

Hilton family papers

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Hilton & Dodge Lumber Co.
Creator:	Hilton, Joseph, 1842-1920.
Creator:	Hilton, Thomas, 1885-1958.
Creator:	Pineora Manufacturing Company (Pineora, Ga.)
Title:	Hilton family papers
Dates:	1843-1962
Extent:	2.1 cubic feet (4 boxes, 2 volumes, 1 oversize folder)
Identification:	MS 0387

Biographical/Historical Note

Joseph Hilton was born in Preston, England, and came with his family to Darien, Georgia in 1855 where his father established a saw milling and lumber business under the name Thomas Hilton & Sons, which later became Hiltons and Fosters and still later, Hilton Timber & Lumber Company. After mergers with other lumber companies it finally became the Hilton & Dodge Lumber Company. They had saw mills, and/or offices in Darien, Savannah, and other places in Georgia and New York City. Thomas Hilton was born in Darien, graduated from St. Paul's School Concord, New Hampshire in 1904, and attended Yale University for one year, 1904-1905. He was associated with his father in Hilton & Dodge Lumber Company, 1905-1913, in Savannah and Darien, then with Gordon & Hilton (Beirne Gordon), cotton factors, 1914-July 1917. In 1917 he bought half interest in Pineora Manufacturing Company in Pineora, Georgia. Many years later he sold that business and became a lumber consultant. He was President of the South Pryor Terminal Company in Atlanta, at the time of its dissolution in 1931.

Thomas Hilton married Elizabeth Fitzhugh Ficklen in 1913. Elizabeth Fitzhugh Ficklen is the descendant linking the Hilton and Alexander families as she was the daughter of John Rose and Bessie Mason (Alexander) Ficklen. Elizabeth's mother, Bessie Mason (Alexander) Ficklen, was the daughter of Edward Porter Alexander who served as a Confederate brigadier general during the Civil War. Edward Porter was one of ten children of Adam L. and Sarah (Gilbert) Alexander. The other children were: Alice Haskell, James Hillhouse, William Felix, Sarah, Harriet, Marion, Mary, Charles Atwood, and Louisa Alexander.

Scope and Content Note

The papers in this collection are those of Joseph Hilton and his son, Thomas Hilton. The Hilton personal papers are in the first group, followed by the business records: Hilton & Dodge Lumber Company and Pineora Manufacturing Company, including photographs. The personal papers include Joseph Hilton's Civil War letters to his family, and letters to and from him and Thomas Hilton. Among the correspondents is General Clement A. Evans. Also included are Thomas Hilton's anecdotes and verses of the Coastal Georgia area, and some by others. Notable among these is an original, signed manuscript poem, "The Trees," by Christopher Morley. There is a crude water-colored sketch by Winnie Davis, daughter of Jefferson Davis, and a roster of McIntosh County Guards (Co. B, 26th Georgia Volunteer Regiment). There is a large collection of income tax records of Pineora Manufacturing Company, 1917-1939. It contains financial statements of the company.

In addition, the collection includes an undated photograph of Edward Porter Alexander and his nine siblings.

Index Terms

Alexander family.
Alexander, Edward Porter, 1835-1910.
Business records.
Georgia--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
Hilton & Dodge Lumber Co.
Hilton family.
Hilton, Joseph, 1842-1920.
Hilton, Thomas, 1885-1958.
Letters (correspondence)
Manuscripts (document genre)
Morley, Christopher, 1890-1957.
Photographs.
Pineora Manufacturing Company (Pineora, Ga.)
Poems.
Tax records.
Watercolors (paintings)

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Lucy Hilton Park was the daughter of Joseph. Joseph Hilton was the son of Thomas, grandson of Joseph.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Hilton family papers, MS 387, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Lucy Hilton Park (photocopies, typed copies of Civil War letters), 1961; Joseph Hilton (son of Thomas), 1967; Christopher Cay, 2007.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2012 Documenting Democracy grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Container List

Box Fldr

1 1 Correspondence, 1852, 1863-1865

item 1: Thomas and Jemima Hilton to their parents. Savannah, 1852 May 30, 4.0 p.

Items 2-6: Five letters from Joseph Hilton to his parents and cousin, Lizzie Lacklison, from various stations in Virginia, with Lawton's Brigade and Gordon's Brigade; war experiences; Typed and photocopies filed with them.

Item 7: Clement A. Evans, Brig. General to Captain Joseph Hilton. Headquarter's, Gordon's Division, 1865 February 16, 1.0 p.

Regarding appointment of Hilton as A.A.A. General of the Division.

2 Items 8-34: Correspondence, 1903-1903

Correspondents are: Clement A. Evans, regarding 26th Georgia Regiment, war reminiscences and commending Joseph Hilton; J.H. Coit, St. Paul's School; Thomas Hilton (school boy letters and visit to Mexico City); M. Hartley Dodge; Mrs. Joseph Hilton.

3 Items 35-60: Correspondence, 1904-1918

Correspondents are: Eric A. Swenson; Thomas Hilton; Clement A. Evans, re roster of McIntosh County Guards (Co. B, 26th Ga. Regt.) with two copies of the roster in different hands; Joseph Hilton; correspondence of Thomas Hilton with the War Department re application for a commission in the U.S. Army.

4 Items 61-92: Correspondence, 1920-1961

Correspondents are: Joseph Hilton re their lumber manufacturing business; Thomas Hilton, Howard Coffin, Donald Forsyth, regarding Cypress dug-out boats, 1930; Adams, Adams & Douglas, regarding guardianship; A. Temple Dobell; L.M. Wilbur regarding marriage of Thomas Hilton, Jr.; Robert W. Groves regarding Thomas Hilton's services in Civilian Defense; letters asking for information on Hilton family; John E. Edison, editor of *Georgia Review*, rejecting some of Thomas Hilton's poems; and others.

5 Items 93-96: "High Water on the Bar" by Thomas Hilton. An account of the Hilton family and their lumber and timber businesses: Hiltons & Foster, Hilton Timber & Lumber Company, Hilton & Dodge Lumber Company

Printed copy (1951), two papers with notes on the Darien timber market.

6 items 97-186: Letters regarding "High Water on the Bar," with list of those to whom copies were sent, 1952-1962

They contain interesting information on Coastal Georgia life, timber and saw mills. Among the correspondents are Bessie Lewis, Millard Reese, Stanley F. Horn, and Margaret Davis Cate.

7 Items 187-197: "Stories and Verses of the Georgia Coast," by Thomas Hilton

A typed folio of anecdotes of Coastal Georgia and verses; typed and/or handwritten copies of some of them are in the folder, and a few anecdotes and notes not included in the folio.

8 Items 198-209: Anecdotes, verses, etc. by others

Includes an original, signed manuscript poem, "The Trees," by Christopher Morley; typed copy of "My recollections of Darien in the late Seventies and Eighties," by Lillian F. Sinclair; typed copy of "Union Island," by Bill Davis, 1875; printed copy of "Address of General E. Porter Alexander, delivered on Alumni Day, West Point Military Academy Centennial, June 9, '02 entitled 'The Confederate Veteran.'"

9 Items 210-217: Personal records

Barnwell genealogy; and data on Thomas Hilton, including a paper by Mrs. Hilton for their children.

10 Items 218-235: Pictures and clippings

1 watercolor labeled "Tom" with legend on back, "Painted for me by Miss 'Winnie' Davis" daughter of Jefferson Davis; six snapshots of St. Paul's School, Concord, New Hampshire, 3 photos of a riverfront home site, all the large trees, 2 showing the house; clippings, one of which is T. Mayhew Cunningham's address to the Newcomen Society on the early history of Georgia.

11 Documents

Grant to Charles Spalding of 500 acres in McIntosh County, with attached survey, 1843, recorded 1889; negative photocopy of survey of a tract in McIntosh County, 1854; naturalization papers of Thomas Hilton, Sr., 1859; certified copy of will of William M. Leigh, 1861, with inventory and appraisal; deed to Upper Mill tract, Robert Lachlison et al to Thomas Hilton, Sr. et al, 1879; deed, H.S. Ravenel, trustee of estate of James Walker, a tract on Bruro Neck, McIntosh County to Joseph Hilton, 1899; certificate to Joseph Hilton appointing him Lt. Col. and A.A.G., Georgia Division, United Confederate Veterans, 1900; deed, Joseph Hilton et al, executors of estate of Thomas Hilton, to Joseph Hilton, half interest in two lots in Darien, 1906; certificate to Thomas Hilton for 221 shares in Hilton & Dodge Lumber Company, 1911; articles of dissolution of the South Pryor Terminal Company of Atlanta, 1931; certification to Thomas Hilton for completing training courses in the Citizens Defense Corps of Savannah, Georgia, 1942.

Box Fldr

2 12 Item 247: Agreement of sale of property, St. Simons Lumber Co. to Hilton and Dodge Lumber Co., 1888 December 1 (8.0 p.)

248 Journal, Hilton & Dodge Lumber Co., labeled J.H. (Joseph Hilton), 1891 October 31-1893 November 30 (1.0 volume)
Only 14 pages used.

249 Ledger, Pineora Manufacturing Co., 1916 April-1918 August (1.0 volume)
Outside box.

13 Items 250-258: Pineora Manufacturing Co. papers, 1916-1929

List of boxes cut on land of the company, December 18, 1916 - February 1, '97; bills collectable for rail rentals, October - November 1917, December 1920; receipts for timber and horses, 1928, 1929; 2 photos of the plant and one of the Floyd house.

- 14 Items 259-264: Pineora Manufacturing Company. Easements, rights-of-way, etc., 1911-1927
- 15 Items 265-278: Pineora Manufacturing Company. Deeds to secure debts, mortgages, bonds, etc., 1878, 1910-1924
- 16 Items 279-299: Pineora Manufacturing Company. Timber leases, Bulloch County, 1902-1927
- 17 Items 300-304: Pineora Manufacturing Company. Timber leases, Chatham County, 1914-1923
- 18 Items 305-331: Pineora Manufacturing Company. Timber leases, Effingham County, 1914-1929

Box Fldr

- 3 19 Items 332-336: Pineora Manufacturing Company. Property deeds, Bulloch County, 1911-1928
- 20 Items 337-346: Pineora Manufacturing Company. Property deeds, Chatham County, 1915-1925
- 21 Items 347-371: Pineora Manufacturing Company. Property deeds, Effingham County, 1812-1930
- 22 Items 372-373: Pineora Manufacturing Company. Property deeds, McIntosh and Screven Counties, resp., 1916, 1896
- 23 Pineora Manufacturing Company. Income tax records, 1917-1922
Not counted.
- 24 Pineora Manufacturing Company. Income tax records, 1923
Not counted.

Box Fldr

- 4 25 Pineora Manufacturing Company. Income tax records, 1924
Not counted.
- 26 Pineora Manufacturing Company. Income tax records, 1925
Not counted.

27 Pineora Manufacturing Company. Income tax records, 1926
Not counted.

28 Pineora Manufacturing Company. Income tax records, 1927-1928
Not counted.

29 Pineora Manufacturing Company. Income tax records, 1929-1931
Not counted.

30 Pineora Manufacturing Company. Income tax records, 1932-1939
Not counted.

oversize_folder

1 Photograph of Edward Porter Alexander and siblings, undated