

Nancy Watkins Papers

- Repository:** Rockingham Co. Historical Collections
Gerald B. James Library
Rockingham Community College
P. O. Box 38
Wentworth, NC 27375
- Title:** Nancy Watkins Papers
- Accession No.:** 81-012
- Extent:** 1 folder – unboxed collections; 1 box – 3D and oversized; 1 book – collections room
- Provenance:** Donated by Lenora Wall Sutton in 1981
- Inclusive Dates:** 1889-1946
- Subject Headings:** Madison (N. C.) -- History
Watkins, Nancy Woodburn, 1885-1966
Wentworth (N. C.) -- History
- Preferred Citation:** *Nancy Watkins Papers. 81-012. Rockingham Co. Historical Collections, Gerald B. James Library, Rockingham Community College.*
- Descriptive Note:** Nancy Watkins was a local historian in the Madison, North Carolina area. She was born in Rockingham County in 1885 and attended the North Carolina College for Women in Greensboro and Columbia University. For many years, she taught school in Greensboro. She was a common sight making the rounds of Madison with her cane and shopping bag, or pulling a makeshift cart made from an orange crate while she collected any scrap paper she could find from local businesses, using the blank sides for her writing. She authored the manuscript *Four Blocks of Rockingham County Culture: Madison, North Carolina, Academy Street 1818-1928*, which was later transcribed and indexed by Joyce L. Hamm in 1983. She also contributed to *North Carolina Slave Narratives* which was compiled by the Federal Writers' Project of the Works

Progress Administration from 1936-1938. She passed away on March 10, 1966.

Contents:

1 book – *Four Blocks of Rockingham County Culture: Madison, North Carolina, Academy Street 1818-1928* by Nancy Watkins

Folder contents:

10 loose handwritten sheets – Rockingham County statistics – 1930's

1 pencil drawing – Thomas Smith house – corner of Decatur and Franklin Streets, Madison, NC

10 loose handwritten sheets – history of Wentworth, NC

3 unidentified photos – woman beside house, side view of cabin, view of mill

1 bumper sticker – Rockingham Co. Bicentennial Celebration

1 typewritten sheet – “Some Facts About Madison”

1 letter – Harriet Corley, Asst. Field Supervisor, Federal Writers' Project to Miss Nancy Watkins dated 1938.

1 copy “Address by Hon. Zebulon B. Vance at the Guilford Battle Ground” dated May 4, 1889

1 copy “And Still They Ride” by Marjorie Craig, 1946

3 copies “Program of Exercises for North Carolina Day” dated 1903, 1906 and 1907

1 copy “Magnetic Declination in North Carolina in 1925” with map

Oversized box:

1 copy *Honor roll of Rockingham County, North Carolina : a Pictorialization of Rockingham Men and Women Serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, World War II*

Pencil sketches:

The Dan-May-Staunton-Roanoke Rivers

Danbury Plantation, home of Governor Alexander Martin
(dated 1932)

Scales home

Madison Academies of 1820 and 1844-1937

Boxwood Plantation on Dan River (dated 1932)

Valley Home, built by William Dearing in 1795, junction of
Belews Creek and Dan River.

Note: Pencil sketches were not located in inventory of 9/4/15
but were listed on a previous inventory