DATE: August 25, 1982 DONOR: Original accession

FILE ENTRY: Armistead Family Papers 1846-1906 & n.d.

TITLE: ARMISTEAD FAMILY PAPERS 1846-1906 & N.D

SPECIAL NOTES: A folder containing biographical information about the Armistead family follows the manuscript collection.

QUANTITY

ITEMS: LEAVES: TOTAL

bound _______ unbound _______
leaves _______ leaves _______ single 79 79

CONTENT:

ARRANGEMENT

Correspondence 1842-1890 & n.d. 31 leaves
Financial Documents 1848-1906 & n.d. 46 leaves
Legal Documents 1846-1897 6 leaves
Literary Productions 1864 & n.d. 2 leaves
Printed Material 1866 1 leaf
Scrapbook Material n.d. 4 leaves

Inventoried by: Deann Randle Typed By: Deann Randle
Approved By: Ken Perry
COLLECTION SUMMARY
of the
ARMISTEAD FAMILY PAPERS 1846-1906 & n.d.

The Armistead Family Papers were originally donated to the West Texas Historical and Scientific Society's historical collection. They are attributed as having been donated by Judge Wigfall Van Sickle, a friend of the Armistead family. The papers were donated to the Archives of the Big Bend by the West Texas Historical and Scientific Society. Donation date of the collection to the West Texas Historical and Scientific Society is unknown; however, the Society donated the papers to Sul Ross State University in 1968.

The papers center on William Westwood Armistead, an Alabama cotton merchant. William Westwood Armistead went to Alabama from North Carolina in 1819 and died in Marvin, Clarke County, Alabama in 1882. One son, J.C. Armistead, and his wife, Emma Carter Armistead, moved to the Glass Mountains—near Marathon, Texas, where their son, William Henry, had a ranch. In 1909, the family moved to Alpine where they felt the climate would improve Emma Armistead's failing health and where the children could get an education. J.C. Armistead assisted his oldest son, William Henry, with his ranch in the Glass Mountains and did general carpentry work in Alpine to remain close to his ailing wife. Another son, Richard Carney Armistead, worked as a court reporter for Judge Wigfall Van Sickle until his enlistment in the service during World War I. Richard Carney Armistead suffered two serious wounds in battle, from which he never fully recovered, and he died shortly after returning to Alpine in 1923. J.C., Emma, and Richard Carney Armistead are the members of the Armistead family buried in Elm Grove Cemetery, Alpine, Texas. (Please see folder at back of collection for further biographical information.)

This collection of Armistead Family Papers consists of correspondence, primarily between cousins of the family or between parties whose relationship to the family cannot be established, and financial records, which make up the bulk of the papers and deal primarily with the cotton merchandising business of mid-19th century Alabama. Other major categories include legal documents, literary productions, printed material, and scrapbook material.

The papers are housed in folders by major category. The bulk of the papers date from 1850-1870. Their arrangement is as follows:

- Correspondence 1858-1890 & n.d. 20 leaves
- Financial Documents 1848-1906 & n.d. 46 leaves
- Legal Documents 1846-1897 6 leaves
- Literary Productions 1864 & n.d. 2 leaves
- Printed Material 1866 1 leaf
- Scrapbook Material n.d. 4 leaves

By: Deann Randle
Assistant Archivist
January 28, 1983
Box #1

CORRESPONDENCE 1842-1890 & n.d. (20 leaves)

Folder #1

Church letter of Ester, belonging to R. Lee, Dec 2, 1842
Benjamin Lloyd to William Armistead, Note October 15, 1858, 2 leaves
Etheridge - Hatley correspondence, 1864, 4 leaves
Carrie E. Hatley to Mrs. Gertrude [Dew], September 7, 1868, 2 leaves
R. T. Hatley to ________, March 28, 1972, 1 leaf
M.H.L. Sharr to Mary ________, May 5, 1878, 2 leaves
P. E. M. to Mary Etheridge, August 11, 1885, 4 leaves
W. C. Cowan to Mark H. Cowan, December 8, 1890, 1 leaf
T. H. Etheridge to Daughter, n.d., 1 leaf
Mary ________ to Joe______ April 22,______, 2 leaves
D. D. Crawford to Sister, December_______, 1 leaf

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS 1848-1906 & n.d. (46 leaves)

Folder #2

Receipt for Post Office Money Order, W. W. Armistead to C. W. Green, July 3, 1848, 1 leaf
Receipt for Post Office Money Order, W. W. Armistead to C. W. Green, July 4, 1848, 1 leaf
Receipt for Post Office Money Order, W. W. Armistead to C. W. Green, January 1, 1849, 1 leaf
Loan Note, W. W. Armistead paid to H. W. Barge, September 16, 1852, 1 leaf
Loan Note, B. A. Tresnall paid to W. S. [German], January 22, 1855, 1 leaf
Loan Note, W. W. Armistead paid to Toomer & Bates, January 15, 1856, 1 leaf
List of Court Costs, Thos. Boroughs vs. W. W. Armistead, February 1, 1856, 1 leaf
Ledger Sheet, March 8, 1856 to May 4, 1857, 1 leaf
Mercantile Receipt, Toomer & Sykes to W. W. Armistead, May 31, 1856, 1 leaf
Loan Note, W. W. Armistead paid to H. Goldsmith, September 23, 1856, 1 leaf
Medical Expenses, 1857-1866, 2 leaves
Merchandise Receipt, W. W. Armistead to S. Nordlinger, January 28, 1857, 1 leaf
Loan Note, W. W. Armistead paid to Toomer & Sykes, May 4, 1857, 1 leaf
Merchandise Receipt, May 4, 1857, 1 leaf
Merchandise Receipt, May 4, 1857, 1 leaf
Receipt for Services Rendered, May 12, 1857, 1 leaf
Merchandise Receipt, W.W. Armistead to A. E. & W. J. [Leedyard],
November 13, 1857, 1 leaf
Receipt for Services Rendered, May 13, 1857, 1 leaf
Statement of Account, Toomer & Sykes,
May 18, 1857 to February 18, 1858, 1 leaf
Merchandise Invoice, Toomer & Sykes, October 5, 1857, 1 leaf
Statement & Receipt for Court Costs, Thos. Boroughts vs. W.W.
Armistead, December 4, 1857, 1 leaf
Loan Note, G. M. [Files] to W.W. Armistead, April 23, 1858,
1 leaf
Merchandise Receipt, August 21, 1858, 1 leaf
Slave Loan Note, November 13, 1858, 1 leaf
Merchandise Receipt, December 22, 1858, 1 leaf
Merchandise Receipt, March 7, 1859, 1 leaf
Tax Receipt, W.W. Armistead, March 7, 1859, 1 leaf
School receipt, 1 leaf
Slave bill of sale, 1859, 1 leaf
Box #1,

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS 1848-1906 & n.d. (46 leaves)

Folder #2
Shipping Receipt, July 15, 1859, 1 leaf
Receipt for partial payment of a loan, W. W. Armistead paid to
   M. Jacobson, April 4, 1860, 1 leaf
Tax Receipt, November 16, 1860, 1 leaf
Loan Note, Alsey Sanders paid to W.W. Amistead, January 19, 1861, 1 leaf
Government Receipt for two horses, September 16, 1861, 1 leaf
Loan Note, J.E. Powell & W.A. [Lock] paid to W.W. Armistead,
   November 26, 1861, 1 leaf
Receipt for Flat Boat (Steamer Coquette), W.W. Armistead paid to
   W.R. Rand, July 13, 1862, 1 leaf
Cotton Shipping Receipt, W.W. Armistead delivered to R.F. Cole,
   September 7, 1862, 1 leaf
Loan Note, W.W. Armistead paid to H. L. Lane, April 6, 1863, 1 leaf
Loan Receipt, W.W. Armistead paid to J.J. Parker, Attorney at Law,
   October 8, 1868, 1 leaf
Receipt for Cotton Sales, W.J. Hearin & Co., January 3, 1893, 1 leaf
Receipt, J.C. Armistead paid to W.J. Hearin & Co., January 5, 1894, 1 leaf
Receipt for Cotton Sales, W.J. Hearin & Co., January 5, 1894, 1 leaf
Freight Bill, San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railway Company, W.H. Armistead,
   October 10, 1906, 1 leaf
Post Office Money Order Receipt, W.W. Armistead to J. Patterson,
   n. d., 1 leaf
Note, n.d., 1 leaf
Ledger Sheet, n. d., 1 leaf

LEGAL DOCUMENTS 1846-1897 (6 leaves)

Folder #3
Land Deed, William Pippin and wife, Rebecca to Elizabeth Armistead in
   trust for her infant son, Robert Lee Armistead, June 1, 1846, 2 leaves
Court Cost Settlement, August 3, 1852, 2 leaves
Certificate of Appointment, Wm. W. Armistead as Overseer of the Road,
   December 6, 1858, 1 leaf
Dissolution of Business Partnership, W.B. Elder and J.C. Armistead,
   January 12, 1897, 1 leaf

LITERARY PRODUCTIONS 1864 & n.d. (2 leaves)

Folder #4
"Would I Were a Child Again," Prose, n.d., 1 leaf
Note:
   Opposite Side -Return of Provisions Rec'd and Issued, December, 1864
"If I had Thought Thou Could'st Have Died," Poetry, n.d., 1 leaf

PRINTED MATERIAL 1866 (1 leaf)

Folder #5
Circular, Announcement of Co-Partnership of Rogers & Etheridge,
   September 1, 1866, 1 leaf
Box #1,

SCRAPBOOK MATERIAL n.d. (4 leaves)

Folder #6

- Drawing of a cotton chopper, patent applied, Mabin Armistead, n.d., 1 leaf
- Page of a Notebook, n.d., 1 leaf
- Basic Cake Recipe, n.d., 1 leaf
- House Plans (Pencil Drawing), n.d., 1 leaf

BIOGRAPHICAL

Folder #7

- Armistead Family
1. Name of collection and inclusive dates of material:

ARMISTEAD FAMILY PAPERS 1846-1906 and n.d.

2. Principal name around which the collection is formed; i.e., person (full name, birth and death dates), family, business, society, governmental agency, or some other corporate body:

William Westwood Armistead (1813-1882)

Give relationship to the collection i.e., writer X, addressee X, collection ____, other (specify) _____

3. Occupation or type of activity of the principal person, family, or corporate body; significant events and dates in the career or activity; and place of residence or location of activity:

William Westwood Armistead was a cotton merchant in Clarke County, Alabama. J. C. Armistead (William’s son) and his wife Emma Carter Armistead moved to their son John Henry’s ranch in the Glass Mountains near Marathon, Texas, in 1909.

4. Number of linear shelf feet (if 1 foot or more) or number of items 79 (known x or estimated_).

5. If the collection contains copies of manuscripts, describe the form(s) of reproduction (handwritten or typewritten transcripts, positive or negative photocopies, positive or negative microfilm with no. of reels) and give the number (or fraction of total) of each kind. Give location of originals, and dates and circumstances under which the copies were made:

6. Nature of acquisition (gift, permanent deposit, etc.), date(s) and source(s) of acquisition and former owner(s):

Gift--donation to West Texas Historical and Scientific Society attributed to Judge Wigfall Van Sickle, date unknown. Society to Sul Ross State University in Papers transferred from the Historical 1968.

7. Research access restricted ________, unrestricted X. State nature of restriction and when it will be terminated:
Armistead Family Papers 1846-1906 and n.d., unpublished inventory, Archives of the Big Bend, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas.

9. If this is, or was, part of another collection, state name and relationship:

10. DESCRIPTION OF CONTENT AND SCOPE OF THE COLLECTION.

This description should cover: types of papers (e.g., correspondence, letters, diaries, documents, etc.); dates, subjects, and types of groups of materials that bulk largest; relationship of the material to specific phases of the career or activity of the principal named in item 2; full names, dates, and biographical identification of other persons and names of corporate bodies significant (by quality and quantity of material) to the collection, showing dates, types, and subject matter; geographical areas covered; specific events, topics, and historical periods with which the materials deal; and particular items of extraordinary interest.

The Armistead Family Papers center on William Westwood Armistead, an Alabama cotton merchant. William Westwood Armistead went to Alabama from North Carolina in 1819 and died in Morvin, Clarke County, Alabama in 1882. One son, J. C. Armistead, and his wife, Emma Carter Armistead, moved to the Glass Mountain area near Marathon, Texas, where their son, William Henry, had a ranch. In 1909, the family moved to Alpine where they felt the climate would improve Emma Armistead's failing health and where the children could get an education. J. C. Armistead assisted his oldest son, William Henry, with his ranch in the Glass Mountains and did general carpentry work in Alpine to remain close to his ailing wife. Another son, Richard Carney Armistead, worked as a court reporter for Judge Wigfall Van Sickle until his enlistment in the service during World War I. Richard Carney Armistead suffered two serious wounds in battle, from which he never fully recovered, and he died shortly after returning to Alpine in 1923. J. C., Emma, and Richard Carney Armistead are the members of the Armistead family buried in Elm Grove Cemetery, Alpine, Texas.

This collection of Armistead Family Papers consists of correspondence (1858-1890), primarily between cousins of the family or between parties whose relationship to the family cannot be established, and financial records, which make up the bulk of the papers and deal primarily with the cotton merchandising business of mid-19th century Alabama. Financial papers date from 1848 to 1906. Other major categories include legal documents (1846-1897), literary productions (1864 and n.d.), printed material (1866), and scrapbook
material. Of note are a slave loan note, a [Confederate] government receipt for two horses, and a sketch for a cotton chopper invention. The bulk of the papers dates from 1850-1870.

The following source was used in conjunction with the Armistead Family Papers for the compilation of the Collection Summary and also for the biographical folder# 7:

Georgiann Grimes Armistead  
(Mrs. Mabin Willard Armistead)  
3611 Roosevelt  
Midland, Texas 797
**Identification:** William Westwood Armistead was born on August 3, 1813. He moved to Clarke County, Alabama from North Carolina in 1819 and died there in 1882. From the Armistead Family Papers, which center on William Westwood Armistead, we gather that he was in cotton merchandising.

One son, J.C. Armistead, and his wife, Emma Carter Armistead, moved to the Glass Mountain area near Marathon, Texas, where their son, William Henry, had a ranch. In 1909, the family moved to Alpine where they felt the climate would improve Emma Armistead's failing health and where the children could get an education. J.C. Armistead assisted his oldest, son, William Henry, with his ranch in the Glass Mountains and did general carpentry work in Alpine to remain close to his ailing wife. Another son, Richard Carney Armistead, worked as a court reporter for Judge Wigfall Van Sickle until his enlistment in the service during World War I. Richard Carney Armistead suffered two serious wounds in battle, from which he never fully recovered, and he died shortly after returning to Alpine in 1923. J.C. Emma, and Richard Carney Armistead are the members of the Armistead family buried in Elm Grove Cemetery, Alpine.

Related Material: Please see biographical folder which follows Armistead Family Papers; material complied by Georgiann Armistead (Mrs. Mabin)

**Principal Subjects:**

Alabama
Alpine, Texas
Armistead, J.C.
Armistead, Richard Carney
Armistead, William Henry
Armistead, William Westwood
Cotton
Glass Mountains
Inventions—Cotton Machinery
Marathon, Texas
Rail roads
Slavery in the U.S.
U.S.--History--Civil War
Van Sickle, Judge Wigfall
Evaluation:

The Armistead Family Papers consists of correspondence, primarily between cousins of the family or between parties whose relationship to the family cannot be established, and financial records, which make up the bulk of the papers and deal primarily with the cotton merchandising business of mid-19th century Alabama and also include a slave loan note and a [Confederate] government receipt for two horses. Other major categories include legal documents, literary productions, and printed material. The final major category, scrapbook material, contains a drawing of a cotton chopper, a cake recipe, and a pencil drawing of house plans.