A Guide to the Microfilm Edition of

Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration

Series B: Selections from the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Louisiana State University Libraries

Part 3: Louisiana Sugar Plantations (Bayou Lafourche and Bayou Teche)

A UPA Collection

from

LexisNexis™
Cover: (top left) the steamboat Ouachita, (top right) workers in field, and (bottom) laborers in front of store on Belle Grove sugar plantation. Photos courtesy of Louisiana State University Libraries.
Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration

General Editor: Ira Berlin

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Part 3: Louisiana Sugar Plantations
(Bayou Lafourche and Bayou Teche)

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INTRODUCTION

No institution was more central to the transformation of southern society between the end of the Civil War and the beginning of the Great Migration than the plantation. Since the seventeenth century, the plantation with its powerful “masters” and their retinue of enslaved black laborers had been the productive center of southern society, as well as its primary social and political institution. Planters controlled the politics of the South, shaped its society, and dominated its culture. It is no exaggeration to say that the antebellum South cannot be understood without a firm grasp of the meaning of the plantation, as most white southerners aspired to the planter class and most black southerners wanted nothing more than to escape its long shadow.

The Civil War destroyed the plantation as southerners had known it. The war itself left many estates in ruins, their tools and implements wrecked, animals decimated, fields in ruins, and buildings devastated. The emancipation of some four million slaves that accompanied the war stripped planters of their labor force, their wealth, and their political authority, giving former slaves proprietorship of their own persons and, with that, aspirations for economic independence and political power. At war’s end, the old order was no more, and no one knew what would replace it. It soon became evident, however, that the plantation would not disappear. Instead, it would be reformulated, as would the lives of those men and women associated with the great estates. For this reason, any understanding of the postwar world must be accompanied by a close reading of the records of southern plantations.

Postbellum plantation records trace the torturous process of resurrecting agricultural productivity and restoring social stability to the American South. The outline of the story is well known—although scholars continue to debate its meaning by discovering new facts and reinterpreting old ones. The destruction of chattel bondage set in motion a contest of expectations, as former slaves and former slaveholders—joined by white and black nonslaveholders and northern soldiers, missionaries, and would-be planters and politicians—struggled to create a new regime that spoke to their diverse and often opposing aspirations. The freedpeople’s desire for economic independence, social autonomy, and political power was initially met by a steely opposition from former masters and other white southerners that ranged from determined attempts to reinstate the old regime to sullen acquiescence. In the half century that followed, the aspirations of black people remained unaltered, although the changes in the political terrain forced them to modify the tactics and strategies they hoped would achieve them. Meanwhile, some former slave masters lost control of their land to upstart merchants, fell from prominence, or transferred their capital to newer industrial enterprises. Some of the men who took control of plantations were drawn from the ranks of white nonslaveholders. Yet other members of the nonslaveholding, white yeomanry dropped into the ranks of propertyless laborers and, like former slaves, took their place in the cotton—and, less often, sugar, rice, and tobacco—fields. In time, many of these yeomen abandoned the countryside entirely and found work in towns, mill villages, forests, and mines. As the struggle ebbed and flowed, a new regime took shape...
in the postbellum South, unleashing some of the most important developments in American history:

- The vesting of former African American bondsmen with political rights;
- The creation of a variety of African American institutions, most prominently the Afro-Christian church;
- The emergence of a cadre of African American leaders and the elevation of some to elected office in the former slave states;
- Efforts by former slaveholders to enslave freedpeople;
- Experimentation with various forms of land tenure and contract agricultural labor relations;
- The massive intervention of federal authority and the federal retreat;
- The rise of Bourbon politicians;
- The transformation of the white yeomanry;
- The growth of towns and cities and a new urban culture;
- The remaking of southern domestic life, as men, women, and children took on new roles;
- The emergence of an interracial Populist movement and its demise;
- The establishment and entrenchment of segregation;
- Disenfranchisement of African Americans and many “poor” whites;
- The legitimation of extralegal violence against African Americans;
- Migration of white and black southerners from depleted agricultural areas to newer plantation districts, mill towns, and cities;
- Development of oppressive penal institutions;
- Cultivation of a “dual consciousness” of accommodation and proud independence among African Americans;
- The acquiescence of northern leaders to “southern” prerogatives on matters of race;
- And eventually an opportunity, provided by labor demand during World War I, for plantation workers—white, but especially black—to leave the South and, with that, the beginning of the Great Migration.

Plantation records offer scholars access to these signal events. It was on plantations that most black southerners continued to live and work in the years after the Civil War as tenants, share renters, sharecroppers, and wage laborers. It was the plantation that also entrapped many white former yeomen. And it was on the plantations where much of the negotiation between landless laborers, white and black, and landowners, nearly all of them white, took place. Even when it did not—as mill towns and new metropolises came to play a larger role in southern life—the plantation and its ethos continued to shape the lives of the new urbanites.

From the very first years following emancipation, laborers and landowners—many of them former slaves and former slave owners—contested their respective rights and obligations. Dire necessity and the imposition of federal regulations compelled freedpeople—who had failed to gain access to the land they believed to be their due—to accept employment growing the South’s great staple crops. Black laborers contracted under a variety of terms, some of their own devising, others the result of former slaveholders’ endless experimentation with forms of labor organization and remuneration. Landowners’ preferences often resembled too closely the old oppressions of slavery and whenever the opportunity arose, freedpeople abandoned wage work to occupy plantation plots as tenants and sharecroppers. But, over the course of a half century, the various arrange-
ments freedpeople hoped would secure them a degree of independence failed, as stagnating prices, extralegal violence, and waning political power took their toll. Most freedpeople became little more than wageworkers, laboring in circumstances in which they could expect small return for their efforts. In some places, freedpeople, hopelessly indebted to their employers, became ensnared in a brutal system of labor extraction that left the promise of emancipation in tatters. Similar changes separated white yeomen from their land and the independence that had been their pride. By century’s end, thousands of white men and women—many of them former property-holding yeomen or their descendants—were entrapped in the same system of profitless and coercive labor relations that had captured former slaves.

The fate of the plantation and of its labor force was not of one piece. It varied over time and was subject to wide variations across the South. In coastal Carolina and Georgia, rice plantations hung on tenuously through the later years of the nineteenth century only to vanish in the early twentieth century. As older cotton and tobacco fields declined, new areas—notably the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta and portions of Arkansas and Texas—opened to settlement and proved fertile ground for staple production. These areas reinvigorated the plantation as both an economic and a social institution. Elsewhere the plantation survived but underwent major modifications. In the Mississippi Valley and the Georgia-Alabama-Mississippi “black belt,” many of the large-scale plantations revived after the war, but their recovery progressed slowly, constrained by the eastward march of the boll weevil, a softening demand for the South’s great staple crop, and the steady depletion of even the richest soils. New forms of corporate organization also appeared, transforming the plantation from a family proprietorship into a variant of modern corporate capitalism. In still other instances, plantations fell to the control of their creditors, including commission merchants, cotton factors, and even country storekeepers, who created novel relationships with laborers. These transformations tended to dissolve the personal or paternal bonds between planters and workers, completing the alienation of most agricultural laborers from communal attachments to local plantations. They also altered relations within the plantation household, as women—of both the owning class and the laboring class—took new roles within the larger community. The transformation of femininity and masculinity set in motion conflicts, some of which aimed for still greater change, others of which called for a restoration of the old ideal. The reordering of gender roles deeply affected race relations.

Through these various transformations, the necessity of securing and controlling a labor force remained paramount in the eyes of the planters, merchants, mill owners, and corporate directors. These employers found support in a complaisant state that steadily shifted power in their favor. In such circumstances, the only choice that remained to black and many white workers was to vote with their feet. Annual movement became commonplace as workers shuttled from plantation to plantation in search of a new start or a slightly more advantageous contract. Desperation, however, created new political possibilities. The Populist movement, which sometimes joined white and black agricultural laborers together, was one such possibility. But there were others as well. Hard times put a mean edge on labor relations, incubating extreme chauvinism among whites. That too had contradictory effects on black life, at once necessitating supine accommodationism and sparking a revival of black nationalism in the form of immigrationism and various self-improvement schemes. Taken together, the increasingly contentious relations between whites and blacks elevated the question of race from simply a southern issue to a matter of national import. The reformulation of the plantation transformed the southern people and altered their most deeply held beliefs.
The records kept by southern planters and their associates, clients, and subordinates—bankers, factors, merchants, and occasionally farmers and laborers—document these momentous changes. They, more than any other single source, are the raw material from which new understandings of southern life will emerge.

The records of the plantations reveal nearly every aspect of southern life in the years after the Civil War. They reach into the interior of the great estates, where they expose not only the stark and often painful changes in relationships between those who controlled the land and those who worked it, but also changes in the structure of the households, between men and women, parents and children of both whites and blacks. Changing family relations also marked a change in notions of the sacred, pushing southern religious life in new directions that can be seen in the construction (and abandonment) of plantation chapels, the advent of new sects, and the decline of established denominations. Plantation records thus offer scholars critical evidence that addresses ongoing controversies about, for example, the changing nature of the southern labor system, the relationship of economic and political power, the new system of class relations, and the mentality of rulers and ruled.

Plantation records also give scholars a chance to stretch the historical canvas and examine previously unexplored portions of the southern experience—questions of identity, gender, and memory that have only recently begun to come under consideration. Moreover, the insights to be gleaned from the records of southern plantations are not limited to the history of the South. This is especially true when the southern plantation is seen as an institution with global analogues whose roots reach back to at least the eleventh century. Such a perspective makes the study of the plantation a critical element in the development of world history, as its influence extends beyond the region to the North, the Atlantic, and beyond. It was an internationalism recognized by southern planters who competed in a world market and followed closely the prices of commodities grown tens of thousands of miles away. They understood the mechanisms used by their counterparts in the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia to secure a stable labor force. And what the planters knew from their perspective atop southern society, workers understood from their lowly perch, as rumors of strikes, riots, and revolutions echoed in the plantation quarters.

The insights available in the records of southern plantations lay bare the diverse and competing values of an institution and a society undergoing dramatic change. Those values—and, most especially, the competition between them—tell much about how southerners were shaping new identities, as employers and employees, whites and blacks, men and women, believers and skeptics. In the process they gave new meaning to wealth and poverty, whiteness and blackness, and masculinity and femininity. While most records that speak to such questions are often indirect and formal, others are deeply reflective and personal and take scholars into the inner lives of the men and women who made the plantation their home, as well as those who lived in its shadow.

In constructing this series of postbellum records several criteria have been applied. Care has been taken to select those collections that provide the densest representation—by their depth and diversity—of the historical experience. The editors aim to provide a selection that represents the entire period and offers an opportunity to explore not only the cotton South but also the Souths—large and small—of rice, hemp, and tobacco. Because many of these estates changed forms—as centralized production surrendered to share renting, sharecropping, and wage labor—and because ownership was lodged in the hands of merchants and factors as well as planters, a wide variety of records have been included in this series. Among the papers microfilmed are not only daybooks and ledgers, inventories and invoices, but also personal letters, diaries, and memoirs. Taken together, the selections are intended to illuminate all aspects of southern life.
During the last two decades, the microfilm publication of *Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War* by University Publications of America has allowed scholars of southern society to expand historical understanding of slave society. It has also provided a means for students, from secondary school to graduate school, to participate in the practice of history. The issuance of *Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration* extends the same research and pedagogical opportunities into that critical period between emancipation and the Great Migration.

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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections (LLMVC) of the Louisiana State University (LSU) Libraries contain extensive holdings of manuscripts, books, maps, prints, pamphlets, and periodicals documenting the region's culture and history. The manuscript section of the LLMVC dates back to 1935 when LSU history professor Edwin Davis started to acquire the papers of prominent families that had lived in the area. The LLMVC manuscript collection consists of over five thousand manuscript groups encompassing more than ten million items. The LLMVC's holdings relating to antebellum plantations, the Civil War, and the Reconstruction era are particularly strong. These holdings range from papers of individuals and families, to organizational records, to records of plantations, merchants, and financial institutions.

Series B, Part 3: Louisiana Sugar Plantations (Bayou Lafourche and Bayou Teche)

This microfilm edition consists of twelve manuscript collections filmed by UPA from the holdings of the LLMVC, Hill Memorial Library, LSU. These collections cover the operation of Louisiana sugar plantations from the antebellum period through the early twentieth century, with a particular focus on the complicated transition from slavery to free labor, the negotiations between planters and laborers in making this transition, and the impact of this transition on Louisiana agriculture, the economy, and politics. The twelve collections in this edition are the William J. Minor and Family Papers, Baldwin and Co. Records, Alexandre DeClouet and Family Papers, Alexandre DeClouet Letter, Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers, Josephine Nicholls Pugh Civil War Account, Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers, William W. Pugh and Family Plantation Records, Mrs. Mary W. Pugh Papers, Maximilien E. Boudreaux Family Papers, Francois Randon Ledger, and Joseph Savoy Family Papers.

In the Louisiana sugar fields, the communal work systems that had evolved under chattel slavery continued after the Civil War; however, the end of slavery provided new opportunities for African Americans to negotiate the terms of their employment with plantation owners. The transition from slavery to free labor can be studied in several collections in this edition. The William J. Minor Papers contain thirteen volumes of plantation diaries dating from the antebellum period through the early years of Reconstruction. Minor wrote daily about activities on his plantations in Ascension and Terrebonne Parishes. Diaries from the 1860s include very specific rules for overseers, for hours of work, and for treatment of slaves. These diaries indicate some of the problems faced by plantation owners as they attempted to maintain their slave labor force amidst the upheaval of the Civil War. Minor occasionally noted that slaves had run away from his plantation, and he also implored his overseers to treat the slaves in a manner that would encourage them to remain and continue to work in the sugar fields. Minor’s entries from the late 1860s and into 1870 shed light on the transition between slavery and a free labor system. Some entries note that African Americans were refusing to sign labor contracts because they were “holding out for higher wages or better terms of some kind” (Reel 4, Frame 0156). The
demands of African Americans for higher wages sometimes led to labor strikes. The Mrs. Mary W. Pugh Papers contain several letters discussing a strike by African American workers in 1887 and 1888. A November 1887 letter notes that all African American sugar workers, except for those on three plantations, had struck and that the planters had met and agreed not to meet the strikers’ demands. A January 29, 1888, letter mentions that the leader of the strike had been tarred and feathered.

Further material on sugar laborers and the sugar production process can also be found in the ledger books and time books in several collections in this edition. The William W. Pugh and Family Plantation Records (Reel 12) contain accounts with laborers that typically list the first and last names of the laborers, the number of days worked, and the amount earned. Some of the volumes also note cash advances and labor payments for “watches.” “Watches” refer to night shifts observing the operation of the sugar mill. Pugh paid laborers about twice as much for labor in the sugar cane field as he did for watches. Ledger books in the Baldwin and Co. Records (Reel 4, Frames 0197–0794), the Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers (Reel 7, Frame 0512 through Reel 11), the William W. Pugh and Family Plantation Records (Reel 12), and the Alexandre DeClouet and Family Papers (Reels 5 and 6) also contain ledger books and/or time books that enable the study of sugar laborers. In addition, diaries of Robert Campbell Martin Jr. and Alexandre DeClouet include detailed descriptions of plantation operations.

Emancipation and Reconstruction greatly affected Louisiana politics. The Alexandre DeClouet and Family Papers and the Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers contain several items on this topic. After the Civil War, Alexandre DeClouet became active in the White League, a militant group that opposed civil and political rights for African Americans. The DeClouet Papers contain a speech by DeClouet to the “Citizens of St. Martin” (Reel 5, Frame 0113) and a set of resolutions passed at a White League meeting. In an 1868 diary entry, DeClouet made clear some of his white supremacist political views as he wrote about a political rally held by African Americans. In the Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers, there is a broadside pertaining to the election of 1876. The broadside focuses on civil rights for African Americans, the unjust treatment of African Americans by southern courts, and the brutal conditions of convict labor.

This edition of plantation records also reveals the shift toward corporate control of sugar plantations in the early years of the twentieth century. In 1903, William W. Pugh joined with other family members and associates to form the Woodlawn Planting and Manufacturing Company. This company then managed Pugh’s Woodlawn plantation in Assumption Parish. The Mrs. Mary W. Pugh Papers (Reels 13 and 14) show that the Pughs rented out portions of Live Oak plantation in Lafourche Parish to Ernest Roger Company, Ltd.

This edition represents the third of six parts of records filmed from the LLMVC for UPA’s Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration. The other parts of this project are:

- Part 1: Louisiana Sugar Plantations
- Part 2: Louisiana Cotton Plantations
- Part 4: Mississippi Cotton Plantations
- Part 5: Albert Batchelor Papers
- Part 6: David Weeks and Family Papers

In addition, records from the LLMVC for the antebellum period can be found in UPA’s Records of Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series I: Selections from Louisiana State University. Collections from the LLMVC covering the Civil War era are available in UPA’s Confederate Military Manuscripts, Series B: Holdings of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Louisiana State University.
focusing on women's experiences and family life in the Mississippi Valley in the nineteenth century are in UPA's *Southern Women and Their Families in the 19th Century, Papers and Diaries: Series E, Holdings of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Louisiana State University Libraries.*
NOTE ON SOURCES

The collections microfilmed in this edition are from the holdings of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University Libraries, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803-3300. The descriptions of the collections in this user guide are adapted from inventories compiled by the Louisiana State University Libraries. Historical maps microfilmed among the introductory materials are courtesy of the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University Libraries.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The collections selected for this edition have been chosen in consultation with and under criteria established by series General Editor Ira Berlin. Records primarily date from 1863 to 1915; however, there are records from before 1863 as well as after 1915. These pre-1863 and post-1915 records have been included in order to complete a specific series or volume. Several items in these collections have been omitted from this edition because they contain relatively little documentation pertaining to the postbellum plantation system. In the William J. Minor Papers, Letterbook Volumes 13, 14, and 15, dated 1834–1848, 1848–1855, and 1855–1858, respectively, have not been microfilmed because of their fragile and poor physical condition. In the Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers, Volumes 8, 12, and 14 are located in a box that could not be located at the time of filming. Additionally, the Mississippi cotton plantation records of John Williams are included in UPA’s Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration, Series B: Selections from the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Louisiana State University Libraries, Part 4: Mississippi Cotton Plantations. In the Robert Campbell Martin Papers, printed materials, as well as Volumes 8–12, 36–37, 39–41, 44–54, 57–59, and 65–67, have been omitted from this microfilm edition. In the W. W. Pugh Family Plantation Records, two folders of maps, sketches, and notes and one folder of notes on Pugh property have not been microfilmed. In the Mary W. Pugh Papers, printed materials, a registration certificate, two time books, three memorandum books, and a cash book have been omitted from this microfilm edition. All of these omitted materials may be consulted at the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Hill Memorial Library, Louisiana State University Libraries.
REEL INDEX

The following is a listing of the collections and folders comprising Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration, Series B: Selections from the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Louisiana State University Libraries, Part 3: Louisiana Sugar Plantations (Bayou Lafourche and Bayou Teche). This edition consists of twelve manuscript collections. Each of these collections is identified by its title, followed by the date span of the collection. Geographical locations in the collection titles indicate the primary geographic area associated with a particular collection. Following the collection title, there is a brief description of the collection and a folder listing. The four-digit number on the far left is the frame at which a particular file folder begins. This is followed by the file title, the date(s) of the file, and the total number of frames. Substantive subjects are highlighted under the heading Major Topics.

Reel 1
Frame No.

William J. Minor and Family Papers, 1779–1941
Ascension and Terrebonne Parishes, Louisiana; also Natchez, Mississippi

William J. Minor owned several sizable plantations in both Louisiana and Mississippi. This collection of William J. Minor papers focuses on Minor’s sugar plantation holdings in Louisiana: Southdown and Hollywood plantations in Terrebonne Parish and Waterloo plantation in Ascension Parish. The collection consists of two main series: correspondence and bound volumes. The correspondence series dates from 1779 to 1865. Among the topics covered in the correspondence are the War of 1812, sugar production, cotton market conditions, the Civil War, and the seizure of Minor’s lands by the U.S. government. Several items in this series also pertain to slaves. For example, some entries within Minor’s financial papers list expenses incurred for medical services for slaves (Reel 1, Frame 0320) An undated letter from a Dr. Cartwright discusses the need for constant attention to the health condition of slaves.

The bound volumes include personal diaries, ledgers, notebooks, and plantations diaries. The ledger books date from 1834 to 1883 and contain records of sugar and molasses sales, hiring of slaves, and wages paid to overseers. Two volumes of slave lists record the names and ages of slaves, and provisions supplied to them.

The Minor papers conclude with thirteen volumes of plantation diaries, dating from 1842 to 1870. These plantation diaries are very detailed and provide careful descriptions of the operation of Minor’s plantations in Ascension and Terrebonne Parishes. Minor wrote daily about the sugar production process, sometimes even noting the different tasks performed by men and women. His plantation diaries also contain frequent reports about health conditions. Volume 33 and Volume 34 are particularly interesting because they include Minor’s rules and regulations for managing his Southdown, Hollywood, and Waterloo plantations. These very specific rules cover hours of work; treatment of slaves, including punishment; slave marriage and divorce; rules for holidays; and rules for overseers and slave drivers. Diaries from the Civil War period indicate some of the problems faced by plantation owners during the war and the assertiveness
of slaves. Minor occasionally wrote that slaves had left the plantation, and he counseled his overseers that it was essential to try to keep the slaves satisfied. He also warned that corporal punishment should be avoided, if possible. Minor, however, records that even his best efforts were sometimes not enough to prevent his slaves from leaving. Volume 35, Minor’s diary for 1863, includes a list of the slaves that left his plantations. Diary entries from the years after the Civil War provide insight into the functioning of the plantation regime during the crucial transition period between slavery and a free labor system. Some entries, for example, mention that African Americans were refusing to sign labor contracts because they were “holding out for higher wages or better terms of some kind” (Reel 4, Frame 0156). Other entries from this period mention the laborers that did sign labor contracts.

The William J. Minor Papers begin at Frame 0001 of Reel 1 and continue through Frame 0196 of Reel 4.
0539 **Correspondence and Printed Documents, 1856–1860.** 53 frames.
*Major Topics:* Social life; effect of weather on cotton production; health conditions.

0592 **Correspondence, Printed Documents, and Financial Statements, 1861–1865.** 46 frames.
*Major Topics:* Appointment of William J. Minor to Board of Levee Commissioners for Terrebonne Parish; Civil War battles; health conditions; problems with slaves; store accounts; seizure of Minor’s Terrebonne Parish plantations by U.S. government.

0638 **Correspondence, Printed Documents, and Financial Statements, 1866–1898.** 51 frames.
*Major Topics:* Taxation; sugar production; social life; labor contract.

0689 **Correspondence and Financial Statements, Undated.** 8 frames.
*Major Topic:* Store accounts.

0697 **Correspondence and Slave Lists, Undated.** 27 frames.
*Major Topics:* Family history; regulations for laborers; slaves.

0724 **Photograph [of Brazos and Bosky Rivers, Texas], 1941.** 3 frames.

0727 **Volume 1, Diary, 1820–1845.** 5 frames.
*Major Topic:* Personal finances.

0732 **Volume 2, Diary, 1847–1848.** 54 frames.
*Major Topics:* Hiring of overseers at Waterloo plantation; personal finances; taxation.

0786 **Volume 3, Diary, 1849.** 53 frames.
*Major Topic:* Sugar and molasses production.

0839 **Volume 4, Diary, 1850.** 55 frames.
*Major Topics:* Slaves on Southdown and Waterloo plantations; sugar and molasses production.

0894 **Volume 5, Diary, 1851.** 54 frames.
*Major Topic:* Sugar production.

0948 **Volume 6, Diary, 1856.** 45 frames.
*Major Topics:* Slaves on Waterloo, Southdown, and Hollywood plantations; sugar production.

**Reel 2**

**William J. Minor and Family Papers cont.**

0001 **Volume 7, Diary, 1856–1857.** 64 frames.
*Major Topics:* Molasses and sugar production; slaves at Southdown and Hollywood plantations.

0065 **Volume 8, Diary, 1859.** 63 frames.
*Major Topics:* Slaves at Southdown, Waterloo, and Hollywood plantations; personal finances.

0128 **Volume 9, Diary, 1863.** 72 frames.
*Major Topics:* Slaves at Southdown and Hollywood plantations; personal finances.

0200 **Volume 10, Diary, 1864.** 70 frames.
*Major Topic:* Cotton pests.
Volume 11, Ledger, 1834–1883. 201 frames.
Major Topics: Personal income and expenses; molasses production and sales; wages paid to overseers; sugar sales; cotton sales; provisions for slaves; expenses for hiring of slaves; travel expenses.

Volume 12, Ledger, 1857–1869. 71 frames.
Major Topics: Personal income and expenses; sugar sales; molasses sales; wages paid to overseers; taxation.

Major Topics: Income and expenses of estate of Catherine L. Wilkinson; expenses for hiring of slaves.

Volume 17, List of African Americans [Slaves], 1848–1852. 46 frames.
Major Topics: Slaves at Waterloo and Southdown plantations; slave births and deaths at Southdown and Waterloo plantations.

Volume 18, Lists of [Slave] Births and Deaths, 1846–1865. 33 frames.
Major Topic: Slave births and deaths at Southdown plantation.

Volume 19, Steam: Its Generation and Use, with Catalogue of the Manufactures of The Babcock and Wilcox Company, 1893. 94 frames.

Volume 20, Notebook, 1854. 64 frames.
Major Topic: Education.

Volume 21, Notebook, 1859. 23 frames.
Major Topic: Poetry.

Volume 22, Notebook, 1860. 14 frames.
Major Topic: Health conditions.

Volume 23, Notebook, Undated. 28 frames.
Major Topic: Education.

Volume 24, Notebook, 1868–1871. 20 frames.
Major Topics: Travel in Europe; land sales; rental of land.

Reel 3

William J. Minor and Family Papers cont.

Volume 25, Plantation Diary, 1842–1856. 110 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; sugar sales; molasses sales; health conditions.

Volume 26, Plantation Diary, 1850. 77 frames.
Major Topic: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather.

Volume 27, Plantation Diary, 1851–1855. 94 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather.

Volume 28, Plantation Diary, 1856. 55 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather.
Volume 29, Plantation Diary, 1855–1858. 107 frames.
Major Topics: Health conditions; agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather; slaves at Southdown, Hollywood, and Waterloo plantations.

Volume 30, Plantation Diary, 1858–1859. 68 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather.

Volume 31, Plantation Diary, 1858–1861. 148 frames.
Major Topics: Wages paid to overseer; agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather; health conditions.

Volume 32, Plantation Diary, 1861–1862. 57 frames.
Major Topics: Slaves at Waterloo plantation; weather; agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; Confederate States Army; health conditions; Union Army capture of New Orleans; Civil War battles; runaway slaves.

Volume 33, Plantation Diary, 1861–1865. 78 frames.
Major Topics: Rules for overseer of Waterloo plantation, including treatment of slaves; rules for agricultural production, including cotton and sugar production; medical care; holidays.

Volume 34, Plantation Diary, 1861–1868. 120 frames.
Major Topics: Rules for overseers of Southdown and Hollywood plantations, including treatment of slaves; rules for slave marriage and divorce; rules for the drivers; rules for agricultural production, including cotton and sugar production; medical care.

Volume 35, Plantation Diary, 1863. 63 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; problems with slaves; health conditions; Civil War; weather; runaway slaves.

Reel 4

William J. Minor and Family Papers cont.

Volume 36, Plantation Diary, 1863–1868. 151 frames.
Major Topics: Problems with slaves; agricultural production, including sugar and cotton production; agricultural labor; weather; health conditions; wages paid for agricultural labor; slaves selected for military service.

Volume 37, Plantation Diary, 1869–1870. 45 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather; refusal of African American laborers to sign labor contracts; death of William J. Minor; molasses production; wages paid for agricultural labor.

Baldwin and Co. Records, 1879–1928
St. Mary Parish, Louisiana

This collection consists of several volumes of ledgers and accounts books from Baldwin and Company, the name of the plantation store of Old Johnson plantation in Baldwin, Louisiana. The first two volumes consist of records of purchases made at the store, many by agricultural laborers. There are also records of sugar and molasses sales. Sugar production and sales are also recapitulated in Volume 4 and Volume 5. The last two volumes in the collection provide
more opportunity to study sugar laborers. There are entries for wages paid to laborers and overseers and entries for cash advances.

0197  **Introductory Materials.** 4 frames.

0201  **Volume 1, Ledger Accounts, 1879–1884.** 123 frames.  
  *Major Topic:* Store accounts; labor accounts; sugar and molasses sales.

0324  **Volume 2, Index, Ledger D, 1880.** 33 frames.  
  *Major Topic:* Store accounts.

  *Major Topic:* Purchases made by Baldwin and Co. from retail and wholesale stores and commission merchants.

0484  **Volume 4, Cane Ledger, October–November 1900.** 140 frames.  
  *Major Topic:* Sugar production and sales.

0624  **Volume 5, Recapitulation of Cane, 1900.** 118 frames.  
  *Major Topic:* Sugar production.

0742  **Volume 6, General Farm Book with Indexes and Payroll, 1927–1928.** 52 frames.  
  *Major Topics:* Labor accounts; cash advances; rice, indigo, cotton, and sugar production labor.

0794  **Volume 7, Ledger Accounts, Payroll, 1927–1928.** 46 frames.  
  *Major Topics:* Labor accounts; cash advances; wages paid to overseers.

**Reel 5**

**Alexandre DeClouet and Family Papers, 1787–1905**

**St. Martin Parish, Louisiana**

This collection consists of financial records, legal documents, political materials, correspondence, diaries, memorandum books, and time books of Alexandre DeClouet and his family. Alexandre DeClouet owned and operated several plantations in St. Martin Parish, served in the Confederate Congress, and after the Civil War was active in the White League, a semi-military group that opposed civil and political rights for African Americans. Several items in the collection pertain to DeClouet’s political interests and his association with the White League. For example, in the first of the political materials folders (Reel 5, Frame 0113), there is an “Address to the Citizens of St. Martin” and a set of resolutions passed at a White League meeting. One item of correspondence (Reel 5, Frame 0151) is a request for DeClouet to address members of the White League. Several diary entries for 1868 also pertain to DeClouet’s white supremacist views. For example, an October 15, 1868, entry describes a barbecue and political rally held by African Americans. DeClouet describes the participants as “monkies” and summarizes the content of the speeches in a highly derogatory tone.

Beyond DeClouet’s political involvement, this collection contains important detail about the operation of sugar plantations during the Reconstruction period. Diary entries include discussions of agricultural operations on DeClouet’s plantations, lists of house servants and field hands, frequent mention of weather conditions, work regimes, and comments about DeClouet’s activities beyond the plantation, such as social gatherings and church attendance. The collection concludes with a series of time books for 1869 and 1877–1884. These time books record the names of laborers, total days worked, the daily wage rate, and the total amount paid by DeClouet to each laborer. The Alexandre DeClouet and Family Papers begin at Frame 0001 of Reel 5 and continue through Frame 0422 of Reel 6. A one-item collection of one letter by DeClouet follows, beginning at Frame 0423 of Reel 6.
0001 Introductory Materials. 2 frames.

0003 Financial—Ledger Sheets, 1880 and 1886–1890. 21 frames.  
  Major Topics: Store accounts; cotton sales.

0024 Financial—Joseph Alexandre DeClouet, 1794. 2 frames.  
  Major Topic: Personal finances.

  Major Topic: Personal finances.

  Major Topic: Personal finances.

  Major Topics: Taxation; personal finances.

  15 frames.  
  Major Topic: Agricultural production, including sugar, molasses, and cotton production.

0068 Financial—Plantation Management, [1828], 1877–1900, and Undated. 7 frames.  
  Major Topics: Cotton prices; health conditions.

0075 Legal—Plantation Management, 1795 and 1886–1887. 9 frames.  
  Major Topic: Agricultural labor contract for Magenta plantation.

0084 Legal—Visas, Alexandre E. DeClouet, 1832–1833. 5 frames.  
  Major Topic: Travel in Europe.

0089 Legal—Roman Family, Purchase of Dryades Market, 1868. 8 frames.  
  Major Topic: Real estate sale.

0097 Legal—Testamentary, Adrien Dumartrait, 1855–1856. 11 frames.  
  Major Topic: Estate of Adrien Dumartrait.

0108 Legal—Testamentary, Dr. Nue Betournage, 1877–1888 and Undated. 5 frames.  
  Major Topic: Estate of Nue Betournage.

0113 Political—Addresses, Resolutions, 1872 and 1874. 25 frames.  
  Major Topics: Politics; opposition to voting and political rights for African Americans; White League.

0138 Political—Election Materials, 1867–1878 and Undated. 11 frames.  
  Major Topics: Reconstruction loyalty oath; voter registration.

0149 Correspondence—to Etienne Chevalier DeClouet, 1787. 2 frames.

0151 Correspondence—to Alexandre E. DeClouet, 1861–1884. 10 frames.  
  Major Topics: Corn sales; White League.

0161 Personal, Undated, 1800s. 7 frames.

0168 Newspaper Clippings, 1887 and Undated, 1800s. 5 frames.  
  Major Topics: General Francis Nicholls’s candidacy for 1888 Louisiana gubernatorial election; White League; Confederate States Army; W. W. Loring; Erneste Boulanger; memorial for Confederate soldiers who fought in siege of Vicksburg.

0173 Volume 1, Diary, 1866. 65 frames.  
  Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar and cotton production; agricultural labor; weather; church attendance.
0238 Volume 2, Diary, 1867. 72 frames.
Major Topics: List of field hands and house servants; weather; agricultural production, including cotton and sugar production; agricultural labor; church attendance; health conditions.

0310 Volume 3, Diary, 1868. 59 frames.
Major Topics: List of house servants and field hands; weather; signing of labor contract with African Americans; agricultural production, including cotton and sugar production; agricultural labor; appointment of Paul L. DeClouet as deputy sheriff for 1868 general election; church attendance.

0369 Volume 4, Diary, 1868–1869. 58 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather; voter registration; opposition to political rights for African Americans; 1868 general election; list of house servants and field hands.

0427 Volume 5, Diary, 1869–1870. 60 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather; church attendance; list of house servants and field hands.

0487 Volume 6, Diary, 1880–1888. 93 frames.
Major Topics: Weather; agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor.

0580 Volume 7, Memorandum Book, 1810–1812. 7 frames.
Major Topic: Personal finances.

0587 Volume 8, Memorandum Book, 1848–1865. 29 frames.
Major Topic: List of slaves.

0616 Volume 9, Memorandum Book, 1853–1858. 38 frames.
Major Topic: List of slaves.

Major Topic: List of slaves.

0671 Volume 11, Memorandum Book, 1866–1879. 12 frames.
Major Topic: Agricultural production, including cotton and sugar production.

0683 Volume 12, Memorandum Book, 1870–1871. 20 frames.
Major Topic: Travel.

0703 Volume 13, Memorandum Book, 1880–1884. 49 frames.
Major Topic: Agricultural production, including sugar production.

0752 Volume 14, Memorandum Book, 1884. 10 frames.
Major Topic: Agricultural production, including sugar production.

Major Topic: Agricultural production, including cotton production.

0782 Volume 16, Memorandum Book, 1889–1891. 20 frames.
Major Topic: Agricultural production, including cotton production.

0802 Volume 17, Memorandum Book, 1892–1894. 34 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural production, including cotton production; labor accounts.

0836 Volume 18, Memorandum Book, 1895–1896. 31 frames.
Major Topic: Agricultural production, including cotton production.

0867 Volume 19, Memorandum Book, 1897. 33 frames.
Major Topic: Agricultural production, including cotton production.
Volume 20, Memorandum Book, 1900–1905. 96 frames.
Major Topics: Agricultural production, including cotton production; cotton ginning accounts.

Reel 6

Alexandre DeClouet and Family Papers cont.

Volume 21, Passport Book, 1821–1832. 31 frames.
Major Topic: Travel.

Volume 22, Time Book, 1869. 19 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 23, Time Book, 1877. 26 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 24, Time Book, 1877. 25 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 25, Time Book, 1878. 26 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 26, Time Book, 1878. 26 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 27, Time Book, 1879. 26 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 28, Time Book, 1879–1880. 27 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 29, Time Book, 1880. 26 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 30, Time Book, 1880. 24 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 31, Time Book, 1881. 26 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 32, Time Book, 1881. 17 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 33, Time Book, 1882. 24 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 34, Time Book, 1882. 25 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 36, Time Book, 1883. 21 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 37, Time Book, 1883–1884. 26 frames.
Major Topic: Labor accounts.
Alexandre DeClouet Letter, 1861
St. Martin Parish, Louisiana

This collection consists of a letter written by Alexandre DeClouet from Montgomery, Alabama, to C. G. Memenger, secretary of the treasury for the Confederate States of America. The letter recommends W. H. S. Taylor for a position in the Treasury Department.

Reel 7

Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers, 1844–1933
Assumption Parish, Louisiana

This collection consists of papers from the related Pugh, Williams, and Mayes families. Richard Pugh, the son of Thomas Pugh, married Mary Louise Williams in 1861. There is one folder of materials covering the business affairs of John Williams and R. B. Mayes. The Mississippi cotton plantation records of John Williams have been microfilmed as part of UPA’s Records of Southern Plantations from Emancipation to the Great Migration, Series B: Selections from the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, Louisiana State University Libraries, Part 4: Mississippi Cotton Plantations. The portion of the Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers microfilmed by UPA for this edition focuses on the Pugh family and consists of correspondence, legal materials, and financial records. Topics covered in the correspondence include Civil War battles and the Pugh family’s escape to Texas in advance of the Union Army invasion of Assumption Parish in the winter of 1862.

By the 1860s, the Pugh family owned over 1,500 slaves. In the legal papers, a volume of “slave sales receipts” contains detailed records of the slaves purchased by Richard Pugh. Most of the slaves were purchased by Pugh in New Orleans. The receipts typically list the age, price, complexion, and possibly other features or skills possessed by the slaves. For example, some receipts note that the slave was a carpenter or blacksmith. A slave named Louise purchased by Richard Pugh was described as a “superior French cook.” The collection concludes with two volumes of financial records. These volumes include records of wage payments made to laborers on Richard Pugh’s lands in the 1870s and early 1880s. Some of the entries note payments to Chinese laborers.

Related collections in this edition are the Josephine Nicholls Pugh Civil War Account, Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers, William W. Pugh and Family Plantation Records, and Mrs. Mary W. Pugh Papers. Additional Pugh family collections microfilmed by UPA can be found in Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series G: Selections from the Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas at Austin, Part 1, and Series I: Selections from Louisiana State University, Part 1: Louisiana Sugar Plantations.
0165  **Legal—General, 1844–1889 and Undated.** 36 frames.  
*Major Topics:* John Williams and R. B. Mayes partnership agreements for opening dry goods store; will of Patrick Maguire; land sales and land ownership; Live Oak plantation.

0201  **Legal—Slave Sales Receipts, 1859–1861.** 51 frames.

*Major Topics:* Store accounts; personal finances; molasses sales.

0280  **Financial—Receipts and Requisitions for Salt and Corn.** 16 frames.  
*Major Topics:* Receipts and requisitions for salt and corn; payment of wages in salt.

0296  **Financial—Receipts for Goods, Services, and Accounts, 1865–1881.** 46 frames.  
*Major Topics:* Store accounts; personal finances.

*Major Topics:* Personal finances; store accounts.

0390  **Financial—Steamboat Freight Receipts, 1881–1933.** 12 frames.

*Major Topics:* Personal finances; labor accounts; cash advances; Chinese laborers.

*Major Topics:* Cash advances; labor accounts; personal finances.

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**Josephine Nicholls Pugh Civil War Account, Undated, ca. 1862–1868**  
**Assumption Parish, Louisiana**

This small collection consists of two folders of Josephine Nicholls Pugh’s descriptions of life in Assumption Parish during the Civil War. The first folder contains an account entitled “Dark Days: A Woman’s Record.” In this account, Pugh describes Civil War battles, the activities of slaves during the war, and the occupation of Assumption Parish by the Union Army. This folder also includes a letter from William W. Pugh to their daughter, Louisa Hunter Pugh, describing Josephine Nicholls Pugh (William’s wife and Louisa’s mother). The second folder in this collection is an account entitled “Battle of Himelaya,” a Civil War battle won by the Union Army that took place on the plantation owned by her husband, William W. Pugh.

Related collections in this edition are the Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers, Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers, William W. Pugh and Family Plantation Records, and Mrs. Mary W. Pugh Papers. Additional Pugh family collections microfilmed by UPA can be found in *Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series G: Selections from the Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas at Austin, Part 1,* and *Series I: Selections from Louisiana State University, Part 1: Louisiana Sugar Plantations.*

0485  **Introductory Materials.** 2 frames.

0487  **Civil War Account, “Dark Days: A Woman’s Record,” ca. 1865, Undated.** 16 frames.  
*Major Topics:* Civil War; occupation of Assumption Parish by Union Army; slaves.

0503  **Civil War Account, ca. 1865.** 9 frames.  
*Major Topics:* Civil War battles; occupation of Assumption Parish by Union Army.
Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers, 1767–1932
Assumption Parish, Louisiana

Robert Campbell Martin Jr. owned Albemarle plantation in Assumption Parish. He was the son of Mary Winfred (Pugh) Martin. This collection begins with a small series of materials that include correspondence, newspaper clippings, and a political broadside. The broadside pertains to the election of 1876 and civil rights for African Americans. It also mentions discrimination faced by African Americans in southern courts and the brutal conditions of convict labor. Other topics covered in this section include sugar and molasses sales, Martin’s marriage to Maggie Chisholm Littlejohn, and the imprisonment of Confederate States of America President Jefferson Davis at Fort Monroe, Virginia. The other document types in this collection are cashbooks, diaries, ledgers, memorandum books, notebooks, a poll book for Assumption Parish, and a time book.

The cashbooks begin at Frame 0796 of Reel 7 and cover Martin’s personal finances. There are also some entries noting wages paid to laborers and entries for sugar and molasses sales. Diaries from 1907 to 1909 include commentary on the weather, health conditions, and descriptions of plantation operations. A series of ledger books begins at Frame 0001 of Reel 9 and continues to Frame 0293 of Reel 11. The ledger books span from 1868 to 1915. They document accounts with laborers and commission merchants, banking records, and sugar and molasses sales. Similar types of financial entries can also be found in the notebooks (Volumes 55 and 56) and the record books (Volumes 61–63) on Reel 11. The collection concludes with a time book that records work by plantation laborers.

Related collections in this edition are the Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers, Josephine Nicholls Pugh Civil War Account, William W. Pugh and Family Plantation Records, and Mrs. Mary W. Pugh Papers. Additional Pugh family collections microfilmed by UPA can be found in Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series G: Selections from the Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas at Austin, Part 1, and Series I: Selections from Louisiana State University, Part 1: Louisiana Sugar Plantations.
Printed Materials, Undated. 7 frames.


Volume 1, Cashbook, 1881–1883. 63 frames.

Major Topics: Personal finances; labor accounts; sugar and molasses sales.

Volume 2, Cashbook, 1884–1886. 195 frames.

Major Topics: Personal finances; sugar and molasses sales; labor accounts.

Reel 8

Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers cont.

Volume 3, Cashbook, 1887–1888. 99 frames.

Major Topics: Personal finances; labor accounts; molasses and sugar sales.

Volume 4, Cashbook, 1891–1900. 192 frames.

Major Topics: Personal finances; shipping expenses; labor accounts.

Volume 5, Cashbook, 1906–1912. 132 frames.

Major Topics: Personal finances; labor accounts.

Volume 6, Cashbook, 1913–1918. 148 frames.

Major Topics: Personal finances; labor accounts.

Volume 7, Cashbook, 1928–1932. 124 frames.

Major Topics: Personal finances; labor accounts; cash advances.

Volume 13, Diary, 1907. 100 frames.

Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather; health conditions.

Volume 14, Diary 1908. 97 frames.

Major Topics: Agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor; weather; health conditions.

Volume 15, Diary 1909. 81 frames.

Major Topics: Social life; weather; travel; agricultural production, including sugar production; agricultural labor.

Reel 9

Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers cont.

Volume 16, Ledger, 1868–1871. 79 frames.

Major Topics: Labor accounts; sugar and molasses sales; accounts with commission merchants; banking records.

Volume 17, Ledger, 1872–1876. 38 frames.

Major Topics: Labor accounts; sugar and molasses sales; accounts with commission merchants.

Volume 18, Ledger. 1874–1891. 60 frames.

Major Topics: Sugar and molasses sales; accounts with commission merchants.

Volume 19, Ledger, 1883. 102 frames.

Major Topics: Labor accounts; cash advances; sugar and molasses sales.

Volume 20, Ledger 1884–1885. 93 frames.

Major Topics: Sugar and molasses production and sales; labor accounts; accounts with commission merchants.
Volume 21, Ledger, 1885–1888. 80 frames.  
Major Topics: Sugar and molasses production and sales; labor accounts; accounts with commission merchants.

Volume 22, Ledger, 1886–1887. 115 frames.  
Major Topics: Labor accounts; sugar and molasses production and sales.

Major Topic: Labor accounts.

Volume 24, Ledger, 1890–1891. 116 frames.  
Major Topics: Labor accounts; molasses and sugar production and sales; accounts with commission merchants.

Volume 25, Ledger, 1892–1895. 170 frames.  
Major Topics: Labor accounts; molasses and sugar sales; accounts with commission merchants; banking records.

Reel 10

Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers cont.

Volume 26, Ledger, 1896–1897. 135 frames.  
Major Topics: Labor accounts; sugar and molasses sales; accounts with commission merchants; banking records.

Major Topics: Labor accounts; sugar and molasses sales; accounts with commission merchants; banking records.

Volume 28, Ledger, 1901–1902. 88 frames.  
Major Topics: Labor accounts; sugar and molasses sales; accounts with commission merchants; banking records.

Volume 29, Ledger, 1902–1903. 91 frames.  
Major Topics: Labor accounts; sugar and molasses sales; accounts with commission merchants; banking records.

Volume 30, Ledger, 1903–1905. 144 frames.  
Major Topics: Labor accounts; accounts with commission merchants; banking records; sugar and molasses production and sales.

Volume 31, Ledger, 1905–1906. 142 frames.  
Major Topics: Labor accounts; accounts with commission merchants; banking records; molasses and sugar sales.

Major Topics: Labor accounts; banking records; accounts with commission merchants; sugar and molasses production and sales.

Major Topics: Labor accounts; accounts with commission merchants; banking records; sugar and molasses production and sales.
Reel 11

Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers cont.

0001 **Volume 34, Ledger, 1911–1912.** 121 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Labor accounts; accounts with commission merchants; banking records; sugar and molasses sales.

0122 **Volume 35, Ledger, 1912–1915.** 172 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Labor accounts; accounts with commission merchants; banking records; sugar and molasses production and sales.

0294 **Volume 38, Memorandum Book, 1869–1870.** 17 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Health conditions; labor accounts; agricultural production.

0311 **Volume 42, Memorandum Book, 1895.** 49 frames.
   *Major Topic:* List of property holdings and farm animals.

0360 **Volume 43, Memorandum Book, 1896.** 84 frames.
   *Major Topic:* List of property holdings, cars, farm animals, and laborers without property.

0444 **Volume 55, Notebook, 1867 and 1881.** 71 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Personal finances; accounts with commission merchants; agricultural production; labor accounts.

0515 **Volume 56, Notebook, 1871–1874.** 54 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Personal finances; accounts with commission merchants; labor accounts; sugar and molasses sales.

0569 **Volume 60, Poll Book, Assumption Parish, 1904.** 14 frames.
   *Major Topic:* Voter registration.

0583 **Volume 61, Record Book, 1858–1864.** 37 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Personal finances; sugar and molasses production and sales; labor accounts; accounts with commission merchants; personal debt.

0620 **Volume 62, Record Book, 1868–1870.** 12 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Labor accounts; molasses and sugar sales.

0632 **Volume 63, Record Book, 1895–1896.** 104 frames.
   *Major Topic:* Sugar production.

0736 **Volume 64, Time Book, 1873–1875 and 1880.** 46 frames.
   *Major Topic:* Labor accounts.

Reel 12

William W. Pugh and Family Plantation Records, 1852–1912
Assumption Parish, Louisiana

This collection of William W. Pugh and Family Plantation Records consists primarily of financial records, including cashbooks, journals, ledgers, record books, and a time book pertaining to Pugh’s plantation holdings in Assumption Parish. Most of these volumes contain accounts with laborers. The accounts typically list the first and last names of the laborers, the number of days worked, and the amount earned. Some of the volumes also note cash advances and labor payments for “watches.” “Watches” were night shifts observing the operation of the sugar mill. Pugh paid laborers twice as much for labor in the sugar cane fields as he did for watches. Volume 3 includes accounts with commission merchants with notations on the
percentage paid to the commission merchant. In the early twentieth century, Pugh also established a company to run Woodlawn plantation. Pugh served as chairman of the Woodlawn Planting and Manufacturing Company from 1903 to 1906. The minutes from meetings of the company’s board of directors for 1903–1906 can be found in Volume 10 (Reel 12, Frame 0771).

Related collections in this edition are the Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers, Josephine Nicholls Pugh Civil War Account, Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers, and Mrs. Mary W. Pugh Papers. Additional Pugh family collections microfilmed by UPA can be found in *Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series G: Selections from the Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas at Austin, Part 1*, and *Series I: Selections from Louisiana State University, Part 1: Louisiana Sugar Plantations.*

0001 **Introductory Materials.** 3 frames.

0004 **Correspondence, 1888, 1909–1910, and Undated.** 6 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Sugar sales; lease.

0010 **Folder 2, Financial, 1905, 1911, and Undated.** 9 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Woodlawn Planting & Manufacturing Co. accounts; sugar sales.

0019 **Printed Materials, 1884, 1900, and Undated.** 18 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Louisiana property assessment legislation; agricultural imports and exports.

0037 **Volume 1, Cashbook, 1907–1908.** 60 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Personal finances; banking records; labor accounts; sugar sales.

0097 **Volume 2, Cashbook, 1908–1909.** 21 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Personal finances; cash advances.

0118 **Volume 3, Journal, 1855 and 1876.** 29 frames
   *Major Topics:* Personal finances; sugar sales; accounts with commission merchants; labor accounts; rent; store accounts.

0147 **Volume 4, Journal, 1865–1866 and 1903.** 51 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Personal finances; shipping accounts; rent.

0198 **Volume 5, Ledger, 1885–1897.** 16 frames.
   *Major Topic:* Personal finances.

0214 **Volume 6, Ledger, 1905–1906.** 151 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Labor accounts; cash advances; sugar production and sales.

0365 **Volume 7, Ledger, 1906–1908.** 206 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Labor accounts; cash advances.

0571 **Volume 8, Ledger, 1909–1910.** 130 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Labor accounts; cash advances; sugar production.

0701 **Volume 9, Ledger, 1911–1912.** 70 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Personal finances; store accounts; banking records.

0771 **Volume 10, Minute Book, 1903–1906.** 30 frames.
   *Major Topic:* Woodlawn Planting & Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

0801 **Volume 11, Record Book, 1899–1909.** 85 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Labor accounts; cash advances.

0886 **Volume 12, Record Book, 1903–1908.** 30 frames.
   *Major Topic:* Sugar and molasses production and sales from Woodlawn and Himelaya plantations.

0916 **Volume 13, Record Book, 1903–1908.** 26 frames.
   *Major Topic:* Sugar production and sales from Woodlawn and Himelaya plantations.
Reel 13

Mrs. Mary W. Pugh Papers, 1882–1925
Assumption and Lafourche Parishes, Louisiana

Mrs. Mary Williams Pugh was the wife, and later widow, of Richard Pugh, the owner of Madewood plantation in Assumption Parish, Louisiana. In 1889, after her husband’s death, Mary Pugh also purchased Live Oak plantation in Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. The majority of this collection consists of correspondence. Major topics covered in the correspondence include health conditions, travel, and social affairs. A significant amount of correspondence is between Mary Pugh and her daughter, nicknamed Pinksie. Pinksie moved to Los Angeles in the 1890s and much of her correspondence with her mother describes life in that city.

The collection also covers several different aspects of the sugar industry in Assumption and Lafourche Parishes. For example, there is a November 1887 letter discussing a strike for higher wages by African American sugar laborers. The letter notes that all African Americans, except for those on three plantations, had struck, and that the planters had agreed not to meet the strikers’ wage demands. Letters from November 25, 1887, and January 29, 1888, also discuss the strike. The January letter relates that the leader of the strike had been tarred and feathered.

Correspondence from the 1910s and 1920s shows that the Pughs began to diversify their business interests. For example, the family ran the Thibodaux Brick Works, Edward Pugh began to invest in the petroleum industry in Texas, and the family rented out portions of Live Oak plantation to the Ernest Roger Company, Ltd. The Ernest Roger Company then took responsibility for the sugar crop on Live Oak, indicating the movement toward corporate control of sugar plantations in the twentieth century. Additional materials on the Pugh family’s business interests can be found in the other series in this collection: Legal Documents, Financial Documents, and Memorandum Books.

The Legal Documents series includes items on Pugh v. Frierson, a case that involved the settlement of the estate of Mary Pugh’s father, John Williams. Other legal documents show the purchase of stock in the Columbia Cotton Mill Company and investment in the petroleum industry. Financial documents include banking records, accounts with commission merchants, and records of sugar and molasses sales. The Memorandum Books series includes personal finances, accounts with sugar laborers, and accounts with workers at the Thibodaux Brick Works.

Related collections in this edition are the Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers, Josephine Nicholls Pugh Civil War Account, Robert Campbell Martin Jr. Papers, and William W. Pugh and Family Plantation Records. Additional Pugh family collections microfilmed by UPA can be found in Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War, Series G: Selections from the Barker Texas History Center, University of Texas at Austin, Part 1, and Series I: Selections from Louisiana State University, Part 1: Louisiana Sugar Plantations.
0099 **Correspondence, January–June 1888.** 97 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Social life; land sales; weather; harassment of leader of sugar laborers’ strike.

0196 **Correspondence, July–December 1888.** 37 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Social life; weather; travel to Denver, Salt Lake City, and Yellowstone Park.

0233 **Correspondence, 1889.** 54 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Land sales; health conditions; education.

0287 **Correspondence 1890–1893.** 43 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Virginia Military Institute; social life.

0330 **Correspondence, 1894–1895.** 33 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Health conditions; travel to Los Angeles; 1894 congressional election; rice prices.

0363 **Correspondence, 1896–1898.** 37 frames.
   *Major Topic:* Health conditions.

0400 **Correspondence, January–June 1899.** 86 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Health conditions; travel to Texas; social life in Los Angeles.

0486 **Correspondence, July–September 1899.** 60 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Social life in Los Angeles; agricultural production; rice prices; health conditions.

0546 **Correspondence, October–December 1899.** 45 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Social life in Los Angeles; health conditions.

0591 **Correspondence, 1900.** 51 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Social life in Los Angeles; health conditions.

0642 **Correspondence, 1901.** 60 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Social life in Los Angeles; mortgage.

0702 **Correspondence, 1902–1904.** 68 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Social life in Los Angeles; health conditions; travel to French Lick, Indiana.

0770 **Correspondence, 1905.** 45 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Health conditions; death of Mary Paul Maguire; social life.

0815 **Correspondence, 1906–1909.** 27 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Land for sale in Oaxaca, Mexico; medicine.

0842 **Correspondence, 1910–1917.** 39 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Property rights; personal debt.

0881 **Correspondence, 1918–1919.** 39 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Rent; ownership of and sale of real property in Columbia, Tennessee; estate of Mrs. Mary W. Pugh; inheritance of Live Oak plantation.

0920 **Correspondence, 1920–1923.** 45 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Rental of Live Oak Plantation by Ernest Roger Company, Ltd.; labor shortage; estate of Mrs. Mary W. Pugh; investment in petroleum industry; rice sales.

0965 **Correspondence, January–August 1924.** 41 frames.
   *Major Topics:* Investment in petroleum industry; debt owed to Thibodaux Brick Works.
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Maximilien E. Boudreaux Family Papers, 1856–1927
Assumption Parish, Louisiana

This collection consists of the papers of Maximilien E. Boudreaux of Assumption Parish. The records primarily relate to Boudreaux’s financial and business affairs and to the production of sugar and molasses. There are records of advances made to tenant farmers and to laborers. Time books record hours of work and wages earned by laborers on Boudreaux’s lands.

0001 Introductory Materials. 2 frames.
0003 [Papers], 1856–1878. 28 frames.
   Major Topic: Store accounts.
0031 [Papers], 1879–1893. 33 frames.
   Major Topics: Personal finances; shipping accounts; store accounts; molasses production and sales; taxation.
0064 Ledger, 1878–1879. 35 frames.
   Major Topics: Personal finances; labor accounts.
0099 [Correspondence], 1894–1913. 43 frames.
   Major Topic: Advances to tenant farmers.
0142 Volume 1, Cashbook, 1922–1927. 61 frames.
   Major Topic: Personal finances.
   Major Topics: Personal finances; cash advances.
Francois Randon Ledger, 1876–1888
New Orleans, Louisiana

Francois Randon was a New Orleans dealer in sugar mill supplies. The ledger book consists of accounts of sales made by Randon to plantations along the Mississippi River from False River to New Orleans and to plantations on Bayou Teche.

Joseph Savoy Family Papers, 1856–1909
Assumption Parish, Louisiana

Joseph Savoy was a sugar planter on Bayou Lafourche in Assumption Parish. This collection includes some family correspondence, along with other letters pertaining to the election of 1900. The majority of the collection consists of business records and correspondence, including store accounts, accounts with commission merchants, shipping accounts, and records of sugar and molasses production and sales.
SUBJECT INDEX

The following index is a guide to the major topics in this microform publication. The first number after each entry refers to the reel, while the four-digit number following the colon refers to the frame number at which a particular file folder containing information on the subject begins. Hence, 4: 0152 directs the researcher to the folder that begins at Frame 0152 of Reel 4. By referring to the Reel Index, which constitutes the initial section of this guide, the researcher will find the folder title, inclusive dates, and a list of the Major Topics, listed in the order in which they appear on the film.

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