

# Finding Aid

**Title:** Tomlinson Fort papers  
**Dates:** 1795-1923  
**Creator:** Fort, Tomlinson, 1839-1910  
**Extent:** 2 linear feet in 4 boxes (about 475 items)  
**Collection number:** Acc. 2  
**Language:** English  
**Repository:** Chattanooga Public Library. Chattanooga, Tenn.



Chattanooga  
Public Library

Local History & Genealogy Department  
 Chattanooga Public Library  
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**Biographical note:** Tomlinson Fort was an attorney and served as mayor of Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1876. Fort was born in Milledgeville, Georgia, the son of U.S. Representative Tomlinson Fort. He served as a colonel in the Confederate Army during the American Civil War. He was elected mayor in 1875 and served during 1876. He died in Chattanooga in 1910, and was buried in Memory Hill Cemetery in Milledgeville, Georgia.

**Scope and content:** Collection consists of letters and legal documents relating to the business and family affairs of the Fort family. Legal papers span 1795-1923 and include land grants, property records, and other documents concerning land transactions in Chattanooga and Hamilton County, Tennessee, including records relating to the development of the East Tennessee Iron Manufacturing Company. Also included are papers relating to the Boyce Estate and heirs, especially their mining properties. Family papers span 1795-1883 and include letters concerning the American Civil War as well as personal and family affairs. Also included is a genealogical chart of the Fort family. Collection materials consist of a combination of copies, transcriptions, and original items.

**Arrangement:** Collection is arranged into two series: Legal Papers and Family Papers. Within series, papers are arranged chronologically.

**Provenance:** Collection was originally deposited with the Library by J. P. Fort circa 1931 at which point the Works Progress Administration arranged and copied many of the records. Around 1939, Fort withdrew the papers. Around 1947, Fort gave some copies to Milton Ochs, who presented them to the Library.

**Access information:** Collection is open for access.

**Use information:** Copyright is retained by the authors of items in these papers, or their descendants, as stipulated by United States copyright law. Copying or scanning of materials to be performed by staff.

**Preferred citation:** [Identification of item], Tomlinson Fort papers (Acc. 2). Chattanooga Public Library.

**Processing note:** Indexes to the Legal Papers and the Family Papers were compiled in part from cards and lists created by the Works Progress Administration with changes and additions provided by Chattanooga Public Library staff during reprocessing of the collection in 1980. Both indexes are arranged chronologically like the papers. The indexes are available in print and PDF format.

**Subject headings:** Mayors -- Tennessee -- Chattanooga  
 Fort Family  
 Lawyers -- Tennessee -- Chattanooga  
 United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865  
 Hamilton County (Tenn.) -- Real estate  
 East Tennessee Iron Manufacturing Company  
 Tennessee -- Mines and mining