



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives

**ROBERT T. QUARLES, JR.
PAPERS, 1937-1962**

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:

Quarles, Robert T. (Robert Thomas) Jr., 1891-1968

Inclusive Dates:

1937-1962

Scope & Content:

The Robert T. Quarles Jr. Papers span the period 1937-1962. The collection consists of correspondence, receipts, photographs, an account book, a daily planner, an address book, invitations, greeting cards, event tickets, and various notes. The correspondence concerns Quarles and his retirement, friends visiting from out of town, and family matters. The receipts regard furniture, clothing, and flower arrangements. Some of the photographs depict General Clifton B. Cates of the U. S. Marine Corps at the Armed Forces Day parade in Nashville, Tennessee; the remaining photographs are unidentified. The personal account book and daily planner are dated 1944 and 1945, respectively. The invitations are to events such as the Nashville Children's Museum Association, the Sam Davis Memorial, and the Confederate Historical Society of Nashville. The greeting cards are for Quarles's birthday and Christmas. The membership cards are for the Boy Scouts of America, the Old Hickory Masonic Lodge, and the Education Association. The event tickets are to Tennessee Industrial School, American Legion, and a play at the Maxwell House Hotel. Lastly, Quarles's research notes concern muster rolls, Civil War maps, James K. Polk, and agriculture and trade in Tennessee.

Physical Description/Extent:

.5 cubic feet

Accession/Record Group Number:

Ac. No. THS 427

Language:

English

Permanent Location:

THS III-B-4
Mf. 1984

Repository:

Tennessee State Library and Archives, 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee,
37243-0312

Administrative/Biographical History

Robert T. Quarles Jr., was born ca. 1891 to Robert Thomas Quarles and Flora Hoodenyl Quarles of Nashville, Davidson County, Tennessee. Around 1909, Quarles became a member of the Tennessee Historical Society (THS). In 1942, he was elected Recording Secretary of THS and served in that position until 1957. That year he was elected President and held the office until 1959. After his term ended, Quarles returned as Recording Secretary and served from 1959 to 1966. In 1966, he was elected the first life member of the Tennessee Historical Society and made Secretary Emeritus.

Quarles's dedicated work at the Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA) is of special importance; he began working there in 1914 under his father. At that time the library and archives were separate entities. Like his father, Quarles Jr. served as Director of the Archives Division, his tenure lasting from 1949 to 1961. Because of the advocacy of State Librarian Dr. Dan Robison, former Gov. Gordon Browning, and Robert T. Quarles Jr., the legislature funded a new State Library and Archives building that opened in 1953. The state records that Quarles oversaw were then moved from the basement of the War Memorial Building to the modern structure still located 403 Seventh Avenue South. There they were united with the holdings of the old State Library.

Robert T. Quarles Jr. died September 8, 1968, in Davidson County, Tennessee.

Sources: *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Vol. 27 (Winter 1968), p. 409
The Nashville Tennessean, September 10, 1968
The Nashville Banner, June 30, 1961

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

The arrangement of the collection is alphabetical.

Conditions of Access and Use

Restrictions on Access:

No restrictions

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

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Index Terms

Personal Names:

Cates, Clifton B. (Clifton Bledsoe), 1893-1970
Coffey family
Davis, Sam, 1842-1863
Polk, James K. (James Knox), 1796-1849
Quarles, Robert T. (Robert Thomas), Jr., 1891-1968

Corporate Names/Organizations/Government Bodies:

Confederate Historical Society (Nashville, Tenn.)
Boy Scouts of America
Education Association (Nashville, Tenn.)
Nashville Children's Museum Association
Sam Davis Memorial (Nashville, Tenn.)
Tennessee Historical Society
Tennessee State Library and Archives
Tennessee. General Assembly

Subjects:

Agriculture -- Tennessee
Freemasonry
Genealogy
Maps
Museums
Nonprofit organizations
Tennessee -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
Trade -- Tennessee

Geographic Names:

Nashville (Tenn.)

Document Types:

Account books
Address books
Appointment books
Clippings (information artifacts)
Correspondence
Invitations
Maps
Membership cards
Photographs
Programs
Receipts (financial records)
Research notes
Ticket stubs

Acquisition and Appraisal**Provenance and Acquisition:**

This collection was donated by Robert T. Quarles Jr. of Nashville, Tennessee.

Processing and Administrative Information**Preferred Citation:**

Robert T. Quarles Jr. Papers, 1937-1962, Tennessee State Library and Archives

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Kimberly Mills and was completed on June 2, 2010. Items that related personally to Quarles were pulled from the THS Office Files and added to this collection.

DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

CONTAINER LIST

Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Folder
Account books	1944	1	1
Address books	n.d.	1	2
Correspondence -- Allen -- Taylor	1951-1962	1	3
Correspondence -- Unknown	1948-1962	1	4
Daily planner	1945	1	5
Event tickets	1948	1	6
Greeting cards	1945-1962	1	7
Invitations	1945-1961	1	8
Membership cards	1945-1948	1	9
Newspaper clippings	1942	1	10
Notes -- Civil Department	n.d.	1	11
Notes -- Civil War maps	n.d.	1	12
Notes -- Genealogy -- Coffee family	n.d.	1	13
Notes -- James K. Polk	n.d.	1	14
Notes -- Muster rolls	n.d.	1	15
Notes -- Tennessee agriculture and trade	n.d.	1	16
Notes -- Tennessee General Assembly	n.d.	1	17
Photographs -- Gen. Clifton B. Cates	n.d.	1	18
Photographs -- Unidentified	n.d.	1	19
Programs	1937, 1960	1	20
Receipts	1947-1962	1	21