

R Cayce, Ellis P. (1835-1898), Papers, 1847-1891  
1319 0.7 cubic feet (18 folders) 1 CD

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri). If you would like more information, please contact us at [research@shsmo.org](mailto:research@shsmo.org).

## INTRODUCTION

The papers of Ellis P. Cayce contain correspondence to and from members of the Cayce family of St. Francois County, Missouri, 1847-1891. Most of the items are addressed to or written by Ellis P. Cayce. They concern personal and business matters of family members including Ellis's courtship of his wife Emma, his absence during her lingering illness, and the death of Milton P. Cayce, Ellis's father, in 1888.

## DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were purchased by the University of Missouri from Dr. K. Dietrich on 24 June 2005 (Accession No. 1150), 27 June 2005 (Accession No. 1153), 28 June 2005 (Accession No. 1154), 5 July 2005 (Accession No. 1159), 25 July 2005 (Accession No. 1163), 25 July 2005 (Accession No. 1166), and 14 September 2005 (Accession No. 1193). An addition was purchased on from Donald Acers on 11 April 2005 (Accession No. 1129), 24 June 2005 (Accession No. 1148, 29 August 2005 (Accession No. 1186), 6 September 2005 (Accession No. 1188), and 27 September 2005 (Accession No. 1199). An addition was made by Bettye Warner on 2 December 2005 (Accession No. 1217).

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Ellis Plummer Casey (1835-1898) was the third of four children born to the union of Milton P. Cayce (1804-1888) and his first wife Susan Armistead Ellis (1814-1843), both of Virginia. The family removed to Farmington in St. Francois County, Missouri in 1830.

Milton's first wife Susan Armistead Ellis (1814-1843) bore him four children: Adeline Frances Cayce (1831-1849), Virginia Susan Cayce (1833-?), Ellis P. Cayce (1835-1898) and Nettleton Cayce (1838-1886), Susan died in 1843. Milton then married Miss Virginia Dupuy (1828-1901) on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November 1850 and seven more children were born to this union; Alice Jane (1851-1941), Elizabeth "Betty" Dupuy Cayce (1854-1924), Anna "Nannie" Claybrook Cayce (1856-1939), James Henry Cayce (1859-1891), Virginia Emma Cayce (1864-1864), Milton Pleasant Cayce Jr. (1866-1962), William Dupuy Cayce (1870-1901). Note: On the 1860 Census of St. Francois County, Farmington Post Office, Virginia (Dupuy) Cayce's younger sister, Emma Dupuy, is noted as residing with the Cayce family. It is this Emma who Ellis Plummer Cayce married on October 7, 1862.

The Cayces engaged in a number of business ventures including land and stock enterprises, road-building, milling and general merchandizing. At least some of these activities were operated with slave labor. By 1860, Milton P. Cayce held twenty-two slaves and his wife another two. For the education of his own children and others in the neighborhood, Milton organized Elmwood Academy in 1847 on the grounds of a former orphanage. For many years with sons Ellis and Nettleton, he operated M.P. Cayce and Sons, Dealers in General Merchandise. The firm carried a large stock of goods including

the mining supplies necessary for an area about to undergo a mining boom.

Ellis was born in St. Francois County, Missouri in 1835. He was educated at Princeton College, New Jersey, graduating in 1858. He returned to Farmington and was elected St. Francois County Treasurer, a post he held from 1860 to 1878. During the Civil War, he served as a private in Company B of the 68<sup>th</sup> Enrolled Missouri Militia. He enrolled for the draft by the Union army in 1863, but paid a substitute and did not serve. About 1880, he took over general management of the family store at Leadwood and conducted business for the next eighteen years. Cayce was a member of the Princeton Alumni Association of St. Louis. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian Church in Farmington, of which he was an Elder. He died in Farmington on January 2, 1898 and is buried in the Cayce Family Cemetery.

Ellis married Emma Wirt Dupuy (1838-1895) in 1862. Emma was the younger sister of Milton's second wife. Four children were born to this marriage; Lillian Maude Cayce (1870-?), Elsie Dupuy Cayce (1872-1930), Julian "Paul" Cayce (1876-1959), and Alice "Adele" Cayce (1880-1965) of which three survived to adulthood. Mr. Cayce was a member of the Princeton Alumni Association of St. Louis. He and his wife were members of the Presbyterian Church, Farmington, of which he was an Elder.

#### SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers consist of correspondence between Ellis Cayce, his family, and his business interest. There are letters and papers related to various business interest and social organizations of the family. Many of the letters are between Ellis and his soon-to-be bride Emma Wirt Dupuy. The CD contains scans of the letters from folders 1-4.

*See also R0498 and R1039.*

#### FOLDER LIST

f. 1	Ellis to Emma, 1861-1866
f. 2	Ellis to Emma, 1868-1890
f. 3	Letters, 1846-1869
f. 4	Letters, 1870-1891
f. 5	Business letter, 1827
f. 6	Letter to mother, 1857
f. 7	Maud L. Billings to Marcia, 1886
f. 8	Correspondence, 1861-1910
f. 9	Correspondence, n.d.
f. 10	25 <sup>th</sup> Congress message from president, 1838
f. 11	Ledger sheets, 1853-1854
f. 12	Deposition, 1860
f. 13	Land contract, 1862
f. 14	Estate of William Treichler, 1866
f. 15	IIOOF lodge, 1872
f. 16	Business contract, 1876
f. 17	Dunham Brothers receipt, 1907
f. 18	Weekly Kansas City Start subscription, 1913-1914

CD 1	Letters
------	---------

## INDEX TERMS

Index Term
Angel, B.F.
Bismarck (Mo.)
Carlton, Eliza A. (1826-1915)
Carlton Insitute, St. Francois County (Mo.)
Cayce, Adeline Frances (1831- )
Cayce, Ellis P. (1835-1898)
Cayce, Elsie (1872- )
Cayce, Emma Wirt Dupuy (1838-1886)
Cayce, Nettleton D. (1838-1886)
Cayce, Milton P. (1804-1888)
Cayce, Milton P. Jr (1866-1962)
Cayce, Virginia Susan (1833- )
Cayce, William Dupuy (1869-1901)
Charleston (Mo.)
Edgarhill School, Princeton, NJ
Elmwood (St. Francois County, MO)
Farmington (Mo.)
Forster, Bryan
Iron Mountain (Mo.)
Leadwood (Mo.).
Marshall (Mo.)
Mite Society
Princeton (NJ.)
St. Charles (Mo.)
St. Francios County (Mo.)
Tuscumbia (Mo.)