



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

**WILSON, GREENBERRY
FAMILY PAPERS,
1796-1961**

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INTRODUCTION

The Greenberry Wilson Family Papers were loaned to the Tennessee State Library and Archives by Mr. H. Lindell Agee of Pikeville, Tennessee. After filming, the collection was returned to Mr. Agee.

The collection, spanning the period 1796-1961, is composed of account books, a bill of sale, a bond, a catalog, correspondence, a deed, genealogical materials (relating to the Greenberry Wilson family), a historical sketch of the Swafford Chapel Church and Cemetery, land grants, notebooks, a promissory note, receipts, a speech (given by Robert L. Taylor), a warrant and Greenberry Wilson's will. The arrangement of items is alphabetical. Items of note include a slave bill of sale (located in folder 2), land grants (located in folder 9), notebooks (located in folders 10 and 11) and Greenberry Wilson's will (located in folder 16). The slave bill of sale, dated 1842, is for a slave named Alfred. The first two land grants, dated 1808 and 1813, are granting land in Bledsoe County to Greenberry Wilson. These land grants are signed by Willie Blount, then Governor of Tennessee. The third land grant, dated 1818, grants land in Bledsoe County to Greenberry Wilson, Jr. It is signed by Joseph McMinn, then Governor of the State of Tennessee. The last land grant, dated 1824, grants land in Bledsoe County to Rebecca Low(e). It is signed by William Carroll, then Governor of the State of Tennessee. The math notebook contains school arithmetic notes in the front and genealogical information (including birthdates for Elizabeth, Greenberry and William Wilson) in the back. The *Numeration* notebook contains school arithmetic notes. Inside the back cover is a note to William Wilson's son. It pleads with him telling him that William, his deceased father, desires him to quite his "ill way of living in sin, cussing and swearing." It goes on to say that William wants his son "with him in heaven."

Greenberry Wilson, Sr., served in the Revolutionary War. He was one of the first settlers in Sequatchie Valley, Tennessee, building a house in 1797. As part of the Hugh Dunlap grant of land, he received 150 acres in 1807. He started a farm on this land in 1808; and, in 1809, he added 36 additional acres. He and his wife, Temperance, had eight children. Greenberry died in Bledsoe County, August 29, 1812. After his death, his son, Charles Bradshaw Wilson, became the second owner of Greenberry Wilson's farm. Today, the farm is owned by Greenberry Wilson's great great grandchildren and great great great grandchildren. The Greenberry Wilson House is listed on the National Register of Historical Places and the Greenberry Wilson Farm is honored as a Century Farm.

Source: The biographical information on Greenberry Wilson was gleaned from various items within this collection and from the following sources:

Lowe, J. (September 13, 1905). First settlers of the head of Sequachee Valley. *Crossville Chronicle*. p. 1, col. 1-2.

Douthat, J. (1983). *Sequatchie Families*. p. 110.

http://histpres.mtsu.edu/centfarms/cumberland_county/

<http://familytreemaker.genealogy.com/users/w/e/l/Scotty-W-Welland-TX/GENE1-0023.html>

<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/tn/Cumberland/state.html>

Hayes, J. (March 20, 2008). Greenberry Wilson Farm honored as Century Farm. *Crossville Chronicle*.

http://www.crossville-chronicle.com/local/local_story_080153107.html

Moser, M. (May 19, 2008). County's rich heritage in family farms honored with certification of 11 operations as Century Farms. *Crossville Chronicle*.

http://www.crossville-chronicle.com/local/local_story_082154120.html

CONTENTS

Box 1

1. Account books -- Household, 1899-1917
2. Bill of sale -- Slave, 1842
3. Bond, 1818
4. Catalog -- *Deering Harvesters*, 1900
5. Correspondence, 1796-1919, n.d.
6. Deed, 1841
7. Genealogical materials, 1796-1898, n.d.
8. Historical sketch -- *Swafford Chapel Church and Cemetery*, 1961
9. Land grants, 1807-1824
10. Notebooks -- Math, 1818-1864
11. Notebooks -- *Numeration*, 1844-1857
12. Promissory note, n.d.
13. Receipts, 1784-1913
14. Speech -- Taylor, Robert L., 1906
15. Warrant, 1836
16. Will -- Wilson, Greenberry, 1810