



## Summary Information

**Title:** Temple Estate Papers  
**Collection Number:** 1986:004  
**Creator:** Temple Family  
**Collection Dates:** 1879-1952  
**Extent:** 3.25 cubic feet (7 boxes)  
**Language:** English

## Collection Abstract:

Thomas Lewis Latané (T. L. L.) Temple, born in Virginia in 1859, founded the Southern Pine Lumber Company and Texas South-Eastern Railroad in 1894 and 1900 respectively, and was one of the most successful lumbermen in East Texas. Upon his death in 1935, his will established a trust to provide financial assistance to former employees who had been injured and their families. This collection contains correspondence, legal agreements and instruments, estate valuation statements, real estate records, income tax records, and cancelled checks documenting the administration of Temple's estate and the establishment of his trust.

## Repository:

The History Center  
102 N. Temple  
Diboll, TX, 75941  
936-829-3543  
<http://www.thehistorycenteronline.com/>

**Author/Processing Information:** Arrangement and initial collection inventory created by Darrell Thornhill in 1999.

**Revision History:** Finding aid revised by Matt Gorzalski in August of 2010.

## Biographical/Historical Note:

Thomas Lewis Latané (T. L. L.) Temple was born on May 18, 1859 in Essex County, Virginia to the Reverend Henry Waring Latané Temple (1812-1871) and his wife Susan Jones Temple (d. 1864). He attended Aberdeen Academy in Essex County, Virginia until he was orphaned at age 11. In 1876 he followed his brothers John Newton Temple (1847-1899), Charles H. T. Temple (1855-1881), and William Temple (1861-1939) to southwestern Arkansas. John Newton Temple had inherited land in Hempstead

and Little River counties, Arkansas, through his mother's brother Orlando, where the brothers took up farming. After leaving the farm, T. L. L. Temple worked as assistant county clerk in Ashdown in Little River County before relocating to Texarkana to work in the Garrett Lumber Company commissary.

In 1887, Temple became a member of Grisby, Scott, and Temple, a large sawmill operation in Wayne, Texas. In 1893 Temple organized the Southern Pine Lumber Company for the second time after a failed venture in 1891, incorporating it in Texas with himself as president and manager. Temple bought timberland from J. C. Diboll in East Texas, and created the company town of Diboll in Angelina County where the Southern Pine Lumber Company sawmill operations would be located. In 1900, Temple organized the Lufkin Land & Lumber Company with E. W. and E. A. Frost and G. A. Kelley located in Lufkin, the Angelina County seat. In that same year he chartered the Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company, a short-line railroad connecting Diboll and Lufkin, and running northwest along the Neches River through Trinity, Houston, and Cherokee counties to serve the Southern Pine logging operations. Temple also acquired the Garrison Norton Lumber Company, located in Pineland, Texas, and changed the name to Temple Lumber Company in 1910 when he had acquired the majority of stock shares. Temple married Georgie Derrick Fowlkes (1858-1900) on December 2, 1880. Their children included Thomas Lewis Latané Temple, Jr. (1887-1947), Gertrude Temple (1881-1967), Marguerite Temple (1889-1968), Georgie Temple (1891-1982), and Arthur Temple (1894-1951).

T. L. L. Temple died in Texarkana, Arkansas on October 2, 1935. His will created a trust to provide financial assistance for aged and disabled employees and their families of the companies in which Temple had controlling interests. The fund was established using 2000 shares of Southern Pine Lumber Company stock and was informally known as the Temple Foundation. When 15 years after Temple's death had past, the trust fund was distributed to the estate as ordered by his will. The fund was renewed with additional contributions by the family in 1951. It lasted until 1962 when T. L. L. Temple's last surviving child, Georgie Temple Munz, created the current T. L. L. Temple Foundation, eventually bequeathing \$55 million to the new foundation. The current foundation financially supports charitable and educational events and institutions in East Texas.

### **Collection Scope and Content:**

The Temple Estate Papers consist of correspondence, legal agreements and instruments, estate valuation statements, real estate legal documents, income tax records, and cancelled checks and receipts documenting the administration of Thomas Lewis Latané Temple's estate. The records show how Temple's estate was divided among his children. They also document real estate transactions concerning family property in Texas, Arkansas, New York, Ohio, and Wisconsin. These transactions typically involve Arthur Temple or Marguerite Temple Keeler. The records provide further insight into creation and management of the first T. L. L. Temple Foundation, in addition to the information found in The History Center's related Temple Foundation collection, number 1993:016. The collection includes business correspondence and related invoices, usually concerning stock shares owned by the Temple family, Temple estate property, insurance policies, and what appears to be trust fund payouts to former Southern Pine employees and friends. The cancelled checks and account books document how Temple Estate money was being spent. Also included are probate records and wills regarding Katherine Sage Temple, T. L. L. Temple, Jr., and Laura Temple.

**Arrangement:** This collection has been arranged and described at the collection level.

### **Subject Terms:**

## Topics

- Trusts and trustees
- Charitable uses, trusts, and foundations
- Estate planning
- Estates (Law)
- Administration of estates

## Corporate Names

- Southern Pine Lumber Company
- Temple Lumber Company
- Temple Cotton Oil Company
- Texas Outdoor Advertising Company
- Texarkana Title and Trust Company

## Personal Names

- Temple, Thomas Lewis Latane, 1859-1935
- Temple, Arthur, 1894-1951
- Temple, Thomas Lewis Latané, Jr., 1887-1947
- Webber, Gertrude Temple, 1881-1967
- Keeler, Marguerite Temple, 1889-1968
- Payne, Marguerite Temple, 1889-1968
- Munz, Georgie Temple, 1891-1982
- Temple, Katherine Sage, 1895-1984

## Family Names

- Temple family

## Genres

- Legal documents

## Locations

- Bowie County (Tex.)
- Angelina County (Tex.)
- Miller County (Ark.)
- Douglas County (Wis.)
- Quogue (N.Y.)
- New York
- Arkansas
- Wisconsin
- Texas

## Access and Use

**Access Restrictions:** There are no access restrictions on this collection.

**Acquisition Information:** Donated to the History Center by Arthur Temple, Jr. in June of 1986.

**Citation:** Temple Estate Papers, 1879-1952, 1986:004, The History Center, Diboll, TX

**Related Materials:**

Temple Foundation, 1955-1971, 1993:016, The History Center, Diboll, TX

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**Bibliography:**

Biesele, Megan, Bob Bowman, and Raymond Ryan. *The Cornbread Whistle: Oral History of a Texas Timber Company Town*. Diboll, Tex: The Society, 1986.

*Handbook of Texas Online*, s.v. ", "

<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/TT/fte9.html> (accessed August 19, 2010).

**Collection Inventory**

**Box 1**

- Folder 1 Katherine Sage Temple Will, 1951
- Folder 2 Laura Temple's securities as held by Arthur Temple, 1952
- Folder 3 T. L. L. Temple, Jr. Power of Attorney
- Folder 4 T. L. L. Temple, Jr. Estate Probate Proceedings
- Folder 5 Arthur Temple, Sr. Declarations of Trust for Ann W. Temple and Arthur Temple, Jr.
- Folder 6 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1935
- Folder 7 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1936
- Folder 8 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1937
- Folder 9 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1938
- Folder 10 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1939
- Folder 11 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1940
- Folder 12 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1941
- Folder 13 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1942
- Folder 14 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1943
- Folder 15 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1944
- Folder 16 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1945
- Folder 17 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1946
- Folder 18 T. L. L. Temple Estate Valuation Statement, 1949
- Folder 19 Agreement of Heirs Invalidating the Trust, 1938
- Folder 20 Distribution of Trust Fund to Estate, 1950
- Folder 21 William Temple Estate v. Caesar Adams, 1945-46
- Folder 22 Business Correspondence – Temple Cotton Oil Company, 1934-1941
- Folder 23 Business Correspondence – Temple Heir Payments to Bank, 1938-1939
- Folder 24 Business Correspondence – Appointing Arthur Temple and H. G. Temple as President and Vice President of Temple Lumber Company, 1935
- Folder 25 Business Correspondence – T. L. L. Temple, Jr.'s Purchase of Temple Cotton Oil Company, 1934
- Folder 26 Business Correspondence – T. L. L. Temple's Ownership in the Texarkana Country Club, 1927-1950

- Folder 27 Business Correspondence – Texarkana National Bank Concerning Temple Estate, 1938-1959
- Folder 28 Business Correspondence – Texas Outdoor Advertising Company, 1930-1941
- Folder 29 Business Correspondence – Texarkana Title and Trust Co. Land sales to Leonard D. Strong and Wash Richardson, 1940
- Folder 30 Business Correspondence – McAllen, Texas Travel Records, 1939
- Folder 31 Business Correspondence – Alphabetical A-B, 1929-1943
- Folder 32 Business Correspondence – Alphabetical C-F, 1939-1951
- Folder 33 Business Correspondence – Alphabetical G-J, 1937-1943
- Folder 34 Business Correspondence – Alphabetical K-L, 1940
- Folder 35 Business Correspondence – Alphabetical M-N, 1938-1951
- Folder 36 Business Correspondence – Alphabetical O-Q, 1936-1952
- Folder 37 Business Correspondence – Alphabetical R-Z, 1935-1950

**Box 2**

- Folder 1 Real Estate – Quogue, Long Island, New York, 1935-44
- Folder 2 Real Estate – Bowie County Property Assessment, 1939
- Folder 3 Real Estate – Sale Statement to J. D. Tennison, Bowie County, 1941
- Folder 4 Real Estate – Tax Receipts Bowie County, Marguerite Temple Keeler, 1940-1941
- Folder 5 Real Estate – Temple Farm near Spring Lake Park, Bowie County, 1936-1941
- Folder 6 Real Estate - Sale from Carrol Allen and Ann Temple Allen to Arthur Temple, Sr., Angelina County, 1950
- Folder 7 Real Estate – Sale from Louis Heilbron to T. L. L. Temple Regarding Elkins Survey, Bowie County, 1904-1906
- Folder 8 Real Estate – Elkins Survey and Lakeside Farm, Bowie County, 1879-1943
- Folder 9 Real Estate – Sale of Bryant and Brown’s First Addition to Texarkana, Texas to Marguerite T. Keeler, 1927-1942
- Folder 10 Real Estate – Sale to Marguerite T. Keeler, Pine Street Land, Bowie County, 1939
- Folder 11 Real Estate – Riverside Farm, Bowie County, 1945-1946
- Folder 12 Real Estate – Kansas City Southern Railway Company License to Marguerite T. Payne, 1942
- Folder 13 Real Estate – Cuyahoga County, Ohio, Marguerite T. Keeler, 1926-1943
- Folder 14 Real Estate – Douglas County, Wisconsin, Marguerite T. Payne, 1882-1952
- Folder 15 Real Estate – Sale of Bowie County Land, Elkins Survey, A. G. Hubbard to T. L. L. Temple, 1904
- Folder 16 Real Estate – Sale of Martin and Fish Addition to Texarkana to Arthur Temple, Miller County, Arkansas, 1937
- Folder 17 Real Estate – Sale of Land from Temple Family to City of Texarkana, Arkansas, 1939
- Folder 18 Real Estate – Sale of Land From Temple Family to Trustees of Voiture Locale No. 950-980, Miller County, Arkansas, 1945
- Folder 19 Real Estate – Abstract of Title, Miller County, Arkansas, 1853-1946
- Folder 20 Real Estate – Abstract of Title Prepared for Marguerite T. Payne, Miller County, Arkansas, 1857-1948

- Folder 21 Real Estate – Miller County, Arkansas, 1926-48
- Folder 22 Real Estate – Land Sale from R. B. F. Key to T. L. L. Temple, Montgomery County, Arkansas, 1911-1915
- Folder 23 Real Estate – Van Buren County, Arkansas, Arthur Temple and A. V. Alenxander, 1919-1945
- Folder 24 Real Estate – Mineral Lease, Bowie County, 1937-1945

**Box 3**

- Folder 1 Securities owned by Marguerite T. Keeler (Payne), 1939
- Folder 2 Securities owned by Georgie T. Munz, 1939
- Folder 3 Securities owned by Marguerite T. Payne (Keeler), 1941-1950
- Folder 4 Securities owned by Arthur Temple, 1939-1949
- Folder 5 Temple Estate Tax Papers, 1936-1938
- Folder 6 Temple Estate Tax Papers, 1936-1939
- Folder 7 Thomas T. Keeler Income Tax Returns, 1942-1950
- Folder 8 Utley Webber Peay Income Tax Returns, 1942-1949
- Folder 9 Virginia K. Rogers Income Tax Returns, 1944-1947
- Folder 10 Arthur Temple Declaration of Estimate Income Tax, 1948
- Folder 11 Josephine Bond Temple Income Tax Returns, 1943-1944
- Folder 12 Laura Temple Income Tax Return, 1942
- Folder 13 William Temple Webber, Jr., Income Tax Return, 1949
- Folder 14 Non-Family Income Tax Returns, 1943
- Folder 15 Non-Family Income Tax Returns, 1944
- Folder 16 Non-Family Income Tax Returns, 1945
- Folder 17 Non-Family Income Tax Returns, 1946
- Folder 18 Non-Family Income Tax Returns, 1947
- Folder 19 Non-Family Income Tax Returns, 1948
- Folder 20 Non-Family Income Tax Returns, 1949
- Folder 21 Non-Family Income Tax Returns, 1950
- Folder 22 T. L. L. Temple Notes and Bills Payable Volume, 1905-1936
- Folder 23 Temple Estate Account Book, 1935-1937

**Box 4**

- Folder 1 Temple Estate Account Book, 1936-1950
- Oversize 1 Account Book, 1937-51
- Folder 2 Check Book, 1938-1961
- Folder 3 Check Book, 1939-1950
- Folder 4 Pocket Book, 1918-1940
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- Folder 6 Canceled Checks and Receipts, August-December 1936
- Folder 7 Deposit Slips, 1936
- Folder 8 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-May 1937
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- Folder 1 Canceled Checks and Receipts, September-December 1937
- Folder 2 Deposit Slips, 1937
- Folder 3 Bank Book, Check Register, February 1936-1938
- Folder 4 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-June 1938
- Folder 5 Canceled Checks and Receipts, July-September 1938
- Folder 6 Canceled Checks and Receipts, October-December 1938
- Folder 7 Deposit Slips, 1938
- Folder 8 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1939
- Folder 9 Deposit Slips, 1939
- Folder 10 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1940
- Folder 11 Deposit Slips, 1940
- Folder 12 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1941
- Folder 13 Deposit Slips, 1941
- Folder 14 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1942
- Folder 15 Deposit Slips, 1942
- Folder 16 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1943
- Folder 17 Deposit Slips, 1943
- Folder 18 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1944
- Folder 19 Deposit Slips, 1944

**Box 6**

- Folder 1 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1945
- Folder 2 Deposit Slips, 1945
- Folder 3 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1946
- Folder 4 Deposit Slips, 1946
- Folder 5 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1947
- Folder 6 Deposit Slips, 1947
- Folder 7 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1948
- Folder 8 Deposit Slips, 1948
- Folder 9 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1949
- Folder 10 Deposit Slips, 1949
- Folder 11 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1950
- Folder 12 Deposit Slips, 1950
- Folder 13 Canceled Checks and Receipts, January-December, 1951
- Folder 14 Deposit Slips, 1951