



Guide to the William Holland Thomas papers, 1814-1900s and undated

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Summary

Collection Title:

William Holland Thomas papers, 1814-1900s and undated

Creator:

Thomas, William Holland, 1805-1893

Abstract:

White agent and representative for the Cherokee, merchant, lawyer, and trader, of Haywood Co., N.C. Collection includes correspondence, account books, day books, ledgers, and other papers, relating to Thomas's life in western North Carolina; the removal of the Cherokee and the status of those who remained; the development of infrastructure including turnpikes and railroads in North Carolina; Civil War fighting in east Tennessee; postwar administration of Indian affairs; and his private business operations as a white trader among the Cherokees. Includes records of Thomas's five stores in Haywood and Cherokee counties, and business correspondence and accounts of Thomas's son, also William Holland Thomas, a merchant and farmer of Jackson County, N.C.

Extent:

30 Linear Feet

Language:

Material in English and Cherokee

Collection ID:

RL.01290

Permalink:

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1sh43>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], William Holland Thomas Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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Background

Scope and Content

Collection contains letters and papers of William H. Thomas (1805-1893) concerning his life and businesses in western North Carolina; his role as a white agent representing the Indians in negotiations and communications with the U.S. government; the removal of the Eastern Band of Cherokee on the Trail of Tears; the legal and financial conditions of Cherokee who remained behind in North Carolina; the building of roads and railroads through Western North Carolina; fighting during the Civil War in East Tennessee, including Thomas's leadership of Thomas's Legion in the Confederate Army; postwar administration of Indian affairs; and private business of Thomas, including some documentation of his declining health and his institutionalization for mental instability. There are also account books, day books, and ledgers showing a record of goods bought and sold in Thomas's five stores in Haywood and Cherokee counties. Included also are business correspondence and miscellaneous accounts, 1875-1890, of his son, William Holland Thomas, Jr., merchant and farmer of Jackson County, North Carolina.

Biographical/Historical

William Holland Thomas (1805-1893) was a white agent for the Cherokee in Western North Carolina. He also worked as a merchant, lawyer, and trader, based in Haywood Co., N.C. He also served as a colonel in the Confederate Army during the Civil War and led Thomas's Legion, which enlisted both Cherokee and Southern white recruits.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive
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Durham 27708

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URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information, consult the copyright section of the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The William Holland Thomas papers were received by the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library between 1938 and 1952, with an addition acquired in 2018.

Processing Information

Processed by Meghan Lyon, Sept. 2017

Encoded by Meghan Lyon, Sept. 2017

Accession(s) described in this finding aid: 1938 to 1952; 2018-0106.

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Names and Subjects

- Cherokee Indians -- Legal status, laws, etc.
- Cherokee Indians -- Government relations
- General stores -- North Carolina -- Cherokee County
- Farmers -- North Carolina -- Jackson County
- Cherokee County (N.C.) -- History
- Tennessee -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Indians of North America -- North Carolina
- Jackson County (N.C.) -- History
- General stores -- North Carolina -- Haywood County
- Haywood County (N.C.) -- History
- Roads -- North Carolina
- Merchants -- North Carolina -- Haywood County
- Railroads -- North Carolina
- Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians -- History
- United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

- Trail of Tears, 1838-1839
- Confederate States of America. Army -- Officers -- Correspondence
- Confederate States of America. Army. Thomas Legion

Collection Inventory

General papers, 1814-1900s

Scope and Contents

Thomas's assorted correspondence along with extensive notes, loose account pages, and other miscellaneous items are sorted chronologically by year into General Papers. There are also volumes with travel diaries for various business ventures and letterbooks with copies of his incoming and outgoing correspondence. This series documents his various businesses and investments, his Confederate service during the Civil War, his work as an Indian agent, and his family life and friendships. Additional material on his work with the Eastern Band of Cherokee can be found in the Cherokee Papers Series; additional contracts, reports, and petitions relating to railroads and turnpikes can be found in the Infrastructure Series.

General papers, 1814-1842	Box 1
Physical Description: 23 folders	
General papers, 1843-1851	Box 2
Physical Description: 11 folders	
General papers, 1852-1874	Box 3
Physical Description: 23 folders	
General papers, 1875-1900s	Box 4
Physical Description: 7 folders	
Memorandum, correspondence, legal papers, notes, undated	Box 4
Physical Description: 2 folders	
Newspaper clippings, 1800s	Box 8
Depositions, legal notes, etc., 1827-1843	Volume M:3894
Physical Description: Volume (boards); 16x19 cm; 150 pages	

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C. Copies of legal depositions, bills of sale, court judgments, and other cases regarding accusations of fraud, real estate exchanges, receipts, evidence, and memorandum.

Diary and Account Book, 1839-1841

Volume S:3857

Physical Description: Volume (paper); 10x15 cm; 82 pages

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C.. Includes an account of a trip to Louisiana in March 1839.

Diary and Account Book, 1840

Volume S:3895

Physical Description: Volume (paper); ; 20 pages

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C. Thomas describes a trip to Athens, Georgia.

Letterbook, 1835-1842

Volume L:3918

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x32 cm; 76 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Includes Scott's Creek store payments and bills, as well as copies of outgoing correspondence by Thomas regarding store and other business matters.

Letterbook, 1858

Volume M:3920

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 15x19 cm; 24 pages

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C. Copies and abstract of letters sent by Thomas.

Account Book ("Journal of the business of Anson Banks and Co."), 1853, 1878

Volume S:3861

Physical Description: Volume (calf); 9.5x15 cm; 98 pages

Scope and Contents note

Junaluska, Jackson County, N.C. Book originally included journal and account of the Anson Bangs Co. (1853), but was later annotated and supplemented with accounts from William H. Thomas, Jr. in 1878. A note on the inside cover explains how Thomas came into possession of the book. On page 53, Thomas notes that his father was released from the asylum after one year on May 10, 1878.

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Financial and business papers, 1826-1890s

Scope and Contents

This series includes a portion of Thomas's documentation regarding his business ventures and financial obligations. His account books and ledgers include a wide range of customer accounts, inventories, and store management records for stores he owned and operated in Murphy, Qualla Town, and Scott's Creek, North Carolina. There is also substantial additional material, including settlements of individual accounts, filed in the General Papers series and in the Cherokee Papers series.

The account books and ledgers are in varying condition. Account books specifically dealing with Thomas's Cherokee customers have been filed in the Cherokee Papers series; additional assorted records of Thomas's business transactions with Cherokee can be found in this series or in General Papers.

There is also a significant amount of receipts, some sorted loosely by date and some entirely unsorted. Though the bulk of these files are actually receipts, there are also invoices, bills, and other paper scraps related to financial exchanges of goods, labor, and products, including agricultural goods. There is some documentation of enslaved people being bought and sold.

Account Book, 1834-1836, 1834-1836

Volume F:3849

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x34 cm.; 122 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Contains a list of 16 "Rules of Shoal Creek Store," one of them being "Sell to all customers alike. Let not the price vary on any Article in order to do so keep the price of the goods marked on Each Article." Also contains customer accounts; billing accounts for leather, salt, and other goods; spending accounts for purchases in Augusta and Philadelphia.

Accounts, 1835-1839

Volume F:3850

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x38 cm.; 117 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts and retail prices. Includes notes from purchases in Augusta and Philadelphia.

Accounts, Records of Indebtedness and
Inventory of Goods, 1836-1853 Volume L:3851

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x32 cm; 150 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Includes accounts, lists of cash paid out on debts, and bills of articles carried forward; contents include hard ware, jewelry, crockery, among others.

Account Book: Inventory, Order Book, Notes
and Accounts Due, Misc. Accounts, 1836-1841 Volume L:3853

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x31 cm; 160 pages

Scope and Contents note

Indiantown / Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Multipurpose volume with sections listing customer accounts owed and due (including Cherokee accounts); inventories of stock; cash at the Indian Town stores; orders and debts from Thomas's purchases in Charleston and Philadelphia.

Account Book, 1837 Volume S:3854

Physical Description: Volume (paper); 10x15.5 cm; 34 pages

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C. Records of Thomas's personal accounts. Also includes to-do lists.

Accounts ("Bill Book"), 1837-1838 Volume F:3855

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 16x38 cm.; 85 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Expenses accrued by Thomas in Murphy, Athens, Ga., and Philadelphia. Also contains customer accounts and inventories of goods.

Accounts ("List of goods sold"); Day Book,
1845-1851 Volume L:3858

Physical Description: Volume (disbound); 20x32 cm; 205 pages

Scope and Contents note

Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Daybook "Sail book" listing purchases chronologically (1845-1849); account book listing purchases chronologically, grouped by customer name (1849-1851).

- Account Book, 1849-1850 Volume L:3859
Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x32 cm; 263 pages
Scope and Contents note
Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts, including alphabetical index.
-
- Account Book, 1864 Volume S:3860
Physical Description: Volume (calf); 9.5x13 cm; 36 pages
Scope and Contents note
Haywood County, N.C. Includes accounts and lists of soldiers mustered into Thomas' Legion.
-
- Accounts ("White Customers"), 1879-1880 Volume F:3862
Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 21x43 cm.; 350 pages
Scope and Contents note
Junaluska, Jackson County, N.C. Largely blank book, with many torn-out pages; contains assorted notes by Thomas, some recording expenses and financial accounts but others relating to his travels and activities.
-
- Accounts of Indebtedness, 1839-1842 Volume L:3863
Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x31 cm; 80 pages
Scope and Contents note
Murphy, Cherokee County, N.C. Lists of amounts due and brought over, including columns with officers and Cherokee accounts.
-
- Cash Book, 1837-1872 Volume M:3864
Physical Description: Volume (boards); 16x20 cm; 200 pages
Scope and Contents note
Calhoun, Tenn. Multi-purpose book with cash accounts, customer accounts, employee work records, memorandum and notes, as well as doodles and scribbles.
-
- Cash Book, 1838 March Volume F:3865
Physical Description: Volume (boards); 16.5x38.5 cm.; 100 pages
Scope and Contents note
Haywood County, N.C. Largely blank book. Contains accounts of cash taken in and cash paid (and to whom), as well as some individuals' accounts.

References "squaws," lists names of individual customers, perhaps Cherokees.

Collection Book, 1834-1838 Volume F:3866

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 16x39 cm.; 200 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer/loan expenses and notations regarding repayment. Large portions blank.

Collection and Receipt Book, 1875-1880 Volume L:3867

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 19x31 cm.; 50 pages

Scope and Contents note

Junaluska, Jackson County, N.C. Multipurpose book with many marks, torn pages, etc. Assorted writings by Thomas, including his name many times. Also contains lists of accounts collected by Ferrill in 1875.

Day Book, 1832-1833 Volume F:3868

Physical Description: Volume (disbound); apprx. 16x40 cm.; unknown

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Daybook, with entries grouped by customer. Includes notations about Indian customers.

Day Book, 1833-1834 Volume F:3869

Physical Description: Volume (paper); 16x40 cm.; 280 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Chronological daybook, with customer expenses at Scott's Creek store.

Day Book, 1834-1835 Volume F:3870

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 19x40 cm.; 231 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Chronological daybook, with customer expenses and credits at Scott's Creek store.

Day Book, 1836-1838 Volume F:3871

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 15x41 cm.; 428 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Daybook. Includes laid-in booklet of pages, same size but separately bound (approx. 50 pages, includes index), documenting the settlement of accounts following the 1836 Treaty between the U.S. government and individual Cherokee families, with Thomas serving as agent. Regularly bound portion of the daybook contains chronological entries of customer accounts, 1836-1838. The end of the book has fold-out pages that seem to have been bound in later.

Day Book, 1836-1845

Volume F:3872

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 17x47cm; 240 pages

Scope and Contents note

Murphy, Cherokee County, N.C. Chronological daybook kept by Thomas and J.W. King with customer entries of expenses/sales for Valley / Valey River (1836-1837); Fort Delaney (1837-1838); and Murphy (1841?, 1843-1845).

Day Book, 1837

Volume F:3873

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 16x41 cm.; 300 pages

Scope and Contents note

Indiantown, [Quallatown], Haywood County, N.C. Chronological daybook with customer entries of expenses/sales for Indian Town.

Day Book ("Day book for 1838 by J. W. King"),
1837-1839

Volume F:3874

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 16x39 cm.; 635 pages

Scope and Contents note

Murphy, Cherokee County, N.C. Daybook, with entries grouped irregularly by date or by customer. Includes Thomas's notations about Indian and Negro customers.

Day Book, 1839

Volume L:3875

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x31 cm; 240 pages

Scope and Contents note

Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Chronological list of sales at Quallatown store for July-Dec. 1839.

Day Book, 1839-1840

Volume L:3876

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x32 cm; 240 pages

Scope and Contents note

Murphy, Cherokee County, N.C. Murphy store chronological accounts including customer number/purchases, 1839 Sept-1840 Feb.

Day Book, 1839-1840

Volume F:3877

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 19x40 cm.; 138 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Chronological daybook with customer expenses/credits for Scott's Creek. Includes some of Thomas's notations about Negro customers.

Day Book for Year 1840 Qualla Town, 1840

Volume L:3878

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x31 cm; 240 pages

Scope and Contents

Quallatown, Haywood Co., N.C. Quallatown store chronological list of customers/sales at store for Jan.-Aug. 1840.

Day Book, 1840-1841

Volume L:3879

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 19x31 cm; 220 pages

Scope and Contents note

Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Quallatown store chronological list of sales at store.

Day Book, 1832-1843

Volume F:3880

Physical Description: Volume (disbound (in cardboard boards)); 16x38 cm.; 100 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Chronological daybook with customer entries for Scott's Creek and Weedan, N.C.

Day Book, 1841-1842

Volume L:3881

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 18x40 cm; 578 pages

Scope and Contents note

Murphy, Cherokee County, N.C. Chronological daybook with customer entries (name and number) for Murphy, N.C. Includes note: "Thomas and King commenced their copartnership at Murphy on the 8th day of April 1841."

- Day Book, 1845-1848 Volume L:3882
Physical Description: Volume (calf); 21x33 cm; 475 pages
Scope and Contents note
Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Quallatown store chronological list of customers/sales at store for 1845 Dec.-1848 Oct.
-
- Day Book, 1848-1850 Volume L:3883
Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x32 cm; 256 pages
Scope and Contents note
Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Quallatown store chronological list of customers/sales at store for 1848-1850.
-
- Day Book, 1851 Volume L:3884
Physical Description: Volume (boards); 21x33 cm; 100 pages
Scope and Contents note
Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Quallatown store chronological list of customers/sales at store for 1851 Mar.-Aug. Starts with page 260; other portions of book appear to have fallen out. Spine/binding loose.
-
- Day Book ("Day Book White"), 1851-1853 Volume L:3885
Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 21x33 cm; 640 pages
Scope and Contents note
Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Quallatown store chronological list of customers/sales at store for 1851 July-1853 May.
-
- Day Book ("Book B"), 1852-1854 Volume L:3886
Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x32 cm; 260 pages
Scope and Contents note
Fort Montgomery, Cherokee County, N.C. Fort Montgomery store customer/sales chronologically listed 1852-1854.
-
- Day Book ("Qualla Town Day book for 1854"),
1855 Volume L:3888
Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x32 cm; 185 pages
Scope and Contents note
Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Quallatown store chronological list of customers/sales at store for 1855 Feb.-June.

Day Book ("Qualla Town Day Book Farmer's Journal"), 1854 June 27-1855 June 2 Volume F:3889

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 22x34 cm; 235 pages

Scope and Contents note

Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Chronological daybook with customer entries (name and purchase) for Qualla Town.

Day Book, 1854-1857 Volume L:3890

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x32 cm; 150 pages

Scope and Contents note

Fort Montgomery, Cherokee County, N.C. Fort Montgomery store customer/sales chronologically listed 1854-1857. Back half of the book is blank.

Day Book ("Wm. H. Thomas Day Book for Qualla Town NC"), 1855-1856 Volume F:3891

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 21x34 cm; 292 pages

Scope and Contents note

Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Chronological daybook with customer entries (name and purchase) for Qualla Town.

Day Book ("Wm. H. Thomas's Day Book"), 1856-1857 Volume F:3892

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x37 cm; 475 pages

Scope and Contents note

Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Chronological daybook with customer entries (name and purchase) for Qualla Town.

Day Book, 1858 Apr. 29-1863 Mar. 4 Volume F:3893

Physical Description: Volume (calf); 17x41 cm; 530 pages

Scope and Contents note

Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Chronological daybook with customer entries (name and purchase) for Qualla Town. Includes stitched in mini-quire in the front with title "Private accts at Qualla Town store for which R. Watts is responsible," dated 1859-1862.

Index to Ledger for 1847, 1847 Volume ff:3896

Physical Description: Volume (paper); 12x33 cm; approx 50

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C. Alphabetical index with customer names and assigned number.

Invoice Book and Day Book, 1838-1840 Volume F:3899

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 16.5x40.5 cm; 80 pages

Scope and Contents note

Murphy, Cherokee County, N.C. Multi-purpose volume. Pages 1-8 appear to be invoice lists. On page 9 the book's entries become more like a daybook, with customer expenses from 1840 listed chronologically. Also includes a copied contract on the back page.

Journal and Day Book, 1836-1838 Volume F:3900

Physical Description: Volume (calf); unknown; 424 pages

Scope and Contents note

Indiantown, [Quallatown], Haywood County, N.C. Volume with two distinct sections: pages 1-238 are customer accounts; the latter half of the book (about 180 pages) is a daybook recording purchases at Indian Town between January and July 1838. Also includes Rules of the Store at the end.

Journal and Day Book, 1840-1844 Volume F:3901

Physical Description: Volume (calf); 26x38 cm; 633 pages

Scope and Contents note

Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Volume with two distinct sections: pages 1-156 are customer accounts; the latter half of the book (about 180 pages) is a daybook recording purchases at Quallatown in 1842.

Land Book for Cherokee County, 1838-1853 Volume F:3903

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 20x32 cm; 86 pages

Scope and Contents note

Murphy, Cherokee County, N.C. Multi-purpose volume with land sales and customer accounts.

Ledger, 1833-1834 Volume ff:3904

Physical Description: Volume (paper); 21x33 cm; 134 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts with Scott's Creek store.

Ledger, 1835-1837 Volume F:3905

Physical Description: Volume (calf); 20x33 cm; 142 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts. Includes index at the front.

Ledger, 1836-1838 Volume F:3906

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 26x37 cm; 419 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts detailing purchases, including a name index at the front.

Ledger, 1836-1845 Volume F:3907

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 18x43 cm; 310 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts.

Ledger, 1837-1867 Volume F:3908

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 23x33 cm; 425 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer account book, including indices. Cherokee customers are included.

Ledger, 1839-1844 Volume L:3909

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 21x32 cm; 497 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts ledger, with alphabetical index for customer names. Pages 266-462 are blank. Later entries are miscellaneous notes, including some references to Indian chiefs' payments and other store expenses/credits.

Ledger, 1839-1845 Volume F:3910

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 27x38 cm; 550 pages

Scope and Contents note

Cherokee County, N.C. Customer accounts, including an index. Book only partially used; pages 337-342 are "disbursement of the old concern". Pages

345-544 are blank. Page 545-546 have "expenses paid out of the new firm for building".

Ledger and Day Book, 1839-1841 Volume F:3911

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 26x38 cm; 630 pages

Scope and Contents note

Murphy, Cherokee County, N.C. Daybook. First portion of the book has customer accounts, by name; volume then shifts to recording purchases and expenses chronologically.

Ledger, 1840-1845 Volume F:3913

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 25x38 cm; 620 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts, including periodic indices with alphabetical lists. Includes inlaid clipping.

Ledger (Postage Accounts), 1844-1845 Volume M:3915

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 16x18 cm; 200 pages

Scope and Contents note

Murphy, Cherokee County, N.C. Includes index and accounts with individuals noting postage paid on various goods, mail, and newspaper subscriptions.

Ledger, 1845-1848 Volume F:3916

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 22x34 cm; 430 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts of purchases; indexed by name each year.

Ledger ("Wm H. Thomas's White Book"),
1847-1855 Volume F:3917

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 21x33 cm; 620 pages

Scope and Contents note

Scott's Creek, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts; index in the front, rest of the volume has customer names with chronological entries of purchases.

Letterbook and Accounts ("Receipt book Old Firm"), 1837-1845 Volume L:3919

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 20x32 cm; 350 pages

Scope and Contents note

Murphy, Cherokee County, N.C. Accounts/payments received; records of work (including construction, brick paving); copies of outgoing correspondence for business at the Murphy Store. Pages 33-175 blank. Later pages have assorted blank segments. Some letters composed upside down.

List of White Accounts, Notes, Judgements, Etc., 1849-1867 Volume M:3921

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 15.5x25.5 cm; 46 pages

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts.

Miscellaneous Accounts, 1874 Volume S:3922

Physical Description: Volume (calf); 8x12 cm; 80 pages

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C. Entries mostly illegible.

Financial papers, notes, bills, accounts, undated Box 4

Physical Description: 2 folders

Disbound account books, miscellaneous, 1840s-1860s Box 4

Physical Description: 2 folders

Scope and Contents

Includes George Gibbons book fragments.

Receipts, 1834-1900s Box 7

Physical Description: 5 folders

Unsorted receipts, approximately 1830s-1870s Box 7
Box 8

Physical Description: 15 folders

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Infrastructure papers, 1828-1859, undated

Scope and Contents

Assorted materials relating to Thomas's work on various railroad and turnpike boards and as a community leader advocating for infrastructure expansion to Western North Carolina. Items include General Assembly acts, copies of company minutes and contracts, petitions by various communities and citizens asking the state for turnpikes and railroad stops, and surveys and statistics regarding the building and planning for transportation needs throughout the region.

Report of engineers upon a canal connecting the Ocoa and Connesauga rivers, in Tennessee and Alabama, 1828	Box 4
Draft excerpts, incomplete, of notes and other writings re: railroad, approximately 1851	Box 4
Railroad company articles of incorporation (incomplete), 1851 Jan. 28	Box 4
A condensed statement of statistics taken from the Report of the Board of Public Works of Virginia, 1851	Box 4
Railroad statistics from the Board of Internal Improvement of Virginia, 1852	Box 5
Petition for the extension of the N.C. railroad west, signed by 600 citizens W. of Buncombe County, 1852	Box 5
Rail Road meeting, Rabun Co., N.C., 1852 Feb. 23	Box 5
Petition of Jackson Co. citizens to N.C. General Assembly requesting a charter for a turnpike road, 1854 Sept. 26	Box 5
Railroad Statistics, 1854-1855	Volume S:3923

Physical Description: Volume (paper); 9x14.5 cm; 30 pages

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C. Includes distances by rail between various locales in N.C. and surrounding states. Also includes miscellaneous accounts.

Turnpike bonds, 1855-1856	Box 5
---------------------------	-------

S.W. Gibson road accounts and payments, 1856 Oct. 1	Box 5
Act to incorporate Qualla Town and Ocanabuftas Turnpike Company: amendment for the N.C. General Assembly, 1857	Box 5
An Act to incorporate the Jonathan's Creek and Tennessee Mountain Turnpike Co. in the County of Haywood: amendment for the N.C. General Assembly, 1857 Jan. 8	Box 5
Turnpike Records, 1859	Volume M:3928
Physical Description: Volume (boards); 9.5x23 cm; 140 pages	
Scope and Contents note	
Haywood County, N.C. Records expenses and accounts with shareholders of a turnpike.	
An Act to amend the charter of the Western N.C. Railroad Company: N.C. General Assembly, 1859 Jan. 4	Box 5
An Act to incorporate the Western N.C. Rail Road Co.: amendments for the N.C. General Assembly, 1859 Feb. 21	Box 5
Appointment by the N.C. Board of Internal Improvement of William Holland Thomas as director on the Board of the Western N.C. Railroad Company, 1859 Nov. 28	Box 5
Turnpike charters (incomplete), undated	Box 5
Agreement to grant right-of-way to the Blue Ridge or Rabun Gap Railroad, undated	Box 5
Letter by William Johnston, in relation to railroad, etc. (incomplete), undated	Box 5
A Bill to secure the payment of tolls to the state of N.C. on the Western Turnpike, undated	Box 5

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Cherokee papers, 1823-1876, undated

Scope and Contents

This series includes a wide range of material documenting the legal and financial status of North Carolina Cherokees during the early 19th century. It includes copies and correspondence regarding several treaties between the U.S. government and the Cherokee chiefs; powers of attorney for various Cherokee families who relied on Thomas to support their interests to the Dept. of the Interior; censuses of Cherokee remaining in North Carolina following the Indian Removal Acts; legal depositions, opinions, and complaints involving Cherokee land claims; crime by and against Cherokee people; pensions and relief due the Cherokees; and compensation collected by Thomas according to the terms of the various Indian treaties. There are also volumes of customer accounts designated by Thomas as "Indian Books" kept by him and his employees at his various stores; additional documentation of Cherokee financial accounts can be found on loose pages in the General Papers series and in other account books in the Financial Materials series.

Cherokee Account Book, 1823-1835	Box 5
Conditions under which the Cherokees enrolled and emigrated West, 1828-1834	Box 5
List of claims filed for the action of the board of Cherokee Commissioners under the 17th Act of the Treaty of 1835, 1835	Box 5
Supplementary Report of Cherokee Indians Remaining in N.C., 1835-1840	Volume L:3927
Physical Description: Volume (paper); 19x30 cm; 50 pages	
Scope and Contents note	
Haywood County, N.C. Census and records of Cherokee families living in N.C., including ages and notes about their location.	
Opinion of the Cherokee Commissions on the claim of Wacheechah/Grasshopper, for value of a preemption, 1835	Box 5
"333 Indians belonging to the Town Qualla," including lists of Cherokee and verifications by white citizens, 1835-1837	Box 5
Part of the evidence of the heirs of deceased Cherokees (excerpts, in Cherokee), 1838	Box 5

The United States to W.H. Thomas, to furnishing the following named poor Indians with corn in the year 1839 in the spring, 1839	Box 5
Indian Book debts remaining due this store, 1839 Dec. 1	Box 5
Census of the N.C. Cherokee, 1840	Oversize-folder 1
Lands and Com. purchased for Indians, 1841-1842	Box 5
Scope and Contents	
Bound item with entries for Buffalo and Qualla Town, as well as journal entries (presumably from Thomas) dating from February and March 1842. Acquired as Acc. 2018-0106.	
Claim of Coticawa or Cinthio Young Deer re: payment for property from which she was dispossessed, 1844 Sept. 30	Box 5
Application by Western Cherokee for fulfillment of guarantees made by U.S., written to William Wilkins, Secretary of War, 1844-1845 (undated)	Box 5
List of Cherokee claims filed by William Holland Thomas as attorney; filed before Board of Commissioners, 1847	Box 5
Cherokee of Buffalo (names and ages) entitled to interest under Act of July 29 1848, 1848	Box 5
Location of Tracts in the different towns in Cherokee Nation (including Wolf Town, Paint Town, Deer Town, and Pretty Face Town), 1848	Box 5
Census of the Cherokees under the Act of July 29 1848, approximately 1848	Box 5
List of suspended Cherokee claims made under the Act of 1838, 1849	Box 5
Cherokees entitled to pensions from U.S. for service in War of 1812 (re: fighting Creek Indians), 1850	Box 5

Petition to N.C. General Assembly for relief of solvent purchases of Cherokee lands, 1850	Box 5
Copies of testimony in the case of James R. Love vs. William H. Thomas, 1850	Box 5
Persons (Cherokees) who died in Haywood Co., N.C., 1850	Box 5
Waddy Thompson argument in relation to the Cherokee, N.C., 1851 Mar. 9	Box 6
Attorney General Jonathan Crittenden: opinion on the Cherokee Treaties, sent to H. H. Stuart, Secretary of Interior, 1851 Apr. 16	Box 6
Attorney General Jonathan Crittenden opinion to H. H. Stuart, re: payment of attorney fees for agents Waddy Thompson and Arnold Harris, 1851 Apr. 26	Box 6
Copy (unsigned) of letter to Commissioner of Indian Affairs Luke Lea rejecting claims by agents Thompson and Harris, 1851 May 1	Box 6
List of deposits of money by Cherokees for purchases of lands: Wolf Town, Paint Town, Pretty Woman Town, 1851	Box 6
Statement showing the names of the Cherokee Indians in the neighborhood of Murphy, N.C., intitled to interest on 53.33 dollars and the amount due each, 1857 Jul. 29	Box 6
Resolutions of the North Carolina Cherokees, 1859 Oct. 29	Box 6
List of the Indians supposed to have died in Cherokee County N.C. administered upon by S.P. Sherrill, 1867 Jul. 10	Box 6
Cherokee Reservation Record taken at Murphy, N.C., 1868 Nov.-Dec.	Box 6
Ledger / List of Indians Living on Catugajay Creek, N.C., 1839-1845, 1870	Volume F:3912

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 22x34 cm; 150 pages

Scope and Contents note

Cherokee County, N.C. Multi-purpose volume. First portion is customer accounts and store accounts. Second portion is a census of Cherokee "on the Catugajay Creek, Macon Co., living on the land of William Siler Esq." The Cherokee residents are listed with an assigned number, including their names and relevant notes. Many deceased Cherokee are also noted. Some of the pages in this ledger are mutilated and torn.

Deposition of George T. Mason, witness before the Commission in certain Indian suits in Statesville, N.C., 1874 Oct. 17

Box 6

Indian Book, 1837

Volume ff:3897

Physical Description: Volume (paper); 12x33 cm; 90 pages

Scope and Contents note

Shole Creek (Shoal Creek), Cherokee Co., N.C. Alphabetical index with Cherokee names and unidentified quantities of money (accounts?).

Ledger and Indian Accounts ("Indian Book"), 1840-1859

Volume F:3914

Physical Description: Volume (calf and boards); 26x38 cm; 500 pages

Scope and Contents note

Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Customer accounts, presumably of Cherokee although it is not always clear. Includes purchases and expenses, listed by name.

Indian Book, 1857

Volume S:3898

Physical Description: Volume (paper); 8x12.5 cm; 18 pages

Scope and Contents note

Quallatown, Haywood County, N.C. Entries are dated, but otherwise entirely in Cherokee language.

Powers of attorney, 1837-1876

Box 6

Physical Description: 6 folders

Scope and Contents

Most of these grant powers of attorney to William Holland Thomas from individual Cherokee.

Register of Reservations Under the Cherokee
Treaty of 1817, undated

Volume M:3924

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 21x26 cm; 72 pages

Scope and Contents note

North Carolina and Tennessee. Alternative title: "Register of persons who wish reservations under the Treaty of July 8, 1817." Includes names and places of residence and occasionally other remarks such as "enrolled for Arkansas."

List of William Holland Thomas's powers of
attorney from Cherokees East, and their claims,
undated

Box 6

Names and valuations of allowed Cherokee
Reservations, undated

Box 6

Cherokee Indian accounts, Murphy store,
undated

Box 6

Claims of the Cherokees East, undated

Box 6

Indian Lands/Indian Tax List purchased as
trustee for Cherokee, undated

Box 6

List of claims/claimants for preemptions,
Buffalo, N.C., undated

Box 6

Statement showing the names of Cherokee
Indians who reside East of the Mississippi ...
and the amount due to each for their claims ...
under the treaty of 1835-1836, undated

Box 6

Indian accounts written in the Indian language
(Cherokee), undated

Box 6

List of sums of money paid to the Cherokees
through their attorney William Holland Thomas,
undated

Box 6

Payments made to William Holland Thomas for
fees in the per capita case (Cherokees), undated

Box 6

List of Buffalo Cherokee and payments under
the act of July 29, 1838, S. P. Sherrill, undated

Box 6

A list of Cherokee claimants residing in Qualla Town, N.C., undated	Box 6
Roll of Reservations to Cherokees by the Treaties of 1817 and 1819, undated	Box 6
Department of the Interior. Office of Indian Affairs. Certified copies of Cherokee reservation claims, 1856-1874, undated	Box 6
List of deeds for land in Indian boundary, 1831-1868, undated	Box 6
List of names of Cherokee and clans to which they belong, undated	Box 6
Scope and Contents	
Including Paint Town, Wolf Town, Pretty Woman Town, Deer Town, and Bird Town	
List of persons entitled to Reservations under 1819 Treaty with the Cherokees, undated	Box 6
Rejected claims of George W. Churchwill left with William Holland Thomas, undated	Box 6
Land surveys, Bird Town, N.C. by George Mason, undated	Box 6
Persons who had died on the census of 1838, undated	Box 6
Explanation of the rights and claims of the Cherokee Indians remaining in the States east of the Mississippi, addressed to H. Conner, Charleston, undated	Box 6
Cherokee Indians vs. Thomas: original answer of James R. Thomas, undated	Box 6
List of names of Cherokee Indians who are supposed to have been engaged in the late war between the U.S. and the Confederate States, undated	Box 6

Scope and Contents

Including whether allied with Union or Confederate side (sometimes, both sides)

William Holland Thomas claim for subsisting Euchalla and his band of Cherokees, including statement explaining the case, undated

Box 6

Scope and Contents

Re: Charley and his band of outlaws

List of Cherokee Indians that aided in capturing Charley and his band of outlaws, undated

Box 6

Register of the names of Cherokees allowed citizenship, undated

Box 6

Names and number of Cherokees on Valley River, undated

Box 6

Account Book ("An estimate of land purchased lying on Soco Creek in Haywood County, the price paid for them, the No. of Acres, from whom purchased"), 1836-1841

Volume M:3852

Physical Description: Volume (paper); 16x18.5 cm; 40 pages

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C. Records of land purchased for Cherokee in Quallatown. Pages 8-40ish are blank. More text on last page.

Account Book ("Book account of cloth sold on Smoky mounts to the Indians"), 1838

Volume M:3856

Physical Description: Volume (paper); 17x19 cm; 25 pages

Scope and Contents note

Haywood County, N.C. Accounts of cloth sales by Robert Collins to Cherokee, including amount and customer names. Middle portion of booklet is blank. There are also accounts at the end of the booklet with additional Cherokee names.

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Personal papers, 1853-1889, undated

Scope and Contents

Thomas's assorted personal materials, including scrapbooks, that document his role as a community leader in Haywood County as well as inventories of his personal library.

Scrapbook, 1852-1888 Volume F:3925

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 23x34 cm; 120 pages

Scope and Contents note

Jackson County, N.C. Clippings and pencilled notes by Thomas on a range of political topics and figures.

Scrapbook, approximately 1890 Volume L:3926

Physical Description: Volume (boards); 24x30 cm; 15 pages

Scope and Contents note

Waynesville, N.C. Scrapbook with valentines, printed pictures/clippings kept by unknown Thomas. Mutilated.

Unsigned draft of a letter to the editor of
Pickens Courier, 1853 Sept. 1 Box 5

N.C. Superintendent of Public Instruction: blank
forms for county officials, 1885-1889 Box 5

"Standridge Book", undated Box 5

Webster Township, Jackson Co., N.C. petition to
Congress for funding of schools, undated Box 5

Old North State poem/ballad, undated Box 5

Books bought by William Holland Thomas at
sale/auction, undated Box 5

Catalogue of books held by William Holland
Thomas, undated Box 5

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