

DeKalb History Center

Chapmon Powell Collection

Scope and Content: The Chapmon Powell Collection contains pictures of Dr. Powell and his "medicine house" from newspapers, as well as a history of the building, and a biography of Dr. Powell. A copy of M.A.J Powell's (Chapman Powell's daughter) will is included, as well as genealogy and biographies of Fielding Travis Powell and John and Elizabeth Hardman.

Provenance: Gifts of Catherine Sams Bond Gheesling, Accession # 1985.160 and Hazel Marlow Everhart Hanson, Accession # 1984.280.

Access: Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from this collection must be requested from the archivist, DeKalb History Center. Citation should be as follows:

Description of specific item; Chapmon Powell Collection, DeKalb History Center Archives

Processed by Jill Sweetapple, Archivist, 2011.

Size: 1/2 document box

Biographical Sketch of Chapmon Powell: Chapman Powell was an Atlanta doctor in the mid-1800's. He was born in Wake County, North Carolina and appears to have moved to Decatur in 1818. His "medicine house" was a refuge for many of Georgia's Native Americans. The house was located on the Shallow Ford Indian Trail, now Clairmont Road near North Decatur Road. Lanier Billups, great grandson of Powell, had the cabin removed and restored in 1961. It is part of the plantation section of Stone Mountain Park. There are pictures of Dr. Powell and his medicine house from newspapers, as well as a history of the building, and a biography of Dr. Powell. A copy of M.A.J Powell's (Chapman Powell's daughter) will is included. Genealogy and biographies of Fielding Travis Powell and John and Elizabeth Hardman are also included. In 1836, Powell represented DeKalb County in the Georgia General Assembly and served as sheriff for a year in 1833. There are bullet holes in the medicine house from the Civil War, when Sherman camped just behind the building and the porch was used as a field hospital.

Description: The collection seems to have been put together from subject file materials and some donations. The Powell family bible, correspondence between, descendent George T. Powell and the DeKalb Historical Society, school reports and genealogical information are included. There is information on the medicine house that was located on Clairmont Road, where Native Americans would come for his herbal remedies steeped in his own brewed alcohol base. The History Center also has the still he used to make the base. The Powell family bible is also part of this collection.

Subject Headings: Where possible, Library of Congress Subject Headings have been used.

Main Entry: Powell, Chapmon (1798-1870)

Subject/Added Entries: Powell, Elizabeth Hardman (xxxx-1850)
DeKalb County (Ga.)
Hardman Cemetery
Billups, Alice H.
Billips, Lanier

Folder List

Box	Folder	Contents	Dates
1	1	Biographical info	
	2	Biography	
	3	Correspondence, George T. Powell and DHS	
	4	Genealogy charts	
	5	Newspaper clippings	
	6	Photographs	
	7	School report by John Roderick Bain	