

Perry County, Alabama

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit November 30, 2012

English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama May 2009

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Summary Information

Repository:	W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama
Creator:	Benson, Elias
Title:	Perry County, Alabama Papers
ID:	MSS.0139
Date [inclusive]:	1796-1898
Physical Description:	0.2 Linear feet 31 Items
Language of the Material:	English
Language of Materials note:	Materials are in English.
Abstract:	Letters and other documents donated by a source in Perry County, Alabama. The collection consists of eight letters to Elias Benson. There is also one summons order included in the Elias Benson series. Another series contains the will of Philip Smith of South Carolina. The Thomas and Mary Jones series contains three statements of debt made to John E. Cook, along with an indenture statement and draft. The final series includes miscellaneous documents including deed certification, court records, official statements, indenture papers, excerpts from company minutes and poems.

Preferred Citation

The Perry County, Alabama Papers, W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama.

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Biographical/Historical note

Not much could be discovered about Elias Benson except that he originally came from South Carolina. He had many brothers, some of which are represented in this collection. Gabriel, Abner, and Nimrod Benson are represented, but there was also a Robert Benson. Nimrod and, it is suspected, Gabriel, also moved to Alabama. Elias was not in the 1850 census record, so it may be assumed he died in the 1840's.

Nothing whatsoever could be discovered about Thomas and Mary Jones.

Philip Smith, represented in these papers by a will, died in 1796 at the age of 68. He was a planter of St. Bartholemew Parish. On April 17, 1766, he married Elizabeth Stobo, a widow. He had three children, Charlotte, Mary and Philip Skiruing Smith.

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Scope and Contents note

The papers of Elias Benson (9 items) are primarily correspondence spanning the years from 1821--1841 although there is also a legal paper and an IOU. The papers of Mary and Thomas S. Jones (5 items) are statements of debt and indentures, all from 1882.

There is also an 1821 copy of a 1796 will of South Carolina planter Philip Smith, as well as assorted legal papers, all of which may have belonged to the Smith family's papers.

Printed poems and rough drafts of poems, that all seem to be from the 1890s, are also in the collection.

The John F. Thompson papers were originally part of this collection, but were separated because they dealt wholly with the Alabama militia in the 1830s.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

November 2012

Processed by

Anonymous, reformatted by Catherine Eddins, student, 2002, and Martha Bace, 2008.

Provenance

Unknown, originated in Perry County.

Conditions Governing Access note

None

Conditions Governing Use note

None

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Controlled Access Headings

- Jones, Mary, Mrs.
- Jones, Thomas
- Smith, Philip
- Alabama - Poetry - 19th Century
- Banks and banking
- Business
- Business and Labor
- Business records
- Correspondence
- Daily Life and Family
- Deeds
- Government, Law and Politics
- Legal documents
- Minutes

Collection Inventory

Elias Benson

Box 1565

Scope and Contents note

In this series there are letters from Abner Benson, David Buck, G. Benson, Nimrod E. Benson and J. B. C. There is also one summons order included in this series.

Controlled Access Headings:

- Benson, Elisa

Title/Description	Instances	
Incoming Correspondence- A. Benson, Chronological	Box 1565	Folder 1
Incoming Correspondence, Chronological	Box 1565	Folder 2
Legal Papers	Box 1565	Folder 3

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Philip Smith

Scope and Contents note

This series contains Philip's will.

Title/Description	Instances	
Will of Philip Smith of South Carolina	Box 1565	Folder 4

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Thomas and Mary Jones

Scope and Contents note

This series contains three statements of debt made to John E. Cook, along with an indenture statement and draft.

Title/Description	Instances	
Indenture Notice	Box 1565	Folder 5
Statements of Debt	Box 1565	Folder 6

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Miscellany

Scope and Contents note

This series includes deed certification, court records, official statements, indenture papers, excerpts from company minutes and poems.

Title/Description	Instances	
Legal Papers	Box 1565	Folder 7
Miscellany	Box 1565	Folder 8
Poetry	Box 1565	Folder 9

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