Guide to the John L. Boatwright letters  
MSS.1645

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June 23, 2010  
Describing Archives: A Content Standard
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# Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repository</th>
<th>W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>John L. Boatwright letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date [inclusive]</td>
<td>1863-64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>0.1 Linear feet (12 letters and envelopes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>Twelve letters from John L. Boatwright, Confederate Army ordnance office, to his wife, 22 December 1863-14 May 1864.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Preferred Citation

John L. Boatwright Letters, W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama.
Biographical/Historical note

Confederate Army ordnance office stationed in Savannah, Georgia at the time these letters were written, 1863-64.

Scope and Contents note

This collection consists of twelve letters from Boatwright, an Ordnance officer in the Confederate Army, stationed at Savannah Georgia, to his wife in Columbia, South Carolina, although the letters suggest that the Boatwrights were from Virginia. The earliest letter is dated 22 December 1863, the last 14 May 1864. The contents are largely personal; Boatwright was deeply devoted to his wife and in virtually every letter states how much he misses her. The strain of separation was doubtless increased by Mrs. Boatwright's pregnancy (see in particular letter of 1 May 1864). Occasionally Boatwright mentions the situation at Savannah and the course of the war; on 26 April 1864, for example, he alludes to the Army's financial straits. The letter of the following day states that "we are making the grandest of efforts in the world to frustrate the plans of the Yankees this spring" and that "Every Regiment from this place except one has been ordered to the front." There is also a fragment of a letter, possibly to Boatwright, from a J. W. Magill, referring to ammunition, no date.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama June 2010

Provenance

Gift of Wade Hall, 2004

Processed by

Donnelly Lancaster/John Beeler, 2005
## Collection Inventory

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<th>Letters</th>
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