

Thomas F. Rankin Collection

- Repository:** Rockingham Co. Historical Collections
Gerald B. James Library
Rockingham Community College
P. O. Box 38
Wentworth, NC 27375
- Title:** Thomas F. Rankin Collection
- Accession No.:** 16-053
- Extent:** 2 folders – unboxed collections
- Provenance:** Donated by Mac Rankin, son of William A. “Buck” Rankin and Lucy McCargo Rankin
- Inclusive Dates:** 1889-1916
- Subject Headings:** Rankin, Mollie Wade, 1856-1946
Rankin, Thomas F., 1849-1926
Sheriff’s Department – Rockingham County (N. C.)
- Related Collections:** 97-060 Lucy M. Rankin Collection
- Preferred Citation:** *Thomas F. Rankin Collection. 16-053. Rockingham Co. Historical Collections, Gerald B. James Library, Rockingham Community College.*
- Descriptive Note:** This collection consists of tax records, receipts and other miscellaneous papers related to Thomas F. Rankin. The receipts are particularly interesting, as there are many from local businesses illustrating the wide variety of goods and services that were available at the turn of the century in Reidsville.

Thomas F. Rankin was born in 1849 to William and Louisa Rankin in the Benaja area of Rockingham County, NC. In 1876, Thomas married Mollie Wade (1856-1946), daughter of Elisha Wade, and moved to the Iron Works community where Mollie resided. Thomas was Sheriff of Rockingham County and Mollie supervised the food at the jail. Thomas also raised

tobacco and operated a grist mill that had belonged to his wife's family. He was an elder at Speedwell Church. Thomas and Mollie had eight children including Wade H. (b.1877), Louise (b.1880), William A. (b.1883), Hugh P. (b.1886), Thomas W. (b.1888), Mary C. (b.1891), Robert C. (b. 1894), and Helen F. (b.1898). The second son, William A. "Buck" Rankin, would grow up to marry Lucy McCargo (b.1908), a well-loved teacher at Wentworth High School for 39 years, president of the Rockingham County Historical Society, and Rockingham Community College Foundation board member.

Contents:

Folder 1:

Receipts from many Reidsville area businesses for dry goods, feed, livery services, tobacco sales and more. Mostly from the 1890's and made out to T. F. Rankin

Folder 2:

Tax receipts for many Rockingham County residents for taxes received by T. F. Rankin, Sheriff of Rockingham County

4 photographic negatives dated 1916

Miscellaneous papers and correspondence