

FRANCIS HENDERSON JAMES PAPERS

(Mss. 4690)

Inventory

Compiled by
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Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library
Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2010

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SUMMARY

Size	1 linear ft.
Geographic Locations	Louisiana, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic
Inclusive Dates	1869-1973
Bulk Dates	1909-1960
Languages	English, Spanish
Summary	Consists of correspondence, photographs, diary, newspaper clippings, and other records of LSU alum, World War I veteran, and sugar engineer Francis “Henny” Henderson James.
Access Restrictions	No restrictions on access.
Reproduction Note	May be reproduced.
Copyright	Physical rights and copyright are retained by the LSU Libraries.
Related Collections	Lewis Texada and Family Papers, Mss. 2985.
Citation	Francis Henderson James Papers, Mss. 4960, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
Stack Location(s)	T:98, OS:J

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Francis Henderson “Henny” James was born in 1888 to an affluent family in Rapides Parish, La. His parents were Francis Henderson James and Vanangus “Nangie” Amelia Sleet James, who had eight additional children: Trent, Rosanna, Florence, Lucy, Margaret, Ella, Nancy, and Vanangus. Trent L. James would later marry Willie Frank Texada, the daughter of prominent political and landholding family from Rapides Parish. Francis James graduated from Louisiana State University in 1912 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and received his M.S. in Sugar Engineering in 1913. James served in the U.S. Army during World War I. He married Jessie M. Broadwell in 1926 and they had four children: Francis Jr., Marilyn, Trenton, and Margaret Anne. After spending seventeen years in the sugar industry in Puerto Rico, James was employed as chief engineer from the 1930s to 1950s at the Salsburg Sugar Factory on the Helvetia Plantation in St. James Parish, La. He died in a Baton Rouge hospital of pneumonia and other complications resulting from injuries sustained in an automobile accident on September 2, 1959, in Donaldsonville, La.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Francis Henderson James Papers contain a diary, correspondence, photographs, certificates, newspaper clippings, and other records detailing the personal and professional history of an LSU alum, World War I veteran, and sugar engineer. Of note are the diary James kept from 1937 to 1958 documenting his work as chief engineer at the Salsburg Sugar Factory, letters and certificates relating to his long-standing association with the Freemasons, and photographs and other items documenting his time as an LSU student, his travels and work abroad in France and the Caribbean, and family connections in central Louisiana. The personal and business correspondence includes communications concerning James family property and letters from Vanangus “Nangie” James to her children in the months before her death in 1932. The papers also include several items relating to Trent L. James, who served as the Rapides Parish Assessor from 1921-1970. The materials have been arranged as follows: all correspondence, written records or printed items are housed in box 1; all photographs are housed in box 2; all tintypes are housed in box 3; and all oversized items are included in a separate folder.

INDEX TERMS

Boyce, La.--History.

Card photographs.

Correspondence.

Freemasons--Louisiana.

Helvetia Plantation (La.)

James, Francis Henderson, 1888-1959.

James, Trenton LeRoi, 1890-1973.

James, Vanangus Sleet, 1852-1932.

Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College--Students.

Plantations--Louisiana--Saint James Parish.

Rapides Parish, La.--History.

Salsburg Sugar Factory (Saint James Parish, La.)

Sigma Nu. Phi Chapter (Louisiana State University)

Sugar--Manufacture and refining--Puerto Rico.

Tintypes (prints)

World War I.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Content (with dates)</u>
			Papers, ca. 1869-1973
T:98	1	1	Francis Henderson James (FHJ) and family newspaper clippings and miscellany, 1869-1959
		2	FHJ and family personal correspondence, 1928-1959
		3	FHJ and family business correspondence, 1937-1957
		4	LSU correspondence, 1908-1912
		5	LSU commencement program and LSU song card, 1913, undated
		6	LSU calendar, 1915
		7	Puerto Rico physical exam notification, 1917
		8	U.S. Army commission certificate, 1918
		9	Post card from France, 1918
		10	FHJ identification and registration cards, 1930-1959
		11	Santo Domingo immigration and tourism documents, ca. 1934-1935
		12	Post cards and holiday cards from the Caribbean, undated
		13	FHJ's pocket notebooks, 1933-1955
		14	FHJ's diary, Salsburg Sugar Factory, 1937-1958

Stack

<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Content (with dates)</u>
		15	Loose diary items, undated
		16	Trent L. James subject file, 1962, 1973
		Photographs, ca. 1890-1945, and undated	
2		17	James brothers early years, ca. 1890-1917
		18	Cruikshank Farms and Boyce, La., ca. 1908-1920
		19	FHJ portraits, ca. 1909-1960
		20	Trent L. James portraits, ca. 1909-1963
		21	FHJ military photographs, 1912-1918
		22	Vanangus Sleet James portraits, 1913, 1918
		23	Central Fortuna factory in Puerto Rico, ca. 1916
		24	FHJ family and friends, ca. 1917-1945
		25	FHJ at Watervliet Arsenal (New York), 1918
		26	Clear Creek fishing trip, undated
		27	James family card photographs, undated
		28	Boca Chica sugar refinery in Santo Domingo, undated

Stack

<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Content (with dates)</u>
		29	Unlabeled card photographs, undated
		30	Miscellaneous photographs, undated
	3		Unlabeled tintypes (15 total), undated
			Oversized Items, ca. 1908-1930, undated
OS:J		1	Trent L. James fraternity signs, undated
			Photographic print of Jesse Mary Broadwell James portrait, undated
			LSU football team photograph, 1908
			New York Freemason certificate, 1918
			LSU Alumni federation membership certificate, 1930
			25 th Anniversary Freemason certificate, 1937