

# Inventory of the Benjamin P. Gaillard Collection

Chestatee Regional Library System  
Lumpkin County Library

## Overview of Collection

**Repository:** Chestatee Regional Library System, Lumpkin County Library, 342 Courthouse Hill, Dahlonega, GA 30533

**Title:** Benjamin P. Gaillard Collection

**Date:** 1877 – 1937

**Quantity:** 2.53 cubic ft.

**Abstract:** The Benjamin P. Gaillard Collection contains documents and materials belonging or pertaining to the Benjamin Palmer Gaillard family, dating from 1877 – 1937. The collection contains: Benjamin P. Gaillard’s journals; ledgers pertinent to college courses, religion, and financial information; a telegram to Benjamin P. Gaillard, and a promissory note with the Bank of Lumpkin County. Also included in this collection are: the Gaillard Family Bible containing copied pages listing family births, deaths and marriages; and a bound book given to Benjamin P. Gaillard in 1923 entitled Messages from Friends that contains letters written by students celebrating his fiftieth year teaching at the North Georgia Agricultural College.

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## Biographical Sketch

Benjamin Palmer Gaillard was born in South Carolina on October 28, 1850, to Reverend Savage Smith Gaillard and Sarah Jeanette Crosson Gaillard. Benjamin Palmer Gaillard married Martha “Mattie” Jane Boyd on June 28, 1877 in Lumpkin County, Georgia. Mattie Jane Boyd was born in 1854 to Colonel Weir Boyd and Sarah Jane Sitton Boyd. Benjamin and Mattie Gaillard had seven children, six of whom survived to adulthood.

Benjamin Gaillard graduated from Oglethorpe University with a Bachelor of Arts in 1872. After graduating he became a professor at the North Georgia College in 1873 where he continued to teach for over sixty years. Over his lifetime, he earned additional degrees, including an A.M. degree at the University of Georgia and a Ph.D. from Oglethorpe University. At North Georgia College, Benjamin Gaillard was a professor of mathematics from 1873 to 1876, head of the Latin department from 1876 to 1886, and head of the science department until 1932. Dr. Gaillard was the vice president of the college from 1896 to 1922. Dr. Gaillard also studied the weather and was the dean of the co-operative observers for the Weather Bureau in Georgia from 1892 until his death in 1938.

Benjamin Palmer Gaillard died on December 20, 1938, at Downey's Hospital in Gainesville, Georgia at the age of 88. He is buried in the Mount Hope Cemetery in Dahlonega, Georgia. The above biographical information was abstracted from materials located in the Genealogy and Historical Vertical Files and the Family Files which are housed at the Lumpkin County Library.

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### **Scope and Content Note**

The bulk of the collection consists of Benjamin P. Gaillard's personal diaries from 1910 until 1937, one year before his death. Several ledgers, also written by Benjamin P. Gaillard, contain information pertinent to college courses, religion, and financial information, with a date range of 1906 - 1915. A telegram to Benjamin P. Gaillard, and a promissory note with the Bank of Lumpkin County are also in this collection. Also included in this collection is the Gaillard family Bible, given to Benjamin P. and Mattie B. Gaillard on December 25, 1877. With the Bible is a copy of the pages listing family births, deaths, and marriages. Lastly, the bound book entitled Messages from Friends contains letters written by alumni in honor of Professor Benjamin Gaillard's 50<sup>th</sup> year as a teacher at North Georgia College.

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### **Arrangement of the Collection**

The Benjamin Palmer Gaillard Collection has been arranged into one series consisting of six boxes:

- Box 1 Diaries of Benjamin P. Gaillard
  - Box 2 Diaries of Benjamin P. Gaillard
  - Box 3 Diaries of Benjamin P. Gaillard
  - Box4 Ledgers of Benjamin P. Gaillard, telegram to B.P. Gaillard, and promissory note with the Bank of Lumpkin County
  - Box5 Gaillard Family Bible
  - Box6 Messages from Friends - bound compilation of letters
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### **Topics Covered**

Gaillard, Benjamin Palmer; 1850 – 1938.

Gaillard Family.

Education--Georgia--Dahlonega--North Georgia College/North Georgia Agricultural College.

Ledgers--Georgia--Dahlonega--college courses, religion, financial information.

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## Administrative Information

### Processing Information:

Jimmy E. Anderson donated the Benjamin P. Gaillard diaries and ledgers, telegram, and promissory note to the Lumpkin County Library in December 2016. He had been given these materials by Madeleine K. Anthony shortly before her death in 1989. The Gaillard Family Bible and the Messages from Friends bound book were given to the Lumpkin County Library by the Lumpkin County Historical Society in 2016. Earlier that year, the Bible and book had been donated to the Lumpkin County Historical Society by Georgia Eiss of Rockford, Illinois after she discovered them in her mother's home. Georgia and her husband Bob traveled to Dahlonega in May 2016 to donate these two items to the Historical Society.

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### Container List

#### Benjamin Palmer Gaillard Collection

The collection consists of one series with six boxes. The first four boxes contain the diaries, ledgers, telegram and promissory note. The last two boxes contain the Gaillard Family Bible and the Letters from Friends bound book.

Box	File No.	Description
1	1	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Feb. 22, 1910 - Sep. 13, 1910
	2	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Apr. 1, 1911 – Jan. 15, 1912
	3	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; July 9, 1911 - July 17, 1911 & June 26, 1913 - Miscellaneous Notes
	4	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Jan. 17, 1912 - Sep. 11, 1912
	5	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Sep. 12, 1912 - May 9, 1913
	6	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; May 10, 1913 – Jun. 21, 1914
	7	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Jun. 22, 1914 – Jul. 13, 1915
	8	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Jul. 14, 1915 – Aug. 7, 1916
	9	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Aug. 8, 1916 - Aug. 31, 1917
	10	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Sep. 1, 1917 - Sep. 20, 1918

<b>Box</b>	<b>File No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
2	11	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Sep. 21, 1918 – Jun. 30, 1920
	12	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Jan. 1, 1919 - Dec. 31, 1919
	13	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Jan. 16, 1921 - Aug. 6, 1921
	14	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Aug. 7, 1921 - Feb. 16, 1922
	15	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Nov. 9, 1923 – Jul. 7, 1924
	16	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Jul. 8, 1924 - Jan. 15, 1925
	17	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Jul. 29, 1925 - Jan. 6, 1926
	18	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Jan. 7, 1926 – Jul. 25, 1926
	19	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Jul. 26, 1926 - Mar. 10, 1927
	20	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Mar. 11, 1927 - Sep. 12, 1927
	21	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Sep. 13, 1927 - Feb. 19, 1928
	22	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Feb. 20, 1928 - May 22, 1928; Ledgers 1926-1927
	23	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; May 23, 1928 - Oct. 28, 1928
	24	Diary of B. P. Gaillard; Nov. 25, 1929 - Sep. 25, 1930

<b>Box</b>	<b>File No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
3	25	Diary of B.P. Gaillard; Jan. 1, 1931 - Dec. 31, 1931
	26	Diary of B.P. Gaillard; May 1, 1934 – Jul. 6, 1935
	27	Diary of B.P. Gaillard; Jul. 7, 1935 - Nov. 3, 1937

<b>Box</b>	<b>File No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
4	28	Ledger of B.P. Gaillard; Feb. 19, 1906 – Aug. 26, 1906; pages 1 – 246
	29	Ledger of B.P. Gaillard; Aug. 27, 1906 – Jun. 16, 1908; pages 247 – 371
	30	Ledger of B.P. Gaillard; Jun. 18, 1908 – May 13, 1910; pages 372 – 491
	31	Ledger of B.P. Gaillard; Jul. 2, 1909 & Miscellaneous Notes

- 32 Ledger of B.P. Gaillard; Jul. 5, 1909- Jan. 25, 1910; 1913 Miscellaneous Notes
- 33 Ledger of B.P. Gaillard; Jan. 1, 1912 – Nov. 1, 1913; pages 592 – 737
- 34 Ledger of B.P. Gaillard; Nov. 2, 1913 – Mar. 7, 1915; pages 738 – 881
- 35 1924 Promissory Note - B.P. and Mattie B. Gaillard to the Bank of Lumpkin County
- 36 1929 Telegram to B.P. Gaillard and Family

**Box File No. Description**

- 5 37 (Oversized) Births, Marriages, and Deaths--photocopied from the Gaillard Family Bible
- 38 (Oversized) Gaillard Family Bible (1877)

**Box File No. Description**

- 6 39 (Oversized) Program booklet for the Alumni Memorial Banquet in honor of Dr. Benjamin Palmer - 1923
- 40 (Oversized) Messages from Friends book – letters written by alumni to Professor Benjamin Palmer Gaillard - 1923

*Collated and indexed by Agnes Gore.*

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