



**Martin-Boyd family papers, 1737-1952**  
**SCHS 434.00**

**Description:** 3.25 linear ft.

**Scope and content:** This collection includes property records dating from 1737 to 1910, all of which pertain to land in Williamsburg County (S.C.) on or near the Black River.

Correspondence (1846-1933) includes two letters (1855) addressed to "Dear Cousin." One is from W. W. Morris in Dangerfield (Texas). A later letter (1869) from M. L. Morris in Marion County (Texas) to "Dear Mother," mainly concerns family matters.

Also included are slave records pertaining to individuals in Sumter and Williamsburg districts; waybills; a formula for coal tar soap; tax receipts (1862-1879); a copy of the will (undated) of Robert W. Morris; and the will (1888) of Sam Williams of Pen Township in Williamsburg County. Slave records include a deed of trust for a slave girl deeded to Jeremiah Pitts by John Pitts of Sumter District.

Norton family papers (1824-1877) include a bill of sale for six slaves (named) and other property, sold by Allen Norton of Kingstree to Burrel Norton; the will (1862) of Burrel Norton of Williamsburg District; and a conveyance (1858) of 150 acres, deeded by John F. Brockington of Williamsburg District to Samuel Norton.

Martin family papers include an estate inventory (ca. 1810?) of Zechariah Martin; papers of Matthew L. Martin, mostly estate records (receipts), but also slave bills of sale; and papers of John James Martin, Jane E. Martin, and Daniel Z. Martin.

Papers (1854-1908) of Daniel Z. Martin include correspondence, legal and financial documents, property records, and tax receipts. Correspondence includes a letter (1854) to Martin from a cousin in Harrison (Texas) about conditions there; a wartime letter (July 1863) from Martin at Camp Jackson ("near Cat Island") to his mother; and a printed invitation (1876) to commencement ceremonies at Cherry Hill Academy. Also included is a plat (1891) of 100 acres in Williamsburg County; and a legal notice (1884) to J. S. Newton from D. Z. Martin, trial justice, distraining Newton's property in turpentine products for the payment of a debt. Estate records (1908) consist of an inventory of items sold by executors, including furniture and bee hives; and two oversize plats (1910) of property in Williamsburg County.

Papers (1854-1864) of John James Martin include receipts for purchases made on his behalf by his guardian James M. Boyd; and a letter (1857) to Martin from S. D. McGill, who mentions the Tisdale family and the "dull, unchanging pine forest." Two wartime letters (1864) are from Martin on John's Island (S.C.) and concern military actions and conditions on John's Island and other sea islands in the area. In a letter dated Feb. 28, Martin observes that there is in the Confederate Army "no disposition to give up the struggle" and writes of five deserters who "came to our lines a few days ago. They said they were forced into the army and that numbers of the Yankees are anxious to get to our lines. They were all Irishmen."

Boyd family papers chiefly consist of papers of James M. Boyd and Martin L. Boyd. Papers (ca. 1816-1861?) of James Malcolmson Boyd include a school exercise book (ca. 1816) containing mathematical exercises as well as explanations of the denominations of various weights and measures including "Federal Coin," "Troy Weight," "Avoirdupois Weight," "Apothecaries Weight," "Land Measure," "Cloth Measure," "Wine Measure," and "Dry Measure." The book also includes a few later entries dating in the 1840s. Other papers of James M. Boyd include a bill of sale (1849) for two slave women (named), sold by V. Richardson to Boyd; financial records, one of which is a bill of sale (1854) for the purchase of various items such as groceries, clothing, and cloth; and estate records, including receipts and an appraisal of slaves and other property belonging to the estate of James M. Boyd.

Papers (1885-1934) of Martin L. Boyd include correspondence; a ledger (1908-1909) containing accounts for the estate of D. Z. Martin; a check stub book (1885); and church offering envelopes (1934?).

Miscellaneous papers of the Boyd family include an affidavit (1794) of Mary Boyd concerning her marriage to Charles Boyd (taken at Lawrence Town, County of Downe, Ireland); a statement (1850) signed by relatives of James M. Boyd (including S. S. Boyd, R. W. Boyd, Charles Boyd, and Agnes S. Boyd, and witnessed by Daniel Kirton) concerning their share of his estate; a bill (1867) for medical services rendered by Thomas S. Steele in 1865-1866, billed to the estate of Eliza Boyd; tax receipts; and a conveyance (1881) of land in Williamsburg County, sold by Robert W. Boyd to George Williams. Other family names mentioned include those of Tisdale and Kirton.

**Preferred citation:** Martin-Boyd family papers, 1737-1952. (434.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

**Search terms:**

- Morris, Robert W.
- Norton, Burrel.
- Morris family.
- Norton family.
- Pitts family.
- Families -- Texas.
- Land tenure -- South Carolina -- Williamsburg County.
- Slaves -- South Carolina -- Sumter County.
- Slaves -- South Carolina -- Williamsburg County.
- Taxation -- South Carolina -- Williamsburg County.
- Black River Region (S.C.)
- Williamsburg County (S.C.) -- History.
- Letters (correspondence)
- Property records.
- Tax records.
- Waybills.

**Collection overview:**

0434.01 Martin-Boyd and Allied Families Documents  
0434.02 Martin Family Papers  
0434.03 Boyd Family Papers

### **BOX 1**

0434.00 Genealogical notes, etc.

0434.01 Martin-Boyd and Allied Family Documents  
0434.01.01 Williamsburg District and Williamsburg County land records, 1756-1889

0434.01.02-01 Correspondence, 19<sup>th</sup> century  
0434.01.02-02 Correspondence, 20<sup>th</sup> century  
0434.01.03-01 Miscellaneous items: waybills, receipts, etc., 1841-1879  
0434.01.03-02 Misc.: formula for coal tar soap  
0434.01.03-03 Misc.: slave records  
0434.01.03-04 Misc.: tax receipts, 862-1879  
0434.01.03-05 Misc.: wills  
0434.01.03-06 Misc.: printed material, 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century  
0434.01.03-07 Misc.: newspaper, 1952  
0434.01.03-08 Misc.: envelopes, blank forms  
0434.01.04 Norton Family Papers, 1824-1877

0434.02 Martin Family Papers  
0434.02.01 Zachariah Martin estate inventory, ca. 1810?  
0434.02.02 Matthew L. Martin Papers, 1820-1850

### **BOX 2**

0434.02.02 Matthew L. Martin Papers, 1851-1856  
0434.02.03 John James Martin Papers, 1854-1864  
0434.02.04 Jane E. Martin Papers, 1854-1855  
0434.02.05 Daniel Z. Martin Papers, 1854-1908  
0434.02.06 Miscellaneous Martin family papers

0434.03 Boyd Family Papers  
0434.03.01 Samuel S. Boyd Papers, 1851

### **BOX 3**

434.03.02 James Malcomson Boyd Papers, ca. 1816-1859  
434.03.03 Martin L. Boyd Papers, 1885-ca. 1934  
434.03.04-01 Miscellaneous Boyd family papers, 18<sup>th</sup> century

**OVERSIZE ITEMS**

(Located in map room)

1737: Deed. Isaac Chauvin, who obtained 300 acres on the Black River from Gov. Robert Johnson, conveys 150 acres to his sons. Includes plat (damaged).

1755: Indenture, between Abraham Michau of Craven County and Lydia his wife, and Moses Miller of Berkeley County, for two tracts of 300 acres on the Black River in Craven County.

1755: Duplicate of above indenture?

1839: Land grant to Thomas Steele, 200 acres in Williamsburg District, on the south side of the Black River.

1910: "Map of 'The Home Tract' of the Estate of D. Z. Martin, situated in Williamsburg County, S.C. Surveyed for Mallard Lumber Co. March 1910, Peter G. Gourdin, surveyor"

1910: Blueprint "Map of the 'Green Tract' of the Estate of D. Z. Martin situated in Williamsburg Co., S.C. surveyed for Mallard Lumber Co. March 1910, Peter G. Gourdin, surveyor"