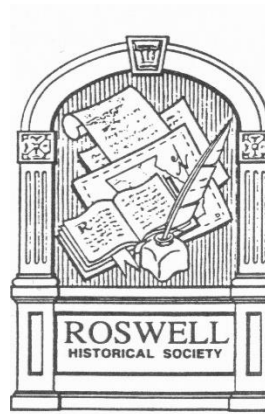


Jett family papers  
1832-2002  
MS 103



Roswell Historical Society/City of Roswell Research Library and Archives

**Contact Information:**

Roswell Historical Society/City of Roswell  
Research Library and Archives  
Cultural Arts Center  
950 Forrest Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Roswell, Georgia 30075  
Phone: 770.594.6405  
E-mail: edeniro@roswellgov.com

Title: Jett family papers  
Dates: 1832-2002  
Extent: .5 linear ft. (1 box)  
Identification: 2021-06

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**Biographical or Historical Note**

The Jett family were farmers, millers, and notable in Roswell, GA history for operating a ferry crossing the Chattahoochee River during the nineteenth century. Jett Ferry was located near the Ball Mill pump station, along Old Riverside Road.

In the early nineteenth century, James and Rosanna Gregory Jett came to the area with their family from South Carolina. Their fourth son, Theophilus Richard Jett (1801-1876) worked on the farm and operated the ferry for many years. He and his wife, Minerva Elizabeth Davis, built a home at the intersection of present-day Eves Road and Terrace Club Drive. Theophilus and Minerva (Elizabeth) had numerous children, including James, Adam, and Elizabeth (Eliza) Jett.

Elizabeth (Eliza) Jett (1850-1895) married Samuel Alexander Power and had several children. One of her granddaughters, Lena Wilson Wiggins, presented Eliza's wedding portrait and portion of her wedding ensemble to the Roswell Historical Society in 1997.

Adam Jett (1848-1926) eventually took over the family's ferry operations, around the 1860s. Adam Jett married Effie Anderson, then later Sarah Ann Roberts. He and Sarah had three children, including John Quincy Jett and Theophilus Richard Jett Sr. Theophilus Richard Jett Sr. (aka Buster) (1895-1978) inherited the estate of his father, Adam, in 1926, and continued farming in Georgia until the 1950s. Theophilus Sr. was married to Mayola Whitmire Jett (aka Ola Mae) (1900-1992), and together they had eight children. Their oldest son, Theophilus Richard Jett Jr. (aka Offie) (1923-1952) died while serving in WWII, having never married nor having children. Theophilus Sr. and Mayola Jett's oldest daughter, Sarah Ann Jett (1927-2020), married William Floyd Simmons (aka Bill) (1926-2005), and had one son, William Floyd Simmons (aka Billy, Will).

Many members of the Jett family are buried at the Mount Pisgah Methodist Church Cemetery in Johns Creek, Georgia, including Theophilus Richard Jett and his wife, Minerva; their children, Laura, Mary, William, James, Adam Jett and his wife Sarah Ann Roberts Jett.

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## Scope and Content

The Jett family papers include an assortment of documents for various family members including but not limited to land and legal documents, tax records, a ferry record, military records, receipts, driver's licenses, and correspondence. Other resources include a farm expense ledger, a bank deposit book, photographs, and a lock of hair.

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## Organization Note

Items in this collection are organized by individual family members, record type, then chronologically.

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## Restrictions

### Restrictions on access

Unrestricted access.

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## Selected Search Terms

Jett, Adam (1848-1926)

Jett, James (1846-1929)

Jett, John Quincy (1891-1937)

Jett, Mayola Whitmire (1900-1992)

Jett, Sarah Ann Roberts (1853-1923)  
Jett, Theophilus Ricard (1801-1876)  
Jett, Theophilus Ricard Jr. (1923-1952)  
Jett, Theophilus Ricard Sr. (1895-1978)  
Power, Eliza (Elizabeth) Jett (1850-1895)  
Simmons, Sarah Ann Jett (1927-2020)  
Simmons, William (Bill) Floyd Sr. (1926-2005)  
Simmons, William (Will) Floyd Jr.

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### **Related Materials**

MS 98 Michael Hitt Research Papers (Box 9 Folder 25)  
Family Vertical Files Jett Family – Shallowford District (in research library)  
Textile – Jett-Power Textile Collection  
Visual Arts – Mary Minerva Morris Long / Eliza Jett Power Photograph Collection

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### **Administrative Information**

#### **Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Jett family papers, Manuscript Collections, Roswell Historical Society/City of Roswell Research Library and Archives, Roswell, GA.

#### **Source**

Will Simmons

#### **Processing**

Processed by Jeanne-Marie Roberts