

**PUGH (THOMAS AND FAMILY) PAPERS**  
(Mss. #4437)  
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

2009

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**SUMMARY**

<b>Size</b>	0.3 linear feet
<b>Geographic Locations</b>	Louisiana
<b>Inclusive Dates</b>	1832-1946
<b>Bulk Dates</b>	1852-1882
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Summary</b>	Correspondence, legal documents, photographs, certificates and diplomas related to the succession of Thomas Pugh, a sugar planter from Madewood Plantation on Bayou Lafourche, La., as well as the personal affairs of the Pugh and related Ballard, Vance and Barton families.
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	None
<b>Reproduction Note</b>	May be reproduced.
<b>Copyright</b>	Physical rights and copyright are retained by the LSU Libraries.
<b>Related Collections</b>	Pugh (Alexander F.) Papers Mss. 354 Pugh (Whitmell Hill) Papers, Mss. 540 Pugh-Williams-Mayes Family Papers, Mss. 730, 733, 741, 1208 Pugh (William W. and Family) Plantation Records, Mss. 740, 753 Pugh (Thomas) Succession Document, Mss. 779 Pugh (Whitmell Hill) Papers, Mss. 810 Pugh (Mrs. Mary W.) Papers, Mss. 897, 1055 Pugh (Francis and William) Papers, Mss. 1077 Pugh (Mrs. W.W., Jr.) Civil War Account, Mss. 1756 Pugh (Col. W.W. and Family) Papers, Mss. 2052, 2113, 2160 Josephine Nicholls Pugh Civil War account and biographical sketch, Mss. 2618 Pugh Family Genealogical Records, Mss. 2747 Pugh (W.W.) Letters, Mss. 3578 Pugh (Josephine Nicholls) Family Papers, Mss. 4275 Pugh (George W.) Collection, Mss. 4750
<b>Citation</b>	Thomas Pugh and Family Papers, Mss. #4437, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack Locations</b>	U:217, OS:P

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Thomas Pugh was born on July 4, 1796, in Bertie County, N.C., to parents William Scott Pugh and Elizabeth Bryan Pugh. Along with his half-brothers Whitmell Hill and Augustin, he moved to Louisiana in 1818 and settled on Bayou Lafourche, near Napoleonville, La., in 1820. Pugh married Eliza Catherine Foley (1806-1885), the daughter of John Edward Foley and Alice Long Shaw, in 1825. The couple had sixteen children of which nine survived to adulthood: Edward Foley (1827-1870), David Bryan (1828-1886), Walter John (1829-1888), Alice Elizabeth [McCormick] (1831-1901), Robert Augustin (1833-1887), Mary Whitmell [Ballard] (1836-1874), Richard Lloyd (1837-1885), Elizabeth Bryan [Ratliff] (1839-1917), and Frances "Fannie" Estelle [Beattie] (1847-1923). Pugh worked as a sugar cane planter and built Madewood Plantation, which was completed about 1848. He died on October 31, 1852, at the age of fifty-six.

Mary Whitmell Pugh married Dr. William Ballard in 1856. Their daughter Sidney Ballard married William Washington Vance while their granddaughter Alice Shaw Vance married Geoffrey Alan Barton.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The Thomas Pugh and Family Papers consist of correspondence, legal documents, photographs, certificates and diplomas related principally to the personal affairs of the Pugh, Ballard, Vance and Barton families.

Several documents pertain to the succession of Thomas Pugh. An inventory of Pugh's property completed soon after his death (Nov. 29, 1852) and a later summary (ca. 1858) provide detailed information on his land holdings, slaves, animals, tools and crops, primarily at Madewood Plantation. Two summaries (ca. 1858, ca. 1861) of the succession include additional information on the settling of the estate among Eliza Foley Pugh and her children. The individual accounts of the children from the estate are also available (1853-1866).

The photographs depict members of the Pugh, Ballard, Vance and Barton families, including Thomas and Eliza Foley Pugh, their daughters Elizabeth Pugh Ratliff and Mary Whitmell Pugh Ballard, and granddaughter Sidney Ballard Vance (all undated). Photographs of Dr. Benjamin Ballard, Mary's father-in-law, and Madewood Plantation are also included (undated). Some of the photographs feature unidentified individuals within these families (undated).

The correspondence consists of three letters from Walter Pugh to his mother's lawyer and future governor of Louisiana, Francis T. Nicholls, on the issue of settling his portion of his father's estate (1869). Other items of interest include Benjamin Ballard's sale of Hopewell Plantation and its slaves in Caldwell Parish, La. (Feb. 11, 1857), a remembrance of Thomas Pugh (undated), the succession of Robert Pugh (Dec. 27, 1947), and the bar certificate of William W. Vance (1877).

The oversize folder consists of diplomas and certificates of members of the Vance family, including the commission of William W. Vance into the "Independent Rifles" of the Volunteer State Troops signed by Wade Hampton, the governor of South Carolina (July 2, 1877).

**INDEX TERMS**

Ballard family.  
Ballard, Benjamin.  
Ballard, Mary Pugh, 1836-1874.  
Barton family.  
Certificates.  
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Diplomas.  
Hampton, Wade, 1818-1902.  
Hopewell Plantation (La.)  
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Pugh, Eliza Foley, 1806-1885.  
Pugh, Robert, d. 1947.  
Pugh, Thomas, 1796-1852.  
Pugh, Walter, 1829-1888.  
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Vance family.  
Vance, Sidney Ballard.  
Vance, William W.

**CONTAINER LIST**

<u>Stack</u>			
<u>Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folders</u>	<u>Contents</u>
U:217	1	1-3	Thomas Pugh Succession (1852-1868, undated)
		4	Children's Accounts from Thomas Pugh Succession (1853-1866)
		5	Benjamin Ballard's Sale of Hopewell Plantation (1857)
		6	Correspondence (1868-1928)
		7	William W. Vance Bar Certificate, Thomas Pugh Remembrance (1871, undated)
		8	Succession of Robert Pugh, Unidentified Inventory (1946, undated)
		9	Thomas Pugh and Eliza Foley Pugh Photographs (undated)
		10	Arnie Pugh, Elizabeth Pugh Ratliff, and Alice Photographs (undated)
		11-12	Mary Whitmell Pugh Ballard Photographs (undated)
		13	Dr. Benjamin Ballard Photographs (undated)
		14	Sidney Ballard Vance Photographs (undated)
		15	Madewood Plantation, Christ Church, Napoleonville, La. (undated)
		16	Stuart Shaw Portrait (undated)
		17	Unidentified Individuals Photographs (undated)
		18	Unidentified Groups Photographs (undated)
OS:P		1	Vance Family Certificates and Diplomas (1832-1882, undated)