



**Ravenel family papers, 1826-1980**  
**SCHS 217.00**

**Creator:** Ravenel family

**Description:** 3 linear ft.

**Biographical/historical note:** Family of South Carolina and Georgia. Thomas Porcher Ravenel (1824-1898), a plantation owner of Berkeley County, S.C., was the father of Thomas P. Ravenel, Jr. (1850-1936), who moved to Savannah, Ga. and practiced law there. Thomas P. Ravenel, Jr. married Emily Howard (d. 1899), granddaughter of Rev. Charles Wallace Howard (1810-1876), and their daughter Mary Wallace Ravenel (b. 1898) married Thomas Heyward Gignilliat (1897-1988), a Savannah attorney, historian, and community leader.

**Scope and content:** Papers consist of correspondence, financial and estate records, property records, genealogical material, clippings, legal documents, and other items pertaining to the families of Ravenel, Gignilliat, and Howard. Included are papers of William L. Gignilliat, Thomas H. Gignilliat, Sr., Thomas P. Ravenel, and Emily G. Ravenel, and correspondence of Florence S. Gignilliat.

Ravenel family correspondence (1848-1980; bulk 1880-1919) includes a typewritten transcription of a letter (1856) from Henry W. Ravenel to his father Dr. Henry Ravenel of Pooshee Plantation (S.C.) on the occasion of the latter's birthday; letters and postcards to Miss M. Deas Ravenel (1880s-1890s) regarding personal and family matters; a letter (1906) to Miss E.P. Ravenel from Samuel W. Ravenel concerning a Confederate flag raised at Woodboo Plantation; and a letter (1919) to Mr. W. deC. Ravenel from Thomas E. Winecoff concerning the wartime heroism and death of Captain Theodore D. Ravenel, Jr.

Miscellaneous items include papers concerning Emma Davis Campbell, a black housekeeper for the Thomas P. Ravenel household in Savannah.

**Preferred citation:** Ravenel Family. Ravenel family papers, 1826-1980. (217.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

**Search terms:**

Campbell, Emma Davis.  
Gignilliat, Florence Sanborn, 1855-1939.  
Gignilliat, Thomas Heyward, 1863-1911.  
Gignilliat, William LeSerurier, 1861-1930.  
Ravenel, Thomas Porcher, 1850-1936.  
Gignilliat family.  
Howard family.

Ravenel family.  
African American women -- Georgia -- Savannah.  
Household employees -- Georgia -- Savannah.  
Georgia -- Genealogy.  
Georgia -- History.  
Savannah (Ga.)  
South Carolina -- Genealogy.  
South Carolina -- History.  
Woodboo Plantation (S.C.)  
Clippings.  
Estate records.  
Financial records.  
Genealogies.  
Legal documents.  
Letters (correspondence)  
Property records.

**Series Outline:**

- 217.01 Ravenel Family Papers
- 217.02 Papers of Individual Ravenel Family Members
  - 217.02.01 Thomas P. Ravenel, Jr. Papers
  - 217.02.02 Emily G. Ravenel Papers
- 217.03 Papers of Related Families
  - 217.03.01 Gignilliat Family Papers
    - 217.03.01.01 William Robert Gignilliat Papers
    - 217.03.01.02 William LeSerurier Gignilliat Papers
    - 217.03.01.03 Thomas Heyward Gignilliat Papers
    - 217.03.01.04 Florence Sanborn Gignilliat Correspondence
  - 217.03.02 Howard Family Papers

**Container listing:**

BOX 1

*217.01 Ravenel Family Papers*

- 217.01 (C) 01 Ravenel family correspondence, 1848-1980, n.d.
- 217.01 (E) 01 Ravenel family estate records, 1869-1891.
- 217.01 (F) 01 Financial records: 1859-1910.
- 217.01 (G) 01 Genealogical materials, 1886-1928, n.d.
- 217.01 (M) 01-01 Clippings (photocopies).
- 217.01 (M) 01-02 Clippings (newspapers), 1826-1891
- 217.01 (M) 01-03 Miscellaneous items: pamphlet on Woodboo Plantation, 1957; will of Robert Wilson Mazyck, 1840; travel diary, 1908 ("trip through Spain").
- 217.01 (M) 01-04 Papers (ca. 1900-1928, n.d.) pertaining to Emma Davis Campbell (family servant of Thomas P. Ravenel, Jr.), including an obituary, photograph, bank book, and a certificate of marriage.

- 217.01 (P) 01-01 Property records: conveyances, 1852-1906 (Grahamville and Pinopolis properties).
- 217.01 (P) 01-02 Mortgages, 1854-1887 (Woodboo and Fairspring plantations).
- 217.01 (P) 01-03 Plats and property description, [1865]-1889

*217.02.01 Thomas P. Ravenel Papers*

- 217.02.01 (C) 01 (1887-1904) Correspondence, 1887-1904.
- 217.02.01 (C) 01 (1908-1931) Correspondence, 1908-1931.
- 217.02.01 (F) 01 Financial records, 1873-1932.
- 217.02.01 (M) 01 Miscellaneous items: calling cards, list of silverware, law partnership agreement, rental agreement (Thomas P. Ravenel, Sr.) for land on Woodboo Plantation, 1897; a lien on crop (Woodboo and Indianfield plantations), 1887; and a plat, n.d., of "dividing line between Ophir and White Hall."
- 217.02.01 (P) 01 Property records (1883-1905).
- 217.01.01 (S) 01 Scrapbook, ca. 1880-1920 (old docket book, ca. 1850s-1860s, used as a scrapbook). This item is a wrapped bound volume.
- 217.01.01 (S) 01-01 Clippings (photocopies) removed from Thomas P. Ravenel scrapbook, 1920s-1930s.
- 217.02.01 (S) 01-02 Miscellaneous items (1912-1926, n.d.) removed from Thomas P. Ravenel scrapbook, including postcards, map, photographs, and certificate.

**BOX 2**

*217.02.02 Emily G. Ravenel Papers*

- 217.02.02 (C) 01 (1934-1980) Correspondence, 1934-1940; 1980.
- 217.02.02 (C) 01 (n.d.) Correspondence, n.d.
- 217.02.02 (C) 02 Postcards, 1939-1940.
- 217.02.02 (C) 03-01 Clippings
- 217.02.02 (C) 03-02 Clippings re: Santee-Cooper, 1920s-1930s.
- 217.02.02 (M) 01-01 Miscellaneous items, including Camp As-You-Like-It materials .
- 217.02.02 (M) 01-02 Miscellaneous items: material re eminent domain.

*217.03.01 Gignilliat Family Papers*

- 217.03.01 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1878-1976, n.d.
- 217.03.01 (C) 02 Telegrams regarding the last illness and death of Thomas Heyward Gignilliat, 1911.
- 217.03.01 (C) 03 Congratulatory telegrams to Thomas H. Gignilliat, Jr. and bride, 1926.
- 217.03.01 (C) 04 Greeting cards.
- 217.03.01 (G) 01 Genealogical papers.
- 217.03.01 (L) 01 Legal documents, 1886-1912.
- 217.03.01 (M) 01 Miscellaneous items, 1867-1975, including a program (1867) for a concert at Kingston, Ga.; a commemorative ribbon (1930) for a reunion of 1st Ga. U.S.W.V; travel pamphlets; etc.

- 217.03.01.01 William Robert Gignilliat Papers
- 217.03.01.01 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1874-1885.
- 217.03.01.01 (E) 01 Estate records, 1885-1889.
- 217.03.01.01 (F) 01 Financial records, 1881-1884, n.d.
- 217.03.01.01 (L) 01 Legal documents, 1867-1884.
- 217.03.01.01 (P) 01 Property records: deed, 1874, for land in McIntosh County, Ga.

**BOX 3**

- 217.03.01.02 William LeSerurier Gignilliat Papers
- 217.03.01.02 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1872-1907.
- 217.03.01.02 (C) 02-01 Correspondence regarding illness and death of Thomas Heyward Gignilliat, June-July 1911.
- 217.03.01.02 (C) 02-02 Correspondence regarding death and estate of Thomas H. Gignilliat, July-Dec. 1911.
- 217.03.01.02 (C) 03 Correspondence, n.d.
- 217.03.01.02 (M) 01 Miscellaneous items: notebook and plat, ca. 1880s.

*217.03.01.03 Thomas Heyward Gignilliat Papers*

- 217.03.01.03 (C) 01 (1898-1904) Correspondence, 1898-1904.
- 217.03.01.03 (C) 01 (1905-1911) Correspondence, 1905-1908; 1911; n.d.
- 217.03.01.03 (F) 01 Financial records, 1908.
- 217.03.01.03 (M) 01-01 Military and professional papers: naval academy civil engineering exam, 189\_.
- 217.03.01.03 (M) 01-02 Military orders, and military and professional record, 1898, n.d.
- 217.03.01.03 (M) 01-03 Papers pertaining to the naval academy, 1900, n.d.
- 217.03.01.03 (M) 01-04 Papers pertaining to Fort Moultrie Military Reservation extension, n.d.
- 217.03.01.03 (M) 01-05 Competition plan for Savannah city hall, 1903.
- 217.03.01.03 (M) 02-01 Specifications for flying machines; related photographs; 1890s-1907.
- 217.03.01.03 (M) 02-02 Notes and drawings concerning flying machines.

*217.03.01.04 Florence Sanborn Gignilliat Correspondence*

- 217.03.01.04-01 Chiefly letters from son Thomas, 1912-1913, n.d.
- 217.03.01.04-02 Letters from Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Gignilliat, Jr., 1929.
- 217.03.01.04-03 Chiefly letters from Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Gignilliat, Jr., 1930.
- 217.03.01.04-04 Postcards, 1929.

**BOX 4**

*217.03.02 Howard Family Papers*

- 217.03.02 (C) 01 (1845-1870) Correspondence, 1845-1870.
- 217.03.02 (C) 01 (1877-1899) Correspondence, 1877-1899.
- 217.03.02 (C) 01 (1900-1909) Correspondence, 1900-1909.
- 217.03.02 (C) 01 (1910-1934) Correspondence, 1910-1934.
- 217.03.02 (C) 01 (n.d.) Correspondence, no date.
- 217.03.02 (E) 01 Estate records, 1878-1930.

217.03.02 (F) 01-01 Financial records: mortgages, 1876-1898.  
217.03.02 (F) 01-02 Financial records: tax receipts, bills, etc., 1868-1923.  
217.03.02 (F) 02-01 Financial records: insurance records, 1883-1923.  
217.03.02 (F) 02-02 Financial records: insurance policies, 1882-1907, on farm in  
Bartow Co., Ga.

BOX 5

217.03.02 (G) 01 Genealogical materials.  
217.03.02 (L) 01-01 Legal documents.  
217.03.02 (L) 01-02 Legal documents: indentures.  
217.03.02 (M) 01 Military records, 1862.  
217.03.02 (M) 02-01 Miscellaneous items.  
217.03.02 (M) 02-02 Miscellaneous items.  
217.03.02 (M) 02-03 Miscellaneous items.  
217.03.02 (P) 01-01 Printed material: clippings, 1892-1906; n.d.  
217.03.02 (P) 01-02 Printed material: pamphlet, In Memoriam, Rev. C.W. Howard, 1877.  
217.03.02 (W) 01-01 Writings: lecture (typescript, n.d.) by Rev. C.W. Howard delivered before  
the YMCA of Augusta, Ga., Jan. 1860.  
217.03.02 (W) 01-02 Writings: galley proof of article (n.d.) by Charles Wallace Howard  
concerning chemical manures.