



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

**TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OFFICE FILES
1790-1985**

Processed by:

Suzanne McCampbell
Archival Technical Services

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INTRODUCTION

This is a collection of the Tennessee Historical Society's office files, and it consists of the business records of the Society.

The materials in this finding aid measure 11.34 linear feet. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Tennessee Historical Society Office Files may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Tennessee Historical Society Office Files, containing approximately 2,500 items, covers the period 1790-1985. The collection consists of account books, acquisition records, clippings, correspondence, financial documents, genealogical data, minutes, photographs, printed materials, newsletters, programs, reports, tax data, and several special categories. These special categories include the following: the General John Adams Collection, a County Information Project done in 1973; records of the Endowment Fund from 1981 to 1985; the John Trotwood Moore Memorial Award; and the Pueblo Pottery Collection.

Minutes of the Tennessee Historical Society meetings comprise the major part of this collection. From its inception as the Tennessee Antiquarian Society in 1820, the history of this organization can be traced through the minutes. Important events in the state of Tennessee, as well as the activities of some of the state's most prominent citizens, are reflected in these minutes. Membership and officer lists contained within the minutes provide vital information about those who have faithfully preserved our state's history throughout the years. These minutes would prove helpful to anyone researching the history of the Tennessee Historical Society.

The acquisitions and endowment fund records offer information about those people who have generously supported the Tennessee Historical Society through their gifts.

The correspondence in this collection deals with donations, legislation, functions, and business of the society. Prominent Tennessee correspondents who are found in the collection include the following people: Gov. Gordon Browning, David Crockett, Finley M. Dorris, Hallum W. Goodlou, Andrew Johnson, John Trotwood Moore, Anson Nelson, and Dr. W.A. Provine.

There are several reports included in the collection, many of which may have been presented at meetings of the Tennessee Historical Society. These reports cover a variety of topics of interest to Tennesseans: archives, bluff paintings, Cumberland Settlement, Battle of Franklin, Felix Grundy, Nashville, the history of the Tennessee Historical Society, and Alvin C. York. Likewise, the clippings collection covers the following historical topics: Chilhowie, Stanley F. Horn, Sam Houston, John Trotwood Moore, Rocky Mount, John Sevier, Robert Love Taylor, the Tennessee Historical Society, and the Cumberland Settlers Association.

Although there is little genealogical data included in this collection, there is an interesting survey of the membership of the Tennessee Historical Society done in 1956. There are also files on Captain W.C. Blanton and Florence Jackson Stoddard, as well as the Edgar County, Illinois Census of 1850, which might prove helpful to those doing research of that nature.

This collection will prove to be most useful to those doing historical research on the Tennessee Historical Society and the state of Tennessee.

AGENCY HISTORY

Tennessee Historical Society

- 1820 Antiquarian Society formed
- 1835 Tennessee Society for the Diffusion of Knowledge formed
- 1849 Tennessee Historical Society formed
- 1851-1856 Gap in minutes – believed no meetings held
- 1857 Re-organized, began meeting in State Library
- 1858 May Day celebration of the Tennessee Historical Society anniversary
- 1860-1874 No meetings due to the Civil War
- 1874 Re-organized
- 1880 Statue of Andrew Jackson unveiled on Capitol grounds – donated by Tennessee Historical Society
- 1885 Meetings moved to Watkins Institute
- 1886 Resolution inviting “daughters, wives and sweethearts” to attend meeting
- 1890 Women elected to membership – Miss Tommie Buchanan was first
- 1896 Centennial Celebration – Tennessee Historical Society exhibit of portraits, firearms and manuscripts
- American Historical Magazine* published in collaboration with Peabody Normal College
- 1899 50th Anniversary Celebration honoring past presidents: Nathaniel Cross, A.W. Putnam, Dr. J.G.M. Ransey, and presiding president, Judge John M. Lea
- 1915 First issue of *Tennessee Historical Magazine*
Tennessee Historical Society merged with Ladies Historical Society

- 1925 Moved to the War Memorial Building
- 1927 Resolution adopted by State of Tennessee to hold in trust the collections of the Tennessee Historical Society, to be permanently preserved in the State Library and Archives
- 1942 Re-organized
- Tennessee Historical Quarterly* published
- 1953 Moved Tennessee Historical Society manuscripts into new State Library and Archives building
- 1963 Custody of all Tennessee Historical Society manuscripts given to Manuscript Section of State Library and Archives

CONTAINER LIST

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Account Books

1. Subscriptions – Tennessee Historical Quarterly, 1942
2. Subscriptions – Tennessee Historical Quarterly, 1943-1945
3. Membership – 1967-1974

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Account Books

1. Membership – 1978-1982
2. Membership – 1982-1985

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1. Bills & Receipts, 1982
2. Bills & Receipts, 1984
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4. Bills & Receipts – Telephone, 1983-1984
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6. Promissory Note – I. Easton, 1803

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3. Fain – Guarino
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5. Kelley – Murdock
6. Niedergeser – Prince
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1. List of Books, Manuscripts, etc., 1851 (also contains minutes of the Society for the Advancement of Literature and Science, 1835-1838)
2. Lists, 1880
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1. Applications – Membership, 1945-1946
2. Applications – Membership, 1930, 1947-1950
3. By-Laws – 1878, 1943, 1952
4. Certificates – American Association for State and Local History
5. Certificates – Merit, American Institute of Genealogy to Elizabeth Leach Rixford
January 19, 1939
6. Certificates – Tennessee Historical Society Membership, 1849
7. Clippings – Berry, Harry S., May, 1943
8. Clippings – Chilhowie, 1963
9. Clippings – Horn, Stanley F.
10. Clippings – Houston, Sam
11. Clippings – Moore, John Trotwood
12. Clippings – Rocky Mount
13. Clippings – Sevier, John
14. Clippings – Supreme Court
15. Clippings – Taylor, Robert Love
16. Clippings – Tennessee Historical Society Anniversary
17. Clippings – Tennessee Historical Society Documents
18. Clippings – Tennessee Historical Society History
19. Clippings – Tennessee Historical Society Museum
20. Clippings – Tennessee Historical Society Relics
21. Clippings – Watauga – Cumberland Settlers Association, 1910
22. Coupons – Russian, 1922-1924
23. Court Records – Cases – *Howell, Joseph T. vs. Moore, Hugh C., et al.* – Exhibit C,
17 May 1928

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1. Abernathy – Arnel
2. Bate – Browning
3. Colfax – Crockett
4. Davidson – Drake
5. FuTsung – Foster
6. Goodlow – Gray
7. Henry – Horn
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10. Lucky
11. McGill – Moore
12. Nelson
13. Porter – Provine
14. Quarles – Roberts
15. Shields – Spears
16. THS – Tibbs
17. Vickers
18. Webb – Wynn
19. Miscellaneous – Unknown authors, Post Cards WWI, Letters written on birch bark

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Financial Documents

1. Bank Bills, 1910
2. Bank Statements & Deposit Slips, 1980
3. Bank Statements & Deposit Slips, 1981
4. Bank Statements & Deposit Slips, 1982

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1. Bank Statements & Deposit Slips, 1983
2. Bank Statements & Deposit Slips, 1984
3. Bank Statements & Deposit Slips, 1985
4. Budget, Division of History and Archives, no date
5. Check – Jefferson Davis, 25 April 1872
6. Report, 1979

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1. Bank Statements & Deposit Slips – Life Membership, 1976-1982
2. Bank Statements & Deposit Slips – Manuscripts Acquisition, 1980-1984
3. Bank Statements & Moore Memorial Fund, 1982-1983
4. Bank Statements & Savings Account #000-26383-04, Third National Bank

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2. Cancelled Checks – 11 September 1984 – 15 January 1985 (#2682-#3001)
3. Merrill Lynch Security Account, 1982-1985
4. Merrill Lynch Ready Assets Trusts, 1982-1985
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2. Genealogical Data – Edgar County, Illinois Census, 1850
3. Genealogical Data – Stoddard, Florence Jackson
4. Genealogical Data – Tennessee Historical Society Membership Survey
5. Invitations – Miscellaneous
6. Legal Documents – Affidavit – Robert T. Quarles
7. Legal Documents – Will – William Quarles, Jr., 20 September 1970
8. Legislation – Act to create State Commission of Archaeology
9. Legislation – Senate Bill No. 164, 29 March 1921
10. Lists – Dates of Minutes, Tennessee Historical Society Meetings, March 1914-April 1933
11. Lists – Membership, Tennessee Historical Society, 1900-1933
12. Lists – Messages of Governors of Tennessee, 1839-1925
13. Lists – Portraits of Eminent Americans now Living; by John Livingston, 1853
14. Maps – Europe, WWII – Issued to flyers
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16. Military Records – Special Orders – 4th Infantry, Tennessee Volunteers, 4 August 1898

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1. Tennessee Antiquarian Society, 1820-1822 – Typed Copies
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4. Tennessee Antiquarian Society, 1837 – Typed Copies
5. Tennessee Historical Society, 1849-1860 – Typed Copies
6. Tennessee Historical Society, 1849 – Typed Copies
7. Tennessee Historical Society, 1850 – Typed Copies
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2. Tennessee Historical Society, 1892 – Typed Copies
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10. Tennessee Historical Society, 1900 – Originals & Typed Copies
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4. Notes – Federal Historical Records Survey, 1936
5. Pamphlets – Cordell Hull Lectures – April 1957
6. Pamphlets – Stones' River National Battlefield, 1962
7. Photographs – Billins, Rockwood, Tennessee – Unidentified Sideboard & Cupboard
8. Photographs – Blount, Willie, Justice of Peace, Knox County, 16 February 1802 – Affidavit
9. Photographs – Claybrook, Mary Perkins – Portrait
10. Photographs – Green, Nathan – Acceptance Letter to Supreme Court – 19 December 1831
11. Photographs – Heiman, Col. Adolphus – Illustrations – *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* article, Summer 1979
12. Photographs – Houston, Sam – Schoolhouse
13. Photographs – Jails, Historic – *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Spring 1980
14. Photographs – Johnson, Andrew – color transparency
15. Photographs – Miles, Emma Bell – Illustrations – *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*
16. Photographs – Petition to Tennessee General Assembly for lottery to build Masonic Lodge, n.d.
17. Photographs, drawings, etc. – Architectural drawings, unknown artist
18. Printed Materials – Booklet – Civil Defense

19. Printed Materials – Booklet – Crockett, David
20. Printed Materials – Booklet – Dixona
21. Printed Materials – Booklet – Southern Historical Association, 1944
22. Printed Materials – Circular – Tennessee Society for Diffusion of Knowledge, n.d.
23. Printed Materials – Leaflet – Contents, *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, 1932
24. Printed Materials – Pamphlet – America in Books, 1952
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2. *History Imprints*, Vol. 2, October 1964 – May 1965
3. *History Imprints*, Vol. 3, October 1965 – May 1966
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4. East Tennessee Historical Society, 1983
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4. Archives – Reorganization, 1923
5. Archives – State Archivist Position
6. Archives – Tennessee Historical Society – Relation to Division of Library and Archives
7. Bluff Paintings by R.W. Weesner
8. Cumberland Settlement, 1783 (two copies)
9. DuPont Plant, Old Hickory, Tennessee
10. Battle of Franklin – Burial of Confederate Generals
11. Felix Grundy
12. Health Legislation in Tennessee by Robert H. White
13. Icelandic Celebration by Dr. William A. Smith
14. Legislature, How first recordings of Tennessee Legislature Came into Existence by Edith R. Epps
15. Nashville, Early History
16. Nashville, Union Occupation by B.Y. Dewitt
17. Race-Riots by Douglas Anderson
18. Scrap, Why Yours is Important by R.A. Crosby
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21. Tennessee Historical Society – Acquisitions, 1979
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