Inventory of the
Edward A. Lawrence Family Papers, 1875 - 1983

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Edward A. Lawrence Family Papers,

Dates: 1875 - 1983

Creator: Edward A. Lawrence Family.

Abstract: Edward Lawrence was born in Charleston, South Carolina in 1858. He graduated from Avery Normal Institute in 1875. He taught at the Avery Normal Institute for almost 20 years and served as interim principal, as well as serving as president of the Avery Alumni Association. He also obtained a degree from South Carolina State College, where he taught psychology and sociology. Lawrence worked as a real-estate agent in Charleston before moving to Brooklyn, New York in 1920, where he ran a real estate and insurance business. Edward Lawrence married Eliza Shrewsbury in 1879. She was the daughter of Georgiana Mary Holloway Shrewsbury, grand-daughter of Richard Holloway, and step-daughter of James Dacoster. The Edward Lawrence Family Papers contain two small series. The first series consists of legal documents (1875-1903) regarding the property of Georgiana Shrewsbury, who married James Dacoster. The second series consists of miscellaneous correspondence, clippings, and materials (1879-1983) regarding Edward Lawrence and his relatives, including a graduation speech he gave to Avery Normal Institute (1915) and an advertisement (1907) from Holloway's Harness Repair Shop requesting the patronage of Brown Fellowship Society members.

Extent: .25 linear feet (1 archival box)

Repository: Avery Research Center at the College of Charleston

Call Number: AMN 1024

Language of Material: Material in English

Biographical Note

Edward Lawrence was born in Charleston, South Carolina on January 1, 1858. He graduated from Avery Normal Institute in 1875. He taught at the Avery Normal Institute for almost 20 years and served as interim principal, as well as serving as president of the Avery Alumni Association. He also obtained a degree from South Carolina State College, where he taught psychology and sociology. Lawrence worked as a real estate agent in Charleston before moving to Brooklyn, New York in 1920, where he ran a real estate and insurance business. He died in New York. Edward Lawrence married Eliza Shrewsbury in 1879. She was the daughter of Georgiana Mary Holloway Shrewsbury, grand-daughter of Richard Holloway, and step-daughter of James Dacoster. The Shrewsburys and Holloways were members of Charleston's black elite.

Collection Overview

The Edward Lawrence Family Papers contain two small series. The first series consists of legal documents (1875-1903) regarding the property of Georgiana Shrewsbury, who married James Dacoster. The second series consists of miscellaneous correspondence, clippings, and materials (1879-1983) regarding Edward Lawrence and his...
relatives, including a graduation speech he gave to Avery Normal Institute (1915) and an advertisement (1907) from Holloway's Harness Repair Shop requesting the patronage of Brown Fellowship Society members.

**Collection Arrangement**

1. Legal Documents

2. Correspondence and Clippings

**Restrictions**

**Access Restrictions**

No restrictions.

**Copyright Notice**

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**Subject Headings**

- African American teachers.
- Avery Normal Institute.
- Brown Fellowship Society.
- Holloway family.
- Holloway, Richard, d. 1895.
- Lawrence, Edward, b. 1858.
- Shrewsbury, Eliza.

**Administrative Information**

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Edward A. Lawrence Family Papers, Avery Research Center, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC, USA.

**Acquisitions Information**

Donated by Edward A. Lawrence, May 1983

**Processing Information**
Processed by Jessica Lancia, June 2006

Encoded by Melissa Bronheim, July 2010

Funding from the **Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation** supported the processing of this collection.

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Detailed Description of the Collection

1. Legal Documents, 1875-1903

   **Box 1 Folder 1**  Legal documents, 1875-1903

   Includes trusteeships and conveyances aimed at protecting the rights of Georgiana Shrewsbury in the estate of her husband, George Shrewsbury (died 1875), necessitated by her subsequent marriage to James Dacoster in 1881. Those mentioned in the documents include her two husbands; her father, Richard Holloway (died 1895); her daughter, Eliza Lawrence; and her son-in-law, Edward Lawrence.

2. Correspondence and Clippings, 1879-1983

   **Box 1 Folder 2**  Correspondence, clippings, and miscellaneous materials regarding Edward Lawrence and his relatives, 1879-1937 and 1983

   Includes two obituaries for George Shrewsbury, a note from Richard Holloway to his daughter, a letter from Edward Lawrence to Mrs. George Shrewsbury asking for her daughter's hand in marriage, advertisement and envelope from Holloway Harness Repair Shop regarding patronage of Brown Fellowship Society members, a copy of a graduation speech Edward Lawrence gave to Avery Normal Institute entitled “The Negro in America, His Interests Identical with That of the Nation,” article regarding Edward Lawrence published in Brooklyn Daily Eagle, and letter from Maude Jenkins to Lucille Whipper regarding disposition of Edward Lawrence Papers.