H. B. Derrick papers finding aid

Title: H. B. Derrick papers
Collection No: MSS.0194
Extent: 0.3 cubic feet
Inclusive Dates: 1907-1940

Abstract: The H. B. Derrick papers contains materials from the early 1900s, belonging to the Derrick family and related to cotton farming in Marianna, Arkansas; including periodicals, advertisements, business papers, receipts, letters, insurance policies, and inventory books.

Access: Open to all researchers.
Language: English
Preferred Citation: H. B. Derrick papers, Special Collections Department, University Libraries, University of Memphis

Publication date: 2023 May
Biographical Information

Henry Bradford Derrick, Jr., was born on September 30, 1852, in Alabama and relocated with his father to Arkansas in 1859. There he grew to adulthood and received his education in the local schools. He first engaged in tilling the soil but was later employed as a store clerk. Eventually, he opened a livery business in Marianna, Arkansas in December 1873, and was successful at this until a snowstorm came and crushed in his stable. He then rebuilt and in 1876, as misfortune seemed to cling to him, his stable was destroyed by fire, sustaining a loss of about $1,500. In 1883, the stable was again destroyed by fire with a loss much heavier than before.

In the 1883 fire, eight to ten horses were killed, a number of buggies and wagons destroyed, and had there not been a rainstorm shortly before the fire, the entire business section of Marianna could have been lost. In addition, the photographic studio of a Professor Vess, which was located near the livery stable, was destroyed. Derrick again engaged in the business, built a brick barn, and ended up having a successful livery business. He also had a cotton farm of three hundred acres and was one of the most practical businessmen of the county.

Derrick was married first in 1876 to Ella Campbell, who died in 1884, and they had children together. Derrick afterward married Emma Longley in 1886 and they had seven children together. Derrick died in 1928 and Emma in 1932, and both are buried in Cedar Heights Cemetery in Marianna, Arkansas.

Scope and contents

The H. B. Derrick papers contains materials from the early 1900s, belonging to the Derrick family and related to cotton farming in Marianna, Arkansas; including six folders of periodicals, advertisements, business papers, receipts, letters, and insurance policies. It also includes a folder containing two stock of goods inventory books belonging to Derrick from 1921-1929. In addition, there is one oversized Marianna, Arkansas, newspaper from 1924.

Subject terms

Businessmen.
Cotton industry.
Farming--Arkansas
Lee County (Ark.)
Liveryman
Marianna (Ark.)

Inventory

Box 1
Folder

1 Periodicals

2 Advertisements
4) Mailer pamphlet: “Another mail salesman showing Beacon Blankets,” Beacon Manufacturing Co., New Bedford, Massachusetts, 1929, has two blanket fabric samples inside.
6) Pamphlet: “Great Western Tours-DeLuxe, via Canadian Rockies, or Panama Canal to the Pacific Coast,” Elliott Tours, undated.
7) Pamphlet: “Special University Tours,” Elliott Tours, Talladega, Alabama, 1929.

3 Advertisements
1) Cotton industry sales advertisements regarding cotton sacks, farming equipment, roof seal, sugar, coal, and seeds, 1928-1929, (24).

4 Stock Inventory Books
1) Inventory of stock, No. 2, 1921-1926.
2) Inventory of stock, 1926-1929.

5 Business Papers

6 Grocery Receipts and Credit Identification Cards

7 Insurance Policies and Business Letters


2) Pamphlet: “Information for the Worker, Unemployment Insurance,” Employment Services Division, Arkansas Department of Labor, undated.

3) Letters:

1 from Homer E. Minor “The Boy in the Chair” and “The Magazine Bargain Boy”, a magazine salesman, about bargain magazine offers, Plainview, Texas, to Miss Macon Derrick, Marianna Arkansas, 1929.


1 from E. S. Manley, Carnesville, Georgia, about big boll cotton seeds for sale, to H. B. Derrick, Marianna, Arkansas, 1929.