

William G. Williamson papersMS.0205

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1857-1898



Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

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Unit ID

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Unit Date

1857-1898

Language

English .

Creator

Williamson, William G. (William Garnett), 1840-1898

Extent

0.10 cubic feet 1/2 document box

Physical Location

Manuscripts stacks

Repository

Virginia Military Institute Archives

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

There are no restrictions.

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Preferred Citation

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Biographical / Historical

William Garnett Williamson was born in 1840 in Norfolk, Virginia. From 1858 to 1859 he was a student at Washington College, Lexington, Virginia. In 1861 he received military training at VMI (VMI Class of 1864 Military Science). During the Civil War he served with the 1st Regiment Engineers, Confederate States of America.

After the War, Williamson was a civil engineer. He died in 1898 in Pensacola, Florida while constructing coastal defenses during the Spanish-American War. He was the brother of Thomas Hoomes Williamson, a longtime member of the VMI faculty.

Scope and Contents

The William G. Williamson papers consist of the personal papers of Williamson. Included is an original manuscript Civil War notebook that contains: Reports (September 1862-May 1863) submitted to the Chief Engineer's Office, Army of Northern Virginia, in which Williamson discusses destroying bridges at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, and reconnaissance and mapping trips in the Shenandoah Valley and Piedmont Poetry Notes about architecture, engineering, and Williamson family genealogy The papers also include correspondence and documents (1868-1898), Williamson's obituary, and a book owned by Williamson titled "Scott's Infantry Tactics" (Volume III, 1860 edition).

In addition, the papers include a digital version only of an additional notebook (original owned by a descendant). This notebook dates from circa 1857 to 1861 and contains class notes and sketches, including a drawing of Stonewall Jackson while he was professor at VMI. The notebook likely dates in part from the period in which Williamson was a student at Washington College (now Washington and Lee University).

Keywords

Confederate States of America. Army—Corps of Engineers

Virginia Military Institute—Class of 1864 Military Science

United States—History—Civil War, 1861-1865—Personal narratives—Confederate

United States—History—Civil War, 1861-1865

Washington College (Lexington, Va.)—Students

Washington and Lee University—History

Reports

Correspondence

Poetry

Williamson, Thomas H. (Thomas Hoomes), 1813-1888

Jackson, Stonewall, 1824-1863

Williamson family

Online Access

The Civil War reports and the pre-War notebook are available online.