



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

EVINS BROTHERS STORE
(Culleoka, Tennessee)
ACCOUNT BOOKS
1847-1947

Processed by:

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INTRODUCTION

These 31 volumes of Account Books, 1847-1947, of the Howlett and Evins General Store in Mooresville and later in Culleoka (both in Maury County) were given to the Tennessee State Library and Archives by Samuel Carrol Evins, a Baptist preacher, and relation of the store owner.

The materials in this finding aid measure 7.2 linear feet. There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Evins Brothers Store collection may be made for purposes of scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

These thirty-one account books and about twelve items dating from 1847 through 1947 contain accounts of the Howlett General Store in Mooresville. It later moved to Culleoka where it became the Evins Brothers Store in 1893. The business was organized in Mooresville and acquired by Sterling Brown Howlett around 1850. It was then called Howlett's Store. In 1859, when the Nashville and Decatur Railroad reached Culleoka, Mr. Howlett built the first store in the new village. However, Howlett's store was not operated during the Civil War but was opened again afterward. Mr. Howlett died in 1879, leaving the store to his nephew, Captain I.J. Howlett. In 1893, W.S. and Benson Evins bought the store. It then became known as Evins Store.

Included in the collection are twenty-one Howlett's Store volumes, 1847-1883; and ten Evins Store volumes 1897-1947. These consist of shopbooks, account books, cash books, and one tax book, along with several loose tax forms and related correspondence for the years 1919-1927.

This account of the Howlett's and Evins General Store was copied from Book No. 4:

This ledger was brought from Moorefield to Culleoka when S.B. Howlett moved his store from the former to the later place. Culleoka was laid out in 1857 by W.H. Wilkes when the Nashville and Decatur Railroad was being projected. In 1859, the railroad reached Culleoka. Mr. Howlett the first store in the new village and was ready to occupy it when the Civil War broke out. During the war, Federal soldiers stabled their horses in the building. After the war, Mr. Howlett opened for business. On December 2, 1879, Mr. Howlett died, leaving the store to his nephew, Captain I.J. Howlett. A few years later (1882), W.S. Evins went to work as clerk for I.J. Howlett and worked until going to Columbia, November 25, 1889, to become manager of the Cumberland Telephone & Telegraph Company. In 1893, W.S. and Benson Evins bought the store and Captain Howlett's stock and went into business for themselves. This ledger (No.4) and quite a good many other old ones were for years stored in the cellar of the store where more than

half of them rotten and fell to pieces. The remaining ones were rescued by Samuel Carroll Evins and taken to W.S. Evins ' home in August 1935 where they were stored in a dry place. The front part of this ledger had some entries for the year 1839 but those sheets were in such a bad condition that he detached them before rebinding the book and wrapped them up in a bundle to themselves. The bundle is stored with the ledgers.

(Signed)

Samuel Carroll Evins

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

1. Mooresville, 1847-1850 (Howlett's Store)
2. Mooresville, 1849-1851
3. Mooresville, 1849-1850
4. Mooresville, 1849-1851
5. Mooresville, 1851-1852
6. Mooresville, 1852-1853 (1856-1860)
7. Mooresville, 1853-1856
8. Mooresville, 1854-1855

Box 2

9. Mooresville, 1858-1859
10. Mooresville, 1859-1861; Inventory
11. Culleoka, 1859-1861
12. Culleoka, 1867-1868
13. Culleoka, 1869
14. Culleoka, 1871-1872
15. Culleoka, 1871-1872
16. Culleoka, 1872-1874
17. Culleoka, 1875-1877

Box 3

18. Culleoka, 1876; Shop Book
19. Culleoka, 1876-1881
20. Culleoka, 1882
21. Culleoka, 1883
22. Culleoka, 1897-1902; Inventory of stock Evins Store
23. Culleoka, 1901-1903
24. Culleoka, 1903-1906
25. Culleoka, 1907-1912; Cash Book
26. Culleoka, 1913-1917; Cash Book
27. Culleoka, 1918-1925
28. Culleoka, 1920 ----; Account Book
29. Culleoka, 1919-1927; Tax Book
30. Culleoka, 1935-1947
31. Culleoka, 1935-1947

W.S. Evins Store Tax Returns, 1919-1924; (folder)

