

Inventory of the Margaret Inman Meaders Collection

Overview of Collection

Repository: Chestatee Regional Library System, Lumpkin County Library, 56 Mechanicsville Road, Dahlonega, GA 30533

Title: Margaret I. Meaders Collection

Date: 1832 to 1986

Quantity: 7.88 cubic ft.

Abstract: The Margaret I. Meaders Collection consists of materials from circa (ca.) 1832 to ca. 1986 and includes information on gold mines and mining, maps, research notes, newspaper and magazine clippings, photographs, post offices in Lumpkin County, mines, schools, census records, North Georgia College, Lumpkin County families and the Meaders family genealogy. There is also a large number of articles and essays published by Margaret Meaders, transcripts of speeches she gave throughout her lifetime, unfinished manuscripts pertaining to the history of Lumpkin County, research notes on a variety of topics, and interviews of local residents presented in a written format.

Biographical Sketch

Margaret Inman Meaders was born in Lumpkin County, Georgia on August 15, 1906 to Robert Christopher Meaders and Maggie Lillian Field(s). Margaret graduated from Georgia State College for Women, now the Georgia College & State University, in 1926 and later earned two master's degrees in journalism from the University of Georgia

and the University of Wisconsin. Margaret Meaders was the associate editor of the University of Georgia Division of Publications, and filled various positions in the journalism and public relations departments at Georgia State College for Women for 15 years.

Margaret Meaders moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico in 1955 for health reasons and served as the editor of the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of New Mexico from 1957 until she retired in 1972. During that time she wrote a survey of the economic conditions of Indians in New Mexico, annual reports about mining in the state, and economic surveys of counties. She was also a chief planner for a statewide conference on library resources during her tenure.

Throughout her lifetime, Margaret published hundreds of articles, several stories based on Lumpkin County history, and was the author of eight books on the economy of New Mexico and the Indians in that area. Her work appeared in a variety of publications including *Woman's Day*, the *Colorado Quarterly*, and the *Georgia Review*. Margaret received many awards for her work including the Zia Award for General Excellence from the New Mexico Press Women in 1957 and by the Georgia College in 1972 for lifetime excellence in her profession. In 1983 she was asked to give the address celebrating the 150th birthday founding of her hometown, Dahlonega, Georgia. She is listed, among other places, in *Who's Who of American Women*, *Personalities of the South*, and the *Dictionary of International Writers*.

Miss Meaders never married. She died on November 28, 1986 in Albuquerque, New Mexico after an extended illness. She is buried in the Vista Verde Memorial Park in Rio Rancho, New Mexico.

Scope and Content Note

The papers cover the period from ca. 1832 through ca. 1986 and reveal Margaret Meaders's strong interest in the history of Lumpkin County. Margaret Meaders was a prolific writer and a frequent speech-giver. Her articles, essays,

and transcriptions of speeches have been grouped together by subject, as many of them do not have exact dates. Margaret Meaders was also in the process of writing a book about the Lumpkin County's history. It is in an unfinished format with an undecided title. For ease of use the title O Little Town has been selected as the tentative title since that name appeared the most frequently amongst the various chapters. The manuscript has been separated into individually titled chapters, and some chapter numbers are repeated because the final order does not appear to have been fully decided.

Margaret Meaders' research notes are organized alphabetically by topic in small 3-ring binders and most have a table of contents or index written on the opening pages of each binder. Her research notebooks contain both handwritten and typed notes, newspaper clippings, and scraps from other print sources, all applied with tape, glue, or other fasteners. Each binder has been kept as a single unit because it would be impossible to separate the subjects without losing the meaning. Researchers are encouraged to look at these binders for a variety of topics that will not be individually listed in this finding aid.

Much of the collection has been arranged according to subject matter and includes information on the area surrounding Lumpkin County and its local families, gold mines and mining, post offices, census records, marriage indexes, North Georgia College, Civil War letters, and the Meaders family genealogy. Miss Meaders was also interviewing local residents about their family history and what they remember about the town and its residents.

These interviews have been collected together and organized by the respondent's last name under the title "Family and Local History as remembered by..."

Margaret Meaders did extensive research on Lumpkin County census records, both at the federal and state levels. She compiled four notebooks of comprehensive lists tracking families throughout census years prior to 1900. She also created census index cards for families living in Lumpkin County from 1834-1900 and some of these index cards also contain lists of family marriages.

The index cards have been separated into two sets, with one set containing larger index cards.

Arrangement of the Collection

The Margaret I. Meaders Collection was in serious disarray and has been arranged into 22 boxes in three series.

Series I: Margaret Inman Meaders Papers Series

II: Subject Files

Series III: Index Cards

Topics Covered

Meaders, Margaret Inman; 1906-1986.

Gold mines and mining--Georgia--Dahlonega--History--19th Century.

Gold mines and mining--Georgia--Dahlonega--History--20th Century.

Georgia--Census.

Education--Georgia.

Lumpkin County (GA)--History. Lumpkin

County (GA)--Newspapers.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Gold mines and mining--Georgia--Dahlonega.

Historic buildings--Georgia--Dahlonega.

Mountain life--Georgia--Dahlonega Region. Lumpkin

County (Ga.)--History, Local--Anecdotes. North Georgia

Agricultural College.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Brochures.

Clippings.

Notes.

Administrative Information

Acquired From:

The collection was donated by the Meaders Family to the Lumpkin County Library in 2015.

Container List

Margaret Inman Meaders Collection

Series I: Margaret Inman Meaders Papers, ca. 1932 to ca. 1986 Notebooks, loose sheets, articles and essays, transcripts of speeches, news clippings, photographs, correspondence, research notes, awards and certificates, index cards.

This series consists of clippings about Margaret Meaders, photographs of her family, awards and certificates presented to her, news articles she authored, transcripts of her speeches that she gave throughout her lifetime, and her research notes. Some correspondence and poetry is also included in this series.

Also included in this series is a book she was writing about the history of Lumpkin County. It is unfinished and is grouped into provisional chapter titles. Some chapter numbers do repeat as the final order does not appear to have been determined. The book is tentatively called O Little Town. Margaret also considered the following titles: O Little Town: The Story of Dahlonega, GA , the Nation's First Gold Capital, O Little Town: The Early Life and Times of Dahlonega, Georgia, the Nation's First Gold-Rush Capital, and My Town: Biography of the Nation's First "Gold Capital". For simplicity's sake, the unfinished book will be referred to as O Little Town as those words appeared the most amongst the various chapters and notes. A smaller unfinished manuscript was also found, entitled The Quiet Kingdom, which according to Margaret's notes is a story about the Civil War.

Ten boxes arranged alphabetically by subject matter.

Series	Box	Folder	Description
I	1	1	Articles and Essays--Art
I	1	2	Articles and Essays--Atlanta Journal Constitution (Covers Dixie Like the Dew)
I	1	3	Articles and Essays--Education
I	1	4	Articles and Essays--Flannery O'Connor
I	1	5	Articles and Essays--Footprints Along Old Trails: Dahlongega Essays
I	1	6	Articles and Essays--Gold Mining
I	1	7	Articles and Essays--Georgia Southern College for Women
I	1	8	Articles and Essays--Holidays
I	1	9	Articles and Essays--Indians/Native Americans
I	1	10	Articles and Essays--Meaders Family

I	2	1	Articles and Essays--A Mountaineer Looks at the News: Early Dahlonga Nugget "columns"
I	2	2	Articles and Essays--Opinion Pieces
I	2	3	Articles and Essays--Recollections
I	2	4	Articles and Essays--Reviews
I	2	5	Articles and Essays--Sold and Published, File 1
I	2	6	Articles and Essays--Sold and Published, File 2
I	2	7	Articles and Essays--Stereotypes and Discrimination
I	2	8	Articles and Essays--Travel
I	3	1	Awards and Recognitions--Margaret I. Meaders
I	3	2	Clippings, etc. about Margaret I. Meaders
I	3	3	Correspondence
I	3	4	Poems and Plays
I	3	5	Research Notes--Auraria Index

I	3	6	Research Notes--Biographical Information on Lumpkin County Residents
I	3	7	Research Notes--Fry Book of Clippings (articles from 1899 Dahlonega newspapers, compiled by Mrs. W.B. Fry) with index
I	4	1	Research Notes--General; Art-Weather
I	4	2	Research Notes--Gold Mines and Mining Notebook
I	4	3	Research Notes--Gold Mining Companies, Mines, Mills, Waterways, and Personnel--Index Cards A-I; Adair Branch through Winslow, Thomas D.
I	5 (Card File Box)		Research Notes--North Georgia College Graduates who served in the United States Military for WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam
I	6	1	Research Notes--North Georgia College Extracts from Dahlonega Newspapers 1873-1896
I	6	2	Research Notes--Index; includes list of used abbreviations
I	6	3	Research Notes--Subjects A-F; Atlanta through Founding of Lumpkin

I	7	1	Research Notes--Subjects G-O; Health through Organization, Social and Fraternal
I	7	2	Research Notes--Subjects P-Z; Personalities through Weather
I	8	1	Research Notes--United Daughters of the Confederacy
I	8	2	Transcripts of Speeches--Americans
I	8	3	Transcripts of Speeches--Dahlonge's 150th Anniversary
I	8	4	Transcripts of Speeches--Economy
I	8	5	Transcripts of Speeches--Georgia Southern College for Women
I	8	6	Transcripts of Speeches--Holidays
I	8	7	Transcripts of Speeches--Indians/Native Americans
I	8	8	Transcripts of Speeches--Journalism
I	8	9	Transcripts of Speeches--Religion

I	8	10	Transcripts of Speeches--Travel
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I	8	11	Transcripts of Speeches--Women
I	8	12	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 1: Heritage
I	8	13	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 2: Daybreak
I	8	14	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 2: Who? Where? When?
I	9	1	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 3: Threshold or Chapter 3: The Opening Door
I	9	2	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 4: Foundations
I	9	3	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 5: Daylight
I	9	4	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 6: Life and Animation
I	9	5	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 7: The Good Life

I	9	6	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 8: Interludes
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I	9	7	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 9: Winds of Change
I	9	8	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 10: Years of Indecision
I	10	1	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 11: "The Boys are Marching..."
I	10	2	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 12: Beyond Bugles and Banners
I	10	3	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"--Chapter 12: The Hills of Home
I	10	4	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "O Little Town"-- Miscellaneous drafts and notes
I	10	5	Unfinished Manuscript--Working Title: "The Quiet Kingdom"

Series II: Subject Files, ca. 1832-1986

Notebooks, loose sheets, news clippings, photographs, research notes, census

record extractions, brochures.

Subjects include mines and mining in Georgia, Civil War letters, general history of the area and the state, the Meaders family genealogy, land lots and lotteries, post offices, Lumpkin County Census records, North Georgia College, tourism, the Dahlonega Gold Museum, the U.S. Mint, Native Americans, and more. The census records

have been compiled into comprehensive lists that track families through the census years and includes school, state, and federal censuses. Where possible, articles or research notes by Meaders are included in the appropriate subject heading.

This series contains Margaret’s interviews with local residents about their family history and what they remember about the town and its residents. These interviews are organized alphabetically by the respondents’ last name under the title “Family and Local History as remembered by...”

Eight boxes are arranged alphabetically by subject matter.

Series	Box	Folder	Description
II	1	1	Abstracts from Benjamin Palmer Gaillard Diaries; 1906-1925
II	1	2	Ansted Family
II	1	3	Appalachian Trail
II	1	4	Auraria
II	1	5	Blue Ridge Rifles
II	1	6	Bowen Family
II	1	7	Boyd Family
II	1	8	Bulfinch Family

II	1	9	California/Colorado Gold Rush
II	1	10	Cane Creek Falls
II	1	11	Carolínians in Lumpkin County
II	2 (oversize)	1	Census Record--File 1: 1850, 1860, and 1870 Lumpkin County Census, excluding Auraria
II	2 (oversize)	2	Census Records File 2--1850, 1860, 1870 Census for Auraria District, Lumpkin County
II	3 (oversize)	1	Census Records File 3--1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880 Dahlonega District; Professional Directory (excluding miners and farmers) 1850 60 70; 1834 State Census of Lumpkin County, 1838 State Census of Lumpkin County, (Lumpkin Heads of Families) List of those appearing in 1834, 1838, and 1840 Censuses--several drafts of same list; Families of 10 or More & Slave Owners 1834, 1838; Carolínians in Hall and Habersham Counties in 1830 Census; Lumpkin Heads of Households, School Census 1834 & 1838 and 1840 US Census

II	4	1	Census Records File 4--1834 School Census, 1840 Census Lumpkin County, 1860 Heads of Families and "Extras" in
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			Households by Districts; 1860 Census Lumpkin County: Miscellaneous Lists
II	4	2	Chestatee River Dam, 1975
II	4	3	Churches
II	4	4	Civil War
II	4	5	Crisson Family
II	4	6	Dahlonega Bank Robbery, 1913
II	4	7	Dahlonega Club, 1968 - 1980
II	4	8	Dahlonega, History of the Name
II	4	9	Dahlonega Square
II	4	10	Dahlonega Watchman--December 21, 1848
II	4	11	Education
II	4	12	Family and Local History as remembered by Fannie Bardelmeier

II	4	13	Family and Local History as remembered by George Bess
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II	4	14	Family and Local History as remembered by Cleo Bird
II	4	15	Family and Local History as remembered by Estelle Bradford
II	4	16	Family and Local History as remembered by Alline Jones Bramblett
II	4	17	Family and Local History as remembered by Clarence Cochran
II	4	18	Family and Local History as remembered by Frances Meaders Edwards
II	4	19	Family and Local History as remembered by Mrs. R.A. Sharley Fay
II	4	20	Family and Local History as remembered by Helen Head Green
II	4	21	Family and Local History as remembered by John Henley
II	4	22	Family and Local History as remembered by Mrs. Billie Allen Jines
II	4	23	Family and Local History as remembered by Wanda Jones

II	4	24	Family and Local History as remembered by Bessie Jones Lewis
II	4	25	Family and Local History as remembered by Glanca Dyer McKendree
II	4	26	Family and Local History as remembered by Buelle Smith McKenna
II	4	27	Family and Local History as remembered by Ola Moore
II	4	28	Family and Local History as remembered by Margaret Glenn Mu_per?
II	4	29	Family and Local History as remembered by Anne W. Newman
II	4	30	Family and Local History as remembered by Margaret Sterling Price
II	4	31	Family and Local History as remembered by L.W. "Lew" Richardson
II	4	32	Family and Local History as remembered by Margaret Vaughn

II	4	33	Family and Local History as remembered by Modille Walker
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II	4	34	Family and Local History as remembered by Ralph R. Will, Sr.
II	5	1	Family Records from Bibles belonging to Goodman Hughes, William Pierce Price, and Robert Bowen McClure
II	5	2	Fields Family
II	5	3	Gaillard Family
II	5	4	Georgia Counties
II	5	5	Gold for the Georgia State Capitol
II	5	6	Gold for the Steeple at North Georgia College
II	5	7	Gold Mining--General
II	5	8	Green Family
II	5	9	Gregory Family
II	5	10	Hand Ditch and Connections

II	5	11	Indians/Native Americans
II	5	12	Land Lots

II	5	13	Land Lotteries
II	5	14	Liddell Family
II	5	15	Lumpkin County--general
II	5	16	Lumpkin County Library
II	5	17	Lumpkin County Officials
II	5	18	Lydia School
II	5	19	Mama, Home and Apple Dumplings--by Alice Butler Howard, 1978
II	5	20	Marriages--Hall County, 1823-1834, 1840-1870
II	5	21	Marriages--Lumpkin County, 1833-?
II	6	1	Mayes Family
II	6	2	Meaders Family

II	6	3	Meaders Mill
II	6	4	Meaders Pottery
II	6	5	Meaders, Robert--Story to Grandson

II	6	6	Militia Districts
II	6	7	Mills
II	6	8	Mint--Dahlonega
II	6	9	National Register--Dahlonega Square
II	6	10	Ninety-Four Years: Agnes Paschal by George W. Paschal--Chapters 36-38 with index
II	7	1	North Georgia College/North Georgia Agricultural College
II	7	2	Patton Family
II	7	3	Photos of Meaders family and Dahlonega scenes
II	7	4	Politics

II	7	5	Post Offices and Postmasters of Lumpkin County
II	7	6	Rees/Reese Confederate Letters
II	7	7	Rivers and Waterfalls
II	7	8	Russell Family

II	7	9	Shuler Family
II	7	10	Sitton Family
II	7	11	Sixty Years of the Life of a Country Village Baptist Church, Dahlonega, Georgia, 1838-1897 by a Member Who Joined it Fifty Years Ago--with index
II	7	12	Smith Family/Smith House
II	7	13	Stephenson, Matthew F. Article--Nacoochee: An Indian Legend from the Days of DeSoto
II	7	14	Telephones
II	8	1	Tourism
II	8	2	Transportation

II	8	3	Tugboat Dahlonega, 1964
II	8	4	Vickery House
II	8	5	Weather and Agriculture
II	8	6	Weaver Family
II	8	7	Wheeler, Mary (Midwife)

II	8	8	Whelchel Family
II	8	9	Williams Family Nacoochee Valley Pioneers with Some of their Neighbors and Sons and Daughters: Sixteen brief biographical articles taken from White County History, 1980--booklet
II	8	10	Wills, 1833-1899--Lumpkin County
II	8	11	Wimpy Family
II	8	12	Worley Family

Series III: Index Cards

Index cards, primarily containing census and marriage information for families residing in Lumpkin County, Georgia from 1834 to 1900. There are two sets of index cards, one

of which is larger and filed separately (Abee-Russell).

Four boxes arranged alphabetically by family surname.

III	1 (Index Card Box)	1	Family Surnames Abbott-Guyton
III	2 (Index Card Box)	1	Family Surnames Haas-Ryals

III	3 (Index Card Box)	1	Family Surnames Saine-Zorn
III	4 (Index Card Box)	1	Family Surnames Abee-Russell

Series IV: Miscellaneous

Uncategorized photo slides, tape recordings, plaques, awards, and miscellaneous files.

IV	1	1	Miscellaneous Photo Slides
IV	2	1	Miscellaneous Audio Tapes

IV	3	1	Miscellaneous Files
IV	4	1	Miscellaneous Plaques/Awards

Collated and indexed by Agnes Gore, with assistance from Sallie Sorohan.

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