan (1844-1919), Edith (1847-1860), and William (1850-1851). His second wife, Louisiana Boatner Baker (1826-1859) died leaving no children. His third wife, Eunice "Tunie" Lilley (1836-1906), was Robert's niece. Robert and Eunice had 4 children: Julia Florence (1862-1865), Laura H. (1865-1866), Sally (1867-1913, married name, Pettit), and Walker (1871-1930). Robert moved his family to Texas during the Civil War and returned to the Plains after the war.

For more biographical information, see:

Jennings, Virginia Lobdell. *The Plains and the People: A History of Upper East Baton Rouge Parish*. Claitor's Publishing Division, Baton Rouge, La., 1974.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Correspondence (1793, 1801, 1821) of James Young includes letters from his brother John Goodman Young of Ohio, and letters (1821, 1832) from Michael G. Youce (Yance?) of Danville, Kentucky, related to the ownership of properties in St. Francisville, Louisiana. Letters and legal documents of John Buhler relate to the settlement of land title claims of Young and others. Correspondence of Robert T. Young concerns land ownership, agricultural matters, and family and social activities. Letters to Robert from his brother, William L. Young of Alexandria, Louisiana, deal with horse racing and agricultural matters. Letters from Robert's relative, Henry M. Young (1828-1882, his cousin?) and a letter from Robert's nephew, William J. Young (1839-1863) are included. William was the son of David Young. He married Eugenia Sherburne and had one son in 1860. William died after falling from a horse. Correspondence of Robert's wives, Eliza and Eunice, includes letters written during the Civil War by Julia ("Jule") Lilley Holmes, Eunice's sister. The collection contains letters of relatives including members of the Newport, Sherburne and Neville families.

Legal papers (1795-1870, some oversize) include land grants and documents related to property holdings in West Feliciana, Louisiana. Land grants (1796-1823) signed by Charles Trudeau and Spanish Governor Carondelet document land owned by Armand Duplantier in the districts of Baton Rouge and the Felicianas. Many legal documents pertain to Young family land claims as they relate to land grants and titles of Duplantier and others. Land documents of John Buhler, Charles Reardon, John White and others are included. Plats and site plans (oversize, undated) outline property holdings of the Young family, Armand Duplantier, and others in Bayou Sara and West Feliciana. An indenture (1828, oversize) records the terms of the apprenticeship of Albert Baker, age 14, to a blacksmith in East Baton Rouge Parish. It was witnessed by R. W. Newport.

Financial papers of Robert T. Young consist chiefly of New Orleans cotton factors' statements (1834-1860). Family bills and receipts are included. One item (undated) relates to A. S. Pettit's shares in a gold mine near Aspen, Colorado.

A slave bill of sale (1838), slave lists (1840s-1850s), and an account of slaves hired out document the ownership of slaves by Robert T. Young and others.

Other papers include genealogical notes, a history of the Plains Presbyterian Church, and a report card (1860) of Susan E. Young. Printed items consist of a prospectus (1855) for the Plaquemine Female Seminary, a political circular (1850s?), and advertisements.

INDEX TERMS

Young, Robert Thomas, 1812-1889
Young, Eunice Lilley, 1836-1906
Young, Eliza Zemina Newport, 1821-1857
Young, James Goodman, 1761-1840
Young, John Goodman, 1764-1829
Holmes, Julia Lilley, 1838-1885
Buhler, John Christian, 1789-1866
Carondelet, Luis Hector, baron de, 1748-1807
Duplantier, Armand Gabriel Allard, 1753-1827
Louisiana--History--Civil War, 1861-18653
Port Hudson, La.
Bayou Sara, La.
West Feliciana, La.
Plantation owners--Louisiana
Cotton growing--Louisiana
Cotton trade--Louisiana--New Orleans
Horse racing
Indentures
Plats
Land grants
Slave bills of sale

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
E:35	1	1793-1927
OS:Y	--	Oversize items: land grants, plats, indenture (1818-1870)