

C Patton-Scott Family, Papers, 1836-1983  
3710 1.2 linear feet

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## INTRODUCTION

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.

## DONOR INFORMATION

The Patton-Scott Family Papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Olive Moffat Scott on 4 December 1980 (SHS Accession No. 2352).

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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 the domestic problems of managing a household of children and slaves. 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 Patton's had moved to Rocheport, Missouri, from which, as southern sympathizers, they were forced to flee 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.

## 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.

## FOLDER LIST

**Correspondence, 1840s-1970s Series.** 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.

- 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. 20-23 Mainly 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 Series**

- f. 24-26 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 Series**

- f. 27-30 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. 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 Series**

- f. 31-63 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 Series**

- f. 64-66 Diary of Priscilla Thomas Ingram Patton 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. The *Friendship Album* from 1860 contains

**Volumes Series (con'd)**

- a few handwritten poems and several engravings. The two composition books are filled with undated essays and poems written by Annie Beauchamp Patton.
- f. 67-69 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.
- f. 70 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. Also records the movies they saw from 1937-1939 and a few recipes. Account book of the Scott sisters for 1948 to 1952 with big gaps in time. Miscellaneous expenses.
- f. 71 Two hand-written recipe books probably written by Olive Moffat Scott in the late teens or early twenties. One book is dated 1917.
- f. 72 Diary kept by Frank P. Scott for his Boone County farming operation, 1 February-13 March 1904. Includes a random list of the dogs which he raised between 1912 and 1933.

**Photographs series**

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

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