

JETT, RICHARD BURCH.
Richard Burch Jett papers, 1863-1887

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Jett, Richard Burch.
Title: Richard Burch Jett papers, 1863-1887
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 57
Extent: .25 linear ft. (1 box)
Abstract: Photocopies of letters of Confederate soldier, Richard Burch Jett, who served in Company B of the 9th Georgia Battery of Artillery.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source

Loaned for photocopying, 1969 with subsequent additions.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Richard Burch Jett papers, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Sherry Gillespie, 1970, revisions Barb Mann, 1991.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Richard Burch Jett was one of three sons and eight daughters of Stephen (died 1870 or 1871) and Sharlett Burch Jett (died 1876?) who were married in South Carolina and moved to Long Island Creek in what is now Fulton County, Georgia.

Richard Jett was married twice. The last name of his first wife was Wright, but the first name is unknown. His second wife was Nancy E. Evins (March 8, 1826 - April 4, 1879).

Jett worked as a farmer and miller in North Fulton County, Georgia. He served as a private with Company B, 9th Georgia Battery of Artillery during the latter part of the Civil War (ca. April 1863 to 1865) in Tennessee and Virginia and was stationed near Atlanta in April 1865 when the war ended. During the succeeding years he remained in Fulton County.

Nancy Jett continued to farm while her husband served with the Confederate army and for a short time apparently also operated the mill. Living with her were several stepchildren, Rosebrough, Martha, Tudy, Steve, William, and Charity along with her own child, Clarendon E. Jett. Her in-laws lived nearby.

After the war other Jett family members moved to Alabama, Texas, and Arkansas including Richard Jett's sister, Susan, and her husband, Pleasant T. Henderson, who moved to Alabama.

Ewell Leonard Jett (d. 1930), son of Richard Jett, joined the Atlanta police force and served as acting chief in 1924-1926.

Scope and Content Note

The Richard Jett papers consist of photocopies of thirty-five letters, most of which were written by or to Richard B. Jett, a brief diary kept by Jett while serving as a Confederate soldier, a farming agreement between G.G. Cook and (Diana?) Davis dated January 31, 1866, and family genealogical and historical materials.

Seven of the letters Jett wrote to his wife Nancy are from army camps in Tennessee and Virginia and date from July 25, 1863 to January 7, 1865. Of greater significance are ten letters written by Nancy E. Jett to her husband during this period which give details of home life and detail the effect of the Federal invasion on the community. Nine of the letters were written to Jett by Pleasant T. Henderson, husband of Jett's sister Susan, from various places in Alabama between February 10, 1867 and December 14, 1879. These letters reflect strong feelings about Blacks and tell of crops, land, and family news. One letter was written to Jett by his sister, Lucinda Armstrong, after the departure of the Federal troops from the area.

The Jett diary, written in pencil and often illegible, consists of sketchy notes made in a pocket memo book regarding travel, marches, and the weather.

Additions received since the original processing include a photocopy of "The Jett Family" with facts furnished by Mr. Adam Jett of Roswell, Georgia, which contains Jett family genealogy; photocopy of a photograph of the Jett family home (location and date unknown); and a photocopy of "In Search of a Lost Community: The Nancy Creek Primitive Baptist Cemetery Restoration Project" compiled by the DeKalb Historical Society. "The Jett Family" was photocopied from a copy held by the Georgia Department of Archives and History.

Arrangement Note

Materials arranged by record type.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Agreement, January 31, 1866, photocopy
1	2	Correspondence: Armstrong, Lucinda, [1863-1864?], photocopies
1	3	Correspondence: Henderson, Pleasant T., February 10, 1867-December 14, 1879, photocopies
1	4	Correspondence: Jett, Nancy E., October 8, 1863-December 18, 1864, photocopies
1	5	Correspondence: Jett, Richard B., July 25, 1863-January 7, 1865, photocopies
1	6	Correspondence: other family members, [1863-1864?], February 12, 1871-February 8, 1887, photocopies
1	7	Diary, October 1863-April 1865, photocopies
1	8	Genealogical and historical materials, Jett family, photocopies
