



ALBERT GORE RESEARCH CENTER

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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



**Title:** Donnell-Rucker Papers

**Dates:** 1874–1959

**Creator:** Donnell and Rucker Families

**Summary/Abstract:** The Donnell-Rucker Papers contain the records of the Donnell and Rucker families from the late nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century. These meticulously kept documents are useful for the study of historic farmhouses, early twentieth century families, Rutherford County and Murfreesboro history, history of medicine, family history, and genealogy. Materials of note include account ledgers, expense records, tax records, court case notes and records, and correspondence. The bulk of these materials were kept by Mary Donnell.

**Quantity/Physical Description:** Approximately 6.5 linear feet

**Language(s):** English

**Repository:** Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37132, (615) 898-2632

**Restrictions on Access:** None

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**Preferred Citation:** (Box Number, Folder Number), Donnell-Rucker Papers, Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

**Acquisition:** Donor Unknown

**Processed By:** Original processor undetermined.

**Arrangement:** These papers are arranged into series according to type of document. These series are family, correspondence, accounts and ledger, expense, bank, tax, court, Daughters of the American Revolution, newspaper, miscellaneous, small booklet, ephemera, book, and image. Papers are further arranged chronologically, where appropriate.

**Biographical Note:** The Rucker-Donnell Family lived in Marymont, a historic home on land near Salem, outside of Murfreesboro. Aaron Jenkins received this land in 1797 as part of a Revolutionary War grant. His son, Hiram, built the home on the property prior to the Civil War. The home, unlike some of its contemporaries, survived Federal occupation during the War. In 1878, Dr. J.J. Rucker took possession of the house after his marriage to Nimmie Jenkins. Rucker, like his father, became a well-respected physician in Rutherford County Medical Society. He and his wife had one daughter, Mary. Mary eventually married R.J. Donnell, who passed away early in their marriage, leaving her to raise the children and manage the farm alone. Mary's three children, James, Riley, and Dorothy, attended Peabody school. Mary was involved in the Daughters of the American Revolution and other civic clubs.

**Scope and Content:** This collection contains correspondence extending from 1910-1944, accounts ledgers from 1892-1911, expense statements from 1919-1950, bank statements from 1919-1956, tax statements from 1928-1959, Donnell court cases, letters on the Daughters of the American Revolution, newspaper clippings, small booklets, ephemera, account ledger entries from 1874-1915, twelve various books, and other miscellaneous documents.

**Related Collections:** None

## **Subject Terms**

### **Persons**

Jenkins, Aaron

Jenkins, Hiram

Rucker, J.J.

Jenkins, Nimmie

Donnell, R.J.

Donnell, Mary

### **Places**

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Salem, Tennessee

### **Subjects (General)**

Daughters of the American Revolution

Historic farmhouses

Local history

Genealogy  
Family history

## Material Types

Correspondence

Ledgers

Clippings

Tax records

Court cases

Ephemera

Booklets

Books

Architectural drawings

## Inventory:

Box	Folder	Series	Description of Contents
1	1	Family	Family History
1	2	Family	Written Documents of Family History
1	3	Family	History of Rucker Family, Print Outs
1	4	Family	Rucker/ Jenkins Family Tree, Wills and Documents
1	5	Family	Correspondence with Family History
1	6	Family	Letter and Card of Mrs. White's Baby Girl
1	7	Family	Children's Letters
1	8	Family	Donnell Children Report Cards/ School Related
1	9	Family	Letters to Mary Donnell
1	10	Family	Letters to Mr. Akers from Mary Donnell
1	11	Family	Letters to J.J. Rucker: 1919, 1921 and 1929
1	12	Family	Memoirs of Colonel James Moore King
2	1	Correspondence	Correspondence 1910-1919; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	2	Correspondence	Correspondence 1920; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	3	Correspondence	Correspondence 1921; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	4	Correspondence	Correspondence 1922-1993; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	5	Correspondence	Correspondence 1925; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	6	Correspondence	Correspondence 1926; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	7	Correspondence	Correspondence 1927; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	8	Correspondence	Correspondence 1928; written to and saved by

			Mary Donnell
2	9	Correspondence	Correspondence 1929; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	10	Correspondence	Correspondence 1930; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	11	Correspondence	Correspondence 1931 January-July; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	12	Correspondence	Correspondence 1931 August-December; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	13	Correspondence	Correspondence 1932; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	14	Correspondence	Correspondence 1933; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	15	Correspondence	Correspondence 1934 and 1935; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	16	Correspondence	Correspondence 1942 and 1943; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
2	17	Correspondence	Correspondence 1944; written to and saved by Mary Donnell
3	1	Financial	Accounts Ledger 1892 and 1893; family accounts
3	2	Financial	Accounts Ledger 1896; family accounts
3	3	Financial	Accounts Ledger 1897; family accounts
3	4	Financial	Accounts Ledger 1905; family accounts
3	5	Financial	Accounts Ledger 1906; family accounts
3	6	Financial	Accounts Ledger 1907 and 1908; family accounts
3	7	Financial	Accounts Ledger 1909; family accounts
3	8	Financial	Accounts Ledger 1911; family accounts
4	1	Financial	Expenses 1919-1928; family expenses, such as housing, loan, insurance, automobile and property
4	2	Financial	Expenses 1930 and 1931; family expenses, such as housing, loan, insurance, automobile and property
4	3	Financial	Property Payment 1931-1939
4	4	Financial	Expenses 1932-1939; family expenses, such as housing, loan, insurance, automobile and property
4	5	Financial	Expenses, Notes, and Miscellaneous 1919-1949
4	6	Expense	Expenses 1940; family expenses, such as housing, loan, insurance, automobile and property

4	7	Financial	Housing Expenses 1930-1950
4	8	Financial	Loan and Insurance Statement and Expenses
4	9	Financial	Automobile Certificates
4	10	Financial	Abstract of Title/ Farm Records, Essex County, VA
5	1	Financial	Bank Statements/ Notes 1912-1939
5	2	Financial	Bank Statement/ Notes 1940-1956/ Blank Statements
5	3	Financial	Coffee County Tax Receipt 1928
5	4	Financial	Tax Statements 1930-1939
5	5	Financial	Tax Statements 1940-1949
5	6	Financial	Tax Statements 1950-1959
6	1	Legal	Farmers Bank vs. J.J. Rucker
6	2	Legal	First National Bank vs. Dr. J.J. Rucker, et als
6	3	Legal	Bankers Securities Trust Company vs. Mary Donnell
6	4	Legal	Towle vs. Donnell 1922-1925
6	5	Legal	The Bankers Security Trust Co. vs. Mary Donnell
6	6	Legal	Towle vs. Donnell 1931-1933
6	7	Legal	Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank & Trust Co. 1931-1936
7	1	Legal	Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank & Trust Co.
7	2	Legal	Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank & Trust Co. 1920s
7	3	Legal	Written notes of Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank
7	4	Legal	Polk County, Florida, Chancery Court 1928-1929
7	5	Legal	Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank & Trust Co. 1930
7	6	Legal	Real Estate Deed & Lease 1930 and 1931
7	7	Legal	American National Bank of Nashville vs. Donnells 1930s
7	8	Legal	Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank & Trust Co. 1931
7	9	Legal	Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank & Trust Co. 1932
7	10	Legal	Bankers Securities Trust Co. vs. R.E. Donnell 1932-1934
7	11	Court	Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank & Trust Co. 1933
7	12	Court	Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank & Trust Co.

			1934
7	13	Legal	Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank & Trust Co. 1935 & 1937
7	14	Legal	Mary Donnell vs. First City Bank & Trust Co. 1938
7	15	Legal	Garnett S. Andrews vs. Mary Donnell 1943
8	1	D.A.R.	Letters on Daughters of the American Revolution
8	2	D.A.R.	Letters on Daughters of the American Revolution
8	3	Newspaper clippings	Newspaper clippings; 1930s-1940s
8	4	Newspaper clippings	Nashville Banner – Newspaper clippings; 1930s-1940s
8	5	Miscellaneous	Written Religious Principles
8	6	Miscellaneous	Cumberland River Camping
8	7	Miscellaneous	Burpee's Annual Garden Book; 1928 & 1931
8	8	Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous documents
8	9	Miscellaneous	Empty letter envelopes
9	1	Small Publications	Womans clubs
9	2	Small Publications	Religious booklets
9	3	Small Publications	Agriculture booklets
9	4	Small Publications	Business Christmas cards
9	5	Small Publications	Bank account books
9	6	Small Publications	Pocket notebook
9	7	Small Publications	Governmental law booklets
9	8	Small Publications	Medical booklets
10	1	Ephemera	Small sewing basket
10	2	Ephemera	73 Ephemera tags
10	3	Ephemera	Wall paper from Rucker House
10	4	Ephemera	Transfer pattern
10	5	Ephemera	Postcard from Monteagle
11	1	Memorabilia	Dorothy Donnell scrapbook
11	2	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1874-1875; bound book
11	3	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1877-1878; bound book
11	4	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1892-1893; bound book
11	5	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1896; bound book
11	6	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1897; bound book
11	7	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1898; bound book
11	8	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1899-1900; bound book
11	9	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1901; bound book
11	10	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1902; bound book
11	11	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1903; bound book

11	12	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1904; bound book
11	13	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1905; bound book
11	14	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1906; bound book
11	15	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1907-1908; bound book
11	16	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1909; bound book
11	17	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1911; bound book
11	18	Account Ledger	Accounts ledger 1912-1915; bound book
12	1	Book	<i>Silas Marner</i>
12	2	Book	<i>The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test</i>
12	3	Book	<i>El Final de Norma</i>
12	4	Book	<i>The Nations at War</i>
12	5	Book	Abstract of Title: Polk County Florida
12	6	Book	<i>The Insurance Year Book for 1913</i>
12	7	Book 1-3	<i>The United States Naval Academy</i> 1926
12	8	Book 2-3	<i>Regulations of the Naval Academy</i> 1931
12	9	Book 3-3	Examination Papers for Admission (Naval Academy)
12	10	Book	Postscript 1959 Central High School Year Book
12	11	Book	Our Baby Book: Ridley Edward Donnell Jr.
12	12	Book	<i>Donnelleys Red Book: National Telephone Directory</i> 1919
12	13	Book	Student project finding aid – Donnell Rucker Papers
		Images	Images: Photos and Post Cards (stored with Albert Gore Photo Collections- small collections); seven images
Oversize		Architectural Drawings	J.J. Rucker House Architectural Drawings