

Information Sheet

R **Scott family.**
453 **Papers, 1874-1957.**
 Twenty-five folders.

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are photographs and miscellaneous papers of the Scott family of Rolla, Missouri. Included are the personal papers and memorabilia of John W. Scott (1870-1950), a businessman and musician who directed the Rolla town band and other local ensembles, catalogs of the Western Conservatory of Music operated by Ephraim H. Scott at Rolla, Missouri, and Chicago, Illinois, and other materials pertaining to the Dean and Morris families, and the town of Rolla.

James Homer Scott (1824-1888), his wife Eleanor Scott (1833-1920), and their three children came to Rolla from Galesburg, Illinois, in 1871. James was a Methodist minister whose talents included writing and building reed organs. Ultimately the family moved into a home at 12th and Main streets, not far from the campus of the Missouri of Mines and Metallurgy (MSM). For ten years, the Rev. James H. Scott was district superintendent of the Methodist Conference.

James and Eleanor Scott had three children. The oldest child, Ephraim Homer Scott (1858-1925), attended MSM in 1873-1875, and, later, the Beethoven School of Music in St. Louis. In 1883, he established the Western Conservatory of Music at 5th and Main streets in Rolla. The conservatory, very much a Scott family operation, was a center for vocal and instrumental music education at the turn of the century. The conservatory was moved to the Kimball Building in downtown Chicago, Illinois, in 1910, whereupon Rolla became a branch of the operation. Ephraim Homer Scott married Annie Lee in 1886.

The second child, Luella Cora Scott (1864-1941), was a graduate of Hedding College at Abingdon, Illinois. She taught school until her marriage in 1890 to George Reginald Dean (1865-1937). Luella Dean organized the Saturday Club and Civics Club at Rolla, and served on the board of the Missouri Federation of Women's Clubs for eight years. George R. Dean was a well-known professor of mathematics at MSM who had studied with Charles P. Steinmetz at the General Electric Laboratory in Schenectady, New York. From this union were born Hazel Dean (1893-1983), and Reginald Scott Dean (1897-1961). Hazel Dean obtained degrees from Northwestern University and Radcliffe College (Harvard University), and was awarded the Ph.D. in economics at the University of Southern California (USC). During the 1950s Hazel Dean was USC's Dean of the School of Library Science. Reginald Scott Dean received a degree in metallurgy from MSM at the age of sixteen, and obtained his Ph.D. at the University of Maryland. He had a distinguished career with the Western Electric Company and was later director of the metallurgical division of the U.S. Bureau of Mines. While with at the Bureau, he was responsible for the construction of the Bureau's building at Rolla. He married, first, Alberta Northern, and, then, Mattie McGregor, both residents of Rolla. A stepson, James Jacobs (1917-), received degrees from Penn State University and MSM, and pursued an executive career with Union Carbide Company. James Jacobs married Emily McCaw of Rolla.

The third child of James and Eleanor Scott was John Walter Scott (1870-1950), a prominent businessman and musician at Rolla. Scott attended MSM in 1886-1887 and worked as a clerk in Duby's Drug Store at Rolla. After serving as an apprentice, he became a registered pharmacist in 1890. Scott served as manager of the store until 1905, when he and Dr. A. C. McComb bought the business, which took the name Scott Drug. John W. Scott became the sole owner in 1908. In addition to the pharmacy, Scott handled textbooks and school supplies for MSM students, and expanded into the sales of musical instruments and sheet music. Scott was an accomplished musician himself, and was the founder and director of the Rolla town band, symphony orchestra, and cornet

band. He also organized the MSM Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) band in 1926 and directed it free of charge to the school until 1946. For nearly sixty years in Rolla, there was scarcely a concert or musical entertainment in which John W. Scott did not have a hand.

In 1896, John W. Scott married Stella Sappenfield (1874-1947), the oldest daughter of the Rev. Lewis C. Sappenfield (1848-1920), and Parilee Sappenfield (1854-1925). The Rev. Sappenfield was district superintendent of the Missouri Methodist Conference from 1888 to 1896. Stella Scott significantly contributed to the management of Scott Drug and assisted MSM students with illnesses and money problems. To the union of John and Stella Scott were born Olive Scott (1897-1972), and James Walter Scott (1899-1984). Olive Scott attended the Illinois Women's College and was a St. Pat's Queen at MSM. She married John M. Morris in 1919, a mining engineer (MSM 1919) whose career included a post at the U.S. Bureau of Mines station in Rolla. Olive Morris was a pipe organist at various churches around the county, including the Rolla Methodist Church during the last twenty-five years of her life.

To this union John M. Morris, Jr., was born in 1925. A U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and a graduate of Northwestern University, John M. Morris, Jr., ultimately took over operation of the Scott family business and expanded it into Scotts Books & Music, Scotts Hallmark, and Medical Center Pharmacy, all at Eighth and Pine streets. He also served on the boards of Boatmen's Bank and Rolla Municipal Utilities, and the Missouri State Board of Education.

John M. Morris, Jr., married Lenore Jones in 1947. She is the daughter of Floyd E. (1895-1971), and Gladys Jones (1901-). Floyd Jones was a station agent for the Frisco railroad and a Rolla businessman. Lenore attended Lindenwood College and was a St. Pat's Queen at MSM in 1946. She was active in the operation of the Scotts stores, and has been coordinator of several Republican political campaigns. To John and Lenore Morris were born John M. Morris III (1951-), and Susan Lenore Morris (1953-). John Morris III graduated from Northwestern University and received the J.D. degree from Washington University in St. Louis. He is currently an attorney in Jefferson City, Missouri. Susan Morris has degrees from Northwestern University and the University of Missouri-St. Louis. She is a homemaker and teacher in Chesterfield. In 1979 she married Bill Miller (1955-), a corporate executive. To this union were born David Miller (1982-), and Caroline Miller (1984-).

John M. Morris, Jr., and Lenore Morris continued the operation of the various Scott businesses until selling them in the 1980s. The Morrises are benefactors of the University of Missouri-Rolla (formerly MSM), and are the donors of the Scott family papers to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection.

The Scott family collection has been arranged in three parts. The first and largest section consists of photographs and papers of John W. Scott, of his business enterprises styled as J. W. Scott & Company, and of the activities of the Scott, Morris, and Dean families, especially Stella Sappenfield Scott and Olive Scott Morris. Included are John W. Scott's personal account books, 1889-1921, papers concerning a suit involving the Scott building on Pine Street, and papers regarding the subsequent operation of the business. In addition to many photographs, there are several items of biographical and genealogical interest, such as Dean family vital records from a family bible.

Section II includes photographs and historical material pertaining to the town of Rolla. Of most interest are the records of the Rolla town band and symphony orchestra, 1892-1914. The record books include the names of band members, many of whom were from prominent old Phelps County families. The records also indicate some of the venues at which the bands performed, and the expenses incurred. Also in this section are miscellaneous materials such as programs of events at the Rolla High School, 1915-1926, a story on Harold Griggs, an African-American employee of Scott Drug, and poetry written by his wife, Adele. There is also a large collection of photographs and postcard views of Rolla and surrounding areas. Some of the postcards were published by John W. Scott for sales through his store, while others were sent by friends of Olive Scott, in whose papers

they were found. The postcards have been retained by the family but have been copied on 35mm slides.

Section III is entirely on microfilm. It consists of materials retained by the donors. Most important in this series are the scrapbook of John W. Scott and the catalogs of the Western Conservatory of Music. John W. Scott's scrapbook contains broadsides, announcements and programs for over one hundred musical productions in which Scott was interested or involved, including those of the Rolla Symphony Orchestra, the Rolla town band, and the MSM ROTC band. Most of the productions took place at Rolla, but the venues also included concerts at churches, schools and halls in Newburg, St. James, Salem, and Steelville. A few programs pertain to concerts and recitals staged by Ephraim and Olive Scott of the Western Conservatory of Music. Most of the programs include the names of the performers and the titles of selections.

The material on the Western Conservatory of music includes programs for commencement exercises and general catalogs for the school at Rolla and Chicago. The catalogs are illustrated and contain brief biographies of faculty members and a description of the curriculum. Material on the Western Conservatory is extant for 1887-1918.

The final folder in the collection consists of itineraries and correspondence regarding the Russell Brothers Circus, which was headquartered in Rolla during the 1930s and 1940s on grounds near the site of Civil War Fort Wyman. John W. Scott was a friend of the circus owner, Charles W. Webb, and probably looked after the troupe's musical instruments. Scott also traveled with the circus on several occasions, playing the trombone in the orchestra during its performances between Rolla and Downer's Grove, Illinois. The folder of circus memorabilia contains postcards bearing the Russell Brothers schedules for 1937-1941, and also correspondence with several circus employees, including Charles W. Webb.

The Scott family papers are useful for research on the town of Rolla during the first half of the twentieth century. In addition to material on prominent local families, the collection includes information on entertainment at formal and informal events at Rolla and the surrounding areas, and on education in music as offered by the Western Conservatory.

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4 November 1991

John & Lenore Morris

Gift

Shelf List

This collection consists of photographs and miscellaneous papers of the Scott family of Rolla, Missouri. Included are the personal papers and memorabilia of John W. Scott (1870-1950), a businessman and musician who directed the Rolla town band and other local ensembles, catalogs of the Western Conservatory of Music operated by Ephraim H. Scott at Rolla, Missouri, and Chicago, Illinois, and other materials pertaining to the Dean and Morris families, and the town of Rolla.

Folders 1-11: Scott family papers, 1874-1950.

Folder 01: John W. Scott, photographs, 1874-1950 (14 items).

Folder 02: John W. Scott, personal account book, 1889-1904 (1 volume).

Folder 03: John W. Scott, personal account book, 1904-1921 (1 volume).

Folder 04: John W. Scott, miscellaneous papers, 1896-1950 (43 items).

Folder 05: J. W. Scott & Company building, Rolla, Missouri, deeds, photographs, etc., 1924-1944 (22 items).

Folder 06: J. W. Scott & Company building, Diehl suit papers, 1932 (11 items).

Folder 07: Stella Sappenfield Scott, photographs, ca. 1887-1920 (13 items).

Folder 08: Olive Scott Morris, notebook, ca. 1910 (1 volume).

Folder 09: Olive Scott Morris, photographs and biographical materials, ca. 1897-1913 (12 items).

Folder 10: Morris family, photographs, ca. 1910-1946 (11 items).

Folder 11: Dean family genealogical records removed from family Bible, n.d. (4 pages).

Folders 12-22: Rolla, Mo., photographs and historical material, 1892-1957.

- Folder 12: Rolla Symphony Orchestra, record book, 1892-1914 (1 volume).
- Folder 13: Rolla Band, dues book, 1904 (1 volume).
- Folder 14: Rolla band, treasurer's account book, 1904-1913 (1 volume).
- Folder 15: Miscellaneous photographs, ca. 1910-1950 (11 items).
- Folder 16: Rolla High School, programs, 1915-1926 (9 items).
- Folder 17: Modern Woodmen of America, photographs, ca. 1900 (2 items).
- Folder 18: Adele and Harold Griggs, papers, ca. 1950-1957 (2 items).
- Folder 19: Ice storms at Rolla, 1908-1924 (7 items).
- Folder 20: Joseph W. Miller, St. James, Missouri, photographs, ca. 1890 (2 items).
- Folder 21: Crawford County land deed, 1838 (1 item).
- Folder 22: Postcards of Rolla, Salem, Steelville, Iberia, Doniphan and Monett, Missouri, ca. 1910-1950 (39 views, loaned for copying).

Folders 23-25: Scrapbook and miscellaneous material, 1887-1947 (**MICROFILM**)

- Folder 23: John W. Scott scrapbook, commencement and concert programs, 1887-1947 (1 volume).
- Folder 24: Western Conservatory of Music, Rolla, Missouri, and Chicago, Illinois, programs and catalogs, 1887-1918 (13 items).
- Folder 25: Russell Brothers Circus, Rolla, Missouri, papers, 1937-1941 (50 items).

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