



Guide to the Person Family Papers, 1754-1971

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David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

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Table of Contents

Summary	3
Background	4
Administrative Information	10
Names and Subjects	12
Collection Inventory	12
1944 Accession, 1767-1910and undated	12
Accession (2005-0110), 1754-1971 and undated	13

Summary

Collection Title:

Person Family papers, 1754-1971

Creator:

Person family

Abstract:

Family active in Louisburg, Franklin Co., N.C. and also in Nash Co., N.C. Correspondence, accounts, diary (1869), bills, deeds, wills, legal documents, and other papers (largely 1829-1897). The bulk of the collection relates to Thomas A. Person and his family, and includes letters written from Harrison Co., Tex., and New Orleans (ca. 1850s); student letters from various North Carolina schools (1835-1860); letters of Confederate soldiers concerning military life; and family and business letters with Civil War reminiscences. The early material mostly concerns Thomas A. Person's father, Presley Carter Person, of Louisburg, N.C., and the settlement of his estate. Later material concerns patent medicines manufactured by a member of the family. Other correspondents and names mentioned include W. P. Montgomery, Harriett Person Perry, Levin Perry, Theophilus Perry, Jesse H. H. Person, Joseph Arrington Person, M. P. Person, and Willie Mangum Person. Addition comprises primarily land deeds and surveys, other deeds of sale, receipts, personal wills, and other financial information. Also includes personal correspondence and memory books. An 1834 deed of gift to John W. Harris from P. C. Person includes five named slaves, one gray horse, 12 head of cattle, and 12 head of sheep. An 1808-1864 ledger book of Presley Person includes Person family genealogy and names and birth dates of his slaves and of the slaves owned by his son, Thomas A. Person. Other names mentioned include Matthew Culpepper, Arthur W. Person, Prudence Person, and W. M. Person.

Extent:

6 Linear Feet
3000 Items

Physical Location:

For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the Library's online catalog.

Language:

English

Language:

Material in English

Collection ID:

RL.01016

Permalink:

<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/personfamily/>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Person Family Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Background

Scope and Content

Correspondence, accounts, diary (1869), bills, deeds, wills, legal documents, and other papers (largely 1829-1897). The bulk of the collection relates to Thomas A. Person and his family, and includes letters written from Harrison Co., Tex., and New Orleans (ca. 1850s); student letters from various North Carolina schools (1835-1860); letters of Confederate soldiers concerning military life; and family and business letters with Civil War reminiscences. The early material mostly concerns Thomas A. Person's father, Presley Carter Person, of Louisburg, N.C., and the settlement of his estate. Later material concerns patent medicines manufactured by a member of the family. Other correspondents and names mentioned include W. P. Montgomery, Harriett Person Perry, Levin Perry, Theophilus Perry, Jesse H. H. Person, Joseph Arrington Person, M. P. Person, and Willie Mangum Person.

Addition (05-110) (200 items, 1.7 lin. ft.; dated 1754-1971 and undated) comprises primarily land deeds and surveys, other deeds of sale, receipts, personal wills, and other financial information. Also includes personal correspondence and memory books. An 1834 deed of gift to John W. Harris from P. C. Person includes five named slaves, one gray horse, 12 head of cattle, and 12 head of sheep. An 1808-1864 ledger book of Presley Person includes Person family genealogy and names and birth dates of his slaves and of the slaves owned by his son, Thomas A. Person. Other names mentioned include Matthew Culpepper, Arthur W. Person, Prudence Person, and W. M. Person.

Biographical/Historical

Family active in Louisburg, Franklin Co., N.C. and also in Nash Co., N.C.

Genealogy List

Date	Description
1768 Nov. 13	Mary Person born
1774 July 28	Dr. Presley C. Person born
1807 Oct. 22	Dr. Presley C. Person and Mary Person married
1808 Oct. 8	Thomas Person born. Later married Abiah.
1809 Dec. 10	Lucy Person born
1811 July 7	Joshua Perry Person born
1812 Sept. 15	Mourning R. Person born
1814 Jan. 23	Joseph Abringham Person born
1815 May 15	Levin Person born
1817 April 21	Anthony Person born
1819 March 19	Weldon Edwards Person born
1820 Aug. 9	Presley C. Person born
1822 March 7	Willie A. Person born
1824 Feb. 28	Mary C. Person born
1826 June 3	Lucy Person died
1843	Mourning R. Person married John W. Harris

Dr. Presley C. Person and Mary Person's slaves and birth dates

Date	Description
1808	Champion(?)
1810	Hasy(?)
1811	Louis
1812	Mariah
1813	Harriet
1814	Clusey
1815	Thursney(?)
1816	Dick
1816	Nelson
1818	Isesy(?)
1818	Rachel
1819	Maple(?)
1820	Essex
1829	Seeley
1822	Henry
1822	Frederick
1823	Peter
1824	Burwell
1820	Anachile(?)

Guide to the Person Family Papers, 1754-1971

Date	Description
1825	Robert Hill
1825	Ellen
1825	Lucy
1826	Dice
1826	Isaac(?)
1827	Caroline
1827	Nancy
1828	Mariah
1828	Rosetta
1828	Matilda
1830	Rudy
1830	Ellick
1830	Cany Benton(?)
1830	Emily
1830	Ephrom
1830	Rebecca
1832	John
1832	Easter
1833	Emily

Thomas A. Person and wife Abiah's slave and birth dates

Date	Description
1832	Nash Pete
1834	Harriet
1835	Robin
1836	Iain
1836	Mal
1837	Roger
1837	Isham
1838	Alford
1838	Mill
1839	Selvy(?)
1839	Herrily
1840	Mariah
1840	Ann
1841	Iam
1842	Lucy
1842	Izabella
1843	Frank
1843	Fred
1844	Chany

Guide to the Person Family Papers, 1754-1971

Date	Description
1845	Bob
1845	Isaac
1846	Dun
1847	Daniel
1848	Sarrir
1847	Abner
1849	Osbum
1850	Green(?)
1850	Matilidy
1852	Dennis
1852	Cary
1854	Beck
1854	Amy
1854	Dick Dirt
1854	Delun
1856	Penny
1856	Arch
1857	Lewis
1857	Anderson
1859	Sallie
1854	John

Date	Description
1858	Dennis
1860	Beck
1860	Fred
1860	Ester
1861	Jef
1861	Ellick
1861	Alford
1862	Isham
1862	Morgin
1863	Mary Oliver
1863	Nancy
1863	Linny
1864	Lawrence
1864	Iad
1862	Isham(?)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Acquisition Information

The Person Family Papers were acquired by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library in 1944 and 2005.

Processing Information

Processed by RL Staff, 2005

Encoded by Meghan Lyon, October 2012

Accession(s) described in this finding aid: unnumbered 1944 accession, 2005-0110

Materials may not have been ordered and described beyond their original condition.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Patent medicines -- North Carolina
- Education -- North Carolina
- United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives, Confederate
- Slave records -- North Carolina
- Legal documents
- Students -- North Carolina
- Soldiers -- Confederate States of America -- Correspondence
- Deeds
- Wills
- Receipts
- Confederate States of America. Army -- Military life
- Culpepper, Matthew
- Person family
- Person family
- Person, Arthur W.
- Person, Presley Carter, 1770-1845
- Person, Prudence
- Person, Thomas A.
- Person, W.M.

Collection Inventory

1944 Accession, 1767-1910 and undated

Physical Description: 5 boxes

Scope and Contents note

Correspondence, accounts, diary (1869), bills, deeds, wills, legal documents, and other papers (largely 1829-1897). The bulk of the collection relates to Thomas A. Person and his family, and includes letters written from Harrison Co., Tex., and New Orleans (ca. 1850s); student letters from various North Carolina schools (1835-1860); letters of Confederate soldiers concerning military life; and family and business letters with Civil War reminiscences. The early material mostly concerns Thomas A. Person's father, Presley Carter Person, of Louisburg, N.C., and the settlement of his estate. Later material concerns patent medicines manufactured by a member of the family. Other correspondents and names mentioned include W. P. Montgomery, Harriett Person Perry, Levin Perry,

Theophilus Perry, Jesse H. H. Person, Joseph Arrington Person, M. P. Person, and Willie Mangum Person.

Information folder	Box 1
Papers, 1767-1863	Box 1
Papers, 1864-1897	Box 2
Papers, 1897-1915	Box 3
Financial papers, 1774-1863	Box 3
Financial papers, 1864-1914	Box 4
Undated papers	Box 4
Financial volumes	Box 4
Undated papers	Box 5

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Accession (2005-0110), 1754-1971 and undated

Physical Description: 3 boxes

Scope and Contents note

Addition (05-110) (200 items, 1.7 lin. ft.; dated 1754-1971 and undated) comprises primarily land deeds and surveys, other deeds of sale, receipts, personal wills, and other financial information. Also includes personal correspondence and memory books. An 1834 deed of gift to John W. Harris from P. C. Person includes five named slaves, one gray horse, 12 head of cattle, and 12 head of sheep. An 1808-1864 ledger book of Presley Person includes Person family genealogy and names and birth dates of his slaves and of the slaves owned by his son, Thomas A. Person. Other names mentioned include Matthew Culpepper, Arthur W. Person, Prudence Person, and W. M. Person.

Processing Information:

This container list accompanied this accession from the donor and has been only slightly modified to correct and/or add to dates and names. Some materials need conservation treatment before use.

1754-1854, authorization from John Earl Granville of London to attorneys in N.C. Box 1

1803, receipt from Matthew Culpepper to Dr. Isaac Hillard	Box 1
1805, 1817, fifteen pages prepared for court record of property acquired by grant or purchased over a period of time. Property located in Warren County, Franklin County, Halifax County, Raleigh, Fayetteville and the State of Tennessee	Box 1
1808, deed from John Culpepper to Osborne Culpepper	Box 1
1808-1864, ledger book of Dr. Presley C. Person, Franklin County Trustee.	Box 1
Includes the listing of his marriage, his children's birth dates, and names of his slaves with birth dates (all in back of book).	Box 1
1809, sale of lot 30 in town of Louisburg from John Perry to Jesse Person	Box 1
1812, Promisary note by John Ward to Matthew Culpepper	Box 1
1813, sale of lot 25 in town of Louisburg from Jeffrey's to William Freeman, recorded in 1819	Box 1
1814, license issued to Matthew Culpepper by state of N.C. to make distilled spirits for one month	Box 1
1814, payment of taxes by Matthew Culpepper	Box 1
1815, payment of taxes by Matthew Culpepper	Box 1
1816, payment of taxes by Matthew Culpepper	Box 1
1816, copy of C. Wright's will	Box 1
1822, deed of trust for tracts of land sold by Sheriff Jordan Denson to take care of debts-foreclosure in Franklin County, North Carolina	Box 1
1825, list of town of Louisburg citizens paying corporation tax	Box 1

1825, list of people who have paid taxes in town of Louisburg	Box 1
1825, true copy-ordinance of town of Louisburg levying \$1.00 poll tax and twenty cents on each \$1.00 real property	Box 1
1827, list of taxables of Captain Darby	Box 1
1828, ordinance of town of Louisburg for poll tax and real property tax	Box 1
1828, deed from J.J. Alston to P.C. Person	Box 1
1828, deed between P.C. Person and Jesse Person	Box 1
1828, deed from J.J. Alston, Sr. to J.J. Alston, Jr.	Box 1
1829, Matthew Culpepper account for Jno. Arrington. Account paid in 1832	Box 1
182?, Order of Court template letter-not addressed to anyone	Box 1
182?, valuation of town property in Louisburg	Box 1
1830, sale by Matthew Culpepper to Jno. Arrington for Brandy	Box 1
1831, bill from Matthew Culpepper to Jno. Arrington, Sr.	Box 1
1834, deed-gift to John W. Harris from P.C. Person consisting of 5 negros (named), one gray horse, 12 head of cattle, and 12 head of sheep	Box 1
1837, deed sale by Charles Johnston to Jesse Person	Box 1
1840, deed from Benjamin Davis and wife to Jesse Person and subsequent registration by William Whitfield	Box 1
1840, court order for Drury Andrew (also includes 1842, property of Ann Debnam to be sold to satisfy debt)	Box 1

1845, agreement between P.C. Person and Azariah Card for overseer job of his land	Box 1
1845, listing of property of P.C. Person	Box 1
1845, deed from Sheriff Guston Perry to Joseph A. Person and Weldon E. Person	Box 1
1845, affidavit from Sheriff of Franklin County that personal property of William Montgomery had been taken to satisfy debts.	Box 1
1846, reward of merit for Harriet E. Person	Box 1
1847, account of sale of personal property of P.C. Person	Box 1
1849, account of Thomas A. Person to J.G. King	Box 1
[1851, book titled "The Element of Moral Science" written by Francis Wayland. Book was owned and signed by Harriet Person in 1853: removed from accession and cataloged separately.]	Box 1
1852, authorization to Thomas Person and others to hold pole for elections	Box 1
1853, personal letter from H. Person to his sister	Box 1
1853, memory book of Harriet E. Person	Box 1
Needs conservation treatment before use.	Box 1
1858, notes of Joseph J. Davis relative to collections to be made for Sally Person	Box 1
1860, receipt from Louisburg Female College for the partially paid tuition of W.E. Person's two daughters.	Box 1
1860, receipt from Louisburg Female College to W.E. Person for the tuition of his two daughters signed by C.C. Anderson	Box 1

1861, order from Elais Carr to Mr. Bartholomew ordering two blade saws and a boor (hog)	Box 1
1862, letter from Jesse H. Person to his mother during Civil War	Box 1
1863, resolution from camp near Culpepper, VA honoring the bravery and service of Jesse H. Person who was killed at Gettysburg	Box 1
1864, receipt from John Foster to Thomas Person for service rendered as overseer	Box 1
1864, portion of document by Confederate States of America as a receipt of twenty two hundred dollars from Mrs. Sarah Person for bonds	Box 1
1864, letter from A.P. Person to his brother about farming	Box 1
1865, private letter from Anna Person to her Uncle Tom	Box 1
1865, photocopy of parole issued to A.A. Person by USA for fighting in Civil War	Box 1
1866, note from C.H. Champion to T.A. Person about cutting hay	Box 1
1868, personal letter from Cousin Hattie to Cousin Harriet	Box 1
1893, personal letter from Aunt Tempie from Arthur Person	Box 1
1906, 1909, 1915, list of newspapers found in accession, but discarded	Box 1
1910, memory book of Marguerite Person from classmate at Louisburg College	Box 1
1911, several affidavits as to the ability of Mrs. P.J. Person to write her will	Box 1
1913, receipt for Mary Montgomery paid on note of W.P. Montgomery	Box 1

1914, order of Railroad Telegraphers card of J.H. Person	Box 1
1914, survey map of plat of A.W. Person's residence lot	Box 1
1914, receipt of Mary Montgomery to satisfy judgment in Superior Court of Franklin County	Box 1
1917, letter from E.H. Malone (lawyer) to Mrs. Montgomery	Box 1
1917, resolution presented to General Assembly by Franklin County Ladies and passed re Veterans and flags	Box 2
1918, transfer of deed of trust from R.W. Hicks to Josephine Williams (additional notes added to the document in 1940)	Box 2
1918, promisory note by W.M. Person to W.M. Person to W.P. Montgomery	Box 2
1920, deed from W.M. Person and wife Prudence A. Person to A.W. Person	Box 2
1920, copy of will of Mrs. W.T. Montgomery	Box 2
1922, holograph will of Prudence A. Person	Box 2
after 1923, booklet giving the "Argument of W.M. Person: The Crucifixion of Tax-payers of North Carolina" in the Supreme Court of N.C.	Box 2
1924, newspaper clipping re: Louisburg College Campaign, The Franklin Times	Box 2
1926, sale of property by A.W. Person	Box 2
192?, newspaper clipping on death of Judge Cook	Box 2
1931, personal checks of Arthur W. Person written on First National Bank which were returned to him because the First National Bank closed because of the Depression	Box 2

1933, invitation to Louisburg Female College Commencement Exercises	Box 2
1936, original and copy of title, mortgage, and other legal documents to land owned by A.W. Person and wife, Louisburg, Franklin County, N.C.	Box 2
1941, Office of N.C. Governor, Selective Service, appointing A.W. Person member of Draft Board for District No. 1	Box 2
1948, map of lot in Franklin County, N.C. surveyed for A.W. Person	Box 2
1957, one share of stock in Green Hill Country Club purchased by A.W. Person	Box 2
1963, a State Magazine featuring Franklin County	Box 2
1971, aerial photocopy of farm from U.S. Department of Agriculture and letters on farm certification	Box 2
Undated, valentine to Harriet Person	Box 2
Undated, copy of Dr. William M. Person's will	Box 2
Undated, plat of land of Thomas Person	Box 2
Undated, affidavit by Mrs. Joseph Blake as to the last will of William Montgomery	Box 2
Undated, personal information about Thomas Person	Box 2
Undated, provosts Marshall's Office in Weldon, N.C. to Thomas Person thanking him for getting flour but unable to have delivered because of closed road	Box 2
Undated, brochure relative to raising money to build Franklin Dormitory at Louisburg College	Box 2
Undated, photograph of a man	Box 2

Undated, newspaper article regarding the lynching of a Louisburg man	Box 2
Undated, building information about a house built for Thomas A. Person called "Old Place of Louisburg" at 603 N. Main St.	Box 2
Undated, newspaper clipping of photograph of Senator William Person	Box 2
Undated, miscellaneous photographs of land	Box 2
Undated, miscellaneous papers on loans and payments	Box 2
Undated, miscellaneous receipts (four folders)	Box 2
Undated, loose materials	Box 2
1886, diploma of Prudence Person from Louisburg Female College	Box 3
1887, Supreme Court certificate issued to William M. Person to practice law	Box 3
1889, sheet music by Mrs. Joe Person	Box 3
1911, certificate to Mrs. Wiley M. Person from the United Daughters of the	Box 3
1917, survey and, 1956, legal description, of A.W. Person Estate, Nash Co., N.C.	Box 3

[Return to Table of Contents](#)