

# A Guide to the Margaret B. Burruss Collection of Scott and Saufley Family Papers, 1786-1912 SC 0118

Margaret B. Burruss Collection of Scott and Saufley Family Papers  
1786-1912



## Title Statement

A Guide to the Margaret B. Burruss Collection of Scott and Saufley Family Papers, 1786-1912 SC 0118

**Author:** Chris Bolgiano, Alicia Henneberry, Tiffany Cole

## Publication Statement

**Publisher:** James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

880 Madison Drive  
MSC 1704  
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22807  
Telephone: (540) 568-3612  
library-special@jmu.edu  
URL: <https://www.lib.jmu.edu/special/>



September 1990, October 2013, January 2018

## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2023-08-07 13:34:11 -0400.

**Language Usage:** Description is written in: English, Latin script.

**Descriptive Rules:** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## Revision Description

<b>Feb 19, 2004</b>	PUBLIC "-//James Madison University::Carrier Library::Special Collections//TEXT (US::ViHarT::vihart00013::Margaret B. Burruss Collection)//EN" "vihart00013.xml" converted from EAD 1.0 to 2002 by v1to02.xsl (sy2003-10-15).
<b>Feb 25, 2004</b>	converted to conform to eadVIVA.dtd by vivastrict.xsl
<b>2013-11-21</b>	Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.
<b>October 2013</b>	Revised by Alicia Henneberry
<b>2017</b>	Collection renumbered.

## Descriptive Summary

**Unit ID**

SC 0118

**Unit Date**

1786-1912

**Unit Date**

1991

**Language**

English .

**Abstract**

The Margaret B. Burruss Collection of Scott and Saufley Family Papers, 1786-1912, 1991, is comprised of correspondence, transcripts, photographs, and the Hanna family Bible.

**Creator**

Scott, Reuben A., 1838-1912

**Creator**

Scott, Mary Catherine Saufley, 1833-1920

**Creator**

Scott family

**Creator**

Saufley family

**source**

Burruss, Margaret Brooks, 1923-2011

**Extent**

1.10 cubic feet 3 boxes

**Repository**

James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

## Administrative Information

**Access**

Collection is open for research. Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection. Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the James Madison University Special Collections Library to use this collection.

**Use Restrictions**

The copyright interests in this collection have been transferred to the James Madison University Special Collection Library. For more information, contact the Special Collections Library Reference Desk (library-special@jmu.edu).

**Acquisition Information**

Donated in July 1990 by Mrs. Margaret B. Burruss, a great-granddaughter of Reuben A. Scott and Mary (Mollie) Saufley Scott.

**Processing Information**

At some point after acquiring this collection, Special Collections staff separated the correspondence from their corresponding envelopes. The separated envelopes have penciled notations on them referring back to their original letter. In an effort to not further lose original order by trying to marry each letter with an envelope, the two remain separated. In order to streamline the process of applying collection numbers, Special Collections staff completed a large-scale renumbering campaign in the spring of 2017. (The collection was also minimally reprocessed during this time.) **This collection was previously cataloged as SC 2097.**

**Preferred Citation**

[identification of item], [box #, folder #], Margaret B. Burruss Collection of Scott and Saufley Family Papers, 1786-1912, 1991, SC 0118, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

## Bio/Historical Information

Rueben A. Scott and his fiancée, later wife, Mary (Mollie) Catherine Saufley, lived near Port Republic in

Rockingham County, Virginia. She was slightly older than Reuben, and was well educated, having attended Fair View Academy and Miami Seminary in Missouri. Reuben Scott joined the Confederate forces as a private in the Company B, 10th Regiment, Virginia Infantry, at least by April 1861 when he was in his twenties. He suffered a wound to the arm at the Battle of Chancellorsville in May 1863. He was then taken prisoner of war at Port Republic in September 1864, and later paroled on May 23, 1865. He returned to live a prosperous life as a farmer in Port Republic, where he died in 1912.

## Scope and Content

The Margaret B. Burruss Collection of Scott and Saufley Family Papers, 1789-1912, consists of three boxes containing letters, family records, photos, letter transcripts, and the Hanna family Bible. The collection relates to the Scott and Saufley families of Rockingham County, Virginia.

## Keywords

Chancellorsville, Battle of, Chancellorsville, Va., 1863  
Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives  
Virginia -- Social life and customs  
Port Republic (Va.) -- History  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives, Confederate  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Campaigns  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Regimental histories  
Photographs  
Letters (correspondence)  
Family papers  
Burruss, Margaret Brooks, 1923-2011  
Confederate States of America. Army. Virginia Infantry Regiment, 10th  
Scott, Reuben A., 1838-1912  
Scott, Reuben A., 1838-1912 -- Correspondence  
Scott, Mary Catherine Saufley, 1833-1920  
Scott, Mary Catherine Saufley, 1833-1920 -- Correspondence  
Scott family -- Correspondence  
Saufley family -- Correspondence  
Hanna family -- Sources  
Whitmer family -- Correspondence  
Ewing family -- Correspondence  
Brown family -- Correspondence  
Graham family -- Correspondence

## Arrangement

This collection is arranged in five series:

- Scott-Saufley Correspondence, 1861-1865
- Family Letters, 1768-1912
- Miscellaneous, 1859-1861
- Photographs, circa 1860s, 1912
- Envelopes, 1861-1912
- Transcripts, 1991

## Description of Subordinate Components

### Scott-Saufley Correspondence

**Unit Date** 1861-1865

**Scope and Content**

Series 1: Scott-Saufley Correspondence, 1861-1865, is comprised of six folders of Civil War correspondence between Reuben A. Scott and his wife Mary Catherine Saufley Scott (called Mollie). His letters describe

camp life, preparation for battles, and his assignment of searching out and arresting deserters. Her letters describe events and news about family members and home. There are also several documents included that are relevant to the correspondence, such as the April 7, 1861 letter from Mollie's father giving her permission to marry, a leave of absence for Scott in Septmeber 1861, and copies of his muster rolls.

### **Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence**

**Unit Date** April 7, 1861-June 5, 1861

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

### **Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence**

**Unit Date** June 8, 1861-July 20, 1861

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

### **Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence**

**Unit Date** July 23, 1861-September 8, 1861

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

### **Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence**

**Unit Date** September 26, 1861-December 23, 1861

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

### **Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence**

**Unit Date** January 5, 1862-March 24, 1862

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

### **Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott correspondence**

**Unit Date** April 12, 1862-May 23, 1865, undated

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

## **Family Letters**

**Unit Date** 1768-1912

### **Scope and Content**

Series 2: Family Letters, 1786-1912, contains miscellaneous letters from members of the Whitmer, Ewing, Brown, Graham, as well as the Scott and Saufley family. Letter from both R.A. Scott and M.C. Saufley to various relatives are filed here. Also filed here are notes of debts and R.A. Scott's obituary and will.

### **Family letters**

**Unit Date** 1786-1857

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 7 (folder)

### **Family letters**

**Unit Date** 1858-1861

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 8 (folder)

## Family letters

**Unit Date** 1861-1912, undated

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 9 (folder)

## Miscellaneous

**Unit Date** 1859-1861

### Scope and Content

Series 3: Miscellaneous, 1859-1861, contains M.C. Saufley's daybook and pamphlet, The Soldier's Mission in the Crisis of 1861 that contains a note by R. A. Scott ("found on battlefield"). This folder also holds several clippings that were photocopied onto preservation paper for placement with the letters they accompanied. The Hanna Family Bible also forms part of this series and includes two pages of genealogical data.

## Miscellaneous

**Unit Date** 1859-1861

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 10 (folder)

## Hanna family Bible

**Unit Date** undated

**Mixed Materials [1000898370]** OV 1 (box)

## Photographs

**Unit Date** circa 1860s

**Unit Date** 1912

### Scope and Content

Series 4: Photographs, ca. 1860s, 1912, consists of three cases photos of R.A. Scott, one cased photo of Mollie Scott identified and dated by the donor as 1861, and one mounted photo of R. A. Scott in his casket.

## Photographs

**Unit Date** circa 1860s

**Unit Date** 1912

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 11 (folder)

## Envelopes

**Unit Date** 1861-1912

### Scope and Content

Series 5: Envelopes, 1861-1912, correspond to the letters in Series 1 and Series 2. They were separated from their letters during an initial processing campaign. The separated envelopes have penciled notations on them referring back to their original letter.

## Envelopes

**Unit Date** 1861-1912

**Mixed Materials [1000886565]** 1 (box)

**Container** 12 (folder)

## Transcripts

**Unit Date** 1991

### Scope and Content

Series 6: Transcripts, undated, is comprised of typed transcripts of all correspondence located in Series 1 and Series 2.

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott  
correspondence dated April 7, 1861-June 5, 1861**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott  
correspondence dated June 8, 1861-July 20, 1861**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott  
correspondence dated July 23, 1861-September 8, 1861**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott  
correspondence dated September 26, 1861-December 23, 1861**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott  
correspondence dated January 5, 1862-March 24, 1862**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

**Transcripts to Reuben A. Scott/Mollie Catherine Saufley Scott  
correspondence dated April 12, 1862-May 23, 1865, undated**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

**Transcripts to Family letters dated 1786-1857**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

**Transcripts to Family letters dated 1858-1861**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

**Transcripts to Family letters dated 1861-1912, undated**

Mixed Materials [1000886566] 2 (box)

Container 9 (folder)