

Note: To navigate the sections of this PDF finding aid, click on the Bookmarks tab or the Bookmarks icon  on the left side of the page.

**Mississippi State University Libraries  
Special Collections Department  
Manuscripts Division**

P.O. Box 5408,  
Mississippi State, MS 39762-5408  
Phone: (662) 325-7679  
E-mail: sp\_coll@library.msstate.edu

## **Waverley collection MSS.325**

- Dates:** 1836-1982  
**Extent:** 1 cubic foot  
**Preferred Citation:** Waverley collection, Special Collections Department, Mississippi State University Libraries.  
**Access:** Open to all researchers.  
**Copyright Statement:** Any requests for permission to publish, quote, or reproduce materials from this collection must be submitted in writing to the Manuscripts Librarian for Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of Mississippi State University as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained.  
**Donor:** Loaned for copying by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Snow; Bill and Kitty Galbraith.

### **Scope and Contents**

The collection is a varied assortment of materials connected with the antebellum plantation, Waverley, in Clay County, Mississippi. It consists of early deeds, correspondence that spans the 19th and 20th centuries, ledger books, Civil War material, photographs, and other minutiae documenting life on a large southern estate.

The collection consists primarily of photocopies of material loaned by the Snows. Additional items have been added from various sources and are listed at the end of the description.

## **Administrative History**

Waverley was built in the 1850s by Colonel George Hampton Young on land he acquired after the Chickasaw Cessions. Of Greek Revival style, the mansion was built by traveling artisans using slave labor and native materials. When it was purchased in 1962 by the Robert Snows of Philadelphia, Mississippi, Waverley was still owned by the Young descendants and had been vacant for almost fifty years. The Snows have faithfully restored the mansion and opened it to the public.

## **Series List**

- I. Correspondence, ca. 1830s – 1979.
  - II. Photographs, ca. 1850s - 1970s.
  - III. Genealogical and Waverley Mansion Data.
  - IV. Publications and Printed Material.
  - V. Ledger/Account Books.
  - VI. Legal Documents, Deeds, Business Receipts, etc.
  - VII. “Historic Waverley Plantation Project”.
  - VIII. Fox Hunt Material.
  - IX. Miscellaneous.
- Addition.

## Subject Tracings

### Names:

Edmondson, Belle

Richardson, Luke

Snow, Mr. and Mrs. Robert

Young Family

Young, George Hampton

### Subjects:

Antebellum Homes

Antebellum Letters and Other Material

Architecture

Clay County (Miss.)

Farms and Plantations

Fox Hunt

Photograph

Postal Records

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Waverly

## Calendar

### Series I. Correspondence, circa 1830s-1979.

- Dec. 6, ca.1830s Mrs. Reuben Y. Reynolds, Aberdeen, Miss., to her aunt in Georgia. Typescript copy. (Photocopy. Original in Evans Memorial Library, Aberdeen.)
- June 28, 1855 "My dearest ?" from Mary Hamilton, Mobile.
- Aug. 17, 1855 "My own precious Lue", from ?, Hinds Co., Miss.
- Dec. 18, 1856 My dearest daughters, from George Hampton Young, Waverley. (Photocopy)
- Sept. 4, 1857 My dearest Lue, from George Hampton Young, Waverley. (Photocopy)
- Feb. 17, 1863 Len Hamner to Mother. Typescript copy. (Photocopy. Original in Special Collections Department, University of Memphis.)
- Dec. 21, 1865 Card, Complimentary Masquerade, from Lucy Banks, Georgia, and Belle Edmonson, Tenn.
- May 8, 1869 My dear Lu, unsigned from Columbus, Ga.
- May 17, 1869 Dear Husband, from Sue Chambers, Waverley. (fragment)
- Aug. 31, 1869 Dear Husband from Sue Chambers, Waverley.
- May 15, circa 1870s My dear sister from Woodie J. and Sue C. Waverley.
- circa. 1860s-70s Letter fragments.
- Aug. 5, 1886 G.V. Young from U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- Aug. 27, 1889 Mrs. Woodie P. Carr from C.C. B.
- Jan. 22, 1892 Cousin Woodie from Charles R. Vance, Bristol.
- Mar. 7, 1896 Hon. H. D. Money, from George V. Young.
- Dec. 15, 1909 Capt. W.L. Young, Waverley from S.S. Morrow.
- Nov. 23, 1933 Georgia Dept. of Archives and History, from Mary Betts. (Photocopy)

Nov. 27, 1933 Mary Betts from Georgia Dept. of Archives and History. (Photocopy)

Dec. 12, 1933 Miss Blair, Ga. Dept. of Archives and History from Mary Betts. (Photocopy)

Mar. 28, 1963 Robert Snow from Mary Forrest Bradley.

Feb. 11, 1965 Mrs. Robert Snow from E.F. Yerby, the University of Mississippi

1966 Mrs. Robert Snow from Mrs. A.G. Bennett

June 6, 1967 Mrs. Snow from Reuben Triplett

Dec. 15, 1967 Rober Snow from A.G. Smith, Blacksberg, Va.

Jan. 4, 1968 Robert Snow from A.G. Smith, Blacksberg, Va.

Apr. 26, 1968 Stanley Ingram to Mrs. Snow.

Dec. 13, 1968 John Bell Williams to Mrs. Snow.

Jan. 9, 1969 Carl Butler to Mr. and Mrs. Snow

Jan. 16, 1969 Henry Loeb, Mayor, Memphis, to the Snows.

Feb. 25, 1969 Zeno Yates, Memphis, to the Snows.

Aug. 5, 1969 John Rodabough to the Snows.

Dec. 10, 1969 Alton Arnett to the Snows.

Apr. 9, 1971 M.H. Salmon to the Snows

June 11, 1971 Frank L. Young to the Snows

July 28, 1971 Mary Wallace Crocker to Mrs. Snow

Aug. 14, 1971 Same

Nov. 2, 1971 William R. Crelly, Chairman, Department of the History of Art, Emory University, to Mrs. Snow.

Dec. 1, 1971 Mrs. R. Hoke Smith to Mrs. Snow

June 30, 1972 Cecil R. Stockard to the Snows.

July 10, 1972	William F. Crawford to Mrs. Snow
Dec. 6, 1972	Mrs. O.N. Pruitt to Mrs. Snow
Sept. 2, 1975	Ken Rhineberger to Mrs. Snow
Mar. 31, 1976	James S. Wall to the Snows
Apr. 20, 1976	Edwin F. Cromwell, FAIA, to the Snows
Aug. 10, 1976	Myra J. Mannix to Mrs. Snow
Aug. 11, 1976	Hubert B. Scrivener to Sidney B. Lee (copy to the Snows)
Sept. 13, 1976	J. Joshua Stevens, Jr. to George W. Bryan. (copy to the Snows)
Apr. 13, 1977	Robert Snow to Jack Elliott
Apr. 13, 1977	Jack Elliott to Robert Snow.
Apr. 20, 1977	Edwin B. Cromwell, FAIA, to "Historical Waverley Plantation, Ltd." (copy to the Snows)
Mar. 28, 1979	Yvonne Williams, to "Friends of Historic Preservation" (copy to the Snows)
Sept. 17, 1979	John McKay Sheftall to Mrs. Snow
Undated material:	Francis Thomas to the Snows (small note letter) William Richards to the Snows (letter) Olga Tabaka to Hon. Hubert Humphrey (telegram) John Stennis to the Snows (telegram)

**Series II. Photographs, circa 1850s - 1970s.**

1. Long-distance view of Waverley; "original photo by Joe Sarcone, 1967; enlarged and presented to Waverley by Col. Jim Short, 1968 – Robert Snow"
2. Exterior of Waverley
3. Waverley Cemetery (Pruitt Studio)
4. Exterior of Waverley; ca. 1949; photo by Ralph M. Hudson.

5. Exterior of Waverley; “North elevation of Waverley photographed about 1935. Vacant since 1913 when Captain Billy Young died; (last member of Col. Young’s immediate family) – Robert Snow, Waverley, Nov. 7, 1966.
6. Exterior of Waverley (Pruitt Studio)
7. Exterior of Waverley (Pruitt Studio)
8. Exterior of Waverley (Pruitt Studio)
9. Exterior of Waverley; “South elevation of Waverley about 1935 – Robert Snow, Waverley, Nov. 7, 1966.
10. Exterior of Waverley, 1932
11. Drawing of Waverley Mansion, painted in the early 1930s
12. Exterior of Waverley, photo by Pruitt Studio, Columbus, Miss.
13. Exterior of Waverley; “South elevation of Waverley about 1935 – Robert Snow, Waverley, Nov. 7, 1966.”
14. Interior; “About 1900 at Waverley; Captain William Young in center. Last surviving member of family. Made in Dancing room – Robert Snow.”
15. Interior; fireplace with cross, Waverley (Pruitt Studio)
16. Interior; “View of Waverley entrance about 1935 – Robert Snow, Waverley, Nov. 7, 1966.”
17. Interior; door with ruby glass.
18. Interior (not Waverley); Ca. 1949; “Betts furniture from Waverley.”
19. Interior (Pruitt Studio)
20. Interior (not Waverley); “Betts furniture from Waverley,” ca. 1949
21. Interior showing first floor bedroom. Photo given to Waverley “Dec. 1972, by Mrs. O.N. Pruitt, now 81 years of age. This was taken long before restoration.”
22. Interior, chandelier (Pruitt Studio)
23. Interior, 1949, (not Waverley) “Betts furniture from Waverley.”
24. Interior; “Waverly entrance about 1935. Rosewood piano was still in building and other furniture. Piano now in home of Mrs. Watkins in Jackson, Miss. – Robert

Snow, Waverley, Nov. 7, 1966.” (This piano is now in the home of the Robert Profitts, Columbus, Miss. 1980)

25. Interior (Pruitt Studio)
26. Waverley sign (Gift of Mrs. Snow)
27. Major Val Young, Quartermaster, CSA (Gift of Mrs. Snow)
- (28-30: Photos given to Mrs. Snow by Margaret Ponder Loving, August 7, 1965)
28. “Turn of the Century” picture of two couples on lawn at Waverley
29. “Turn of the Century” picture of a picnic at Waverley
30. “Turn of the Century” picnic at Waverley
31. Major Va. (r.) and Captain Billy (l.) on porch at Waverley, ca. 1900
32. Sue Young Johnson Chambers, copy of daguerreotype, ca. 1850s (2 smaller copies)
33. Sue Young Johnson Chambers, n.d. with great grandchildren.
34. Sue Young Johnson Chambers, n.d.
35. Unidentified woman in barnyard at Waverley, n.d.
36. Unidentified children, “down at the artesian well,” Waverley, n.d.
37. Waverley cotton gin, ca. 1935. “located across the road and directly south of Waverley mansion. Now decayed and bricks sold by Banks estate in 1966” – Robert Snow.
38. Waverley Ferry, showing man in foreground, ca. 1947
39. Waverley Ferry, showing truck and several people. The ferry is in mid-stream. ca. 1947 (4 copies)
40. Waverly Ferry ramp. Man in coveralls in foreground. Ca. 1930s (3 copies)
41. Waverley Ferry ramp. (Same as above, but elongated shot). One large copy, and two small ones.
42. Railroad bridge near Waverley mansion, n.d.
43. Plantation office at Waverley, 1938



44. Plantation office at Waverley, 1949
45. Great octagonal hall at Waverley showing stairway and piano. Ca. 1940
46. Parlor (Drawing room?) at Waverley. "Vandals had cut the fine French drapes for souvenirs"  
– Robert Snow, 11/7/66
47. Large magnolia tree at Waverley, n.d.
48. View from the roof of Waverley by Joe Sarcone, early spring, 1962.
49. Dome area of Waverley, photo by Reuben Tripplett, 1952
50. Dome area. Ca. 1960
51. Series of photographs of Waverley exterior, made by Reuben Tripplett (6 different shots:  
51A-51B) ?
52. Waverley's exterior barely visible above the trees and overgrown shrubs, n.d.
53. Waverley, front view, photo by R. Hudson [?], n.d.
54. Waverley, front view showing broken windows and shutters on roof, n.d.
55. Waverley front view showing overgrown walk up to the porch, n.d.
56. Same as #55, but a closer view.
57. Waverley front view, 2 copies, n.d.
58. Waverley, n.d.
59. Waverley entrance showing bois d'arc benches, n.d.
60. Waverley, front view showing plantation office, n.d.
61. Waverley, "north view," n.d.
62. Waverley showing weeds and pens in yard, n.d.
63. Waverley, close-up of loggias with bois d'arc benches
64. Waverley, north view, n.d.

The following were made after the Snow's restoration:

65. Hall at Waverley showing twin stairs, n.d.
66. Hall showing stairs and antique table with arrangement of flowers, n.d.
67. View towards dome showing three balconies, n.d.
68. South entrance showing loggias, n.d.
69. "Through the boxwood at Waverley" before the lower trunks grew back, n.d.
70. North view of Waverley showing new boxwood plantings, n.d.
71. North distance view of new boxwood, n.d.
72. Library at Waverley, n.d.
73. Library at Waverley, elongated view, n.d.
74. The Robert Snows and Luke Richardson in the Library at Waverley, n.d.
75. Presentation of "Guardian Angels" plaque, Waverley, 1969.
76. "The Roberts Snows and their angels," the Bogues, 1969.

1981 Addition – 3 photos gift of Edna Ruth Davis

1. The ferry tow rope at Waverley.
2. The railroad bridge at Waverley.
3. Brick building near the river

Addition

77. Waverley Depot (2 copies)

### **Series III. Genealogical and Waverley Mansion Data.**

Meaning of Surname "Young"

Vital statistics on George Hampton Young, his wife Lucy Woodson Watkins, and his ten children.

George Hampton Young obituary

Data on George Hampton Young from the Georgia Dept. of Archives and History.

Information obtained from Mary Woodford Betts

Page from booklet, *Revolutionary Soldiers Living in Georgia*.

George Young (Sr.) Will

Young-Lee Genealogy

Watkins Genealogy

Hampton Genealogy

Hampton Family Line

The Hamiltons of Burnside, North Carolina

Handwritten story of Waverley by Lucy Young Banks, with attached newspaper clippings.

Handwritten account of the Waverley Postal Service

Notes on Waverley from Mrs. Maxwell

Notes on Waverley (obtained from J.W. "Honeybee" Hendricks)

Jack Elliott's notes from Columbus Southern Standard, 7/23/1853 and from the West Point Southern Broadaxe, 4/27/1859

Notes from the Columbus Whig, 12/16/1843 (Jack Elliott)

Notes from the Mobile Register (Jack Elliott)

Letter and Map from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History

#### **Series IV. Publications and Printed Materials.**

A. Newspaper Accounts/Clippings, 1888-1980

B. Other Printed Material

Books:

*Columbus, Mississippi*, by W.L. Lipscomb, 1900 (Handwritten copy)-missing

*Our State- A Sixth Reader*, by Willa Bolton, 1925 (Photocopied excerpt)-missing

*History of Art in Mississippi*, comp. by C.V. Sutton, 1929  
(Typescript)

*WPA History of Lowndes County* (Photocopy)  
War Reminiscences of Columbus, Ms comp. by V.D.C.

Pamphlet:

WAVERLEY, by Eugene Lanier Sykes

Magazine Articles:

Confederate Veteran, July 1921  
Dillettanti, Winter 1958, pp. 7-17  
Mississippi News and Views, January 1966, pp. 13-14  
Collegere, Spring 1965, pp. 13-16  
Today in the New South, Sept.-Oct. 1970, p. 8  
Kermac News, October 1970, p.10  
Mississippi News and Views, March 1971, p.10  
Antiques, December, 1971, p. 918  
Contrail, March 1977, pp. 12-13  
Four County Informer, April 1978, p. 3  
Mississippi Gardener, October 1969, p. 6  
Architectural Digest, January-February 1980, pp. 60-67  
(Unknown) "Father of Foxhound Field Trials," n.d. by W.A. Evans  
Chase Magazine, May 1938

**Series V. Ledger/Account Books.**

Waverley Ledger 1878-1884

Waverley Ledger 1878-1888

Waverley Post Office Account Book, 1897-1899.

**Series VI. Legal Documents, Deeds, Business Receipts, etc.**

A. General (12 items):

Deeds:

Deed from Alexander Pitchlynn to George H. Young, March 31, 1836  
Deed from David Colvin to George H. Young, April 2, 1836  
Deed from Thomas Frazier to Edward Orne, July 18, 1836  
Tax Receipts (listed in the name of G.H. Young) from Phillips County,  
Arkansas for sections 23, 35, and 36, November 7, 1837.  
Deed from Andrew Weir to George H. Young, October 22, 1842  
Deed from George W. Young, et al, to Eliza Westbrook, January 15, 1867

Receipts:

Goods shipped on the steamer WAVERLEY, March 1, 1860

Clothing from W.H. Wickes & Co. December 31, 1867  
Bales of Cotton Rec., by Billips and Banks, 1888-89  
Repair Clothing, H. Urquhart & Son, Glasgow, December 6, 1894

Miscellaneous:

Application for Indian War Survivor's Pension, 1890 form  
Note on Land Abstracts in Muldon, Clay County, June 7, 1970

B. Civil War (7 items):

The Belle Edmonson Diary, (Typed transcript) 1864  
Confederate money, three \$5's, a \$10, and a \$100 (photocopies)  
Quartermaster, CSA, Requisition for Camp Equipage, Corinth, Miss.,  
April 30, 1862  
Clothing receipt, Corinth, May 10, 1862  
The Confederate States Voucher No. 12, 30 September, 1863, One Two  
Horse Wagon  
The Confederate States Voucher No. 12, 30 September, 1863, One Thousand [?]  
Hay

C. Post Office (6 items):

Post Office, Pensacola, Fla., October 26, 1888 (receipt)  
Treasury Department, office of the supervising Architect, to G.V. Young,  
July 1, 1893 (letter)  
Honorable H.D. Money, Treasury department, April 22, 1896 (letter)  
George V. Young's appointment as Postmaster, Waverley, March 26, 1900  
(certificate)  
G.V. Young, superintendent of Construction, Meridian, Miss., July 10, 1895  
(letter)  
G.V. Young, "Late Superintendent of U.S. Post Office," September 4, 1896  
(letter)  
Postage Stamp Agency, July 26, 1895 (receipt)

D. Census Records (4 items):

Notes from Jack Elliott, Jr. re: George Hampton Young's listings for various  
years (sent to the Snows 12/9/1977)  
Notes on the 1850 and 1860 census  
Photocopy of the 1843 Personal Tax Rolls for Lowndes County  
Photocopy of the 1850 Lowndes County Schedule of Free Inhabitants

See also:

Letter of Carl Butler to Mr. and Mrs. Snow, January 9, 1969

**Series VII. "Historic Waverley Plantation Project".** (5 photocopied items)

Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of Lowndes County endorsing the Project and

Park Plans.

U.S. Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. FP79-0005-1: 20 February 1969 Proposed Construction and Fill Deposition of Luxapalila Creek and Waverley Ferry Recreation Areas.

Corps of Engineers Map showing Waverley site on the Columbus Pool

Notes on the proposed State Park, undated and unsigned.

Revised layout map showing Columbus Pool and Ferry Landing

**Series VIII. Fox Hunt Material.** (4 items)

[The National Fox Hunter's Association was formed at Waverley in 1898.]

Memoranda "To Breeders of Thoroughbred Stock"

Entry Blank "Dixie Red Fox Club, Waverley, Mississippi"

Program, "54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meet, National Fox Hunters Association, November 9-15, 1947"

Ledger/Account Book, 1898.

**Series IX. Miscellaneous.**

Sheet Music (badly torn), 1863, stamped "Great South Western Music House, Memphis, Tennessee"

Fragment of book endpaper, n.d., "Addenda"

Title page "The Case of the Cherokee Nation Against the State of Georgia"

Page "Mobile Merchants' Exchange [?] Current, "October 26, 1859"

"Old Waverley Sausage Recipe"

Label Fragments (3)

Torn Envelope Fragments

Pamphlet "A Plea for Industrial Education," 1886

British War Office form, June 12, 1919

Clipping, "Rebel Doctor Blamed Bullet for Pregnancy," n.d. (photocopy)

Diagram of cupola ceiling by Robert Snow, n.d.

Diagram of [Waverley] lawn plantings, n.d.

Catalog page (from Mississippi Department of Archives and History) with listing for

George Hampton Young. (photocopy)

Narrative from Columbus Pilgrimage film (photocopy)

Postcard of Waverley, photo by Joe Sarcone

Essay, "Waverley Mansion," by Mrs. Ehren Foster Pyre, n.d. (photocopy)

Paper, "Waverley," by Ruth Chapin, October 7, 1974

Paper, "Remembering Waverley," by Kitty Galbraith, August 15, 1979

Order of the Stars and Bars Society appointment, Robert Snow, Honorary member

Poem, "Calendar in Error," by Presley Snow, n.d.

Poem, "Waverley," by Doris Newton, March 20, 1980

Tape (cassette), Mrs. Snow's tour of the mansion (taped by Kitty Galbraith)

Tape (cassette), Interview with Mrs. Snow, March 3, 1979 (taped by Kitty Galbraith)

Tape (cassette), Interview with Luke Richardson, June 28, 1980 (taped by Kitty Galbraith)

Tape (cassette), The Belle Edmondson Diary, 1864, excerpted readings (taped by Kitty Galbraith)

[Transcripts of above tapes available.]

**Addition.**

Report: Interim Report: Text Excavations at Waverley Ferry, Clay County, Mississippi  
by William Hampton Adams, Dale L. Martin, Jack D. Elliott, Jr., and James  
E. Adams. December 1979. Funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile.

Paper: "Waverley Mansion" by John Galbraith. 1982.

Paper: "The Search for Belle Edmondson: a True Heroine of Dixie" by Bill and Kitty  
Galbraith, 1982. [See also Sidney Newcomb collection.]