



SCOTTSDALE
Historical
SOCIETY

Little Red Schoolhouse

GUIDE TO OBJECTS IN THE SCOTT FAMILY EXHIBIT



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1. Melodium



Music was an important part of the Scotts' lives and their household. In every community where Scott served as a Baptist preacher, the Sunday school concert was a regular event and a "showcase" for church activities and religious education. (*Winfield Scott* by Richard E. Lynch, page 34.)

Melodium. This instrument, labelled a "Hamilton organ," looks like an organ but it's actually a "Melodium." Such instruments were developed and popular in the 19th century.

According to the online *Encyclopedia Britannica*, a "Melodeon, also spelled Melodium, also called a Reed Organ or American Organ, is a keyboard instrument sounded when winds vibrate free reeds. It is an American development of the "harmonium," and responds more slowly and works slightly differently. Its foot-operated bellows draw in the air past the reeds by suction, rather than forcing it out by pressure, and its reeds and resonators sound softer and more organlike. (<https://www.britannica.com/art/melodeon>)

2. Melodium



While neither of the Melodiums in the museum were owned by the Scotts, they typify what they might have owned and played.

This 1930s Melodium, made by the George A. Prince & Co. of Buffalo and Chicago, was originally purchased by a couple named “Adams” from Chicago.

In the late 1930s or early 1940s, the Adams’ son and his wife Ruth brought the Melodium with them when they moved west, settling in Scottsdale’s Sherwood Heights neighborhood. Ruth Adams served on the Historical Society’s Board of Directors in the mid-1980s. After she passed away in her 90s, this beautiful Melodium was donated to the Museum in her name.

(Docent Tidings, Little Red Schoolhouse newsletter, November 2006, page 2).

3. Chairs Used by Winfield and Helen Scott



These chairs were used by Winfield and Helen Scott and were donated to the Museum by Ed Place, great grandson of the Scotts.

4. Coverlets



Counterpane. The 1854 counterpane (photo left), or coverlet, hanging on the wall was used by the Scotts. Coverlets like this and the one on the Scotts' chair (photo, right) were common in farm homes of the time.

Coverlets might be made of woven wool for warmth and linen or cotton for durability. American manufacturing of clothing and home fabrics took off with the invention of the cotton gin in 1790 by Eli Whitney. Scottsdale had its own cotton gin from 1920-1929 on Second Street east of Scottsdale Road – this was after Winfield Scott's death, so these coverlets weren't made there. They were donated to the Museum by Sandie Place.

The photo below shows Lolly Mann, a Museum volunteer with the coverlet in 1980. (*Scottsdale Airpark News*, August 1980).



Lolly Mann with the 1854 counterpane used by the Scotts.

5. Dress



This dress, made of a white cotton lawn fabric, is from the early 1900s and is a graduation and/or wedding dress. It was donated in 2018 by Charlotte (no last name).

6. Map of Winfield Scott's Travels



Born in Michigan and raised in upstate New York, Scott travelled across the country in his lifetime.

His stops included:

- Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia where he led troops in three Civil War battles
- Leavenworth, Kansas where he became pastor of the First Baptist Church
- Denver, Colorado where he was the pastor
- Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland, Petaluma and San Diego in California, where he served as a pastor, Army Chaplain, and entrepreneur, and finally
- the Arizona towns of Naco, Douglas, Prescott and Orangedale (later named Scottsdale), where Scott was a pastor, Chaplain, and builder of the community renamed in his honor.

7. Scott Property Map

Chapparral Road



Indian School Road

This map on the wall depicts the 640 acres purchased by Winfield Scott for \$2.50 per acre. It is bounded by today's Chaparral Road (north), Indian School Road (south), Scottsdale Road (west, on left), and Hayden Blvd. (east).

8. Bust of Winfield Scott



The wooden bust of Winfield Scott was carved by Bruce Law and made from olive trees planted by Scott in 1895 (on what is now Civic Center Plaza Street). The Bible and glasses belonged to Scott. They were gifts of Lieutenant Commander W.S. Turner, US Navy, Scott's great grandson.