



Summary Information

Title: Dial Family Collection
Collection Number: 1999:017
Creator: Regina Dial Jackson
Collection Dates: 1915-1938
Extent: 1 cubic foot
Language: English

Collection Abstract:

The Dial Family Collection contains photographs relating to John Dial including Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company train accidents; TSE engines 5, 9, 10, and 13; Diboll students and teachers; and Temple Manufacturing Company employees. Also included is a photograph of Victoria, Fisher and Western Railroad Company engine 6. The bulk of the collection is correspondence, insurance papers, and land documents of Levy W. Stovall. These letters document Stovall's management and accounts at the Southern Pine Lumber Company logging camp Alcedo, as well as personal relationships and business.

Repository:

The History Center
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Diboll, TX 75941
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Author/Processing Information: Processed by Matt Gorzalski in May 2011.

Biographical/Historical Note:

John L. Dial was born in June of 1889 in Trinity County, Texas and worked as a farm laborer in Angelina County, Texas in his youth. By 1920 he had married Allie Massey Dial, born in Cherokee County, Texas, and had one son, David W. Dial (August 14, 1914-1988). At this time, Dial was a fireman for the Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company of Diboll, Texas, a short line railroad that served the logging operations of Southern Pine Lumber Company. By 1930 Dial was employed as a TSE engineer and the Dial family added a daughter named Lauren. John Dial died in 1959. David W. Dial married Berta Mae George Dial (March 25, 1914-2002) on June 9, 1934. He worked for the Temple lumber interests as well as Shell Oil

Company in Deer Park, Texas. The couple had four children: Jonnie Lou (1935-2007), George David "Jack" (1937-2006), Mary Elizabeth "Regina" (b. July 8, 1939), and Jeanette D. Hurst (b. September 24, 1945).

Levy W. Stovall, son of William "Frank" Stovall (1865-1935) and Molly S. Thompson was born on August 18, 1884 in Angelina County, Texas. On June 2, 1906 he married Corine Augusta "Gusta" Welch (1888-1961). They had four children: Preston (1910-1934), Paul (1913-1987), Thelma "Jewel" (1917-2004), and Myrl Morris (1920-1990). Stovall was the manager of the Southern Pine Lumber Company commissary at the Alcedo logging camp in southwest Angelina County, Texas. The records show that he resided in Veatch in 1922, Gilbert in 1923, and Alcedo in 1924. The Stovalls divorced on October 30, 1928. By 1936 Levy Stovall had married Francis Pauline Golden, whom he divorced in 1938. He died on January 31, 1967.

Collection Scope and Content:

The Dial Family Collection contains photographs relating to John Dial including Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company train accidents; TSE engines 5, 9, 10, and 13; Diboll students and teachers; and Temple Manufacturing Company employees. Also included is a photograph of Victoria, Fisher and Western Railroad Company engine 6.

The bulk of the collection is correspondence, insurance papers, and land documents of Levy W. Stovall. These records document Stovall's employment as a company store manager at the Southern Pine Lumber Company logging camp known as Alcedo. The letters are typically from commissary manager W. P. Rutland and concern accounts, inventory, and general operations of a company store. Other correspondence documents his personal life such as love letters from second wife Pauline Francis Golden, and letters from Cleve Sweatt about residents of Manning, Texas.

Arrangement: This collection is arranged and described at the collection level.

Subject Terms

Topics

- Company stores -- Texas -- Angelina County
- Land tenure -- Texas -- Angelina County
- Logging railroads -- Texas -- Diboll
- Logging railroads -- Louisiana
- Lumber trade -- Texas, East
- Railroad accidents -- Texas, East
- Railroads -- Texas -- Employees
- Steam locomotives -- Texas, East
- Students -- Texas -- Diboll
- Women employees -- Texas -- Diboll

Corporate Names

- Southern Pine Lumber Company
- Temple Manufacturing Company
- Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company
- Victoria, Fisher and Western Railroad Company

Personal Names

- Dial, John
- Stovall, Levy W.

Family Names

- Dial family
- Stovall family

Genres

- American letters
- Photographs

Occupations

- Clerks (Retail trade)
- School principals -- Texas -- Diboll
- Teachers -- Texas -- Diboll

Locations

- Angelina County (Tex.)
- Diboll (Tex.)
- Manning (Tex.)
- Houston (Tex.)
- Texas, East

Access and Use

Access Restrictions: There are no restrictions on this collection.

Acquisition Information: This collection was donated by Regina Dial Jackson over two accessions. Accession 1999:017 was donated on March 23, 1999 and accession 1999:020 was donated on March 24, 1999. The 1999:017 accession was originally scans of Jackson’s photographs created by History Center staff, and the originals were returned. In 2003, Jackson donated the original photographs and the 1999 accession number was kept.

Citation: Dial Family Collection, 1915-1938, 1999:017, The History Center, Diboll, TX

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Bibliography:

- United States Federal Census, 1900
- United States Federal Census, 1920
- United States Federal Census, 1930

Collection Inventory

Box 1

- Folder 1 L. W. Stovall Business Correspondence with Southern Pine Lumber Company, 1921-1924
- Folder 2 Bill of Sale – Alcedo Meat Market to Southern Pine Lumber Company, 1924
- Folder 3 Ed Hinson Correspondence, 1924
- Folder 4 Clevie Sweatt Correspondence, 1924-1925
- Folder 5 Christmas Cards, 1926
- Folder 6 Preston Stovall County Treasurer Campaign Support Letter, undated
- Folder 7 Louise Correspondence, undated
- Folder 8 Correspondence from May, 1933

- Folder 9 L. W. Stovall and Francis Pauline Golden Stovall Love Letters and Divorce Record, 1936, 1938
- Folder 10 Estate of W. F. Stovall and wife Mollie Thompson Stovall, 1938
- Folder 11 Land Documents – J. A. Prado League – E. L. Shaw to F. H. Chambers, 1912, 1920; F. H. Chambers to L. W. Stovall, 1924
- Folder 12 L. W. Stovall Life and Accident Insurance Documents, 1922
- Folder 13 Ford and Chevrolet Insurance and Payment Records, 1924-1925
- Folder 14 State and County Tax Receipts, 1924
- Folder 15 Angelina County Poll Tax Receipts, 1924
- Folder 16 Hospital and Prescription Payments, 1924
- Folder 17 Thomas Goggan and Bro. Insurance Documents – Victrola, 1923-1924
- Folder 18 Guaranty State Bank and Trust Co. Deposit Slips, 1924-1925
- Folder 19 Chattel Mortgage Receipts, 1926
- Folder 20 Account Books, undated
- Folder 21 Miscellaneous, 1938
- Folder 22 “Century Old Chair with Rawhide Seat has an Interesting History,” Houston Chronicle, March 2, 1924
- Folder 23 Photograph – John Dial
- Folder 24 Photograph – Southern Pine Lumber Company Employees
- Folder 25 Photograph – Victoria, Fisher and Western Engine 6
- Folder 26 Photographs – Diboll Teachers and Students, 1920s-1930s
- Folder 27 Diboll First United Methodist Church Homecoming, 1984
- Folder 28 Photograph – Ellis Sweatt, Lester Sweatt, Henry Perkins, Ernest Sweatt
- Folder 29 Photograph – Texas South-Eastern Engine 10 Train Wreck, 1937
- Folder 30 Photograph – Texas South-Eastern Engine 5 at the TSE Depot (Ed Baucum Funeral Train), Diboll, October 22, 1915

Oversize Box 1

- Folder 1 Photograph – Texas South-Eastern Railroad Company Machine Shop Crew, 1915
- Folder 2 Photograph – Texas South-Eastern Railroad Engine 9, c. 1925
- Folder 3 Photograph – Texas South-Eastern Railroad Engine 13, c. 1921
- Folder 4 Photograph – Texas South-Eastern Railroad Engine 9 Wreck, c. 1920
- Folder 5 Photograph – Temple Manufacturing Company, c. 1926
- Folder 6 Photograph – Mr. D. Wright’s Son’s Funeral, Casualty of World War I
- Folder 7 Photograph – Will Hills Grave