

Benjamin Hawkins papers

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Hawkins, Benjamin, 1754-1816.
Title:	Benjamin Hawkins papers
Dates:	1790-1813
Extent:	1.5 cubic feet (3 boxes)
Identification:	MS 0373

Biographical/Historical Note

Benjamin Hawkins (1754-1818) was born in Warren County, North Carolina. He attended the College of New Jersey, but left his senior year to act as a translator for George Washington's French soldiers. He served in the Congress of the Confederation from 1781 to 1784, and again 1786-1787. He then represented North Carolina as a U.S. Senator. In this position, Hawkins negotiated numerous treaties with the Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, and Chickasaw tribes, including the treaty of Coleraine, 1796. In 1796, he was appointed agent to the Creek Confederacy and General Superintendent of all Indian tribes south of the Ohio River. During this period in his life, he lived on the Creek lands. He died on June 6, 1818.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains journals, letter books, correspondence, and various notes. Most items focus on the Creek Indian Nation, the Creek War, 1813-1814, and dealings with the Indian Agency. The volume containing English-Indian words and phrases was not published in the *Collections of the Georgia Historical Society* volumes. The volumes are described in the Minutes of the Georgia Historical Society, February 12, 1841, I, 137-144.

Index Terms

Blount, William, 1749-1800.
Creek Indians--Government relations.
Creek Indians--Treaties.
Creek Nation.
Creek War, 1813-1814.
Hawkins, Benjamin, 1754-1816.
Indians of North America.
Indians, Treatment of--North America.
Journals (accounts)
Letter books.
Letters (correspondence)
foreign-language dictionaries.

Location of Originals

The Hawkins-Blount letters are photocopies of originals in the Library of Congress.

Physical and Technical Access Restrictions

The journal of English-Indian words and phrases, lists of trees and wild flowers, is too fragile for use. Photocopies made available with the collection should be used instead.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Unknown.

Preferred Citation

[item identification], Benjamin Hawkins papers, MS 373, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Charles R. Floyd, 1839 (Item 10); Mr. Orme, before 1841 (Items 1-9, 13, 14); William Brown Hodgson, 1848 (copy of *Sketch of the Creek Country*); Mrs. J.H. Seaborn, 1972 (Item 20)

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Publication Note

With the exception of one volume, published as *Collections of the Georgia Historical Society: Sketch of the Creek Country in the Years 1798 and 1799*, v.3, p.1 (1848); also as *Collections of the Georgia Historical Society: Letters of Benjamin Hawkins, 1796-1806*, v.9 (1916).

Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2012 Documenting Democracy grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Container List

Box Fldr

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | 1 | Item 1: Journals, letters, etc., 1796 November 19-1797 May 21 |
| | 2 | Item 2: Accounts, notes, orders, etc., 1796-1801 August 18 |
| | 2 | Item 3: Journal and letter book, 1797 April 8-1798 May 14
Contains some notes dated 1799. |
| | 2 | Item 4: Journal of the proceedings of the Commissioners appointed to ascertain and mark |

the boundary lines agreeably to treaties between the Indian Nations and the United States,
1797 February 28-May 6

Includes May-December orders.

Box Fldr

- 2 1 Item 5: Journal, 1798 May 26-June 3

- 2 Item 6: Journal of the Commissioners of the United States appointed to hold conferences with several of the Indian Nations South of the Ohio, other papers and letters, 1801

- 3 Item 7: Journal of occurrences at Fort Wilkinson during the conference and treaty with the Creek Indians there, 1802 April 30-May 23

- 4 Item 8: Notes on the Creek agency, etc., 1804-1805

- 5 Item 9: Sketch of the Creek Country. Original copy; in Hawkins' hand, undated

Box Fldr

- 3 1 Item 10: Another copy of above in unknown hand; first 2 pages and part of page 3 missing

- 2 Item 11: Copy of part of the Sketch of the Creek Country (Item 9); in folder

- 3 Item 12: Copy of Sketch of the Creek Country (Item 9): "Floyd copy."

- 4 Item 13: R. Thomas, his book, 1796 November 21-1798 August 22
Clerk to the Indian Agency.

- 5 Item 14: Journal, English-Indian words and phrases, list of trees and wild flowers

- 6 Items 15-19: Letters of Benjamin Hawkins to William Blount, 1790-1792
Photocopy of original in the Library of Congress.

- 7 Item 20: Benjamin Hawkins' Viatory, 1797-1801 (82.0 p.)
Photocopy of original in the Library of Congress.