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

Finding Aid for the Audubon Mississippi / Strawberry Plains Finley Collection

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Audubon Mississippi / Strawberry Plains Finley Collection
Dates:	1830-2008 (bulk 1830-1980)
Collector:	National Audubon Society ; McAlexander, Hubert Horton
Physical Extent:	29 boxes (12 linear feet)
Repository:	University of Mississippi. Department of Archives and Special Collections. University, MS 38677, USA
Identification:	MUM01701
Language of Material:	English
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.

Administrative Information

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.

Additions

No further additions are expected to this collection.

Subject Terms

Finley family
Strawberry Plains Audubon Center -- History
Plantations -- Mississippi -- Marshall County -- History
Slavery -- Mississippi -- Marshall County
Mississippi -- History -- 19th century
Mississippi -- History -- 20th century
Marshall County (Miss.) -- History

Formats

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

Historical Note

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.

Scope and Content Note

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.

User Information

Preferred Citation

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

Access Restrictions

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

Copyright Restrictions

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Separated Material

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

Arrangement

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.

[Series I. Leach Family](#)

[Series II. Davis Family](#)

[Series III. Hull Family](#)

[Series IV. Moseley Family](#)

[Series V. Levy, Fant, Kimball, Bynum, Tidwell, Shackelford, and Pinson Families](#)

[Series VI. Finley Family](#)

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

Container List

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

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

Series III. Hull Family

- 2.6 Correspondence, 1869-1890
- 2.7 19th Century financial documents

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

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.

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
- 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
- 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
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
Note: Includes invitation to Ruth Leach and Thomas Finley's wedding in 1907
- 7.10 Maps and blueprints
Note: Contains blueprint of a corn crib
- 7.11 Maps and blueprints
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
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

Restrictions: 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
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
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- 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: 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: Contains financial records, cotton records, and rent records

Ledger #12 October 1922-April 1929

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

Ledger #13 1922-1935

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

Ledger #14 1923-1929 Receipt book for cotton

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: 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 1934-1935 Records of cotton bales

Ledger #32 1934-1943

Ledger #33 1934-1935

Ledger #34 1934

Ledger #35 1934-1939

Ledger #36 1934-1935

Ledger #37 1935-1949

Scope: 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: 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: Contains cotton records

Ledger #47 1938-1940

Ledger #48 1938-1940

Scope: 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: Contains information on cotton

Ledger #54 April 1942-October 1943

Scope: 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: Contains cotton and fertilizer records

Ledger #61 1945-1946

Ledger #62 December 1946-October 1948

Ledger #63 1947-1948

Scope: Contains cotton, corn, and fertilizer records

Ledger #64 1947

Ledger #65 1947-1950

Ledger 1948-1962
#65B

Ledger #66 1948-1950

Ledger #67 1948-1950

Ledger #68 1950s

Ledger #69 1950-1956

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

Ledger #70 September 1936-1950 Cotton records

Ledger #71 1950-1952

Ledger #72 1951-1955

Ledger #73 1953-1959

Scope: Contains cotton register and farm reports

Ledger #74 1955-1961

Scope: Contains cotton and poison records

Ledger #75 April 1956-October 1959

Ledger #76 1956-1967

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

Ledger #78 1959-1962

Ledger #79 1960-1962 Cotton and rent records

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: 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: 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 1934-1936 General ledger of household expenses
Ledger #2 Undated Contains inspirational writings and prayers
Ledger #3 1967 Unknown owner but contains fertilizer records
Ledger #4 1965-1967
Ledger #5 Undated Ruth Leach's short stories for composition class
Ledger #6 6 June 1915 Margaret Elizabeth Finley baby book
Ledger #7 1961 Ruth Finley's diary
Ledger #8 Undated Dockery & Donelson Company, Spot Cotton Brokers, notebook
Ledger #9 1929 Ruth Finley lesson book
Ledger #10 1929-1930 Ruth Finley Biology I notes
Ledger #11 1932, 1934
Scope: Contains Margaret Finley's Holly Springs High School diploma and her 1934 certificate from the Delta, Delta, Delta Sorority
Ledger #12 20 June 1919-16 December 1931 Holly Springs Gin Company Board Minutes
Ledger #13 1930-1931 Ledger from the Victoria Gin Company
Ledger #14 1931-1938 Ledger from the Victoria Gin Company
Ledger #15 1931-1938 Ledger from the Victoria Gin Company
Ledger #16 Holly Springs Garden Club Records, 1947
Ledger #17 1921-1925 Finley Brothers Ledger
Ledger #18 1920-1922 Holly Springs school board minutes
Ledger #19 1904-1920 Holly Springs Institute board minutes
Ledger #20 Miscellaneous ledger from the 1940s

Books

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

