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## Finding Aid for the Audubon Mississippi / Strawberry Plains Finley Collection (MUM01701)

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# Finding aid for the Audubon Mississippi / Strawberry Plains Finley Collection

## MUM01701

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  - [Series VII. Dr. Hubert H. McAlexander Accretion](#)

### SUMMARY INFORMATION

**Repository**

University of Mississippi Libraries

**Creator**

McAlexander, Hubert Horton

**Creator**

National Audubon Society ;

**Title**

Audubon Mississippi / Strawberry Plains Finley Collection

**ID**

MUM01701

**Date [inclusive]**

1830-2008 (bulk 1830-1980)

**General Physical Description note**

29 boxes (12 linear feet)

**Abstract:**

Correspondence, documents, photographs and other materials related to the lives of several Marshall County, Mississippi families and the Strawberry Plains plantation. Includes the accretion by Dr. Hubert H. McAlexander of research materials gathered on Strawberry Plains.

**Preferred Citation**

Audubon Mississippi / Strawberry Plains Finley Collection, circa 1830-1980, Archives and Special Collections, J.D. Williams Library, The University of Mississippi

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## **HISTORICAL NOTE**

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The Finley and Davis families, related through marriage, lived in Marshall County, Mississippi; in 1834, Mary Jane Greelee of Virginia married John Tate Finley while her sister, Martha Trimble Greelee, married Ebenezer Nelms Davis in 1845. Martha and Ebenezer built the substantial plantation home, Strawberry Plains, while the Finley's lived in Holly Springs proper. Strawberry Plains was burned during the Civil War. For several years after the 1863 fire, the family lived in a small cabin on the property.

The "Finley Place" was built by Mrs. Martha Alston Reese Jones, April 1859. During the Jones's tenure, the Surgeon General of Grant's Army and his staff occupied the home. The home became known as the Jones-Shuford House when Mrs. Jones sold the property to her son-in-law Dr. Shuford in 1872.

In 1906 George Finley purchased the home, which passed to his son Thomas Finley in November 1923. By this time Thomas had married Ruth Leach and had two children: Ruth Finley (September 1911) and Margaret Finley (June 1915). The two young girls grew up in the house and inherited it from their parents. Margaret Finley Shackelford returned to Holly Springs with her husband, Dr. Shackelford, and purchased Strawberry Plains while her sister Ruth remained in the Finley Place.

The two sisters donated Finley Place and Strawberry Plains to the National Audubon Society in 1983; the Society took residence in the Spring of 1998.

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## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

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Collection from the Marshall County plantation, Strawberry Plains. Contains the letters, documents, photographs and other materials related to the lives of several Marshall County families: Davis, Finley, Leach, Hull, Fant, Moseley, Pinson, Kimball, Bynum, Tidwell, and Levy.

The bulk of the collection concerns the Finley family and is in the 20th century.

The Dr. Hubert H. McAlexander Accretion contains five boxes of research materials kept by Dr. McAlexander for his book on Strawberry Plains and the Audubon Society in Mississippi. Also includes information on family history from Holly Springs.

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## ARRANGEMENT

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This collection is arranged by series according to family, then divided by subject and format. Materials are chronologically arranged within each subseries. Materials in the Dr. Hubert H. McAlexander accretion remain in original order.

1. [Series I. Leach Family](#)
2. [Series II. Davis Family](#)
3. [Series III. Hull Family](#)
4. [Series IV. Moseley Family](#)
5. [Series V. Levy, Fant, Kimball, Bynum, Tidwell, Shackelford, and Pinson Families](#)
6. [Series VI. Finley Family](#)
7. [Series VII. Dr. Hubert H. McAlexander Accretion](#)

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## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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### Publication Information

University of Mississippi Libraries

### Access Restrictions

The Audubon Mississippi / Strawberry Plains Finley Collection is open for research.

### Copyright Restrictions

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### Additions

No further additions are expected to this collection.

### Acquisition Information

Donated to the University by the National Audubon Society, 2003. Accretion donated by Dr. Hubert Horton McAlexander, 2008.

## **Processing Information**

Collection processed by Jennifer Ford. Stephanie McKnight processed the Hubery H. Alexander Accretion. Finding aid encoded by Jason Kovari, 8 May 2009 ; revised June 2010.

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## **RELATED MATERIALS**

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### **Separated Material**

Photographs were removed from this collection, housed separately for preservation purposes.

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## **CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS**

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### **Corporate Name(s)**

- Strawberry Plains Audubon Center -- History

### **Format(s)**

- blueprints (reprographic copies)
- cookbooks
- correspondence
- diaries
- documents
- financial records
- ledgers (account books)
- maps
- photographs

### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Marshall County (Miss.) -- History
- Mississippi -- History -- 19th century
- Mississippi -- History -- 20th century

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Finley family

### **Subject(s)**

- Plantations -- Mississippi -- Marshall County -- History
- Slavery -- Mississippi -- Marshall County

## **COLLECTION INVENTORY**

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### **Series I. Leach Family**

1.1 Correspondence, 1881-1898

1.2 Correspondence, Undated 20th Century

1.3 Correspondence, 1905

1.4 Correspondence, 1906

1.5 Correspondence, 1906

1.6 Correspondence, 1907-1909

1.7 Tax Return Information, 1906-1918

1.8 Financial Documents, 1890-1922

1.9 Miscellaneous

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### **Series II. Davis Family**

2.1 Correspondence, Undated-1905

2.2 Martha Greenlee Davis' Civil War claim  
correspondence, 1896-1901

2.3 19th Century financial documents, Undated-1860

2.4 19th Century financial documents, 1861-1894

2.5 Miscellaneous

3 OVRS E.M. Davis' Civil War Pardon from Andrew  
Johnson, 21 August 1865

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### **Series III. Hull Family**

2.6 Correspondence, 1869-1890

2.7 19th Century financial documents

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**Series IV. Moseley Family**

2.8 Correspondence, 1891

2.9 Slave bills of sale

2.10 19th century financial documents (does not include slave bills)

2.11 Martha Moseley correspondence

2.12 Genealogical materials

2.13 Genealogical materials

2.14 Genealogical materials

2.15 Genealogical materials

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**Series V. Levy, Fant, Kimball, Bynum, Tidwell, Shackelford, and Pinson Families**

2.16 Levy family correspondence and documents.

2.17 Fant family correspondence

2.18 Fant family financial documents, 1905-1916

2.19 Kimball family financial documents, 1888-1903

4.1 Bynum family financial documents, 1902

4.2 Tidwell family financial documents, 1949

4.3 Pinson family financial documents, 1922-1945

4.4 Shackelford family correspondence and documents.

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**Series VI. Finley Family****Correspondence**

4.5 Undated-January 1886

4.6 March 1886-March 1888

4.7 October 1888-December 1899

4.8 Undated 19th-century

4.9 Undated 19th-century

4.10 January 1900-May 1900

4.11 January 1901-November 1906

4.12 January 1907-November 1909

5.1 March 1910-December 1914

5.2 January 1911-December 1919

5.3 January 1920-December 1924

5.4 February 1927-December 1929

5.5 March 1930-December 1934

5.6 January 1935-December 1939

5.7 January 1940-December 1949

5.8 July 1950-December 1959

5.9 January 1960-October 1969

6.1 March 1970-June 1979

6.2 June 1980-January 1981

**Miscellaneous Materials**

6.3 19th Century documents

6.4 20th Century documents, Undated-1967

6.5 20th Century documents, Undated-1967

**General note**

Includes materials on the Strawberry Plains historic



register nomination

6.6 19th Century miscellaneous

6.7 General miscellaneous

6.8 General miscellaneous

6.9 General miscellaneous

6.10 General miscellaneous

**General note**

Contains TVA abstract

7.1 General miscellaneous

7.2 General miscellaneous

7.3 General miscellaneous

7.4 Miscellaneous art prints

7.5 General miscellaneous

**General note**

Contains copy of deed of gift of land for Finley Chapel

7.6 School materials ( *See also Box 11* )

7.7 School materials ( *See also Box 11* )

7.8 Empty envelopes

7.9 Miscellaneous invitations

**General note**

Includes invitation to Ruth Leach and Thomas Finley's wedding in 1907

7.10 Maps and blueprints

**General note**

Contains blueprint of a corn crib

7.11 Maps and blueprints

**General note**

Contains highway map of Marshall County, January 1939

7.12 Plans for the restoration of Strawberry Plains, 27 March 1969

7.13 Map of Mississippi County, Arkansas

8.1 School materials ( *See also Box 10*)

8.2 School materials( *See also Box 10*)

8.3 Unidentified 20th Century scratch notes

14 19th century cookbook- labeled, "receipt book, 28 October 1857. Woodland"

14 19th century cookbook- labeled, "Mother Finley's old cook books"

8.4 19th century cookbook fragment and recipes

8.5 20th century cookbooks and recipes

8.6 20th century cookbooks and recipes

8.7 Certificate of Baptism. Ruth Anna Leads, 29 October 1893

8.8 Notebook Diary. Margaret Finley, Holly Springs, 1922

### **Magazines and Pamphlets**

9-10 Magazines and Pamphlets

### **Miscellaneous Fabric and Ephemera**

11 Fabric

11 Glasses

11 Autograph books

11 Bio of Our Baby

### **Diaries and Scrapbooks**

12 Diaries and Scrapbooks

#### **General note**

Contains Emma Finley's diary, 1858-1859

### **Newspaper Clippings**

3 19th Century

3 20th Century

### **General Miscellaneous**

14.1 General 19th Century miscellaneous

14.2 General 20th Century miscellaneous

14.3 General 20th Century miscellaneous

14.4 Materials on the Children of the Confederacy group of Holly Springs

14.5 General correspondence, unknown sender or recipient

14.6 Documents 19th Century

**Ruth Finley Bank Statements**

13 Bank Statements

**Conditions Governing Access note**

These materials are not publically available.

**Photographs**

**19th Century General Financial Documents**

14.7 Undated-1889

14.8 1890-1899

14.9 Documents regarding the guardianship of Finley Scruggs by George J. Finley, 1881-1887

14.10 General 19th Century financial documents

**20th Century General Financial Documents**

14.11 Undated

14.12 20th Century documents regarding the McKissack Farm

14.13 Undated-1906

14.14 1900-October 1909

15.1 October 1911-December 1919

15.2 1920-1921

15.3 January-October 1922

15.4 1922-1925

15.5 1923

15.6 1924

15.7 March-October, 1925

15.8 1926-1929

16.1 1930-1933

16.2 1934

16.3 1935

16.4 1936-1939

16.5 1940-1942

16.6 1943-1949

16.7 March 1950-October 1958

16.8 1961-1967

16.9 1970-1979

16.10 Addition to Finley Place, 1975

16.11 1985

### **20th Century Tax Return Documents**

17.1 Undated-1918

17.2 1921-1923

17.3 1929

17.4 1930

17.5 1933-1939

17.6 1940-1949

17.7 1941

17.8 1942

17.9 1943

17.10 1944

17.11 1945

17.12 1948

17.13 1949

17.14 1951

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17.15 1952

17.16 1954-1959

17.17 1957

17.18 1958

17.19 1959

17.20 1960

17.21 1960-1965

18.1 1961

18.2 1962

18.3 1963

18.4 1964

18.5 1966

18.6 1966

18.7 1967

18.8 1967

18.9 1968

18.10 1968-1969

18.11 1969

18.12 1970

18.13 1970-1972

18.14 1971

18.15 1972

18.16 1973

18.17 1973

18.18 1974

19.1 1974-1976

19.2 1975

19.3 1976

19.4 1977-1979

19.5 1978

19.6 1980-1981

### **Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Files**

19.7 1967

19.8 1968

19.9 1969

19.10 1970

19.11 1971

### **20th Century Stock and Bond Information**

20.1 Stocks and bonds, 1929-1979

20.2 Miscellaneous stock and bond information

20.3 Miscellaneous stock and bond information

20.4 Stocks and bonds, 1929-1979

20.5 Cancelled checks and bank statements, Undated-1921

20.6 Cancelled checks and bank statements, Undated-1925

20.7 Cancelled checks and bank books, 1920s-1930s

21.1 Finley Family cancelled checks, 1933-1947

21.2 Finley Family cancelled checks, 1961-1963

21.3 Finley Family cancelled checks, 1975-1977

21.4 Finley Family cancelled checks, 1978-1979

21.5 Shackelford Family financial documents

21.6 Shackelford Family financial documents

21.7 Shackelford Family financial documents

## Ledgers

### Undated Financial Ledgers

22 Loose Undated Financial Ledgers

### Thomas Finley Ledgers

Ledger #1 February 1917-August 1917

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Contains rent records and cash advances

Ledger #2 1915-1922

Ledger #3 1917-1918

Ledger #4 1918

Ledger #5 1918-1921

Ledger #6 1918-1920

Ledger #7 1919-1921

Ledger #8 Settlements 1921-1924

Ledger #9 Income Tax 1921-1932

Ledger #10 1921-1923

Ledger #11 1922

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Contains financial records, cotton records, and rent records

Ledger #12 October 1922-April 1929

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Contains securities information, the account, cotton records, and household expenses

Ledger #13 1922-1935

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Contains information on J.L. Finley, guardian of E.E. Finley

Ledger #14 Receipt book for cotton 1923-1929

Ledger #15 1925-1927

Ledger #16 1925-1927

Ledger #17 1925

Ledger #18 1925-1927

Ledger #19 1925-1928

Ledger #20 1925

Ledger #21 1927-1929

Ledger #22 1927-1928

Ledger #23 1929-1931

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains information on cotton records

Ledger #24 1929-1931

Ledger #25 1931-1932

Ledger #26 1931-1934

Ledger #27 1931-1933

Ledger #28 1932-1934

Ledger #29 1932-1934

Ledger #30 [1933]

Ledger #31 Records of cotton bales 1934-1935

Ledger #32 1934-1943

Ledger #33 1934-1935

Ledger #34 1934

Ledger #35 1934-1939

Ledger #36 1934-1935

Ledger #37 1935-1949

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains information on taxes, rents, and dividends

Ledger #38 1935-1937

Ledger #39 1935-1957

Ledger #40 17 April 1937-31 January 1940



Ledger #41 1935-1938

Ledger #42 1935-1941

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains bank records, repair information, tax information, and cotton information

Ledger #43 1935-1942

Ledger #44 1935-1937

Ledger #45 1937

Ledger #46 1937-1939

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains cotton records

Ledger #47 1938-1940

Ledger #48 1938-1940

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains tenant records and information on acreage

Ledger #49 1940-1944

Ledger #50 1940-1943

Ledger #51 1940-1941

Ledger #52 1941-1943

Ledger #53 1942-1943

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains information on cotton

Ledger #54 April 1942-October 1943

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains information on debt, army worm, poison records, and fertilizer records

Ledger #55 1943-1945

Ledger #56 1943-1945

Ledger #57 September 1944-February 1945

Ledger #58 1944-1949

Ledger #59 1944-1945

Ledger #60 September 1945-April 1946

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains cotton and fertilizer records

Ledger #61 1945-1946

Ledger #62 December 1946-October 1948

Ledger #63 1947-1948

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains cotton, corn, and fertilizer records

Ledger #64 1947

Ledger #65 1947-1950

Ledger #65B 1948-1962

Ledger #66 1948-1950

Ledger #67 1948-1950

Ledger #68 1950s

Ledger #69 1950-1956

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains bank records, crop expenses, interest and stocks, and information on the Victoria Gin Company

Ledger #70 Cotton records September 1936-1950

Ledger #71 1950-1952

Ledger #72 1951-1955

Ledger #73 1953-1959

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains cotton register and farm reports

Ledger #74 1955-1961

**Scope and Contents note**

Contains cotton and poison records

Ledger #75 April 1956-October 1959

Ledger #76 1956-1967

Ledger #77 Records of the Emma Finley Estate 1957-1961

Ledger #78 1959-1962

Ledger #79 Cotton and rent records 1960-1962

Ledger #80 1960s

Ledger #81 1962-1964

Ledger #82 1964-1965

Ledger #83 1966-1973

Ledger #84 1966-1971

### **George Finley Ledgers**

Ledger #1 Undated

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Contains land plats and relating to George Finley's land holdings

Ledger #2 1868-1875

Ledger #3 1876-1877

Ledger #4 1878-1882

Ledger #5 1878

Ledger #6 1880

Ledger #7 1883

Ledger #8 1885

Ledger #9 [1885]-1888

Ledger #10 1886

Ledger #11 1887-1888

Ledger #12 August-September 1888

#### **Scope and Contents note**

Contains wage and time records

Ledger #13 1889-1891

Ledger #14 1891-1893

Ledger #15 1893

Ledger #16 1894

Ledger #17 1895-1896

Ledger #18 1896-1897

Ledger #19 1897-1899

Ledger #20 1898

Ledger #21 1899-1900

Ledger #22 1901-1902

Ledger #23 1902-1904

Ledger #24 1914-1915

### **Miscellaneous Ledgers**

Ledger #1 General ledger of household expenses 1934-1936

Ledger #2 Contains inspirational writings and prayers Undated

Ledger #3 Unknown owner but contains fertilizer records 1967

Ledger #4 1965-1967

Ledger #5 Ruth Leach's short stories for composition class Undated

Ledger #6 Margaret Elizabeth Finley baby book 6 June 1915

Ledger #7 Ruth Finley's diary 1961

Ledger #8 Dockery & Donelson Company, Spot Cotton Brokers, notebook Undated

Ledger #9 Ruth Finley lesson book 1929

Ledger #10 Ruth Finley Biology I notes 1929-1930

Ledger #11 1932, 1934

### **Scope and Contents note**

Contains Margaret Finley's Holly Springs High School diploma and her 1934 certificate from the Delta, Delta, Delta Sorority

Ledger #12 Holly Springs Gin Company Board

Minutes 20 June 1919-16 December 1931

Ledger #13 Ledger from the Victoria Gin Company 1930-1931

Ledger #14 Ledger from the Victoria Gin Company 1931-1938

Ledger #15 Ledger from the Victoria Gin Company 1931-1938

Ledger #16 Holly Springs Garden Club Records, 1947

Ledger #17 Finley Brothers Ledger 1921-1925

Ledger #18 Holly Springs school board minutes 1920-1922

Ledger #19 Holly Springs Institute board minutes 1904-1920

Ledger #20 Miscellaneous ledger from the 1940s

### **Books**

28-29 Uncataloged Books

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### **Series VII. Dr. Hubert H. McAlexander Accretion**

23.1 Chain of Title

23.2 Strawberries

23.3 The Fate of Strawberry Plains

23.4 Greenlee

23.5 Greenlee's Ferry

23.6 Finley Family (Early)

23.7 Rockbridge Houses

23.8 Rockbridge County, Virginia

23.9 Fancy Hill

23.10 Mary McDowell

23.11 Paxton, Grigsby

23.12 Diary-Emma Finley 1858-1859

23.13 John T. Finley

23.14 Davis Family

23.15 Eben Davis

23.16 Davis Patent and Farming Business

24.1 Davis Children

24.2 Stanback

24.3 Martha Greenlee Davis

24.4 Bankruptcy and Aftermath

24.5 Strawberry Plains Building and Rebuilding

24.6 Sale of Greenlee's Ferry

24.7 Moseley

24.8 Nelms

24.9 Mary Jane Greenlee Finley

24.10 Nannie Dunlap Finley

24.11 Finley Scruggs

24.12 Geo. J. Finley Farming

24.13 Finley Brothers-John Latta Finley

24.14 Geo. T. Finley

24.15 Finley Farming 1920's and 1930's

24.16 John S. Finley

24.17 George J. Finley

24.18 Leach

25.1 Miss Ruth

25.2 Mr. Thomas and Miss Ruth

25.3 Margaret and John

25.4 Wills, Estate, Trust

25.5 Ruth

25.6 Miss Martha

25.7 Restoration of House

25.8 Bequest and Background

25.9 Dawson

25.10 Building House

25.11 Davis-Davidson Letters

25.12 Davidson Papers-McCormick Collection

25.13 Coldwater Station

25.14 Sherman and Coldwater Camp

25.15 Location of Camp Coldwater

25.16 Coldwater Camp Fall 1862-1863

25.17 Puryear-Brittenum

26.1 Puryear Place

26.2 Gibbons-Roberts Plantation

26.3 Jessie McKissack Peters

26.4 Alexander C. McKissack

26.5 McKissack

26.6 McKissack Place

26.7 Holmes Teer

26.8 Oral Histories

26.9 Nancy Faut

26.10 McClure Interviews

26.11 Irma Johnson

26.12 Howell Interview

26.13 Grace Mallory Turner b. 1918

26.14 Zinn Interview

26.15 Strawberry Church Recent

26.16 Finley Grove

26.17 Strawberry School

27.1 Slave Cemetery

27.2 Strawberry Church

27.3 Stephenson Office (Mack)

27.4 Strawberry Plains Research

27.5 SRAC-Beginning

27.6 Madge Early Years

27.7 2005-2006

27.8 2003-2004

27.9 SPAC History Steering Committee Meeting, 24 June 2003

27.10 Strawberry Plains Maps

27.11 Charlotte Ingram-Map

27.12 Census 1860-1880

27.13 Census 1900-1930

27.14 Strawberry/Mack Neighborhood

27.15 Lillian Stephenson Burton

27.16 Preservation Magazine

27.17 Mississippi Audubon Magazine

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