



SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Tobias Family Papers, 1876-1994 **SCHS#: 0683.00**

Description: 1 linear ft. (3 boxes)

Biographical/Historical note: Augustus L. Tobias (1825-1879), a Charleston businessman, and his wife Sophia St. Amand Tobias (1832-1874), were the parents of Ashley Cowen Tobias (1855-1919), who married Ella Teresa O'Neill (1860-1932). Ashley C. Tobias, Sr. was the father of Ashley C. Tobias, Jr. (1886-1966), and Vernon Wulbern Tobias (1896-1968). Father Edwin Creighton Tobias (1932-1974), a Catholic priest, was the son of Vernon W. Tobias and Emelie A. Commins Tobias (1906-1983).

Scope and content: Collection contains papers of several generations of the Tobias family of Charleston, including papers of Augustus L. Tobias, Ashley C. Tobias, Sr., Ella O'Neill Tobias, Ashley C. Tobias, Jr., Vernon Wulbern Tobias, Emelie Commins Tobias, Edwin Creighton Tobias, and James May Tobias. Family papers include business and financial records, property records, and estate records, with related correspondence. Also included are papers of Rob R. Doss and his wife Eveylin Commins Doss, who owned Ravens Point Plantation. Papers of Father Edwin Creighton Tobias include genealogical correspondence and research. There is also extensive genealogical research relating to the families of Tobias, Commins, Blich, O'Neill, St. Amand, and Wiss. Papers of James May Tobias, who was the son of Vernon W. Tobias, mainly reflect his involvement in a revitalization program for Charleston's eastside, and the establishment of the Charleston Business and Technology Center.

Photographs have been removed to the Visual Materials Collection (0683.00 VM). These photographs mostly depict unidentified persons, presumably members of the Tobias family and related families. The images of identified persons include those of Mrs. Jane Commins, Ashley C. Tobias, James M. Tobias, and Elizabeth Tobias Jenkins (1867-1894). Also included are several photograph albums. One group of photographs reflects the business career of James M. Tobias and includes images of the cigar factory at 701 East Bay Street in Charleston (which became the Charleston Business and Technology Center).

Preferred citation: Tobias family papers, 1876-1994. (0683.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Doss, Rob Roy, 1894-1975.
Tobias, Ashley Cowen, 1855-1919.
Tobias, James May, 1933-2010.
Tobias, Edward Creighton, 1932-1974.
Blitch family.
Cummings family.
O'Neill family.
Saint Amand family.
Tobias family.
Charleston Business and Technology Center
Businessmen -- South Carolina -- Charleston
Urban renewal
Ravens Point Plantation (S.C.)

Container listing:**BOX 1**

- 1 Papers, 1878-1880, of Augustus L. Tobias. Includes estate records.
- 2 Papers, 1894-1932, of Ashley C. Tobias and Ella Teresa O'Neill Tobias. Includes business and financial records, and estate records of Mrs. Tobias.
- 3 Papers, 1876-1919, of Ashley C. Tobias and Ella O'Neill Tobias, including receipts, invoices, and property records.
- 4 Papers, 1924-1941, of Ashley C. Tobias, Jr. Includes estate records, and correspondence with Vernon W. Tobias.
- 5 Papers, 1927-1983, of Vernon Wulbern Tobias and Emelie Commins Tobias, including wills and property records.
- 6 Estate papers, 1917-1968, relating to Arthur O'Neill.
- 7 Estate papers, 1950-1952, relating to Janie E. Commins.
- 8 Papers, 1923-1992, of or relating to Dr. Rob Roy Doss and Eveylin Commins Doss, including military records, and papers pertaining to the sale of Ravens Point Plantation on John's Island, S.C.

BOX 2

- 1 Papers, 1950-1974, of Father Edwin Creighton Tobias.
- 2 Genealogical correspondence and notes, 1970-1972, of Edwin C. Tobias.
- 3 Genealogical information copied from Tobias and O'Neill family Bibles.
- 4 Genealogical research, 1941-2022, relating to the families of Tobias and Blitch.

- 5 Genealogical research, 1896-1971, relating to the families of Tobias, St. Amand, Wiss, and Commins.
- 6 Genealogical research, mostly undated, and including copies of Tobias family documents.
- 7 Genealogical research, mostly printouts of online information about the Tobias family.
- 8 "The Blitch Family in America, 1743-1964."
- 9 Copies of writings, 1959-1971, of or about the Tobias family.
- 10 Miscellaneous items.
- 11 Clipping scrapbook of images of the aftermath of the 1938 tornado in Charleston.

BOX 3

- 1 Papers of James M. Tobias: miscellaneous correspondence, 1961-1981.
- 2 Papers of James M. Tobias: miscellaneous papers, 1949-1985.
- 3 Papers of James M. Tobias: clippings, 1980-1993.
- 4 Papers of James M. Tobias: eastside revitalization papers, 1979-1981.
- 5 Papers of James M. Tobias: papers relating to eastside revitalization and the NAACP, 1979-1991.
- 6 Papers of James M. Tobias: "Eastside Overcoming: An Eastside City Venture" (1980).
- 7 Papers of James M. Tobias: eastside revitalization papers, 1979-1989, mostly correspondence.
- 8 Papers of James M. Tobias: mostly correspondence pertaining to the Charleston Business and Technology Center, 1976-1980.
- 9 Papers of James M. Tobias: records pertaining to the Charleston Business and Technology Center, 1980-1983.
- 10 Papers of James M. Tobias: newspaper business review relating to the dedication of the Charleston Business and Technology Center, 1983.
- 11 Papers of James M. Tobias: contracts, tax records, and other records relating to the Charleston Business and Technology Center, 1975- 1981.
- 12 Papers of James M. Tobias: papers relating to the South Carolina World Trade Center, 1989-1994.
- 13 Papers of James M. Tobias: papers relating to South Carolina (statewide) business and technology centers, 1979-1988.

- 14 Papers of James M. Tobias: papers relating to William C. Norris, 1986-1990.
- 15 Papers of James M. Tobias: papers relating to the State Ports Authority, 1979-1988, including a brief history of the SPA.