

Henry, Robert Selph, Papers

Robert Selph Henry Papers
1861-1971



Title Statement

Henry, Robert Selph, Papers Robert Selph Henry Papers, 1861-1971 Ms.1989.020

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1989.020

Unit Date

1861-1971

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

Spanning 1861 to 1971, the Robert Selph Henry Papers consist of correspondence, subject files, photographs, and clippings concerning Henry's research on the American Civil War, focusing on the Confederacy and Nathan Bedford Forrest, and also railroad history. This collection also contains Henry's Southern Historical Association (SHA) and Association of American Railroads papers.

Creator

Henry, Robert Selph, 1889-1970

Extent

4.3 Cubic Feet 4 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The collection was acquired by Virginia Tech Special Collections in 1989.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Robert Selph Henry Papers was completed in July 2013.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Robert Selph Henry Papers, 1861-1971, Ms1989-020, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Robert Selph Henry (1889-1970) was born in Clifton, Tennessee, on October 20, 1889. He graduated from Vanderbilt University with an L.L.B. in 1910 and a BA in 1911. He served as a Captain of Field Artillery in World War I, and remained in the Army Reserve, rising to the rank of colonel, until his retirement in 1952. He worked for the newspaper in Nashville (1907-1913), served as secretary to the Governor of Tennessee (1913-1915), practiced as a lawyer in Nashville (1915-1921), and worked for the railroads, first as Director of Public Relations for the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway (1921-1928), then as Assistant to the Vice President of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway (1928-1934), and lastly as the Vice President of the Association of American Railroads (1934-1958).

Henry was also a historian of the American Civil War and the railroads. He published several books including *The Story of the Confederacy* (1931), *The Story of Reconstruction* (1938), *First with the Most Forrest* (1944), and *This Fascinating Railroad Business* (1942). Henry also served as President of the Southern Historical Association (SHA; 1957).

Scope and Content

The Robert Selph Henry Papers consist of correspondence, subject files, photographs, and clippings concerning Henry's research on the American Civil War, focusing on the Confederacy and Nathan Bedford Forrest, and also railroad history. Most subject files involve research notes and photocopies or transcriptions of primary sources such as diaries, letters, and reminiscences. This collection also contains Henry's Southern Historical Association (SHA) and Association of American Railroads papers.

The collection dates from 1861 to 1971; however, most of the Civil War letters and diaries contained in this collection appear to be either later reprints, transcriptions, or copies of the original. The dates given in this finding aid correspond to the year for the original document. Many of the photographs are reproductions as well.

Separated Materials

The following book has been removed from the collection and has been catalogued for the rare book collection: *Diary of Capt. Heber S. Thompson, Seventh Pennsylvania Volunteer Cavalry, May to December, 1864* (Call number: E527.6 7th T46 1864 SCUA Civil War).

Keywords

Civil War

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

This collection is organized thematically in alphabetical order by folder title.

Description of Subordinate Components

Advertisements - Forrest Quote

Unit Date 1945-1948

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Assn. of American Railroads

Unit Date 1934-1953

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Bell, Brig. Gen. Tyree H. Bell

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Biography - R. S. Henry

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Mary Forest Bradley (Correspondence)

Unit Date 1943

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Burlington Zephyrs

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Chapin, Edward Young

Unit Date 1944-1954

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Chattanooga, TN - 1869 (Recollections of Mr. Caldwell)

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

"Chattanooga and the War"**Unit Date** 1959**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 9 (folder)**Civil War Articles - Various Authors****Unit Date** 1932-1957**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 10 (folder)**Civil War Articles - No Author****Unit Date** 1931, n.d.**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 11 (folder)**Civil War Letters****Unit Date** 1862, ca. 1864, 1888**Civil War Letter, Camp Near Richmond****Unit Date** 1862**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 12 (folder)**Civil War Letters - Merrick****Unit Date** 1862**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 13 (folder)**Civil War Letter - Gen. Ruggles****Unit Date** ca. 1864**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 14 (folder)**Civil War Letter - Post****Unit Date** 1888**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 15 (folder)**Cockrell, Monroe****Unit Date** 1947-1958**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 16 (folder)**Confederate Research Club****Unit Date** 1955-1958**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 17 (folder)

Confederate Songs**Unit Date** 1950**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 18 (folder)**"Diary of Capt. Herber S. Thompson" 7th PA Volunteer Cavalry****Unit Date** 1864**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 19 (folder)**"Diary of J. Pugh Cannon," Transcript****Unit Date** 1863-1864**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 20 (folder)**Diary - Chaplain Charles Todd Quintard, Transcript****Unit Date** 1864**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 21 (folder)**Ewell (Lt. Gen. R.S.) Letter to R. E. Lee - Transcribed****Unit Date** 1865**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 22 (folder)**Forrest, Nathan Bedford****Unit Date** 1935-1955**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 23 (folder)**Forrest, N. B. - "Bankruptcy on Debtor's Petition," Copy of 1869 Document****Unit Date** 1944**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 24 (folder)**Forrest, N. B. - Notes (6 folders)****Unit Date** n.d.**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 25-30 (folder)**Freight Tariff for 1870****Unit Date** 1870-1937**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 31 (folder)**Grady, Henry Woodfin, "The New South"****Unit Date** 1886**box-folder** 1 (box)**Container** 32 (folder)

Hood's Campaign, Middle Tenn., Transcript of Conversation

Unit Date 1868

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 33 (folder)

Hughes, Robert Morton

Unit Date 1933-1936

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 34 (folder)

Illustrations - Civil War, Copies

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 35 (folder)

Inka, Miss. (Battle of) (Notes)

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 36 (folder)

Jackson, "Stonewall" - Hall of Fame Bust

Unit Date 1957

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 37 (folder)

Ku Klux Klan

Unit Date 1930-1944

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 38 (folder)

Kuhler, Otto

Unit Date 1935-1952

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 39 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1930-1971, n.d.

Letters

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 40 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1930

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 41 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1931

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 42 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1932
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 43 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1933
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 44 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1934
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 45 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1935
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 46 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1936
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 47 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1937
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 48 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1938
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 49 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1939
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 50 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1940
box-folder 1 (box)
Container 51 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1941

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 52 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1942

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 53 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1943

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 54 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1944

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 55 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1945

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 56 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1946

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1947

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1948

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1949

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1950

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1951

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1952

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1953

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1954

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1955

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1956

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1957

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1958

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1959

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Letters

Unit Date 1960

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Letters**Unit Date** 1961**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 16 (folder)**Letters****Unit Date** 1962**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 17 (folder)**Letters****Unit Date** 1964**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 18 (folder)**Letters****Unit Date** 1968**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 19 (folder)**Letters****Unit Date** 1969**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 20 (folder)**Letters****Unit Date** 1970-1971**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 21 (folder)**Lincoln, Pres. A.****Unit Date** 1954**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 22 (folder)**Mrs. Joseph Luxton (Mother of N. B. Forrest)****Unit Date** 1925-1943**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 23 (folder)**Mexican War****Unit Date** 1950-1959, n.d.**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 24 (folder)**Newspaper Articles - Civil War****Unit Date** 1925-1956**box-folder** 2 (box)**Container** 25 (folder)

Newspaper Articles on Forrest

Unit Date 1942-1956

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 26 (folder)

Pemberton, John C.

Unit Date 1931-1938

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 27 (folder)

Photographs - Civil War

Unit Date 1920, 1951, n.d.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 28 (folder)

Photographs - Railroad

Unit Date 1863-1938

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 29 (folder)

"Portraits of the Iron Horse"

Unit Date 1936-1945

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 30 (folder)

Postcards

Unit Date 1945-1956

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 31 (folder)

Printed Material (4 folders)

Unit Date 1903-1961

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 32-35 (folder)

Bibliography

Deaderick, J. D. "The Truth about Shiloh." Memphis, Tennessee: S. C. Toof & Company, 1942. Dinkins, James, and Stephen D. Lee. "The Balaclava of America: Reminiscences of The Battle of Franklin, November 30th, 1864." Reprinted from the New Orleans Picayune, 1903. Govan, Gilbert E., and James W. Livingood. "Chattanooga under Military Occupation, 1863-1865." Reprinted from The Journal of Southern History, Vol. XVII, No. 1 (February 1951). Folmsbee, Stanley J., and Lucile Deaderick. "The Founding of Knoxville." Reprint from East Tennessee Historical Society's Publications, No. 13 (1941). Beard, William E. "The Fort Fisher 'Volcano'." Reprinted from the United States Naval Institute Proceedings, Vol. 58, No. 8, Whole No. 354. Kincaid, Robert L. "Kentucky in the Civil War." Reprinted from LINCOLN HERALD, (June 1947). Church, Samuel Harden. "America's First Railroad." Reprinted from THE NEW YORK TIMES, February 22, 1925. Confederate Veteran. Vol. 40, No. 7 (July 1932). Confederate Veteran. Vol. 40, No. 8 (August 1932). Goodpasture, Ridley. "Excerpts from the SPOKEN DIARY of an Ex-Slave."

Pullmans

Unit Date 1940, n.d.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 36 (folder)

Railroad Notes and Papers

Unit Date ca. 1920s-1940s, n.d.

Railroad Notes and Papers 1

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 37 (folder)

Railroad Notes and Papers 2

Unit Date ca. 1920s - 1940s

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 38 (folder)

Railroad Notes and Papers 3

Unit Date 1939-1948

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 39 (folder)

Railroad Notes and Papers 4

Unit Date 1938-1941

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 40 (folder)

Reviews - R. S. Henry Books

Unit Date 1931-1960

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Sansom, Emma

Unit Date 1954

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Shelton, R. - 14th TN (typed) Letters

Unit Date 1862-1864

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Slave Insurance Policy from 1855

Unit Date 1931

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Southern Historical Assn.

Unit Date 1881, 1951-1958

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

"The Story of the Confederacy"

Unit Date 1930, n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

The Story of Reconstruction

Unit Date 1865-1877, ca. 1930s, n.d.

"The Story of Reconstruction" (2 folders)

Unit Date ca. 1930s

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 7-8 (folder)

Story of Reconstruction Notes - 1865

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Story of Reconstruction Notes - 1866

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Story of Reconstruction Notes - 1867-1868

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Story of Reconstruction Notes - 1869-1870

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Story of Reconstruction Notes - 1871-1873

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Story of Reconstruction Notes - 1874-1877

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Streight-Forrest Route

Unit Date 1948

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Sturgis's Route From Ripley to Brice Cross Roads

Unit Date n.d.

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Swift, Eben - Letters

Unit Date 1888

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Telegrams

Unit Date 1934-1950

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

"The Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1940-1950s

"This Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1940

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

"This Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1941

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 20 (folder)

"This Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1942

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 21 (folder)

"This Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1943

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 22 (folder)

"This Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1944

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 23 (folder)

"This Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1945

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 24 (folder)

"This Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1946

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 25 (folder)

"The Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1947

box-folder 3 (box)

Container 26 (folder)

"This Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1948-1949
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 27 (folder)

"This Fascinating Railroad Business"

Unit Date 1950s
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 28 (folder)

Tom Thumb

Unit Date n.d.
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 29 (folder)

"Trains" - 1930s

Unit Date 1933-1938
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 30 (folder)

"Trains" - 1940s

Unit Date 1943-1949
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 31 (folder)

"Trains" - 1950s

Unit Date 1950-1957
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 32 (folder)

Ware, Dr. John N. - Correspondence

Unit Date 1943-1956
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 33 (folder)

Wiley, Bell I. - Letters

Unit Date 1942-1957
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 34 (folder)

Wyeth, Dr. John A. to General E. W. Rucker

Unit Date 1896
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 35 (folder)

Yancey, William L.

Unit Date 1861
box-folder 3 (box)
Container 36 (folder)

Civil War Copies of Images and Letters for Publications

Unit Date n.d.

box 4