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**CHANDLER-JACKSON FAMILY PAPERS
1787-1868**

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INTRODUCTION

This finding aid focuses on the papers of David Chandler, William Jackson, and allied families, residents of eastern Davidson County, Tennessee, and western Wilson County, Tennessee, in and near the areas now known as Hermitage and Mt. Juliet, respectively. Spanning the years 1787-1868, the papers include personal correspondence and financial records, as well as some minor financial records related to business. Also in the collection are individual records pertaining to the families, including a copy of William Jackson's will, a divorce decree, a land survey, a draft of an obituary, and miscellaneous correspondence. Other items in the collection include documents concerning Locust Grove Church, part of an almanac, recipes, poetry, and a grammar/writing book dated 1791.

The material was donated by Joseph R. Overton, executor for the estate of Sarah Mildred Jamison of Jackson, Tennessee, in 1998.

The collection consists of 39 folders containing, approximately 225 items, and measures less than 0.5 cubic feet. There are no restrictions on the material. Single photocopies of unpublished writings in the Chandler-Jackson Family Papers may be made for scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Chandler-Jackson Family Papers, containing approximately 225 items, span the period 1787-1868. The collection is composed of personal correspondence, financial records, legal documents, estate related papers, writings, and miscellaneous items. It is arranged into series by individual or family name, then alphabetically within the series. The largest portion of the collection are the personal papers of David Chandler and William Jackson. Much of these consist of promissory notes, accounts and receipts. This portion of the collection also contains some orders and receipts for the production of wood items by William Jackson, suggesting that he may have been a carpenter or cabinet maker.

Among these documents is an order for two spinning wheels for General Andrew Jackson. There are also letters and other documents that allow one to infer family relationships, including the relationship between Jackson and Chandler. Despite the difference in surnames, Chandler refers in correspondence to Jackson and his wife, Eunice, as his parents. Marriage records show that William Jackson married Eunice Chandler on February 12, 1823, in Wilson County, Tennessee. According to the 1850 Census for Tennessee, David Chandler was born in North Carolina circa 1810. This suggests that David Chandler is the step-son of William Jackson. The parent-child relationship is further suggested by one of the documents in the collection, a deed transferring title of William Jackson's lands to David Chandler while the former was still alive, possession not to be taken until after Jackson's death.

Many of the documents in this collection are of potential value for genealogical research. Letters, a copy of William Jackson's will, various legal documents, a writing book, and a draft of an obituary have information that might be of such value. Family names connected to the Jacksons and Chandlers include Earheart, Hays, Lane, Lea, McCulley, Mitchell, and Sharpe.

This collection may also be of value for research into the areas of Davidson County and Wilson County now known as Hermitage and Mt. Juliet, respectively. Much of the correspondence is addressed to the post office at Fountain of Health, a reference to a mineral spring that appeared in the area after an earthquake in 1811 and the health resort that was established at the spring. The post office name was changed to Green Hill after the spring disappeared, and that name also appears in correspondence. Several of the documents give information concerning the business relationships of the community, the leadership of Locust Grove Church, and the establishment of a community school. Many of the family names mentioned in the collection are currently represented in the street names of the area.

Source material for Fountain of Health: Louise Davis, "Fountain of Health," *The Tennessean Sunday Magazine*, January 7, 1968, 4-5.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

David Chandler was born in North Carolina circa 1810. He was married at least once and may have been a cabinet maker by trade. He served in the Tennessee state militia where he was elected to the rank of ensign. In correspondence with William Jackson, both he and his brother, James Lea Chandler, referred to William and his wife as their parents. He lived much of his life in the vicinity of the Hermitage in eastern Davidson County, Tennessee, near the Wilson County line.

William Jackson married Eunice Chandler, February 12, 1823, in Wilson County, Tennessee. He lived in Davidson County, near the Wilson County border. Records in this collection suggest that he may have been a carpenter or cabinet maker. It is unclear if he had any children of his own. He died circa 1838.

Marriage records and the documents in this collection suggest that the Hays family and others to whom documents in the collection pertain may be related to the Chandlers by marriage.

CONTAINER LIST

BOX 1

Chandler, David

1. Accounts, 1838-1854
2. Civil War Pass, 1863
3. Correspondence--Letters Received, 1833-1843
4. Legal Documents, 1828, 1838
5. Promissory Notes, 1831-1859
6. Orders, 1837, 1839
7. Receipts—General, 1829-1868
8. Receipts—Railroad Tax, 1855-1857
9. Receipts—Tax, 1833-1860

Jackson, William

10. Accounts, 1836
11. Correspondence—Letters Received, 1815-1835
12. Financial Statement, n.d.
13. Legal Documents, 1838, ca. 1809
14. Land Survey, n.d.
15. Promissory Notes, 1817- 1834
16. Receipts—General, 1787- 1838
17. Receipts—Tax, 1800-1833

Hays Family

18. Correspondence—Letters Received--Hays, Jane, 1852-1854
19. Legal Documents—Hays Family, 1829, n.d.

Other

20. Almanac (partial), n.d.
21. Article of Agreement—Locust Grove Church and Rev. John B. Jackson, 1854
22. Booklet—A Collection of Letters and Moral Songs for Miss Eunice Lea--Lea, Eunice, 1791
23. Contract, Proposed—Marlow, R.T., for school at Locust Grove, n.d.
24. Copybook page—Earheart, Philip(?), n.d.
25. Correspondence—Letters Received—Various, 1834-1874
26. Divorce decree—Jane Earheart vs. John Earheart, 1844
27. Invitation (printed)—Picnic and Brandance [sic], 1859
28. Legal Documents—Judgment Regarding Baker's Grist Mill—Williamson, W.H., n.d.
29. List of names, n.d.
30. Memorandum of Agreement—Thomas Shackleford and Timothy Dodson, 1816

31. Obituary (Rough Draft)—Lane, Martha Jane, 1853
32. Pattern Pieces for Children's or Doll's Clothing, n.d.
33. Receipts and Promissory Notes—Chandler, James Lea, 1829-1832
34. Receipts—Chandler, Elizabeth, 1848-1873
35. Receipts—Sharpe, James, 1832-1866
36. Receipts—Various, 1833-1866
37. Recipes and Remedies, n.d.
38. Unidentified Documents, n.d.
39. Writings, ca. 1828, n.d.