



**Magrath family papers, 1865-1956**  
**SCHS 1072.00**  
**Container 11/291**

**Creator:** Magrath, Marie G.

**Description:** Ca. 100 items.

**Biographical/Historical Note:** Daughter of William Joy Magrath, a native of Charleston, S.C. who was the president of the South Carolina Railroad from 1862 to 1878. In 1871 he married Selina Emily Bollin, daughter of Charles J. Bollin of Columbia, S.C. William J. Magrath's brother, A.G. Magrath, was elected governor of South Carolina in 1864. The South Carolina Railroad was reorganized in 1881 as the South Carolina Railway Company.

**Scope and Content:** Papers consist of correspondence, genealogical information, and other items. Most of these papers are transcriptions of original documents.

Typewritten transcriptions of correspondence (1865-1889) includes a letter (1865 March 18) from William J. Magrath to his brother Governor A.G. Magrath mainly concerning the destruction of the railroads in Columbia (S.C.) wrought by General Sherman's army; a letter (1878) from William J. Magrath to his wife concerning family matters and litigation regarding the South Carolina Railroad; letters (1876-1889) to W.J. Magrath concerning the South Carolina Railroad and his service to it; letters (1865 Nov.) from A.G. Magrath, a prisoner at Fort Pulaski (Ga.), to his brother William J. Magrath, concerning prison conditions and family matters, and to W.H. Seward and President Andrew Johnson, concerning parole for Magrath and other matters.

Other items include a typewritten transcription of a tribute (1880) to Theodore D. Wagner by W.J. Magrath; biographical sketches of William J. Magrath; handwritten transcriptions excerpts from reports of the South Carolina Railroad (1864-1873); and Selina Bollin Magrath's reminiscences (1932-1934) about the Ursuline Convent in Columbia (S.C.), her family, life in Columbia (S.C.), and the burning of the city in 1865. Genealogical information includes notes on John Magrath, father of W.J. and A.G. Magrath, and other Magrath family members, as well as typewritten transcriptions of family Bible entries.

**Preferred Citation:** Magrath, Marie G., comp. Magrath family papers, 1865-1956 (bulk 1950s). (1072.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

**Search terms:**

Magrath, A. G. (Andrew Gordon), 1813-1893.

Magrath, John, 1778-1856.

Magrath, Selina Bollin.

Magrath, William Joy, 1817-1902.

McGrath family.  
Ladies' Ursuline Community (Columbia, S.C.)  
South Carolina. Governor (1865-1865 : Magrath)  
South Carolina Railroad -- Records and correspondence.  
South Carolina Railway Company.  
Railroads -- South Carolina.  
Columbia (S.C.) -- History -- Burning, 1865.  
Fort Pulaski (Ga.)  
South Carolina -- History.  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Destruction and pillage.  
Genealogies.  
Letters (correspondence)  
Reminiscences.

**Container list:**

**11/291/1-2 Magrath, William J. 1817-1902**

**Papers, 1865-ca. 1875. Approx. 40 items**

SC Railroad Co. president. Typescript of letters, notes, copies of writings (1865-ca.1875) of William J. Magrath regarding South Carolina Railroad Co. business and history, including copies of letters from Gov A.G. Magrath and others. Also biographical information regarding William J. Magrath.

**11/291/3 Magrath, A.G. 1813-1893**

**Letters, 1865. 5 items**

SC Governor. Typescript copies of letters (1865) from A.G. Magrath from Fort Pulaski, GA where he was prisoner to his brother, William J. Magrath regarding prison conditions and family matters; and to William Seward, secretary of state and President Andrew Johnson regarding his reasoning as to why he should be paroled.

**11/291/4-6 Magrath Family, 1860-1952**

**Papers, 1860-1952. Approx. 60 items**

Charleston, Columbia family. Recollections of Marie G. Magrath regarding "An Antebellum Boarding School," The Ursuline Convent, Columbia. Also recollections of Columbia, SC before, during, and after the burning of the city by Selena B. Magrath. Also family history notes.