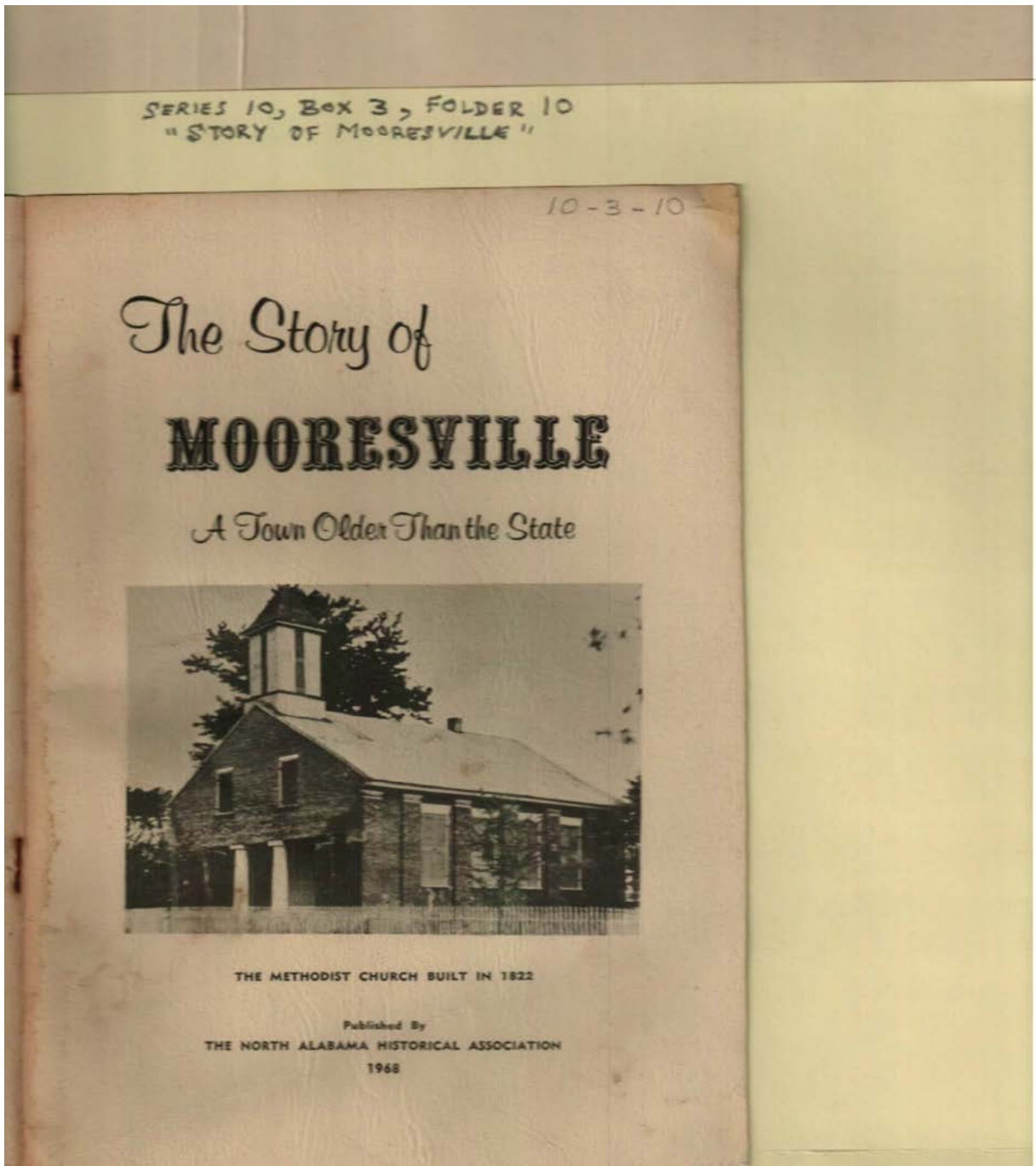


Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

Image 1 r10_03-10-000-0085 [Contents](#) [Index](#) [About](#)



Names:

Methodist Church

North Alabama
Historical

Association
Story of Mooresville

Places:

Mooresville, AL

Types:

booklet

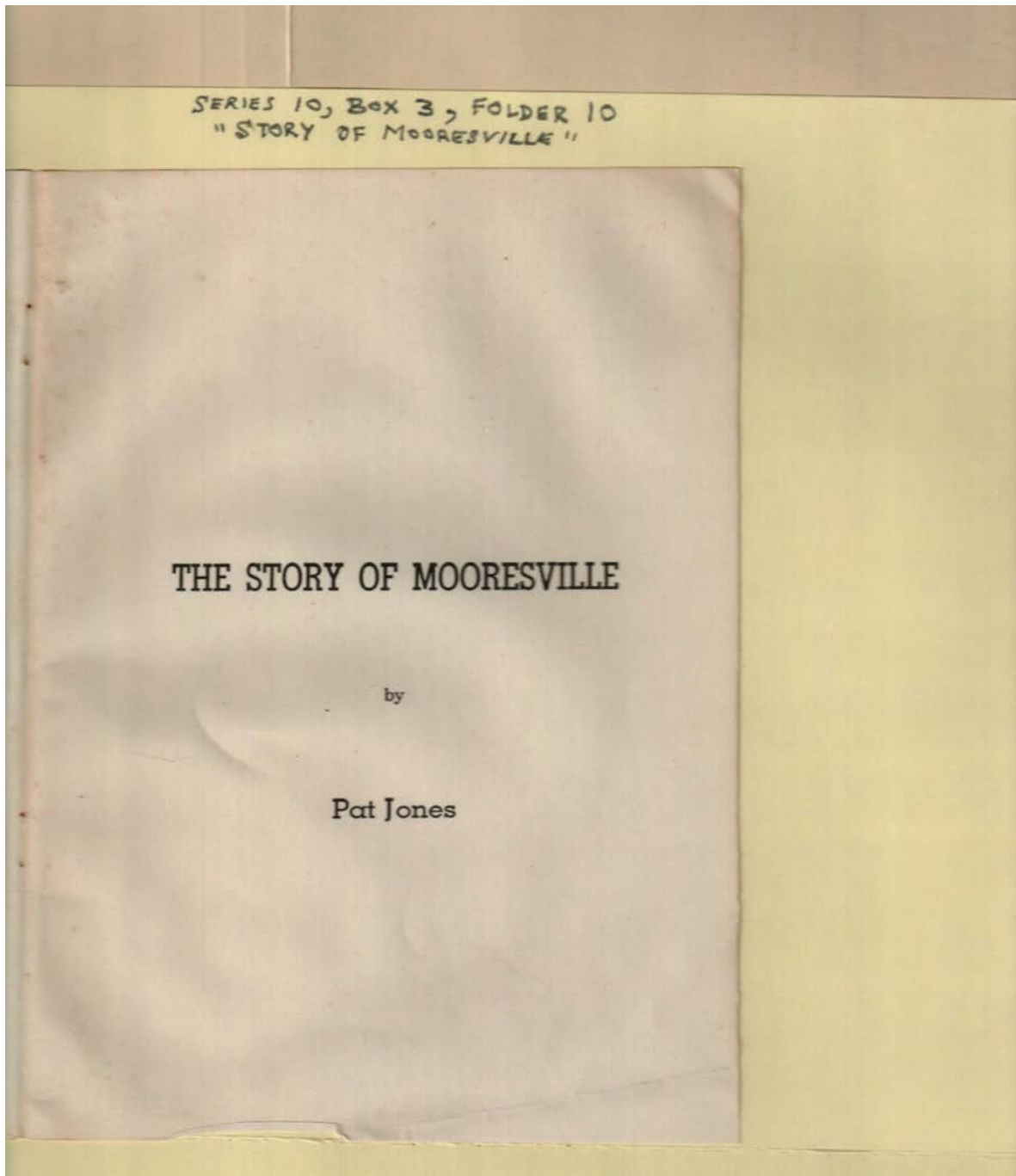
photograph

Dates:

1968

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

Image 2 r10_03-10-000-0086 [Contents](#) [Index](#) [About](#)



Names:

Jones, Pat

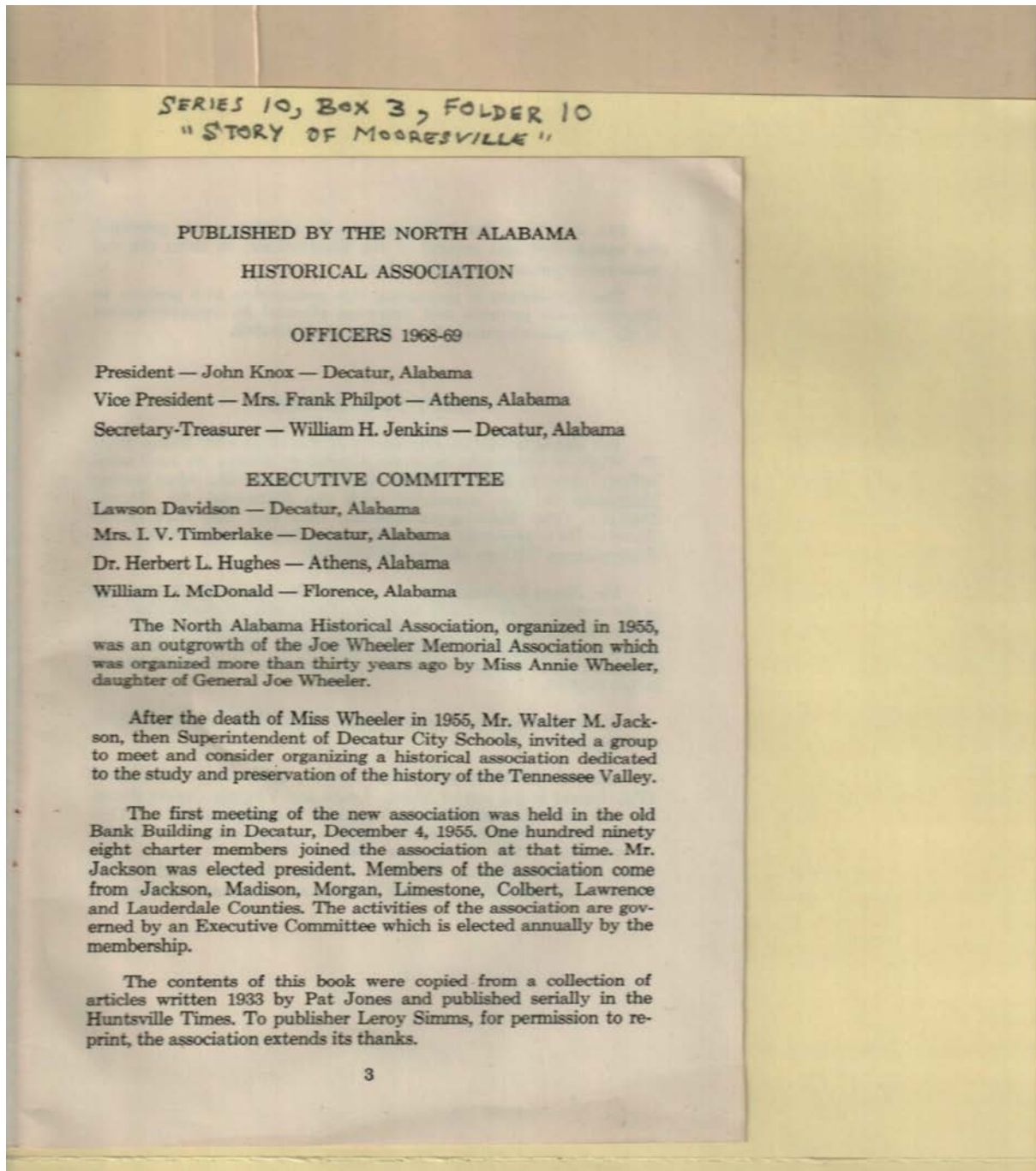
Story of Mooresville

Types:

booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

Image 3 r10_03-10-000-0087 [Contents](#) [Index](#) [About](#)



Names:

Davidson, Lawson
Hughes, Herbert L.,
Dr.
Jackson, Walter M.
Jenkins, William H.

Knox, John
McDonald, William
L.
North Alabama
Historical

Association
Philpot, Frank, Mrs.
Simms, Leroy
Timberlake, I. V.,
Mrs.

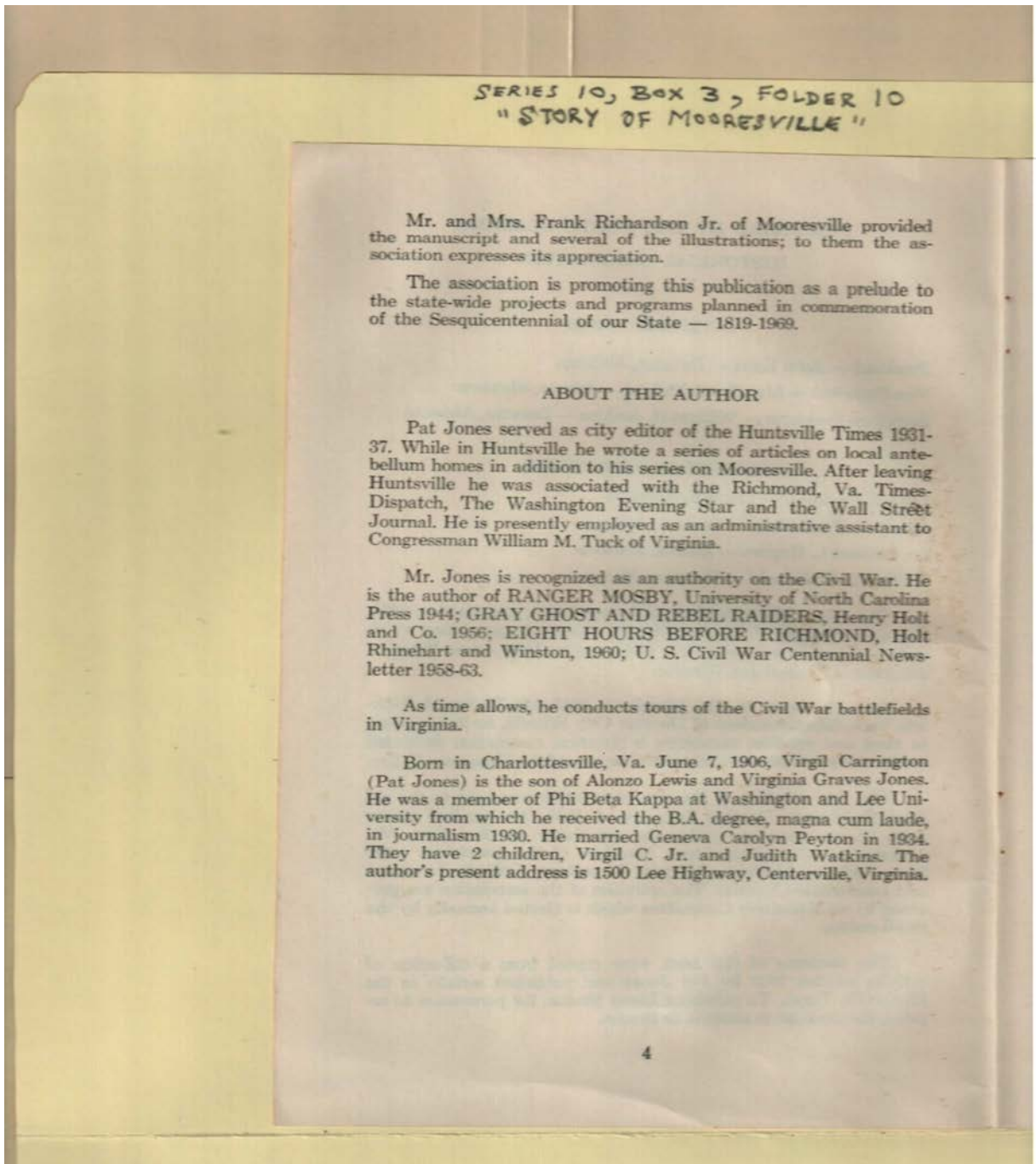
Wheeler, Annie, Miss
Wheeler, Joe, General

Types:

booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

Image 4 r10_03-10-000-0088 [Contents](#) [Index](#) [About](#)



Names:

Jones, Alonzo Lewis
Jones, Pat
Jones, Virgil C., Jr.

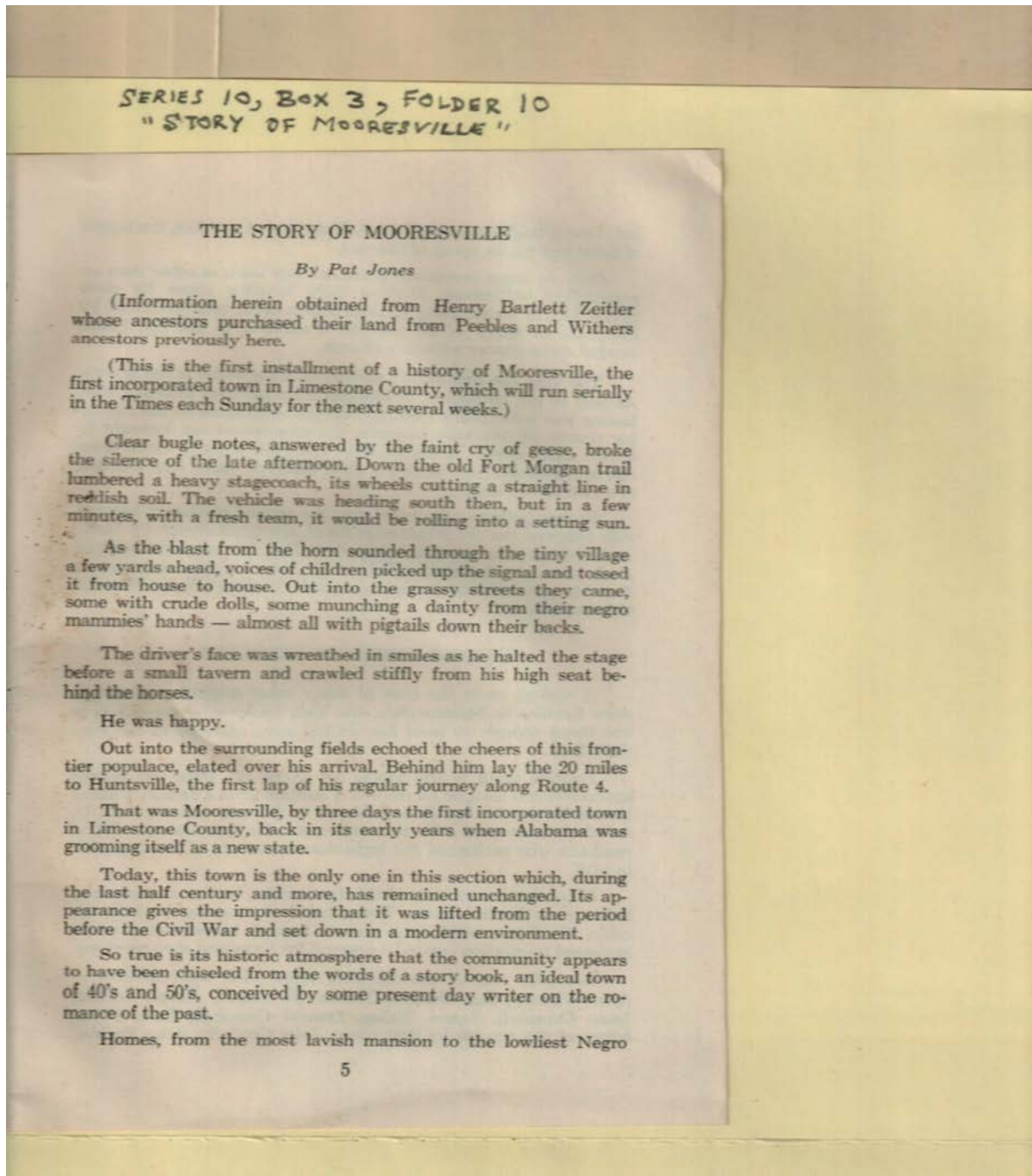
Jones, Virgil
Carrington
Jones, Virginia
Graves

Peyton, Geneva
Carolyn
Richardson, Frank,
Jr., Mr. & Mrs.

Tuck, William M.,
Congressman
Watkins, Judith

Types:

booklet



Names:

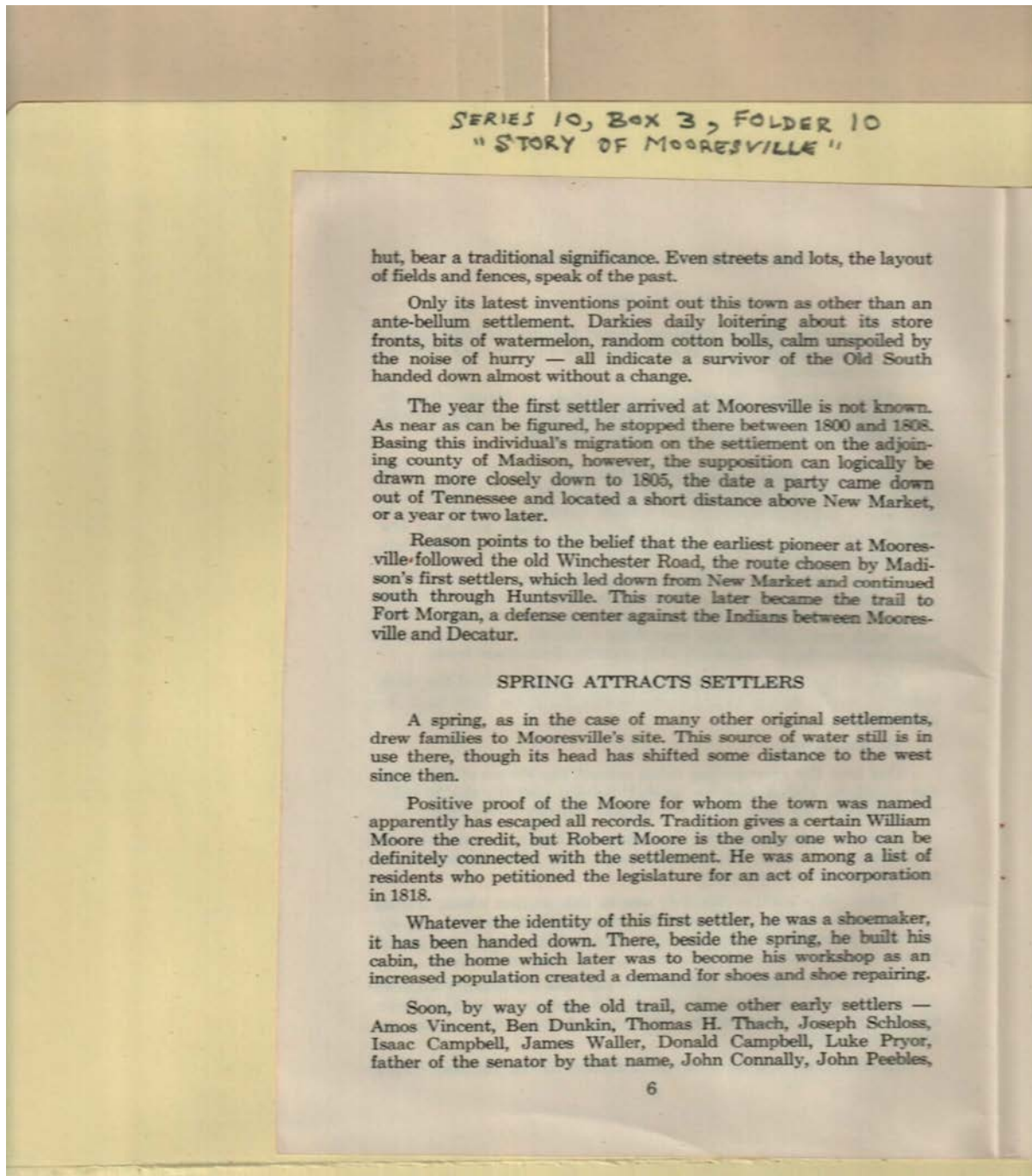
Jones, Pat
Peebles,

Withers,
Zeitler, Henry Bartlett

Story of Mooresville

Types:

booklet



Names:

Campbell, Donald
Campbell, Isaac
Connally, John

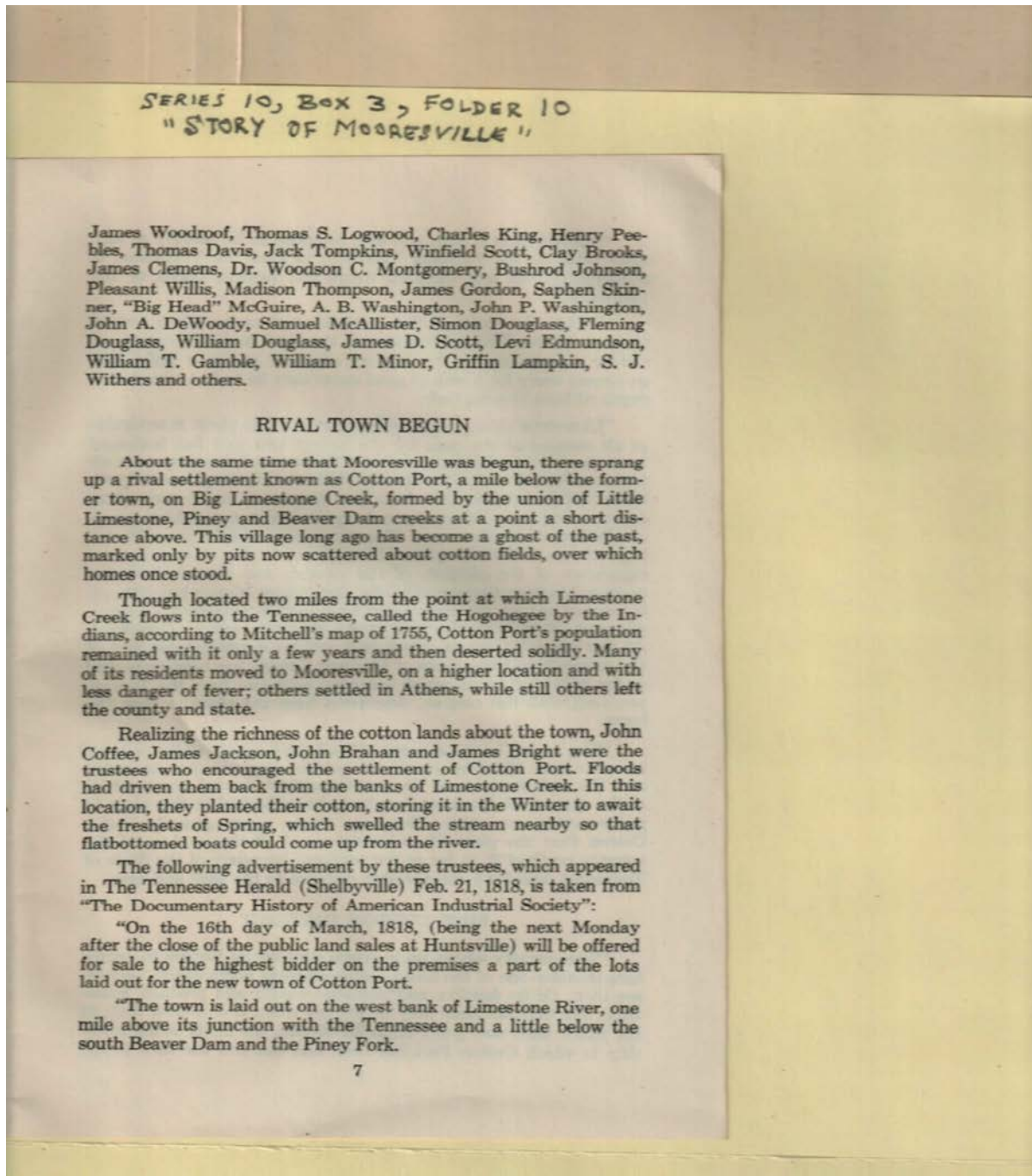
Dunkin, Ben
Moore, Robert
Moore, William

Peebles, John
Pryor, Luke
Schloss, Joseph

Thach, Thomas H.
Vincent, Amos
Waller, James

Types:

booklet



Names:

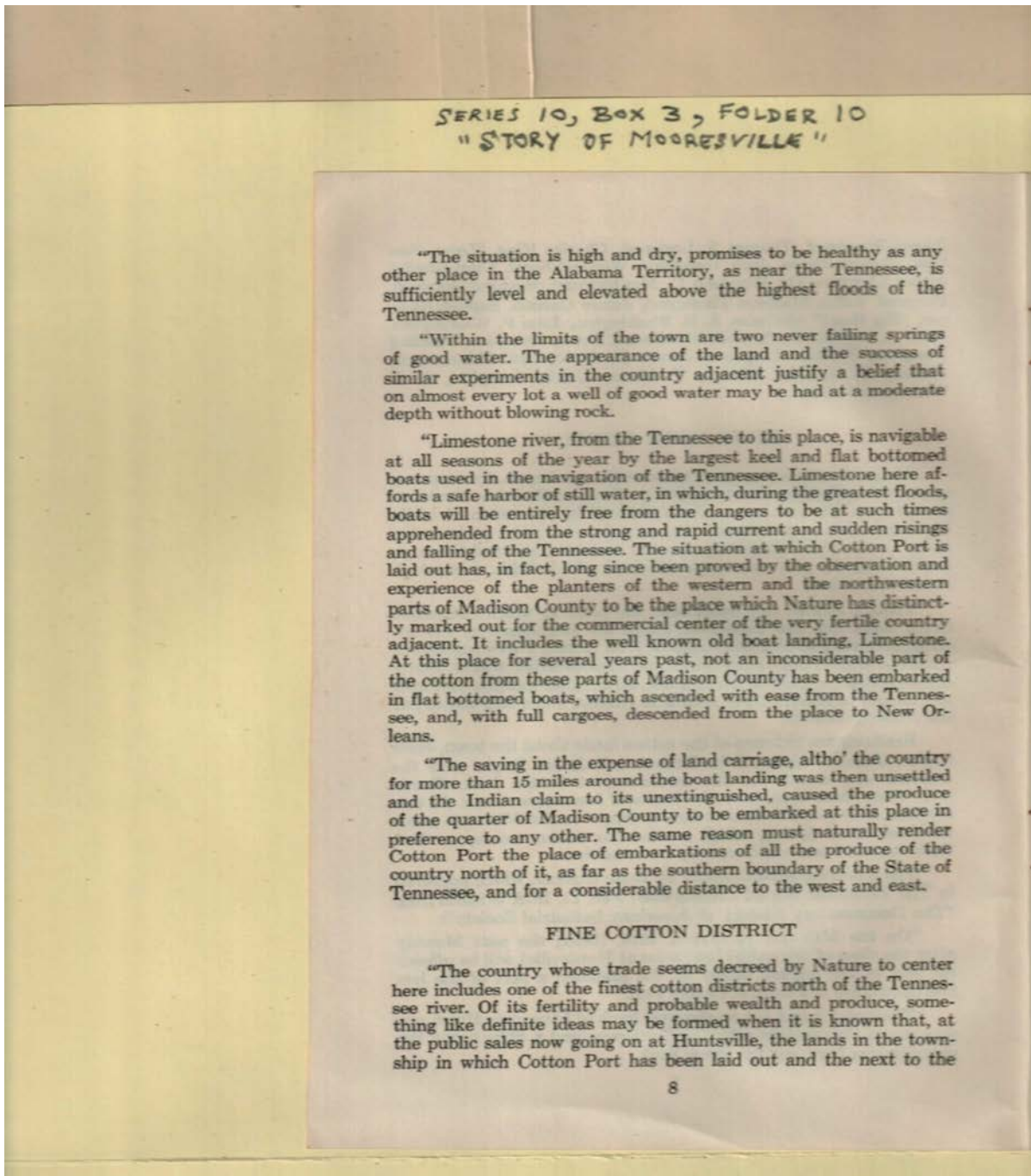
Brahan, John	Douglass, Simon	Logwood, Thomas S.	Scott, Winfield
Bright, James	Douglass, William	McAllister, Samuel	Skinner, Saphen
Brooks, Clay	Edmundson, Levi	McGuire, Big Head	Thompson, Madison
Clemens, James	Gamble, William T.	Minor, William T.	Tompkins, Jack
Coffee, John	Gordon, James	Mitchell,	Washington, A. B.
Cotton Port	Jackson, James	Montgomery,	Washington, John P.
Davis, Thomas	Johnson, Bushrod	Woodson, C., Dr.	Willis, Pleasant
DeWoody, John A.	King, Charles	Peebles, Henry	Withers, S. J.
Douglass, Fleming	Lampkin, Griffin	Scott, James D.	Woodroof, James

Types:

booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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Names:

Cotton Port

Types:

booklet

SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

north sold at from \$2 to \$70 per acre and at the average of \$16 per acre. In the two next townships to the east and northeast, land brought about the same prices. The two nearest townships to the west and northwest of Cotton Port are to be sold during the present week. The greater part of the land in these is not less fertile and inviting to wealthy and industrious settlers. To people at a distance who may not have inquired into the systems pursued in surveying and selling public lands of the United States, it may be proper to observe that a township is six miles square, in each of which, after the reservation for schools, there are 22,400 acres to be sold in quarter sections of 160 each — of rich and high-priced lands just mentioned the most remote is but 12 miles from Cotton Port.

"Men of industry, enterprise and judgment in almost every walk of life, who seek to better their condition, in a new and unoccupied field of action, will not be slow in forming their conclusions if they can rely upon these statements. Let them examine the records of the land office and see if they are correct. Let them examine the account of sales and calculate what must in all probability be the produce of a district in one half of which capital to so large an amount has been vested by prudent men in the purchase of lands at the public sales of government. Let them examine a map of the country and ascertain the point at which the commerce of this district must center.

BUYERS, SELLERS EVIDENT

"To the merchant, it must occur that, for the exportation of the produce of such a country, there must be buyers at the point which it will be collected — that to supply such a country in foreign articles of consumption, there must be sellers at the place to which the consumers come to sell their produce.

"Trade cannot stagnate here. Industrious and ingenious mechanics must see that the inhabitants of such a country will want houses, furniture, farming utensils, leather, saddles, boots, shoes, etcetera, and will be able to pay good prices for them. The upper country on the Tennessee and Holston rivers and their branches will afford, at a very trifling expense for water carriage down the river, abundant supplies of provisions, iron, lumber and other raw materials.

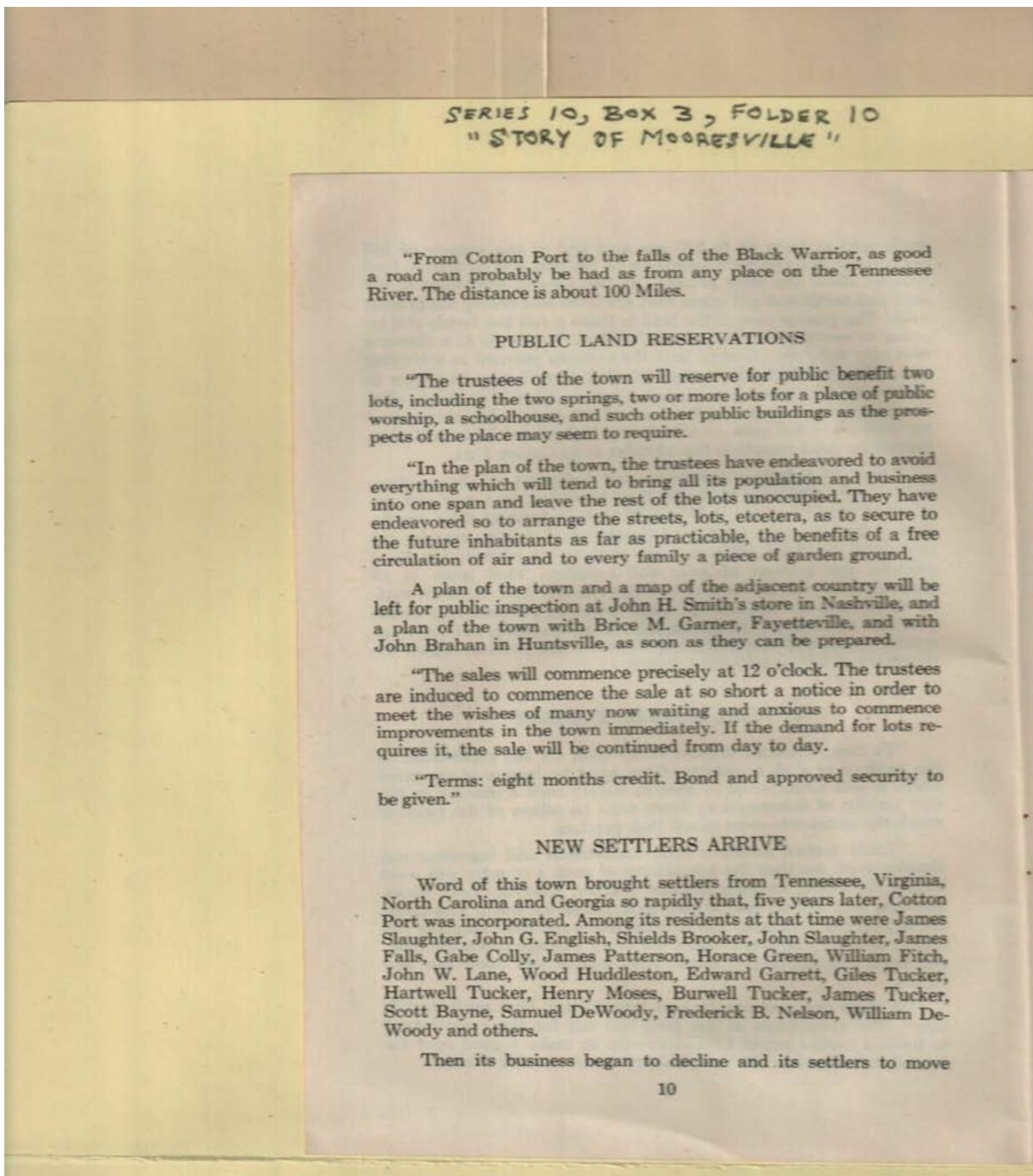
"A good dry road can be had from Cotton Port north to Elk River. The proprietors of the land laid out for the town intend to build a bridge across Limestone and to make a good road for several miles toward the rich country about the Big Prairie.

Names:

Cotton Port

Types:

booklet



Names:

Bayne, Scott
Brahan, John
Brooker, Shields
Colly, Gabe
DeWoody, Samuel
DeWoody, William

English, John G.
Falls, James
Fitch, William
Garner, Brice M.
Garrett, Edward
Green, Horace

Huddleston, Wood
Lane, John W.
Moses, Henry
Nelson, Frederick B.
Patterson, James
Slaughter, James

Slaughter, John
Smith, John H.
Tucker, Burwell
Tucker, Giles
Tucker, Hartwell
Tucker, James

Types:

booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

away. Many of them afterward became active citizens of Mooresville.

Unsuspecting passersby today can pass the site of Mooresville without the least suspicion that anything other than Indians and wild animals ever occupied the spot where Cotton Port once stood. In addition to the excavations for the cellars, a graveyard, marked only by bushes, cedars on each side of a country road, which once was known as Cotton Port Lane, alone are left as proof that John Coffee, James Jackson, John Brahan and James Bright did succeed to a certain extent with their plan.

As this town faded away, Mooresville boomed. Churches, school buildings, a Masonic hall and homes appeared on all sides, so that the original layout of the town was nearly doubled by extending it two blocks or more to the east.

Its later map listed as streets, from east to west North Street — with Pryor Avenue leading north to pass directly in front of the home of Ex-Governor Thomas Bibb. A mile away were Lauderdale and Piney Streets. Extending in opposite direction were Walter, Market, High, Board, Limestone and East Streets. Of this entire plan of thoroughfares, all have been laid off except Walter, Limestone and East Streets.



Famed Mooresville Tavern — Built about 1825. Used as a Home today.

11

Names:

Bibb, Thomas,
Governor

Brahan, John
Bright, James

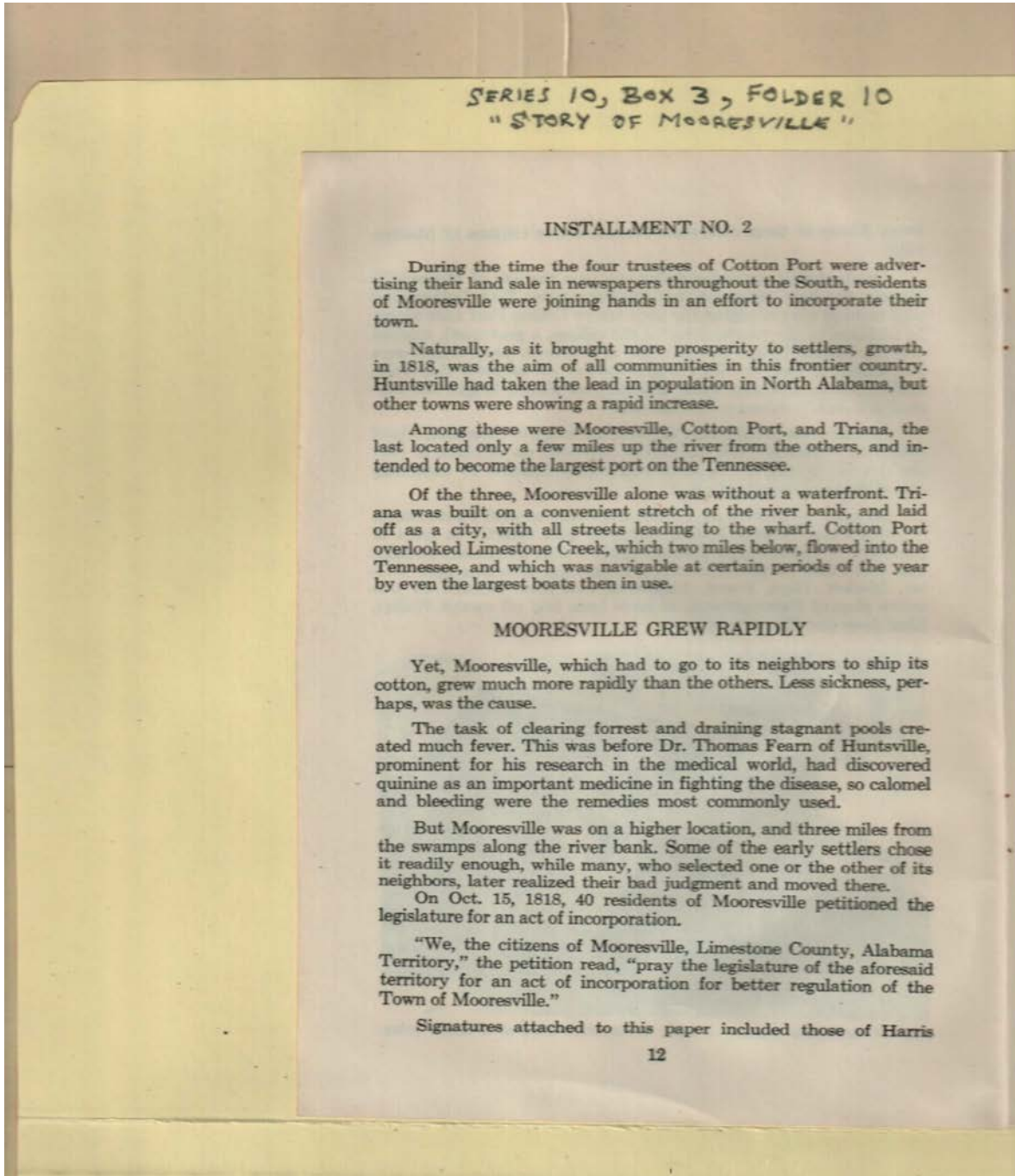
Coffee, John
Jackson, James

Mooresville Tavern,
1825

Types:

booklet

photograph



Names:

Fearn, Thomas, Dr.

Types:

booklet

SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

Toney, Amos Vincent, John Bishop, Robert D. Moore, Eli Askew, W. H. Councill, Edmund Winston, John Bayne, Scott Bayne, Jesse Irwin, William T. Minor, John Mitchell, John Gullie, Robert M. Mitchell, Rice Gulco, Timothy Maybury, James Clark, Z. Poston, Green Roper, Allen Seay, E. Rogers, George Cook, Samuel Crox, James Madden, James Clemens, Samuel Barrister, James A. Sturgus, J. Hollingsworth, John F. Mills, A. R. Bishop, Sullivan Meadows, William Winsett, Augustin Wright, Robert Pallard, W. C. Montgomery, Washington Keyes, E. G. T. Wilson and William Anderson.

RECORDS OF FOUNDERS

A few records on these founders of Mooresville remain, Zephaniah Poston married Martha, daughter of Green Roper, another founder, who came here from Fairfield District, South Carolina.

John Mitchell was the son of Floode Mitchell of North Carolina, a Revolutionary War soldier.

Amos Vincent, a merchant of Mooresville, was the son of Moses Vincent of Madison County, who died in 1822 as the father of nine children. This family came to Alabama from Humphreys County, Tennessee.

John F. Moore descended from a family of prominent Methodists. His grandfather was John Moore, an early minister of the church, who was born in North Carolina in 1758 and who died in 1852. His father also was John Moore, brother of Dr. David Moore, prominent physician, legislator, and one of the three commissioners appointed to lay off and sell lots in Huntsville when the town was first begun.

James Clemens, son of James Clemens of Virginia and Kentucky, and brother of Jeremiah Clemens, one of the early settlers of Huntsville, was a kinsman of Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain).

From Washington Keyes' record comes a story which might easily have given Tennyson the idea for his poem, "Enoch Arden." Keyes' grandfather, Humphrey Keyes, born in 1721, died in 1793, was a sea captain, who claimed Boston as his home port.

SAILED FOR MEDITERRANEAN

In the mist of his career as a mariner, he loaded his ship with merchandise, bade farewell to his wife, Marcella Wade, and two

Names:

Anderson, William	Councill, W. H.	Mills, John F.	Rogers, E.
Askew, Eli	Crox, Samuel	Minor, William T.	Roper, Green
Barrister, Samuel	Gulco, Rice	Mitchell, John	Roper, Martha
Bayne, John	Gullie, John	Mitchell, Robert M.	Seay, Allen
Bayne, Scott	Hollingsworth, J.	Montgomery, W. C.	Sturgus, James A.
Bishop, A. R.	Irwin, Jesse	Moore, David, Dr.	Tennyson,
Bishop, John	Keyes, Humphrey	Moore, John	Toney, Harris
Clark, James	Keyes, Washington	Moore, John F.	Twain, Mark
Clemens, James	Mitchell, Floode	Moore, Robert D.	Vincent, Amos
Clemens, Jeremiah	Madden, James	Pallard, Robert	Vincent, Moses
Clemens, Samuel L.	Maybury, Timothy	Poston, Z.	Wade, Marcella
Cook, George	Meadows, Sullivan	Poston, Zephaniah	Wilson, E. G. T.

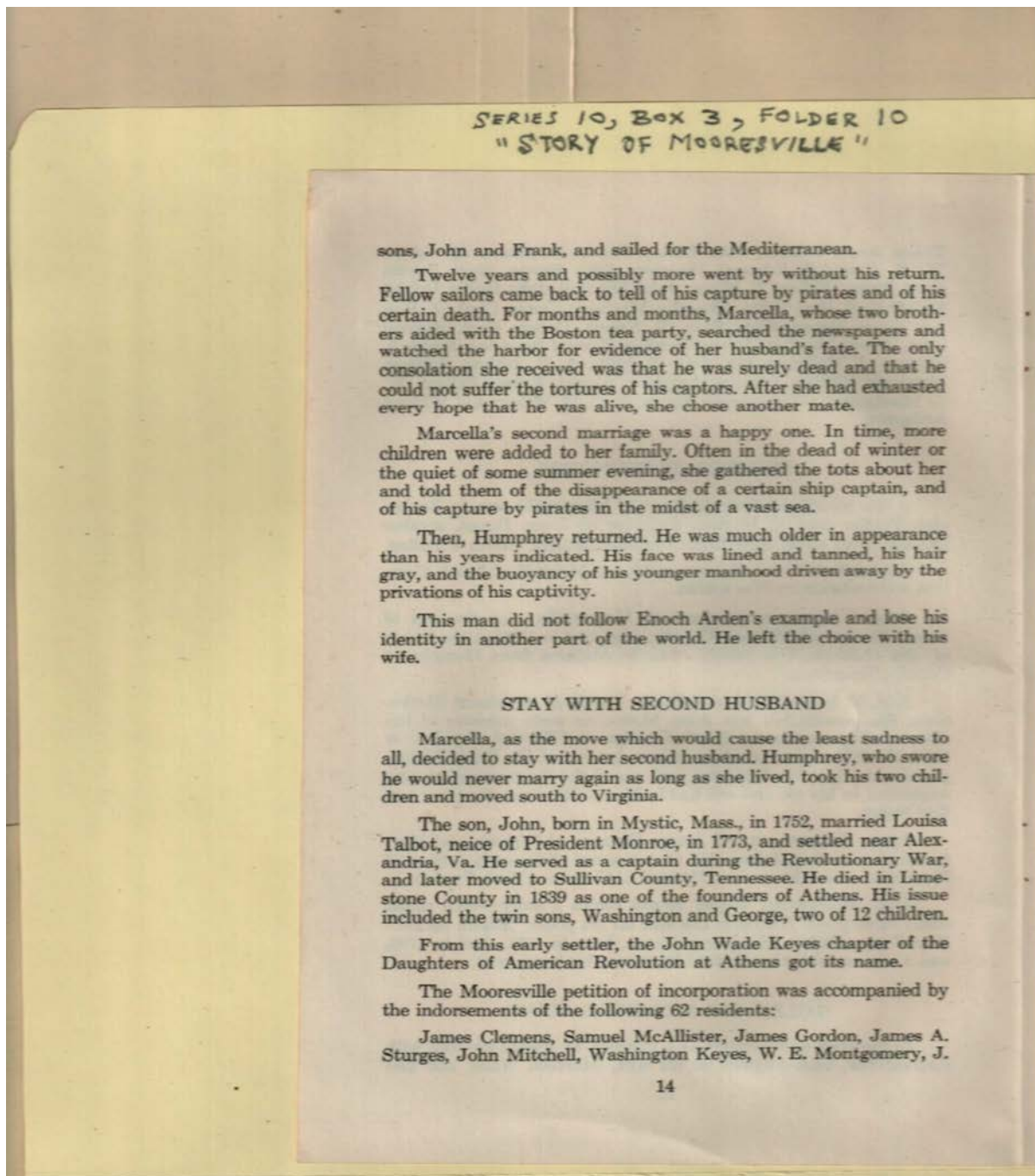
Winsett, William

Winston, Edmund

Wright, Augustin

Types:

booklet



Names:

Arden, Enoch
Clemens, James
Gordon, James
Keyes, Frank
Keyes, George

Keyes, Humphrey
Keyes, John
Keyes, John Wade
Keyes, Marcella
Wade

Keyes, Washington
McAllister, Samuel
Mitchell, John
Monroe, President
Montgomery, W. E.

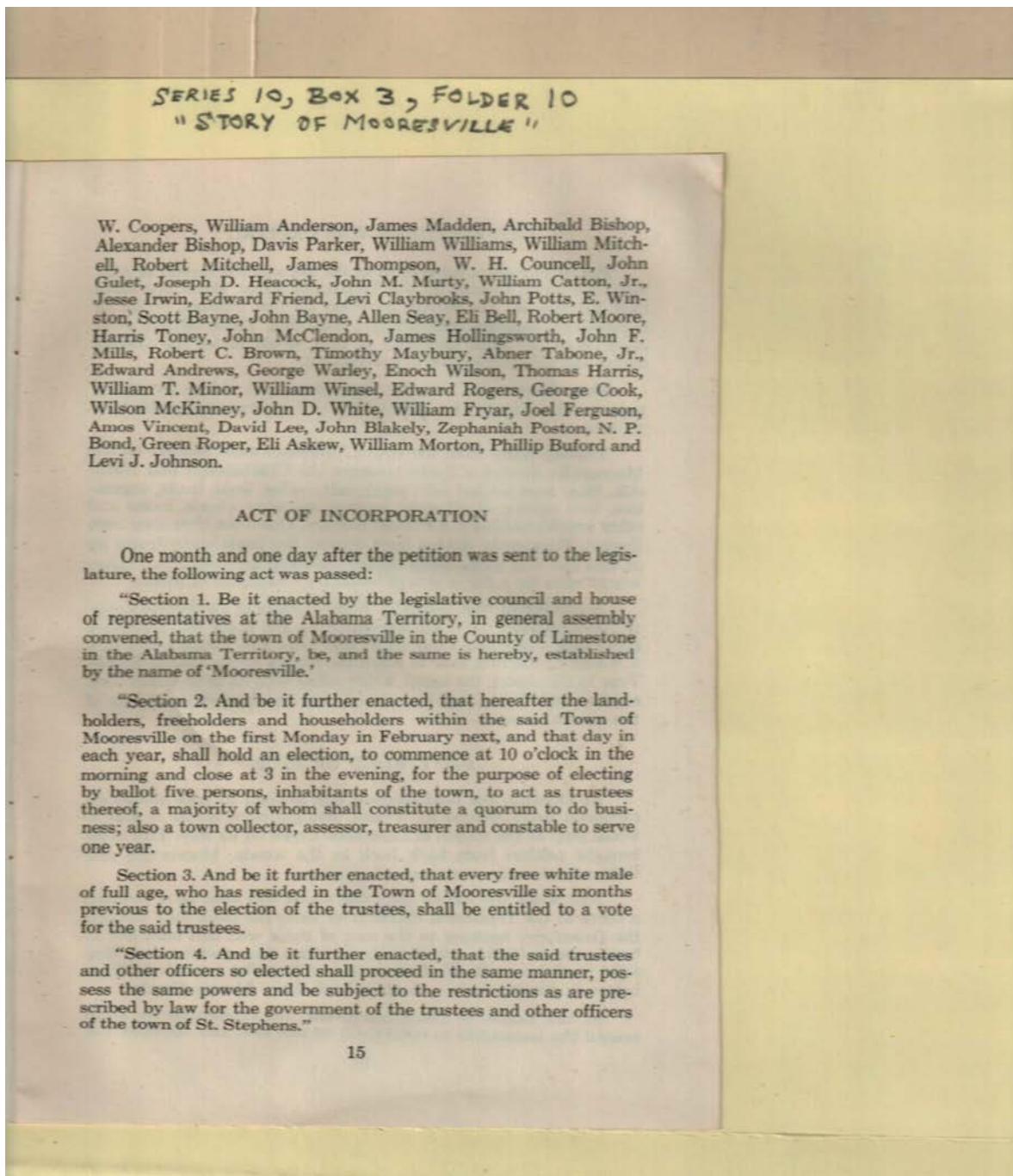
Sturges, James A.
Talbot, Louisa

Types:

booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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Names:

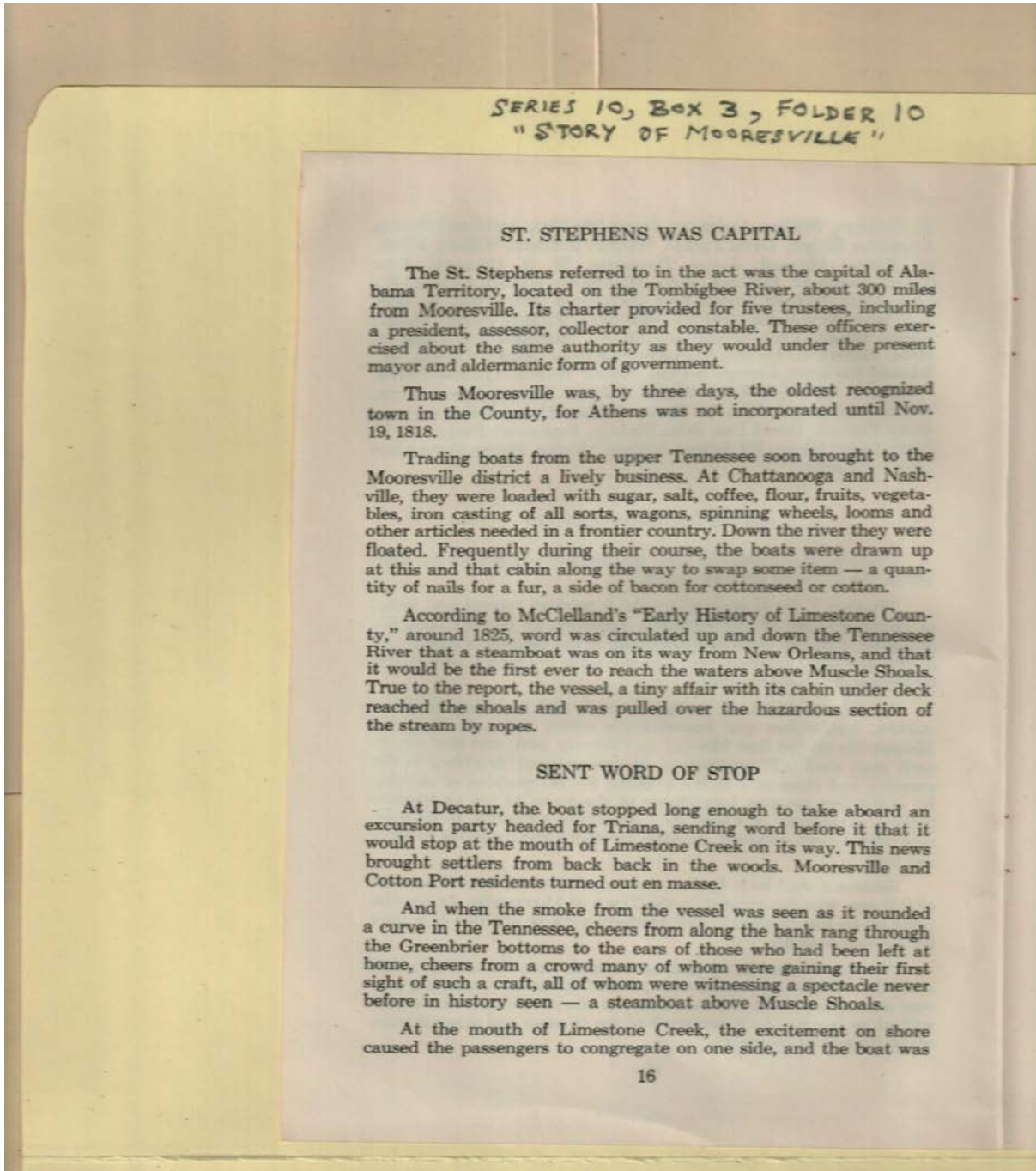
Act of Incorporation	Catton, William, Jr.	Irwin, Jesse	Morton, William
Anderson, William	Claybrooks, Levi	Johnson, Levi J.	Murty, John M.
Andrews, Edward	Cook, George	Lee, David	Parker, Davis
Askew, Eli	Coopers, J. W.	Madden, James	Poston, Zephaniah
Bayne, John	Councill, W. H.	Maybury, Timothy	Potts, John
Bayne, Scott	Ferguson, Joel	McClendon, John	Rogers, Edward
Bell, Eli	Friend, Edward	McKinney, Wilson	Roper, Green
Bishop, Alexander	Fryar, William	Mills, John F.	Seay, Allen
Bishop, Archibald	Gulet, John	Minor, William T.	Tabone, Abner, Jr.
Bond, N. P.	Harris, Thomas	Mitchell, Robert	Thompson, James
Brown, Robert C.	Heacock, Joseph D.	Mitchell, William	Toney, Harris
Buford, Phillip	Hollingsworth, James	Moore, Robert	Vincent, Amos

Warley, George
White, John D.

Williams, William
Wilson, Enoch

Winsel, William
Winston, E.

Types:
booklet



Names:
McClelland,

Types:
booklet

SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

nearly upset. Instead of landing as he had intended, the captain tied her to the bushes on the opposite side of the creek until members of the party could communicate with the crowd by skiffs and canoes. When they returned, he cautioned them to keep their places on the deck, and continued on to Triana.

In this way began steamboat navigation on the upper Tennessee. And its announcement in Washington had its effect, for in 1828, the first appropriation for the development of Muscle Shoals was made by Congress. This was the original step on a project which now, 105 years later, still is incomplete.



Hurn Home — Built circa 1825. Originally known as the Thach home. Former President Andrew Johnson reputedly roomed here 1827.

INSTALLMENT NO. 3

The first weatherboarded house in Mooresville, the old Scott home at the rear of Frank Richardson's store, so older residents recall having been told by their fathers and grandfathers, still is standing there, altered only in the long room added at the back to take the place of a shed, which once harbored churns, steel traps, spinning wheels and other items too numerous to pile into the one main room at the front.

Names:

Hurn Home, 1825

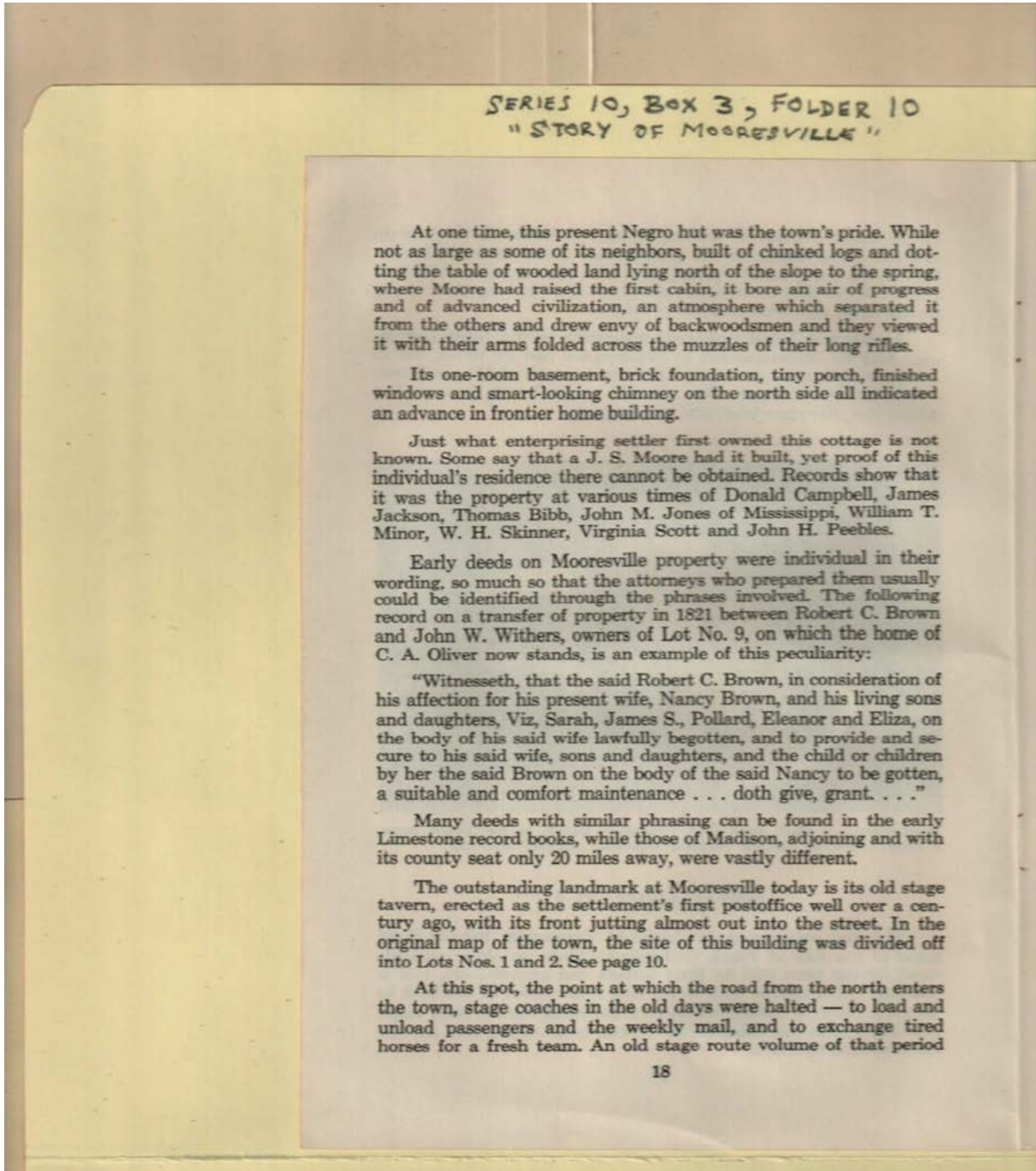
Johnson, Andrew,
President

Richardson, Frank
Thach Home

Types:

booklet

photograph



Names:

Bibb, Thomas
Brown, Eleanor
Brown, Eliza
Brown, James S.
Brown, Nancy

Brown, Pollard
Brown, Robert C.
Brown, Sarah
Campbell, Donald
Jackson, James

Jones, John M.
Minor, William T.
Moore, J. S.
Oliver, C. A.
Peebles, John H.

Scott, Virginia
Skinner, W. H.
Withers, John W.

Types:

booklet

SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

lists Mooresville as the first stop on Route 4 from Huntsville to Tusculumbia.

A visitor arriving on the coach during the Winter was ushered into the main room of the tavern, where a cheery log fire burned in a huge fireplace beneath a hand-carved mantle-piece. A clock, its dial set off by pictures of stately mansions surrounded by cotton, ticked rythmically near the traveler's head as he leaned over to warm his hands in the blaze. A newspaper, often several weeks old, lay nearby.

HORSES PLACED IN STABLE

While the newcomer enjoyed the first warmth he had found for hours, the driver unloaded his bags and dropped them on the narrow porch extending across the front of the building. Then he patted his horses good-naturedly as he went about unhitching them for their trot to the oats awaiting them in the nearby stable.

During the Summer months, on the other hand, the visitor's arrival was somewhat different. Even before he had had time to shake the dust from his clothes, he was ushered to the well on the back porch or well at the right of the tavern or was led back to the dining room, where he might quaff his thirst with wine or liquor. Ice for his drinks was obtained from an icehouse a few feet away on the south side.

This tavern, also an early weatherboarded house of the town, boasted another feature found as a part of few of the first houses—a second story. This was considered somewhat of a luxury in a private dwelling, but, in the case of a hotel, was overlooked as necessary in order to please customers who desired more privacy than that of the first floor.

When the visitor had rested sufficiently, he was led back outside to a narrow stairway leading above. There he found two rooms, each opening into a tiny hallway. One of these chambers was smaller than the other, and had no fireplace. In the second, reserved for the higher paying guests, there was the comfort of the hearth and a commanding view of the road north toward the Bibb home.

TINY POSTOFFICE DOWNSTAIRS

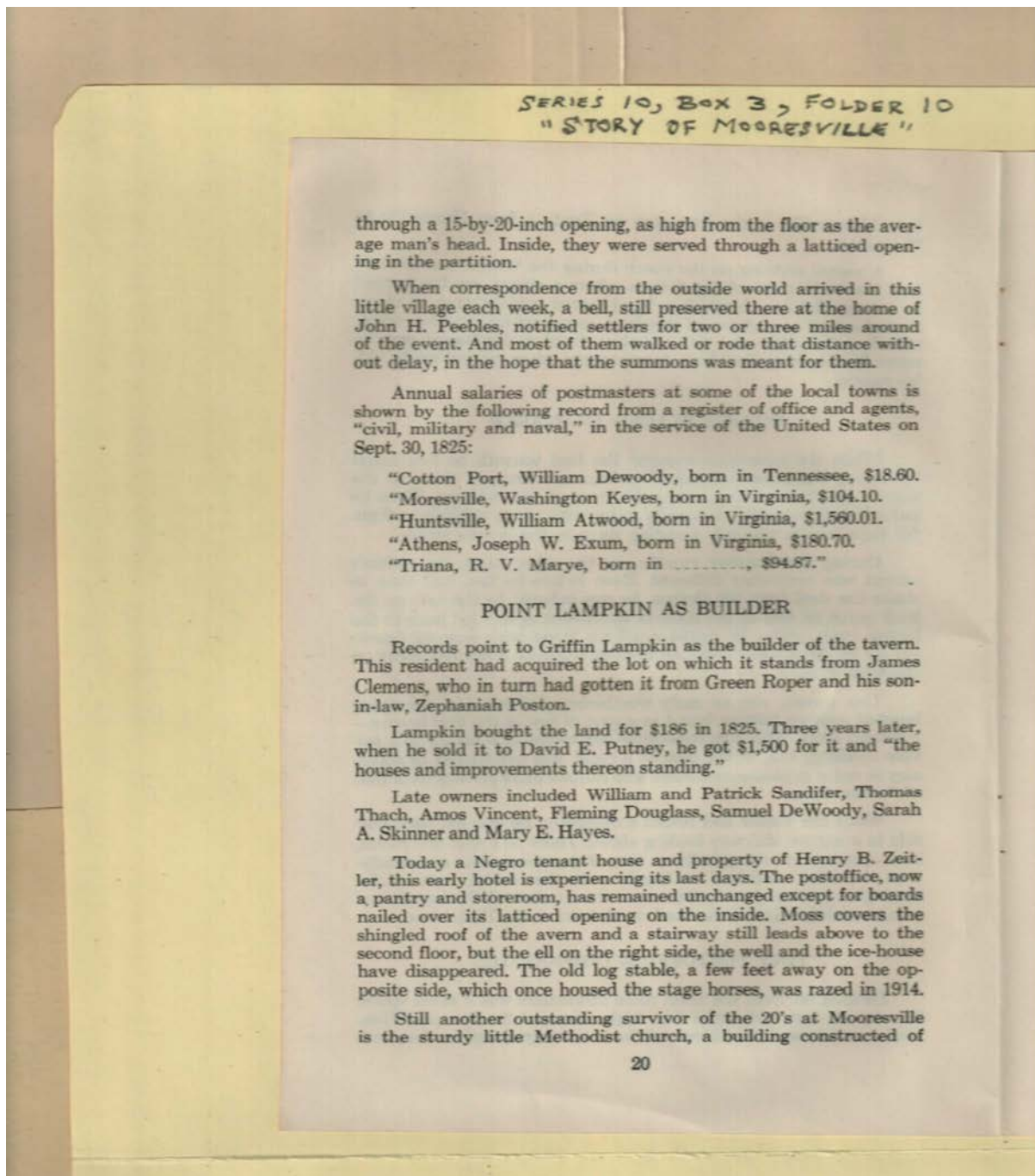
Divided off from the main room downstairs was a small space, four by six-feet and seven feet high, reserved for the postoffice. Mail was delivered to residents of the town congregated on the porch

Names:

Mooresville Tavern

Types:

booklet



Names:

Atwood, William
Clemens, James
DeWoody, Samuel
Dewoody, William
Douglass, Fleming

Exum, Joseph W.
Hayes, Mary E.
Keyes, Washington
Lampkin, Griffin
Marye, R. V.

Peebles, John H.
Poston, Zephaniah
Putney, David E.
Roper, Green
Sandifer, Patrick

Sandifer, William
Skinner, Sarah A.
Thach, Thomas
Vincent, Amos
Zeitler, Henry B.

Types:

booklet

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North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

brick, which shows little signs of the wear and which stands exactly in the center of the town's corporation limits. Much of the early history of the churches in Alabama is wrapped up in its past.

An image of a hand, topping its tiny belfry, years ago pointed toward the cloud-decked heavens and threw an awed reverence into the worshippers who passed in the single room beneath it. Even on starlit nights, when a bright moon cast its reflection through the adjoining bottoms, this representation caused residents to put more fervor into their prayers.

A brick walk led between two white columns, fronting the entrance to two wide, low doors, each marked with the Crusaders Cross. On the inside, aisles were bordered with straight-backed benches, so uncomfortable that the congregation waited impatiently for the invitation to "stand and sign." Above, at the back, was the balcony for the slaves, entered from the outside.

Windows, an equal distance apart, illuminated the building during the day, but at night, five candelabras, each with 12 oil lamps, gave almost as bright a light as modern electricians could supply.

This structure was built by members of various denominations as a union church. To add to its place in history, the site for the building, as in the case of that of the Mooresville cemetery, was donated by Governor Thomas Bibb.

CHURCH DREW CROWDS

More than one immense gathering worshipped there a century and more ago. From all over the surrounding country-side, people came to crowd its aisles and windows, or to listen from horses and vehicles drawn up to within hearing distance on the outside. Prominent preachers from afar often honored its pulpit. And more than one occasion saw the surrounding yard covered with baskets filled with delicacies from the pantries of farm women, who considered cooking a part of their existence and who turned to their memories for recipes drilled into them by their mothers.

Then, around 1835, into the scene came Robert Donnell, leader in the Cumberland Presbyterian church, author of several religious volumes, including "Thoughts on Various Subjects," and generally loved and recognized by his converts as "Father Donnell." This man, a Scotchman devoted to his side whiskers, could be as gentle as a child or as stern as the situation required. Frequently, he entered into controversies with other ministers, arguing his point

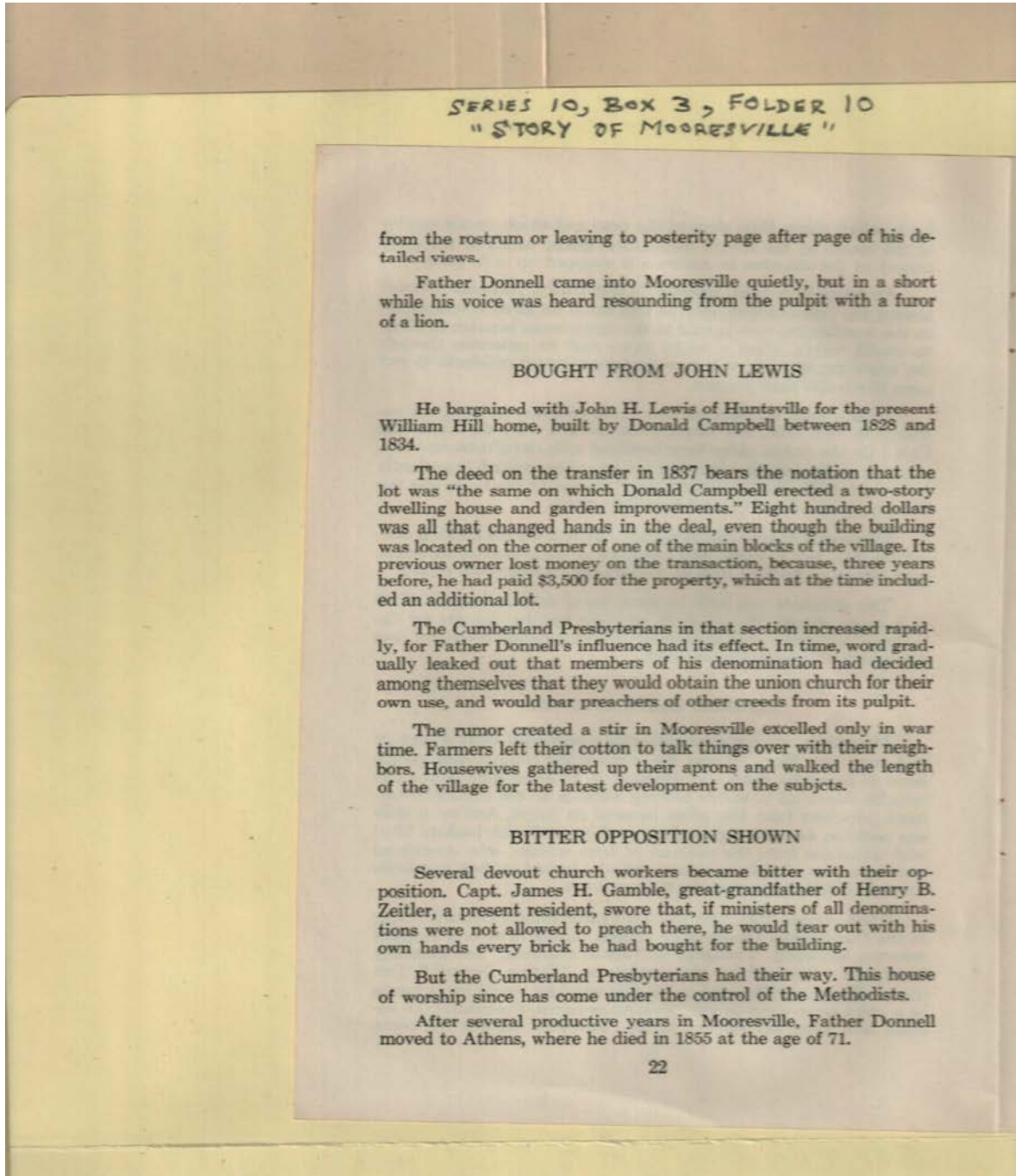
Names:

Bibb, Thomas,
Governor

Donnell, Robert

Types:

booklet



Names:

Campbell, Donald
Donnell, Father

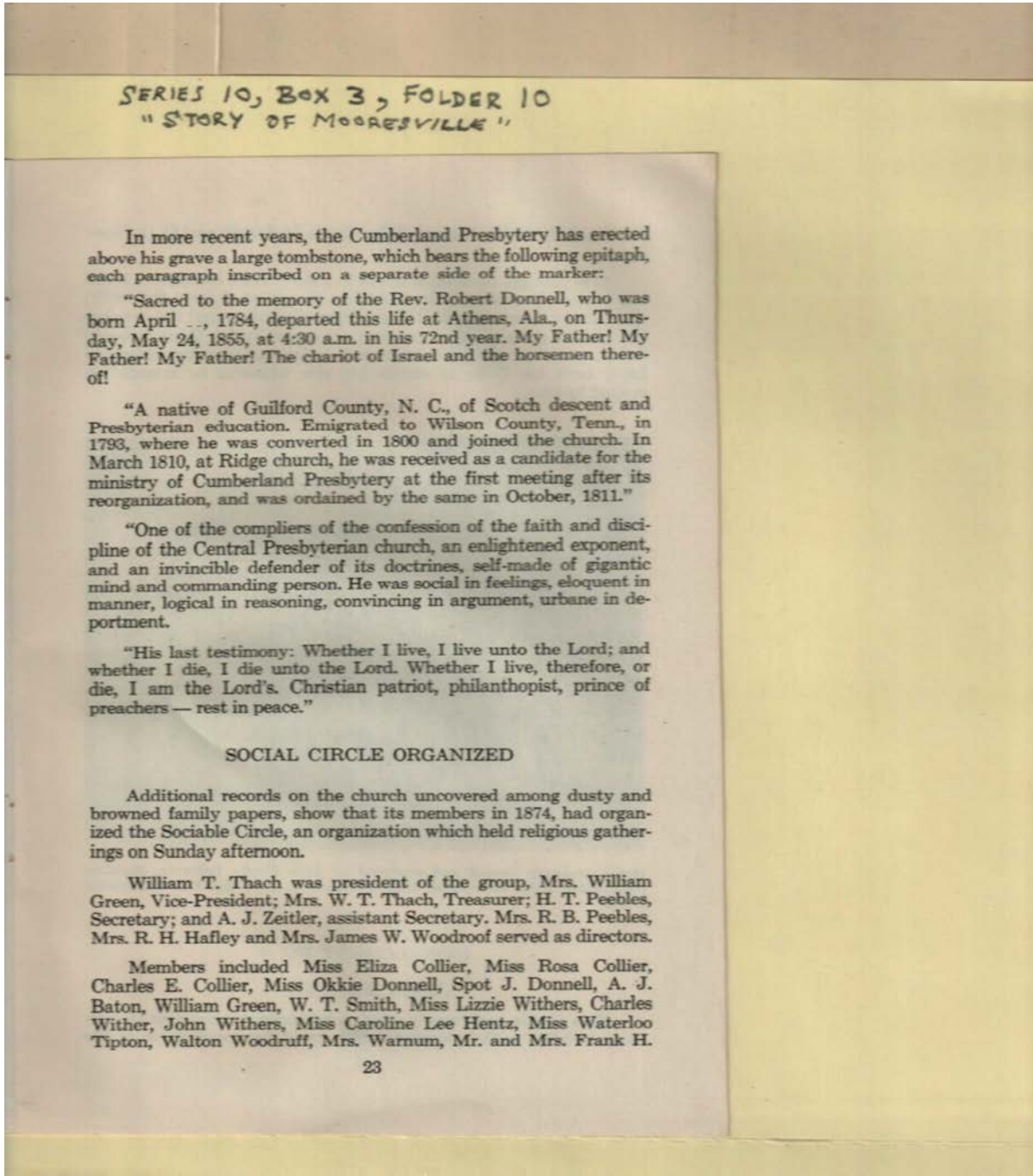
Gamble, James H.,
Capt.

Hill, William
Lewis, John H.

Zeitler, Henry B.

Types:

booklet



Names:

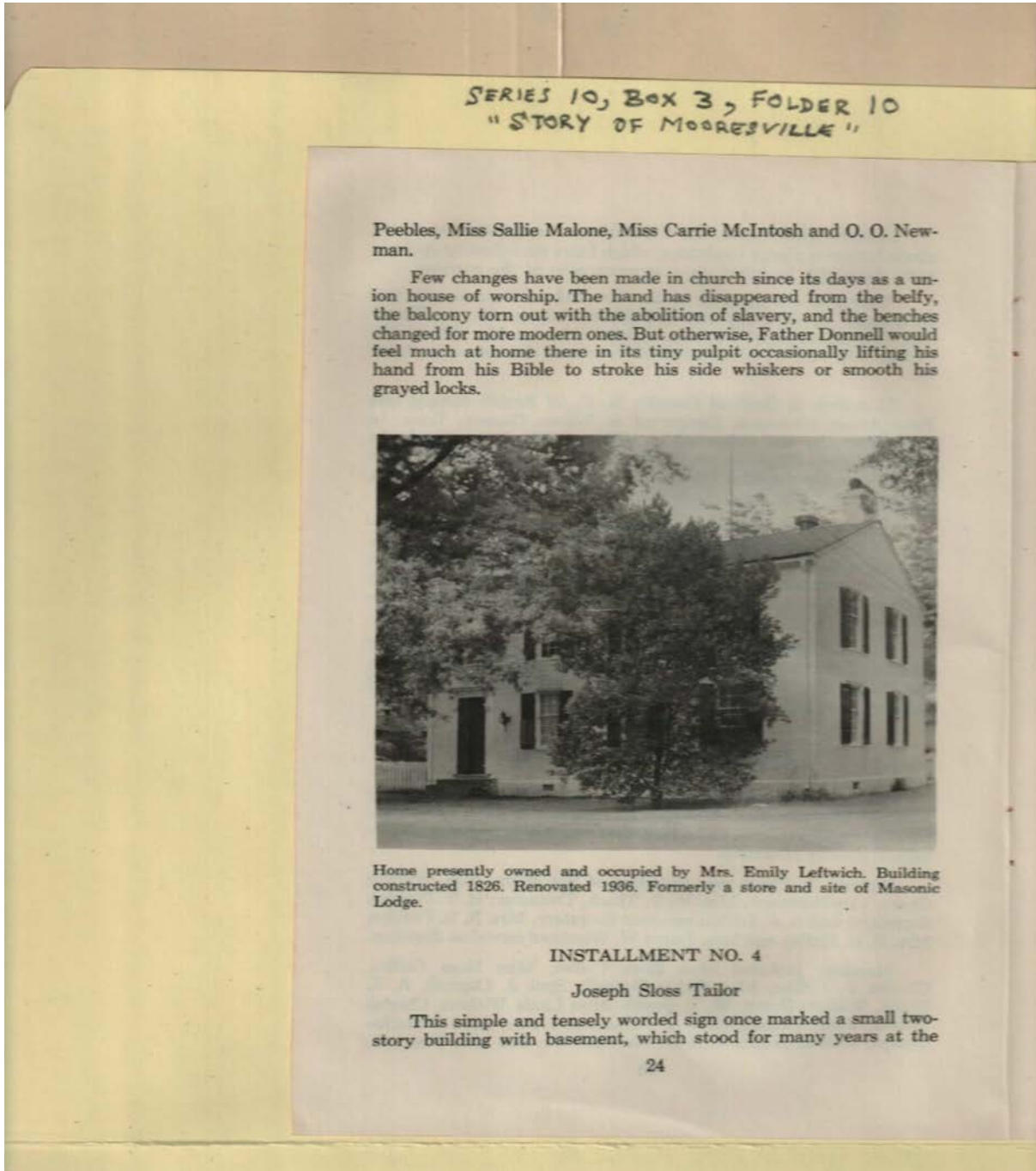
Baton, A. J.	Hafley, R. H., Mrs.	Thach, William T., Mrs.	Withers, Lizzie, Miss
Collier, Eliza, Miss	Hentz, Caroline Lee, Miss	Tipton, Waterloo, Miss	Woodroof, James W., Mrs.
Donnell, Okkie, Miss	Peebles, H. T.	Warnum, Mrs.	Zeitler, A. J.
Donnell, Robert, Rev.	Peebles, R. B., Mrs.	Wither, Charles	
Donnell, Spot J.	Smith, W. T.	Withers, John	
Green, William	Thach, William T.		
Green, William, Mrs.			

Types:

booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
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Names:

Donnell, Father
Leftwich, Emily, Mrs.
Malone, Sallie, Miss

McIntosh, Carrie,
Miss
Newman, O. O.

Peebles, Frank H.,
Mr. & Mrs.
Sloss, Joseph

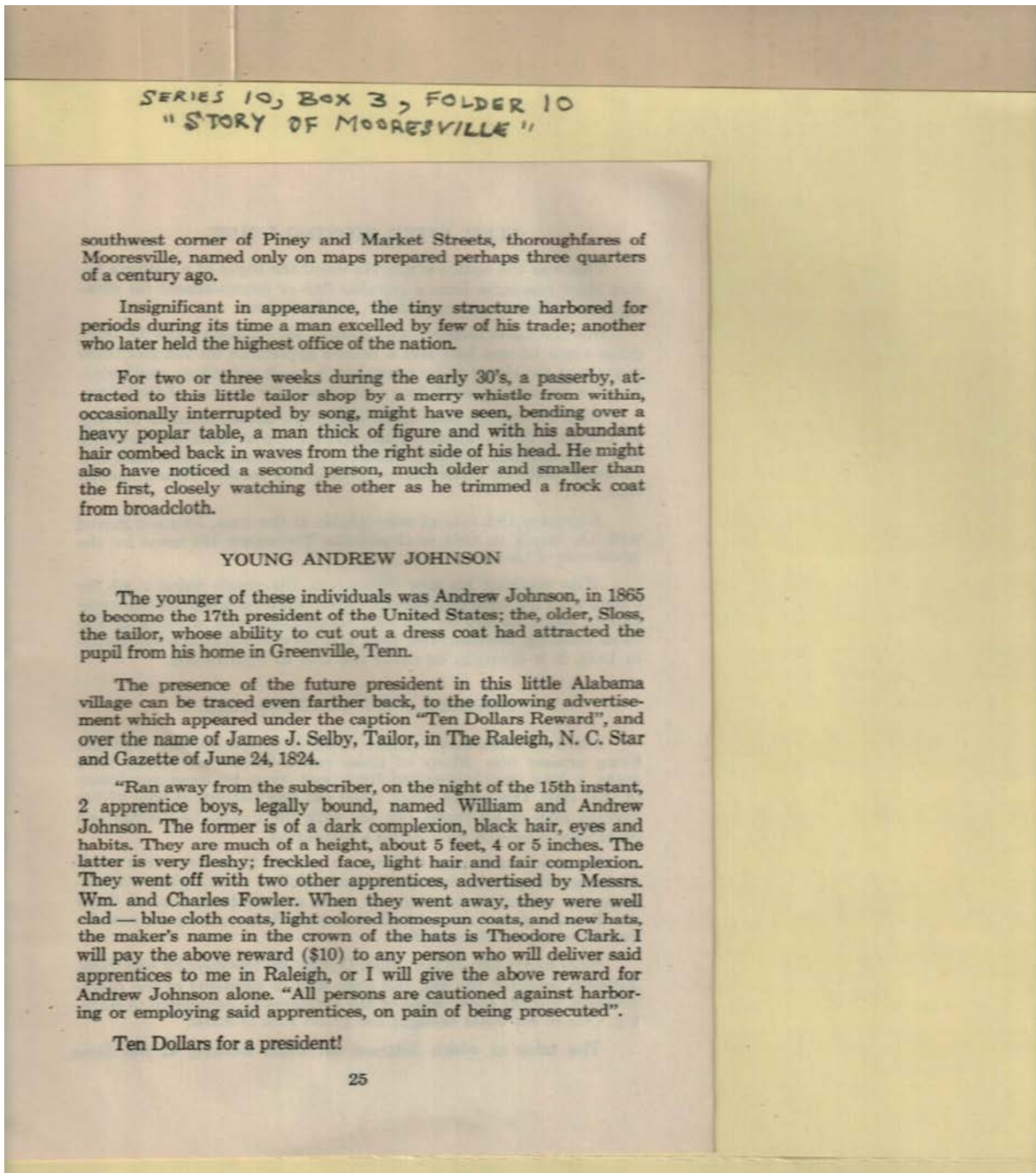
Types:

booklet

photograph

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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Names:

Clark, Theodore
Fowler, Charles

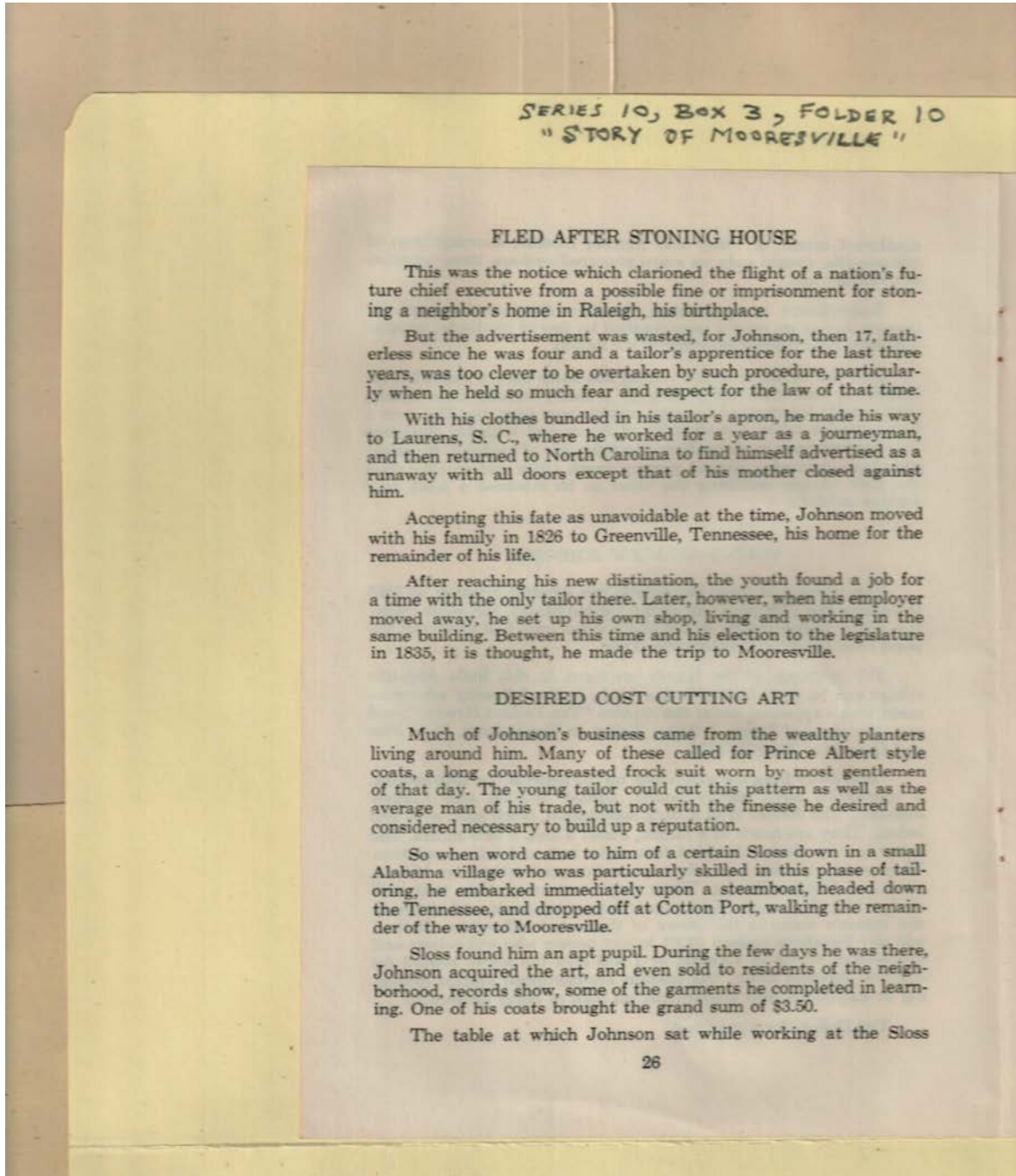
Fowler, William
Johnson, Andrew

Johnson, William
Selby, James J.

Sloss, Joseph

Types:

booklet



Names:

Johnson, Andrew

Sloss, Joseph

Types:

booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

shop now is at the home of J. G. and Miss Mary Mason in Athens. Their father, Robert Beaty Mason, bought it from the tailor's grandsons, Fred and Mack Sloss. To further enhance its historic significance, General Joe Wheeler, Confederate leader, once sat down to a possum supper spread upon it in his honor.

As a school was one of the first requisites early settlers turned their attention to after permanently locating, Mooresville did not fall behind in this respect. A female seminary was founded there in the early 30's around the same time or soon after, Huntsville established a similar institution.

According to the 1838 catalog of the Mooresville Female Seminary, 55 "young lady pupils" were enrolled for instruction that year. The majority of these were Limestone County residents, but several were from Madison and Morgan Counties and from Shelby County, Tennessee.

Father Robert Donnell, pastor of the Old Cumberland Presbyterian Church there served as president of the trustees at the time, with Thomas Thach, William DeWoody and Edmund Walton as the remainder of the board.

The faculty for 1838 included Miss Sophia S. Cooley, head teacher, Miss Mary J. Griffith, assistant teacher, and Miss Angeline A. Choat, teacher of music. Introductory and primary studies and studies of the junior and senior classes made up the curriculum.

Tuition fees were classed by the trustees as reasonable. These were \$10 for five months' instruction in the introductory classes, \$12 for the primary, \$15 for the junior and French classes, and \$16 for the senior work.

Trustees, assuming the sternness required by their office, not only looked after the seminary's financial matters, but they directed classroom discipline as well. "Every pupil must, on entering the school room," they ruled, "retire to the room appropriated for bonnets, lay aside her own, and put herself in proper order before her teachers".

The building in which the school was located was razed in the Winter of 1863-64 by Federal troops under the command of Lt. Col. Jonathan Biggs of the 123rd. Illinois Volunteers. Floors, chimneys and side walls for officers quarters were prepared from its material.

Positive evidence as to where the seminary was located is not in the records, but it is supposed that it stood on the site of the present Ben Bibb home. This belief arises from the knowledge that the hall

27

Names:

Bibb, Ben

Biggs, Johathan,
Colonel

Choat, Angeline,
Miss

Cooley, Sophia S.,

Miss

DeWoody, William

Donnell, Robert,
Father

Griffith, Mary J

Mason, J. G.

Mason, Mary, Miss

Mason, Robert Beaty

Sloss, Fred

Sloss, Mack

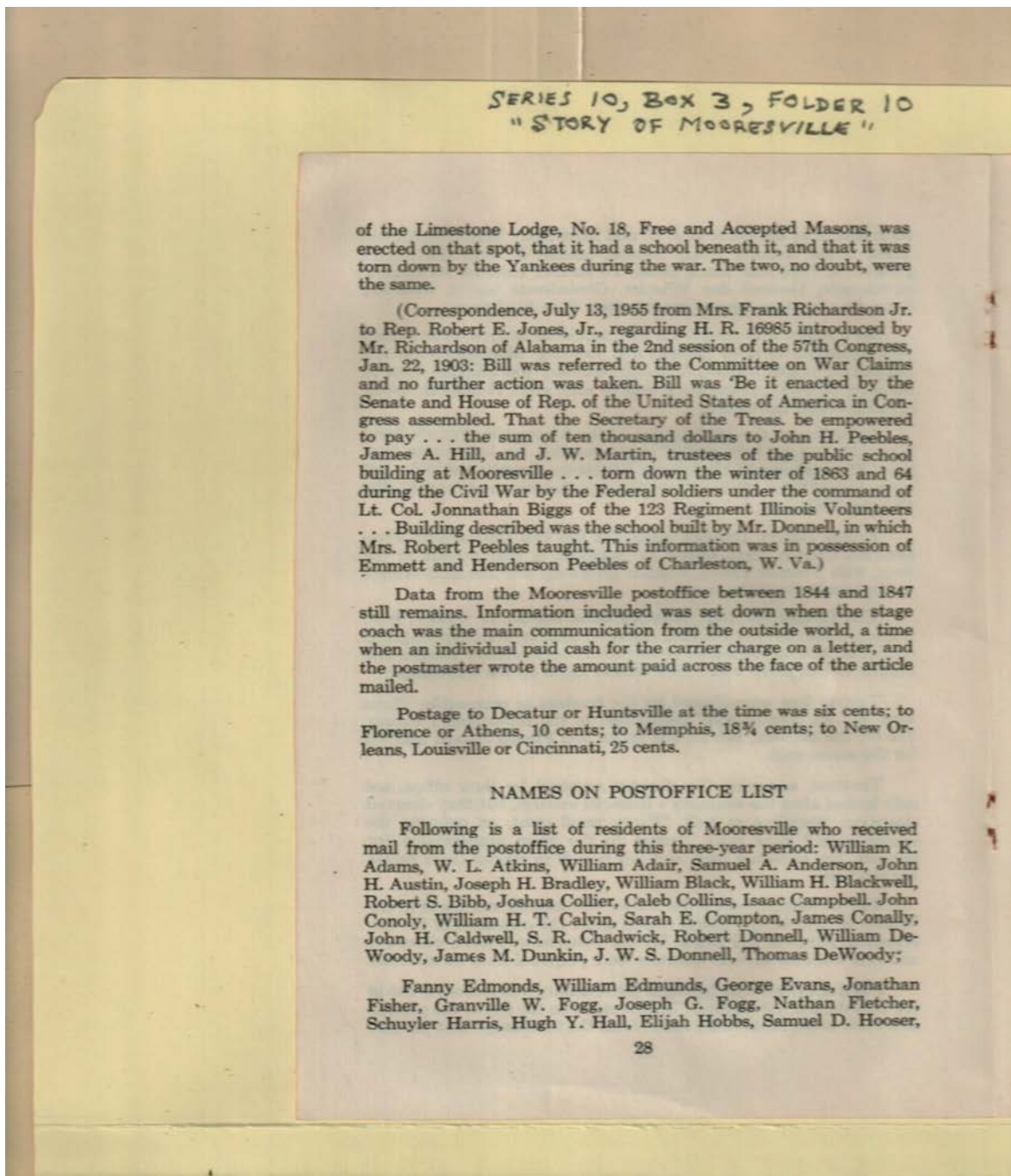
Thach, Thomas

Walton, Edmund

Wheeler, Joe, General

Types:

booklet



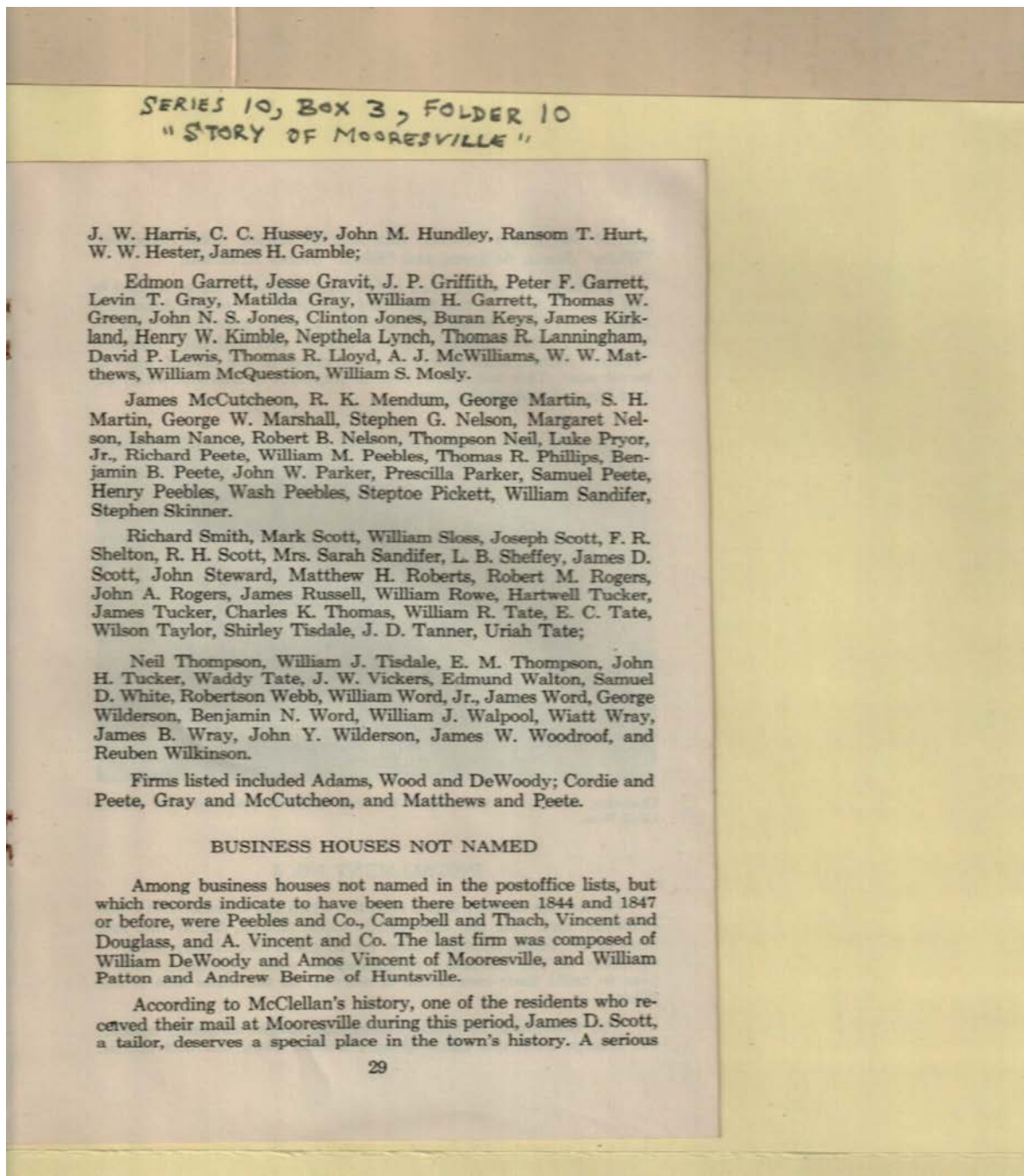
Names:

Adair, William	Caldwell, John H.	Donnell, J. W. S.	Hill, James A.
Adams, William K.	Calvin, William H. T.	Donnell, Robert	Hobbs, Elijah
Anderson, Samuel A.	Campbell, Isaac	Dunkin, James M.	Hooser, Samuel D.
Atkins, W. L.	Chadwick, S. R.	Edmonds, Fanny	Jones, Robert E.,
Austin, John H.	Collier, Joshua	Edmunds, William	Rep.
Bibb, Robert S.	Collins, Caleb	Evans, George	Martin, J. W.
Biggs, Jonathan,	Compton, Sarah E.	Fisher, Jonathan	Peebles, John H.
Colonel	Conally, James	Fletcher, Nathan	Peebles, Robert, Mrs.
Black, William	Conoly, John	Fogg, Granville W.	Richardson, Frank,
Blackwell, William	DeWoody, Thomas	Fogg, Joseph G.	Jr., Mrs.
H.	DeWoody, William	Hall, Hugh Y.	
Bradley, Joseph H.	Donnell,	Harris, Schuyler	

Types:
booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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Names:

Adams,	Gray, Levin T.	Kimble, Henry W.	McClellan,
Amos Vincent & Co.	Gray, Matilda	Kirkland, James	McCutcheon,
Beirne, Andrew	Green, Thomas W.	Lanningham, Thomas	McCutcheon, James
Campbell & Thach	Griffith, J. P.	R.	McQuestion, William
Cordie,	Harris, J. W.	Lewis, David P.	McWilliams, A. J.
DeWoody, William	Hester, W. W.	Lloyd, Thomas R.	Mendum, R. K.
Gamble, James H.	Hundley, John M.	Lynch, Nephthela	Mosly, William S.
Garrett, Edmon	Hurt, Ransom T.	Marshall, George W.	Nance, Isham
Garrett, Peter F.	Hussey, C. C.	Martin, George	Neil, Thompson
Garrett, William H.	Jones, Clinton	Martin, S. H.	Nelson, Margaret
Gravit, Jesse	Jones, John N. S.	Matthews,	Nelson, Robert B.
Gray,	Keys, Buran	Matthews, W. W.	Nelson, Stephen G.

Parker, John W.
Parker, Prescilla
Patton, William
Peebles, Henry
Peebles, Wash
Peebles, William M.
Peete,
Peete, Benjamin B.
Peete, Richard
Peete, Samuel
Phillips, Thomas R.
Pickett, Steptoe
Pryor, Luke, Jr.
Roberts, John A.
Roberts, Matthew H.

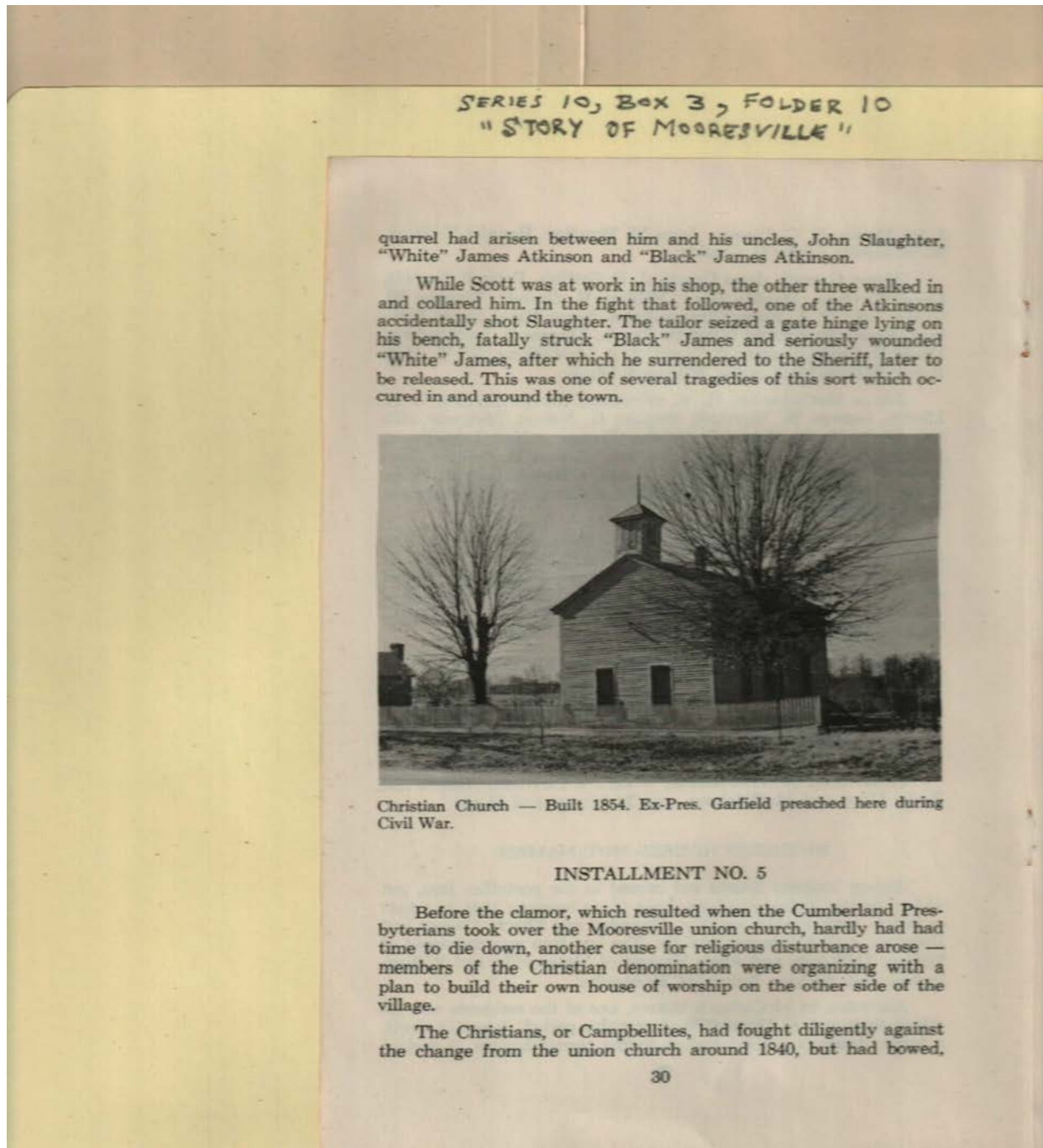
Rogers, Robert M.
Rowe, William
Russell, James
Sandifer, Sarah, Mrs.
Sandifer, William
Scott, James D.
Scott, Joseph
Scott, Mark
Scott, R. H.
Sheffey, L. B.
Shelton, F. R.
Skinner, Stephen
Sloss, William
Smith, Richard
Steward, John

Tanner, J. D.
Tate, E. C.
Tate, Uriah
Tate, Waddy
Tate, William R.
Taylor, Wilson
Thomas, Charles K.
Thompson, E. M.
Thompson, Neil
Tisdale, Shirley
Tisdale, William J.
Tucker, Hartwell
Tucker, James
Tucker, John H.
Vickers, J. W.

Vincent & Douglass
Walpool, William J.
Walton, Edmund
Webb, Robertson
White, Samuel D.
Wilderson, George
Wilderson, John Y.
Wilkinson, Reuben
Wood,
Woodroof, James W.
Word, Benjamin N.
Word, James
Word, William, Jr.
Wray, James B.
Wray, Wiatt

Types:

booklet



Names:

Atkinson, James

Christian Church

Garfield, President

Slaughter, John

Types:

booklet

photograph

SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

along with the Methodists and others, to superior numbers. They did not, however, lose heart. In fact, the setback created stronger than ever a desire among them to increase their own strength.

Meetings were held in private homes, in store buildings, warehouses and down in the grassy meadows below the spring.

FAVORABLE RESULTS NOTED

Favorable results were noted at each gathering.

On Oct. 29, 1851, Ransom T. Hurt, Shirley Tisdale, James Tucker, all elders, and W. M. Hester, James G. Fogg and John N. Martin, describing themselves as representatives of "the division of Sons of Temperance," bought the site of the Christian church from James Clements of Madison County for \$20.

Backing them in this purchase were the following members:

John H. Hundley, Melinda Hundley, Mollie Wornum Hollingsworth, John H. Conley, Frances Conley, James Tucker, Judith Tucker, Eliza Tisdale, Lucy Wornum Newman, Claricy Toney, Virginia Blackwell, Martha Pickett, Mr. and Mrs. Neal, Mary Wiggs, Eugenia Pickett, Mrs. Charley Collins, Granville Fogg, Ransom Hurt, Frances Hurt, Betsy Booth, Daniel R. Hundley.

Nancy Hundley, Mrs. Steven Vickers, Jack Vickers, W. G. Martin, Mary F. Martin, J. W. Martin, Nancy W. Martin, William Fogg, Elizabeth Conley, Lucy Ann Harrison, Virginia F. Scott, Jane Fogg, Odelia Fogg, Eliza Roe, Ann T. Peebles, Lou Smith, Pink Thomas, Mary Newman Patterson, Sarah Newman Rogers, Martha Bacon Mosley, Martha M. Mosley, Sarah H. Skinner.

Mary Mosley, Jane Ray, O. M. Hundley, Sarah Nance Hazelwood, W. H. Odom, Eliza Seay, Jane Crass White, P. H. Potter, Eliza Potter, Adaline Odom, Ann Huddleston, Sarah Odom, Ann Smyth, Thomas W. Peebles, Alex Odom, E. J. Tisdale, Sr., Eleanor Huddleston, Louvinia Tucker, Sally Fennell, Annie Edwards and Elizabeth J. Fogg.

COMPLETE CHURCH IN 1854

In 1854, the church was completed, a two-story frame building of about the same dimension as the other house of worship. To aid in its cost and upkeep, the second story was arranged as a hall in which the Odd Fellows of the community, one of the early state organizations, could meet.

Names:

Blackwell, Virginia	Fogg, Jane	Hundley, John H.	Mosley, Martha
Booth, Betsy	Fogg, Odelia	Hundley, Melinda	Bacon
Clements, James	Fogg, William	Hundley, Nancy	Mosley, Martha M.
Collins, Charley, Mrs.	Harrison, Lucy Ann	Hundley, O. M.	Mosley, Mary
Conley, Elizabeth	Hazelwood, Sarah	Hurt, Frances	Neal, Mr. & Mrs.
Conley, Frances	Nance	Hurt, Ransom T.	Newman, Lucy
Conley, John H.	Hester, W. M.	Martin, J. W.	Wornum
Edwards, Annie	Hollingsworth,	Martin, John N.	Odom, Adaline
Fennell, Sally	Mollie Wornum	Martin, Mary F.	Odom, Alex
Fogg, Elizabeth J.	Huddleston, Ann	Martin, Nancy W.	Odom, Sarah
Fogg, Granville	Huddleston, Eleanor	Martin, W. G.	Odom, W. H.
Fogg, James G.	Hundley, Daniel R.		

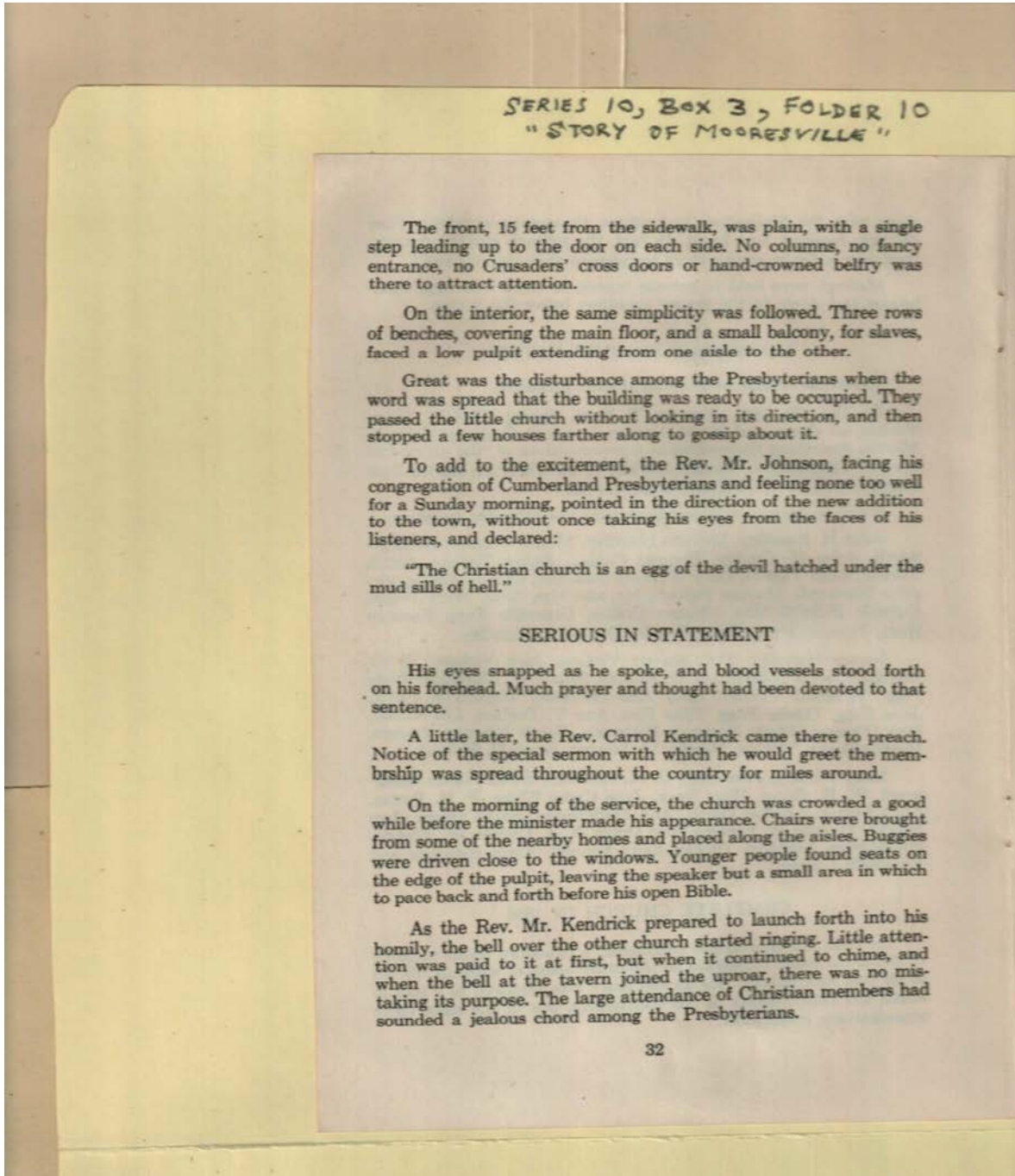
Patterson, Mary
Newman
Peebles, Ann T.
Peebles, Thomas W.
Pickett, Eugenia
Pickett, Martha
Potter, Eliza
Potter, P. H.

Ray, Jane
Roe, Eliza
Rogers, Sarah
Newman
Scott, Virginia F.
Seay, Eliza
Skinner, Sarah H.
Smith, Lou

Smyth, Ann
Thomas, Pink
Tisdale, E. J., Sr.
Tisdale, Shirley
Toney, Claricy
Tucker, James
Tucker, Judith
Tucker, Louvinia

Vickers, Jack
Vickers, Steven, Mrs.
White, Jane Crass
Wiggs, Mary
tisdale, Eliza

Types:
booklet



Names:

Johnson, Rev.

Kendrick, Carrol,
Rev.

Types:

booklet

SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

GARFIELD SPEAKS IN CHURCH

Despite all these tribulations, however, the new church prospered. In 1863, while encamped with his soldiers at Bibb's spring, a short distance to the rear of the Bibb home, General James A. Garfield, who in 1880 was elected 20th president of the United States, delivered several sermons there. He later moved with his command, the 42nd regiment of Ohio volunteers, to the battle of Chicamauga, Sept. 19 of that year, after which he resigned to enter Congress.

A second event which older residents recall having taken place in the church during the Civil War was a benefit party given for Eldridge Spence, a wounded Southern soldier, who was stranded there. The program, consisting of music and games, with refreshments served intermittently, was given in the Odd Fellows Hall, but the crowd was entertained both upstairs and down.

About the time that so much disturbance was stirred up between the churches, another matter arose which drew the attention of Mooresville residents. The Alabama-Tennessee Central railroad was preparing to extend its line, which at that time lay between Tuscumbia and Decatur, to Huntsville.

The first route chosen for the extension passed along the northern edge of town, near the old stage tavern. Before the significance of the plan could be fully comprehended, surveyors had marked off the line, and options upon the land involved had been obtained. Then the storm burst.

OLDER RESIDENTS OBJECTED

Some of the older residents, who had watched Mooresville grow from the first cabin or two around the spring, turned away in indignation at thought of the town's growing into a city, which they were positive would be the case if they allowed the project to proceed as intended.

There were other objections, too. The noise would disturb their sleep, the smoke would put an end to their peaceful evenings on their porches amid the environment of starlit nights, the kind they had known all their lives, and hoboies would be a constant menace while they were away in the fields. They armed themselves as though the Romans were within spear-throwing distance of the village.

In 1855, R. C. Gamble, son of James H., the early settler, wrote

Names:

Gamble, James H.

Gamble, R. C.

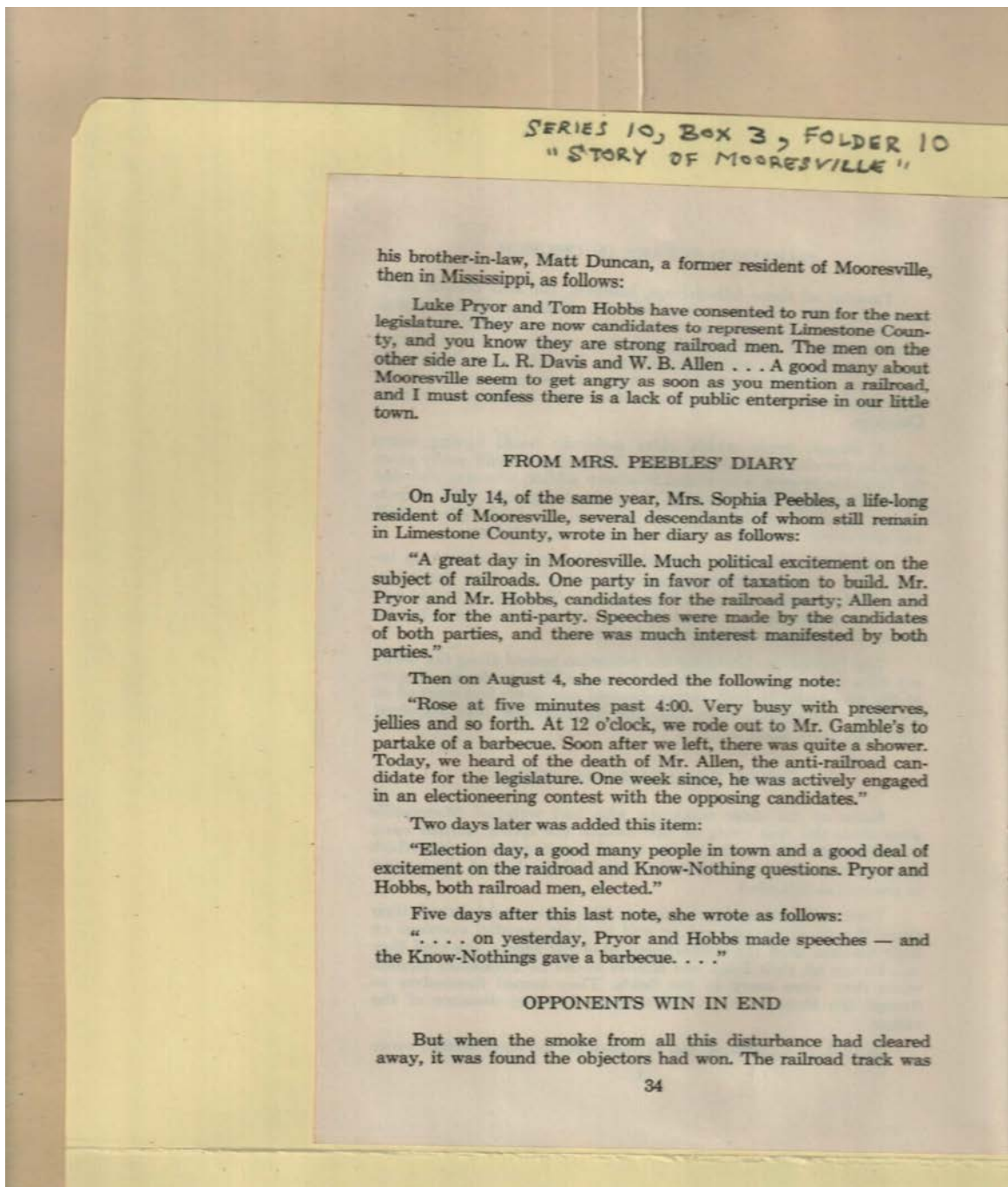
Garfield, James A.,

General

Spence, Eldridge

Types:

booklet



Names:

Allen, W. B.
Davis, L. R.

Duncan, Matt
Gamble,

Hobbs, Tom
Peebles, Sophia, Mrs.

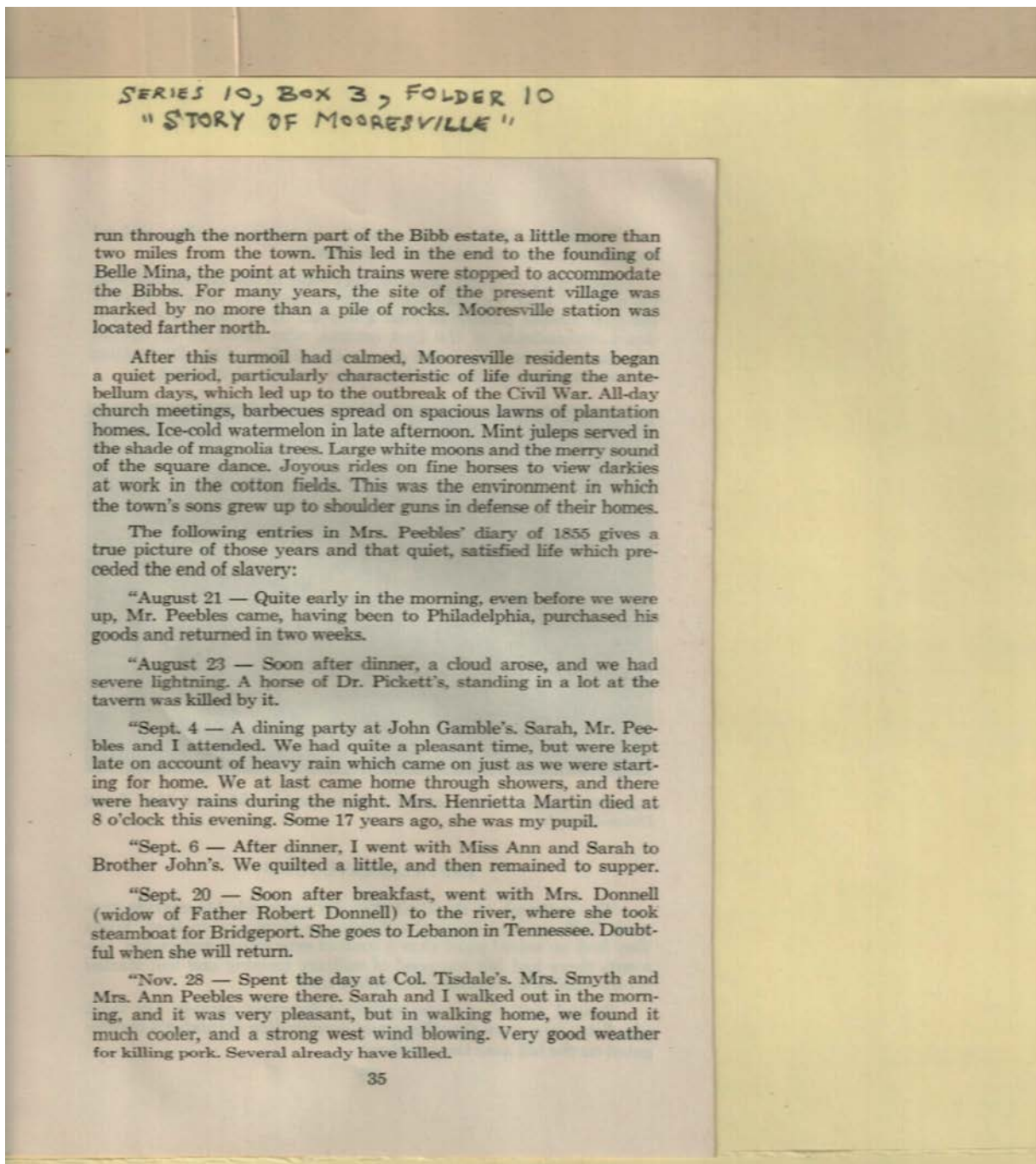
Pryor, Luke

Types:

booklet

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North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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Names:

, Ann, Miss
, John
, Sarah
Bibb,

Donnell, Mrs.
Donnell, Robert,
Father
Gamble, John

Martin, Henrietta,
Mrs.
Peebles,
Peebles, Ann, Mrs.

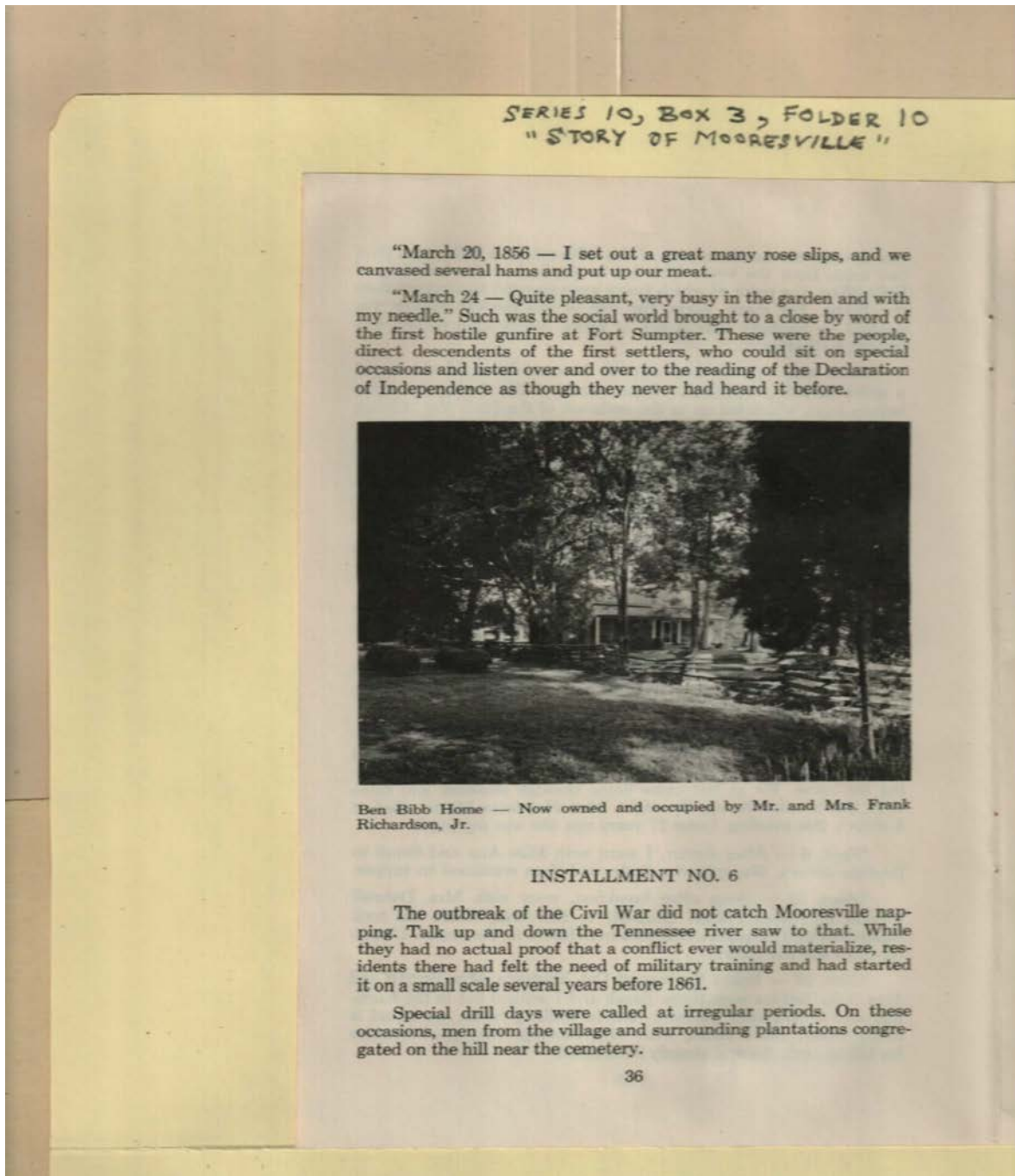
Peebles, Mrs.
Pickett, Dr.
Smyth, Mrs.
Tisdale, Colonel

Types:

booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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"March 20, 1856 — I set out a great many rose slips, and we canvased several hams and put up our meat.

"March 24 — Quite pleasant, very busy in the garden and with my needle." Such was the social world brought to a close by word of the first hostile gunfire at Fort Sumpter. These were the people, direct descendents of the first settlers, who could sit on special occasions and listen over and over to the reading of the Declaration of Independence as though they never had heard it before.



Ben Bibb Home — Now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Richardson, Jr.

INSTALLMENT NO. 6

The outbreak of the Civil War did not catch Mooresville napping. Talk up and down the Tennessee river saw to that. While they had no actual proof that a conflict ever would materialize, residents there had felt the need of military training and had started it on a small scale several years before 1861.

Special drill days were called at irregular periods. On these occasions, men from the village and surrounding plantations congregated on the hill near the cemetery.

Names:

Ben Bibb Home
Bibb, Ben

Richardson, Frank,
Jr., Mr. & Mrs.

Types:

photograph

SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

Some wore fine clothes, well tailored and cut according to the latest pattern, and some wore coarse suits and overalls. But each carried a rifle or shotgun, and each came with the idea that nothing was so important to the welfare of the South as their parades back and forth, through corn stubbles and underbrush up on that hill, each striving, as best his imagination would permit, to assume the bearing of an experienced soldier.

On big occasions, such as the Fourth of July, word was spread that Mooresville's militia would drill for the public's inspection. These days were treats for many. Out of the trunks filled mostly with satins and silks came pieces of old uniforms that had clothed grandfathers during the Revolution, had outlived the War of 1812, or had been worn with Jackson against the Indians. A strange medley of colors they made.

ENCOURAGEMENT FROM SIDELINES

From carriages gathered around the edge of the drill field were heard faint yells of men whose memories carried them back scores of years, men who could barely see the figures marching for their benefit before them. Their weak cheers spurred on the sons and grandsons in their maneuvers. Still further encouragement, which sometimes caused the young men to forget their commands, was derived from tiny lace-trimmed handkerchiefs which flickered momentarily amid the crowd.

Thirty-two answered the call to arms when it finally was sounded. The list follows: Dr. W. T. Thach, R. C. Gamble, J. W. Martin, Haywood Shelton, A. Waddie Mosley, Thomas Peebles, J. Polk Mosley, William Woodford, Robert Michaeux, W. S. Peebles, Alex Odom, Porter Bibb, Dr. Hal Bibb, Lockhart Bibb.

J. C. Oliver, J. Nell Martin, M. Z. Roberts, O. M. Hundley, D. R. Hundley, Dr. H. W. Hill, H. D. King, Henry King, W. H. Blackwell, Gus Blackwell, William Hundley, John Hurn, John Nance, Orven Newman, John McDonald and William Peterson.

The departure of these recruits, in small groups or one at a time, and at different periods after war was declared, marked the end of Mooresville social life for several years. Some left on fine horses, ordered from their fathers' stables, some left by carriage for Decatur or Huntsville, and some marched off early in the morning with only a gun and a blanket tossed across their shoulders.

As they disappeared over the hills around the town, the families behind did not sit or pine over their absence. Clothes had to be

Names:

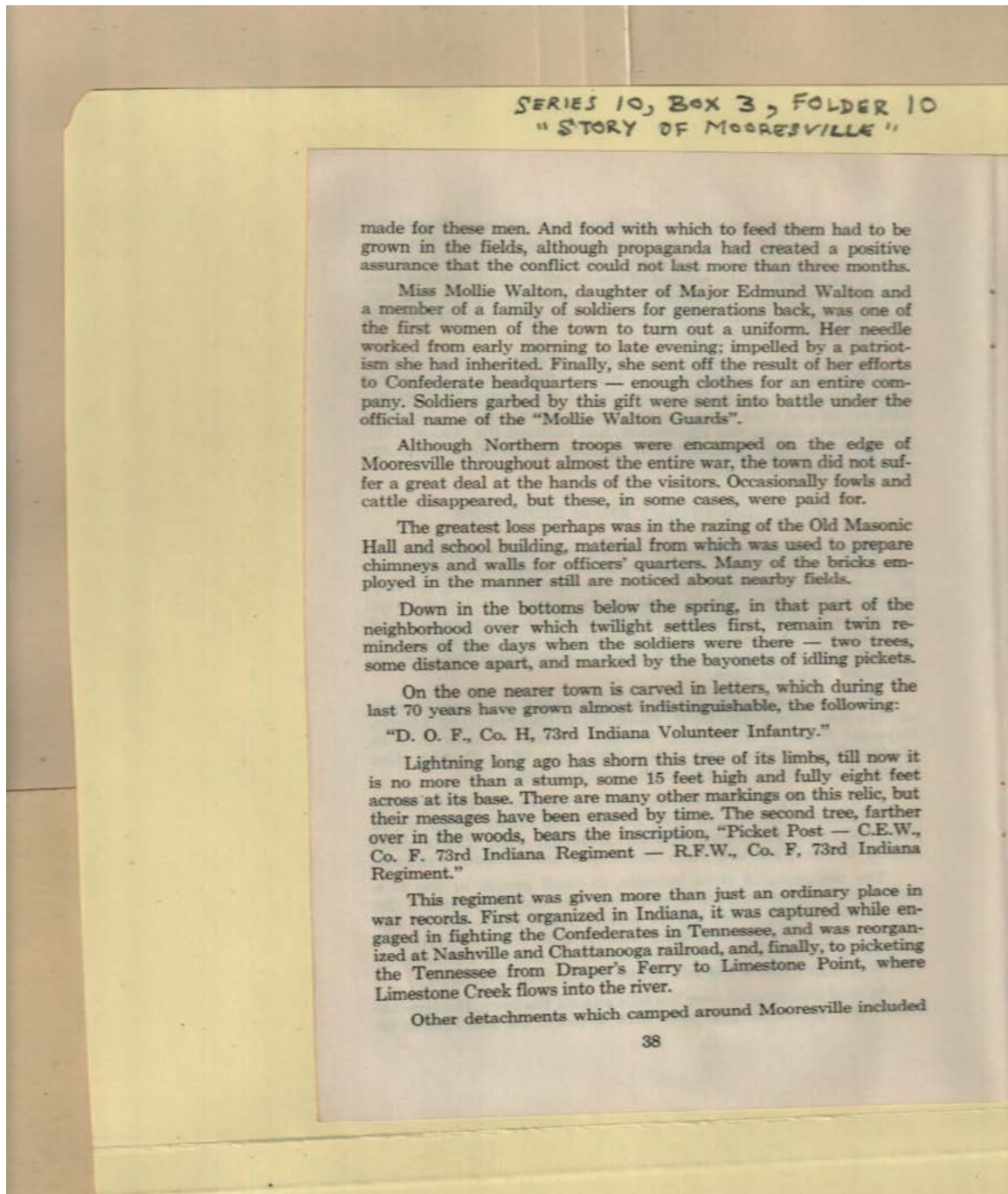
Bibb, Hal, Dr.	Hundley, O. M.	McDonald, John	Peebles, Thomas
Bibb, Lockhart	Hundley, William	Michaeux, Robert	Peebles, W. S.
Bibb, Porter	Hurn, John	Mosely, A. Waddie	Peterson, William
Blackwell, Gus	Jackson, General	Mosley, J. Polk	Roberts, M. Z.
Blackwell, W. H.	King, H. D.	Nance, John	Shelton, Haywood
Gamble, R. C.	King, Henry	Newman, Orven	Thach, W. T., Dr.
Hill, H. W., Dr.	Martin, J. Nell	Odom, Alex	Woodford, William
Hundley, D. R.	Martin, J. W.	Oliver, J. C.	

Types:

booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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Names:

Walton, Edmund,
Major

Walton, Mollie, Miss

Types:

booklet

SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

the 25th Wisconsin Infantry, there from March 10 to April 16, 1863; the 42nd Ohio Volunteer Regiment, there for a short while during the Summer of 1863, commanded by General James A. Garfield, and the 9th Illinois Regiment, there for a few months in 1864.

Mooresville residents during the Civil War failed to witness any heavy engagements. Records show that operations occurred there on May 1 and 2, 1862, but these were of no importance.

Many incidents involving the Yankees encamped around the village at various times have come down through the years since 1865, lullied in the memories of older residents, or left fresh in the minds of younger persons by their late forefathers.

According to one story told, two regiments were billeted there at the same time, one on the hill back of the cemetery, the other at Bibb's spring, a short distance to the north. During the night, pickets, tiring of the monotony of their duties, would stamp through the underbrush and invent strange noises to frighten soldiers on the opposite posts a few yards away, causing them to dash back into camp with the alarm that the rebels were upon them in force. Several times this occurred, to drag the sleepy Federals from their beds with their guns cocked. Investigations followed, but the nearest the commanders could arrive at an explanation was that some prankish band of boys from the village had caused the confusion.

On one occasion, a Yankee officer appeared at the W. T. Thach Home and sounded the old style doorbell, consisting of a knob, which, when pulled out, sounded, by means of a wire running beneath the house, a bell on the back porch. Mrs. Thach answered the summons.

As they stood in the doorway talking, the bell suddenly rang again. The woman's face blanched. The officer looked at her closely, reached over and shook the knob to be sure that it had resumed its regular position, and then went on with his conversation.

Soon, the bell rang again, and continued to do so at irregular intervals. More and more embarrassing became the situation, and more and more upset the housewife, until at last, she realized an explanation was necessary. So, with heart in her mouth, she informed the visitor that some pigs they had hidden beneath the house had come in contact with the bell wires. Her fears were dispelled by the man's hearty laugh.

A further incident occurred at the Woodroof home nearby. Mrs. Woodroof had put her chickens, along with other provisions, in the cellar for safe keeping. Some time afterward, Yankee soldiers,

Names:

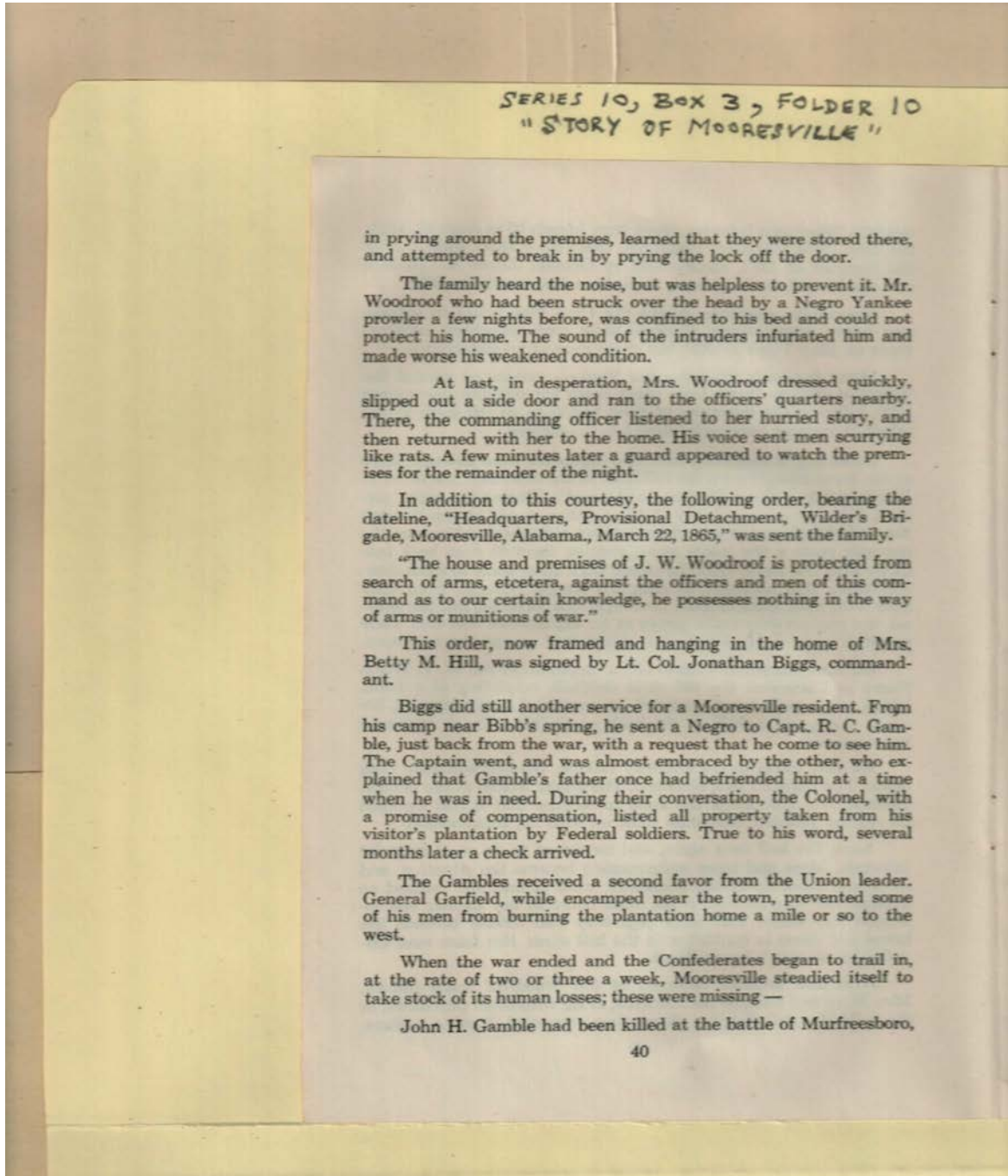
Garfield, James A.,
General

Thach, Mrs.
Thach, W. T.

Woodroof, Mrs.

Types:

booklet



Names:

Biggs, Jonathan,
Colonel
Gamble, John H.

Gamble, R. C.,
Captain
Garfield, General

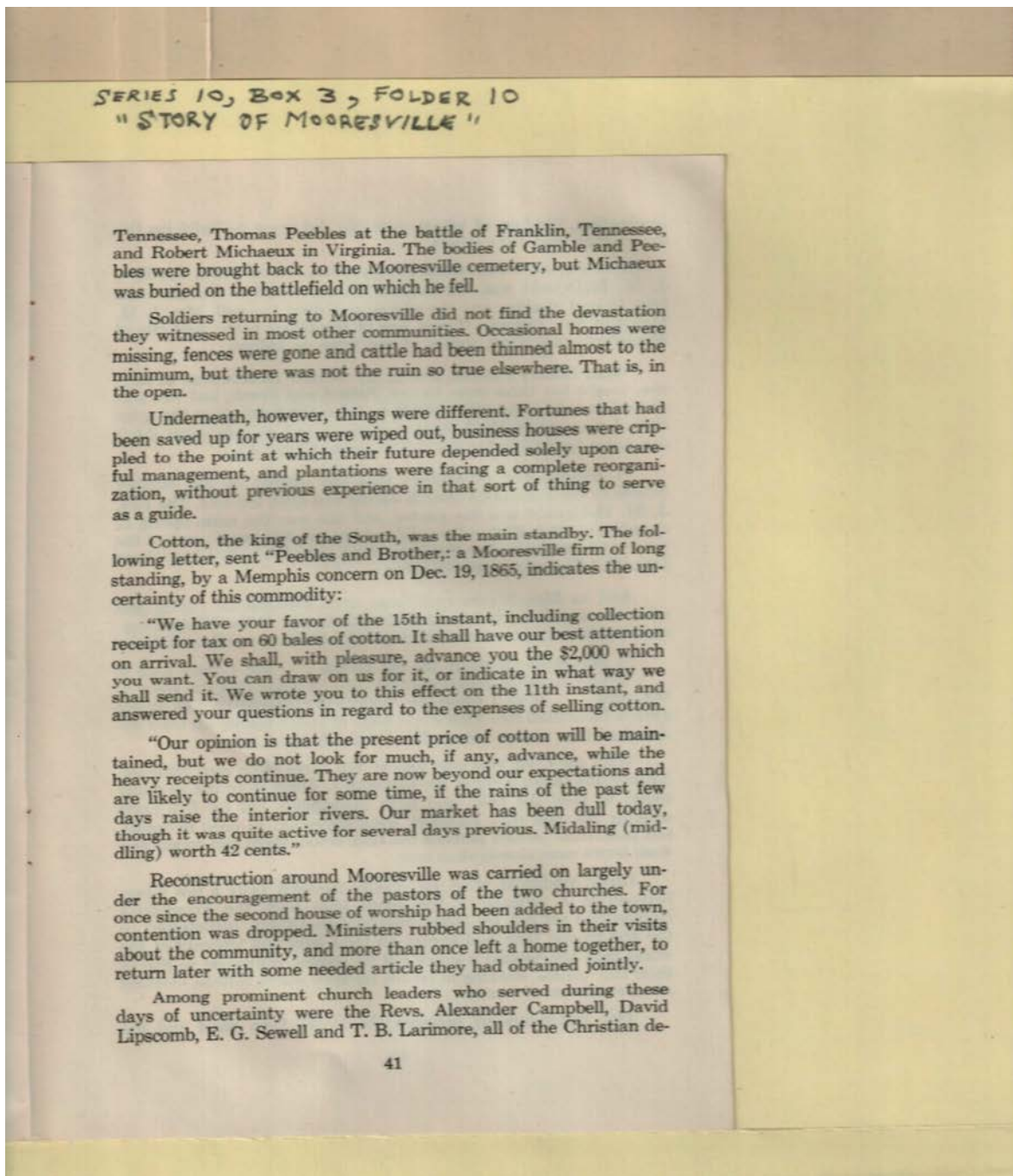
Hill, Betty M., Mrs.
Wilder,
Woodroof, J. W.

Types:

booklet

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North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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Names:

Campbell, Alexander,
Rev.
Larimore, T. B., Rev.

Lipscomb, David,
Rev.
Michaux, Robert

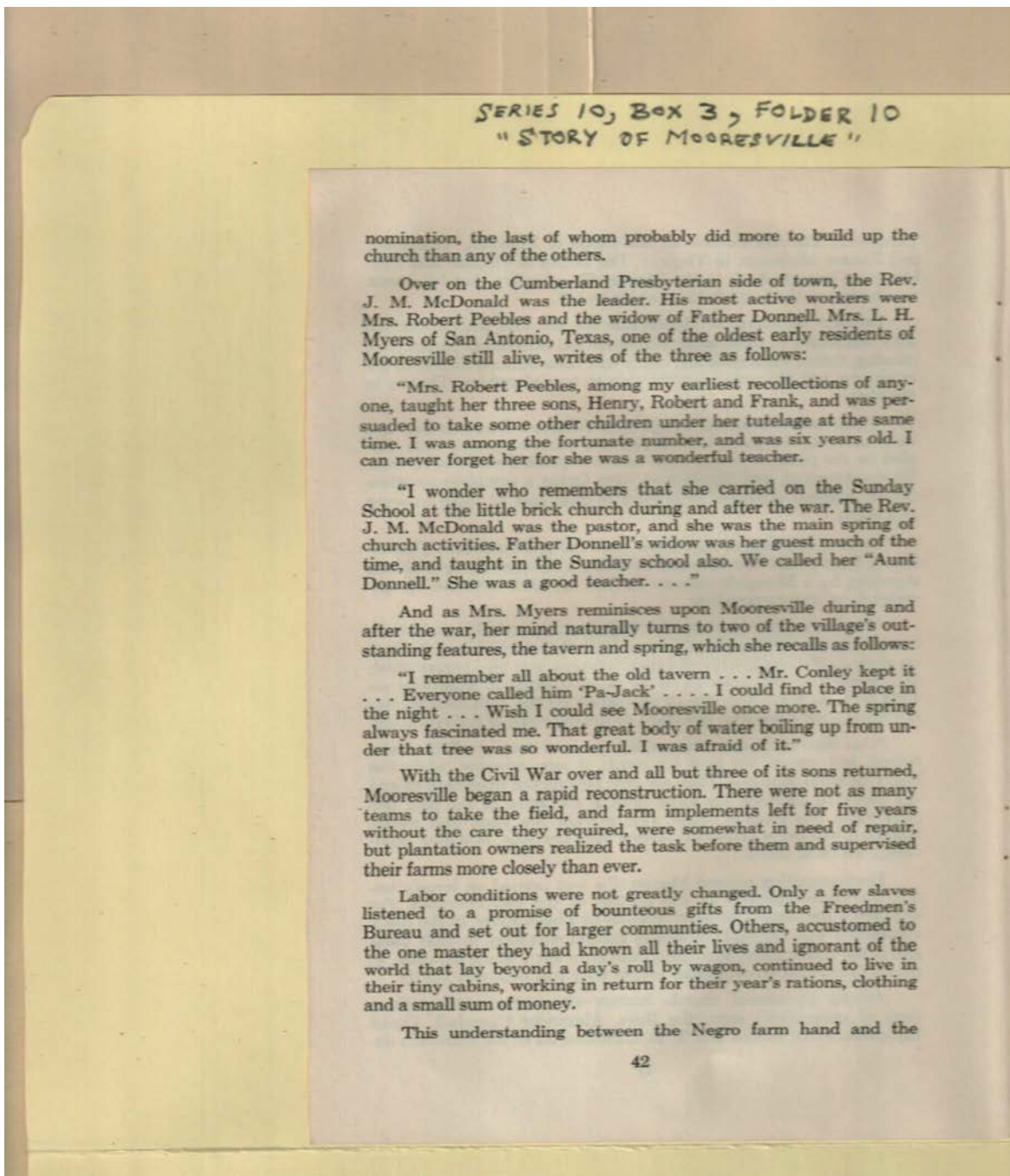
Peebles, Thomas
Sewell, E. G., Rev.

Types:

booklet

Frances Cabaniss Roberts Collection: Series 10, Box 3, Folder 10
North Alabama Historical Association, "Story of Mooresville," 1968

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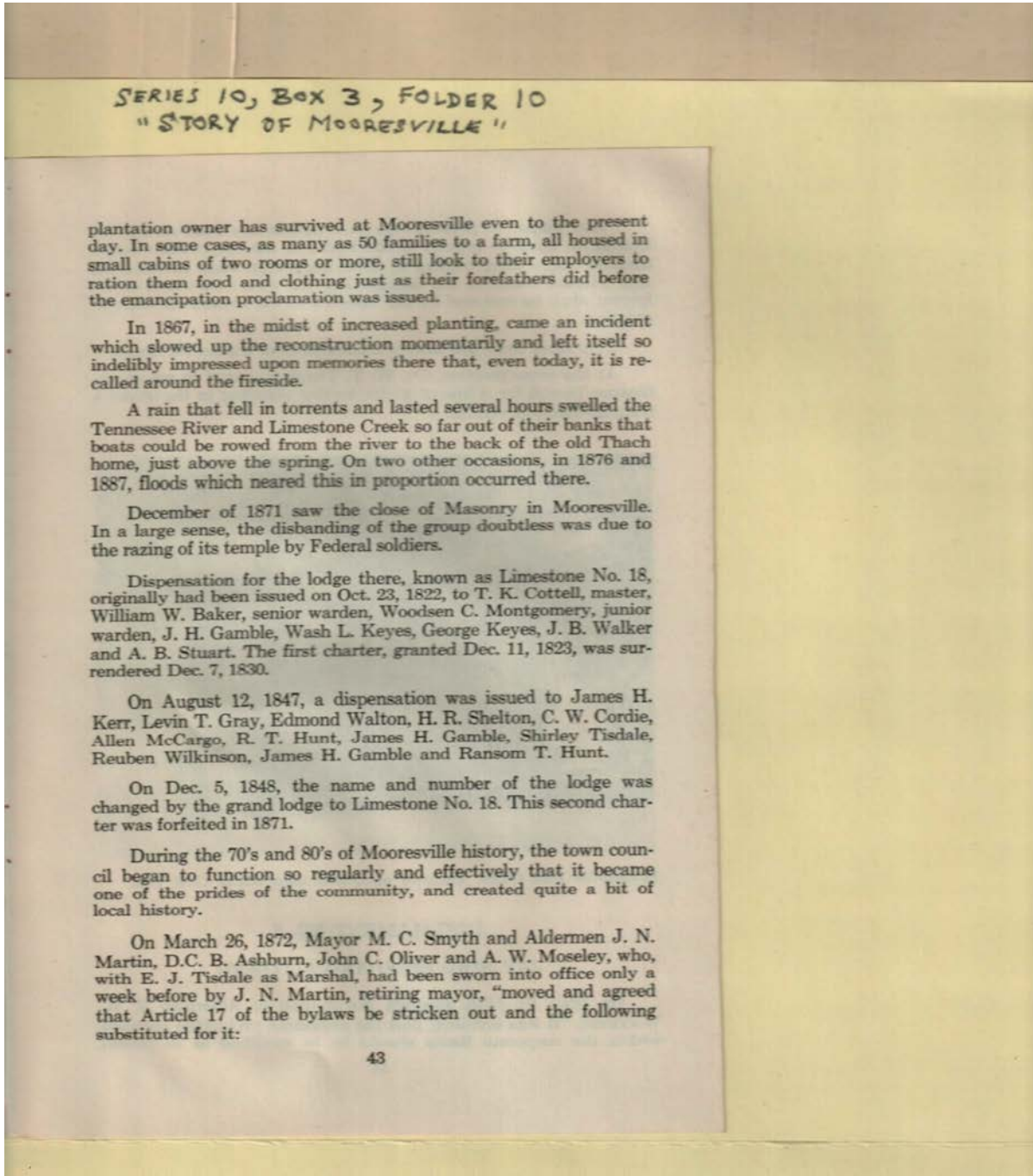
Donnell, Father
McDonald, J. M.,
Rev.

Myers, L. H., Mrs.
Peebles, Frank
Peebles, Henry

Peebles, Robert
Peebles, Robert, Mrs.

Types:

booklet

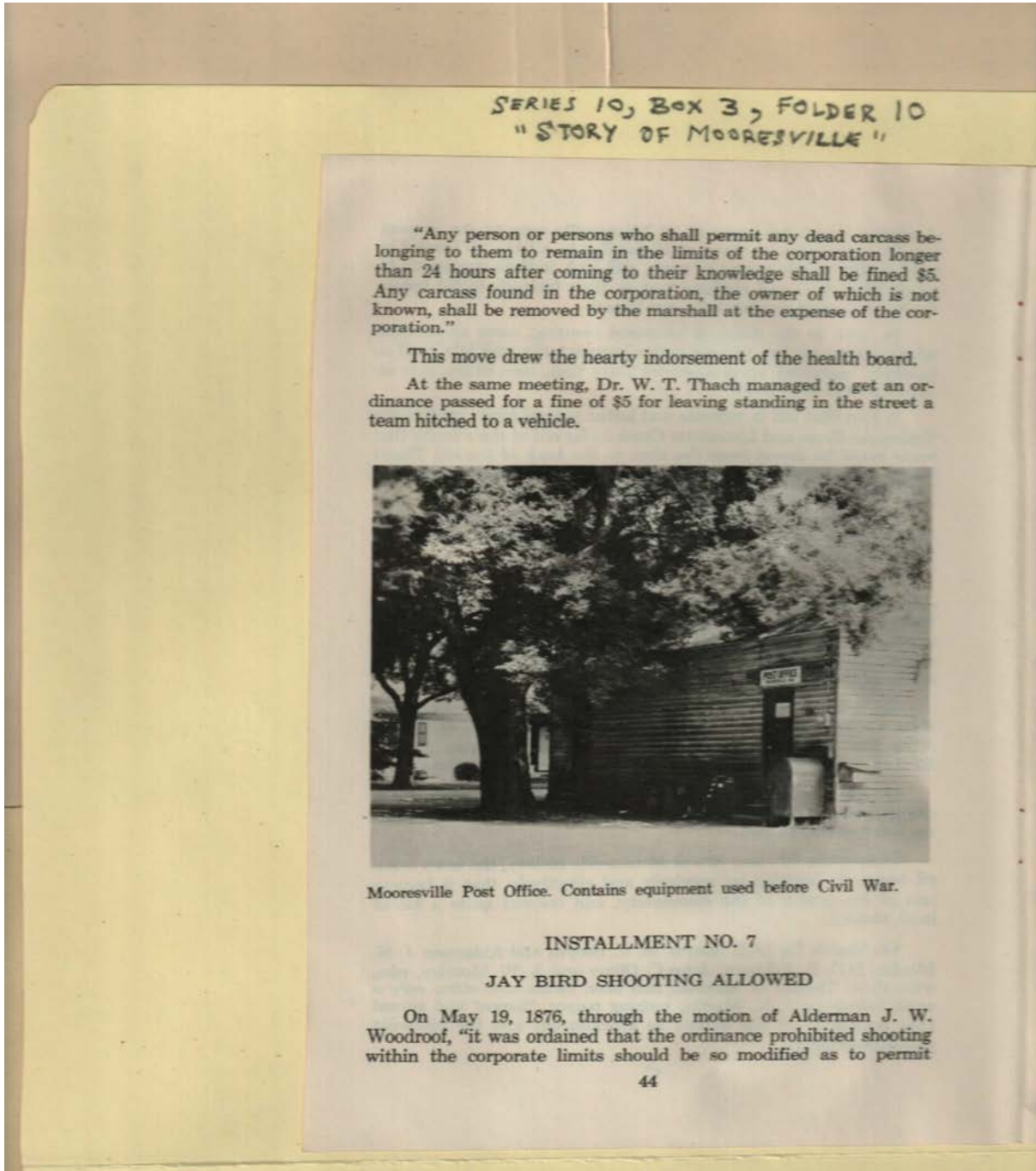


Names:

Asburn, D. C. B.	Hunt, R. T.	Montgomery,	Tisdale, E. J.
Baker, William W.	Hunt, Ransom T.	Woodsen C.	Tisdale, Shirley
Cordie, C. W.	Kerr, James H.	Moseley, A. W.	Walker, J. B.
Cottell, T. K.	Keyes, George	Oliver, John C.	Walton, Edmond
Gamble, J. H.	Keyes, Wash L.	Shelton, H. R.	Wilkinson, Reuben
Gamble, James H.	Martin, J. N.	Smyth, M. C., Mayor	
Gray, Levin T.	McCargo, Allen	Stuart, A. B.	

Types:

booklet



Names:

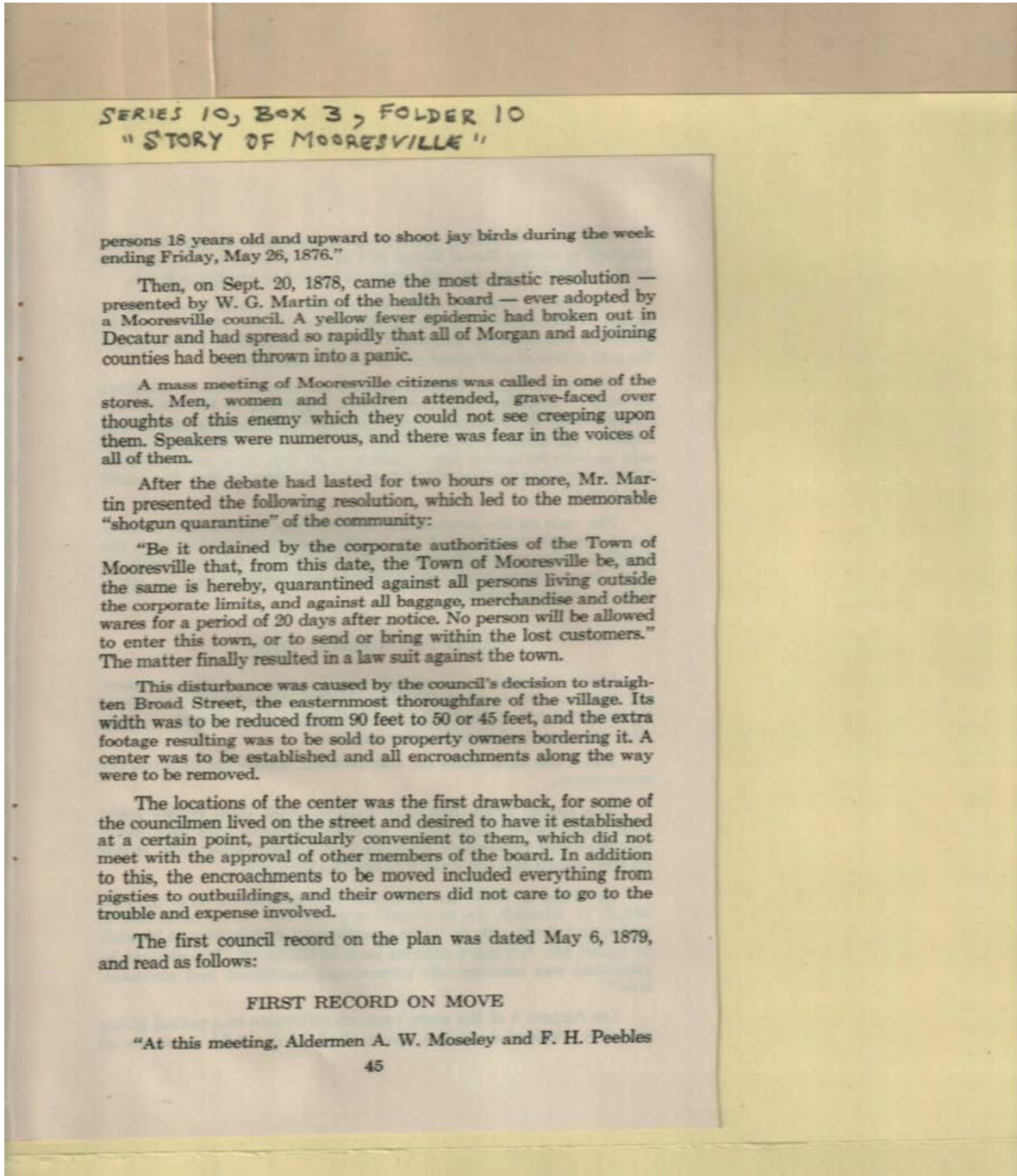
Mooresville Post
Office

Thach, W. T., Dr.
Woodroof, J. W.

Types:

booklet

photograph



Names:

Martin, W. G.

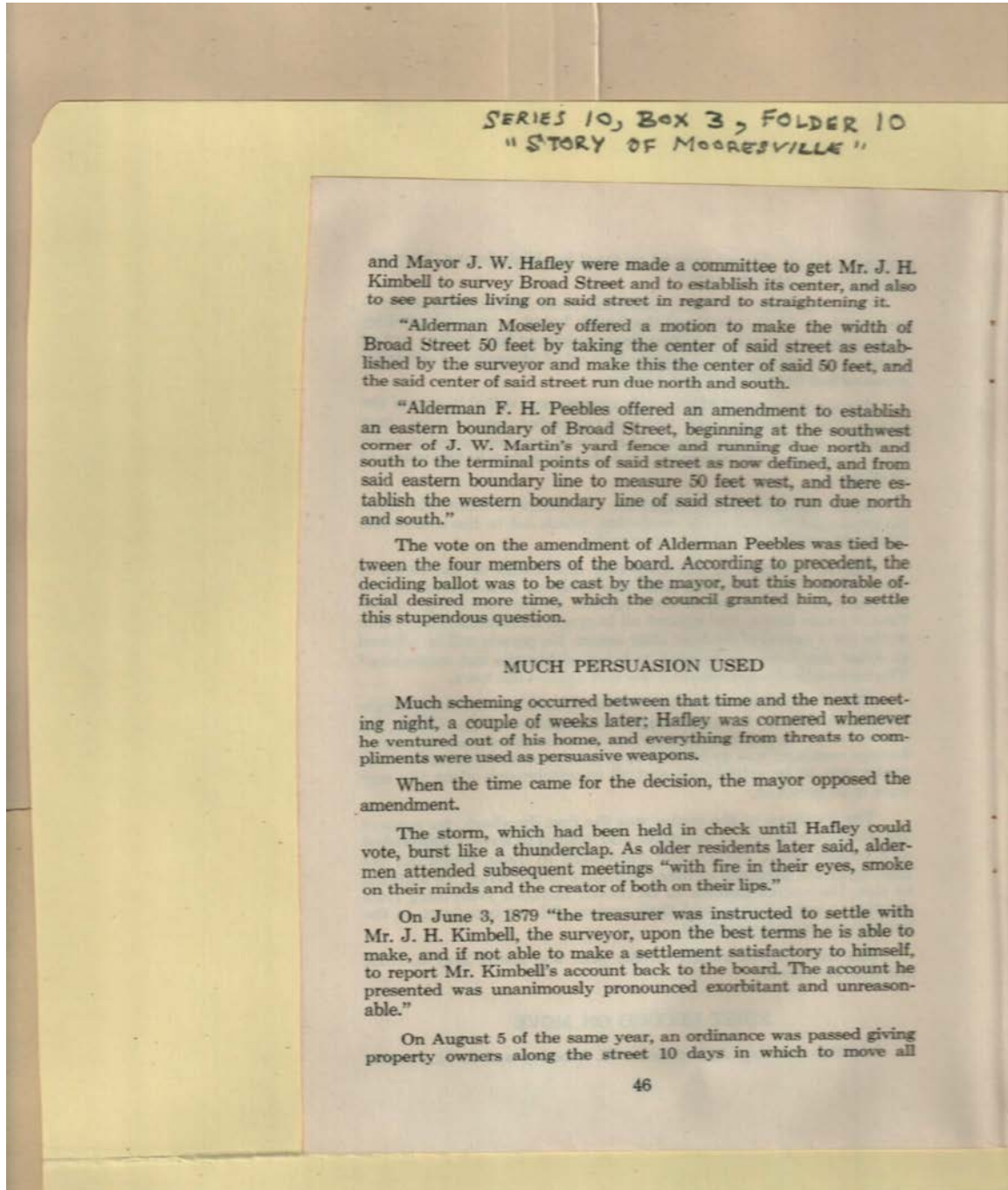
Moseley, A. W.

Peebles, F. H.

Yellow Fever

Types:

booklet



Names:

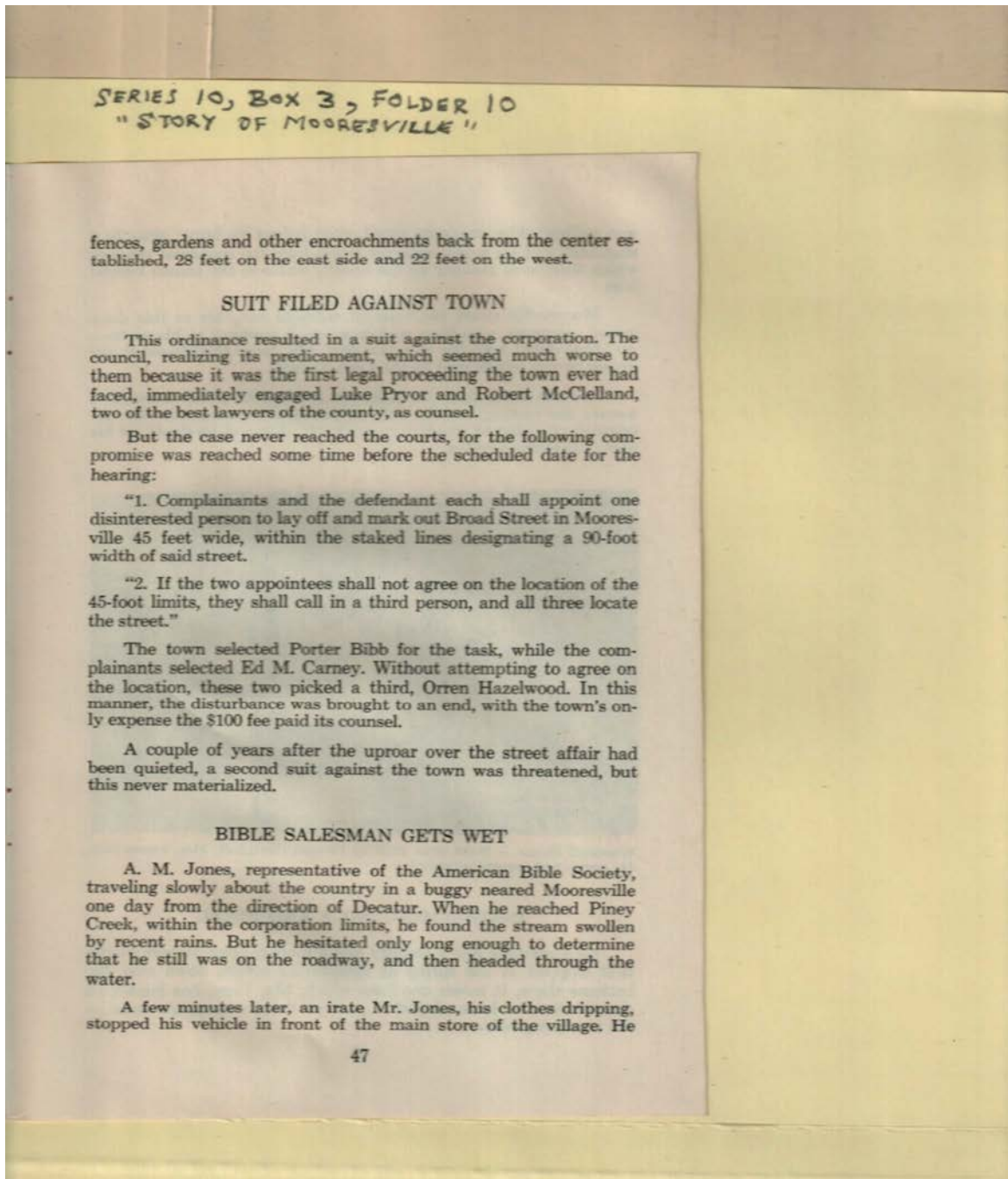
Hafley, J. W., Mayor
Kimbell, J. H.

Martin, J. W.
Moseley, A. W.

Peebles, F. H.
Pryor, Luke

Types:

booklet



Names:

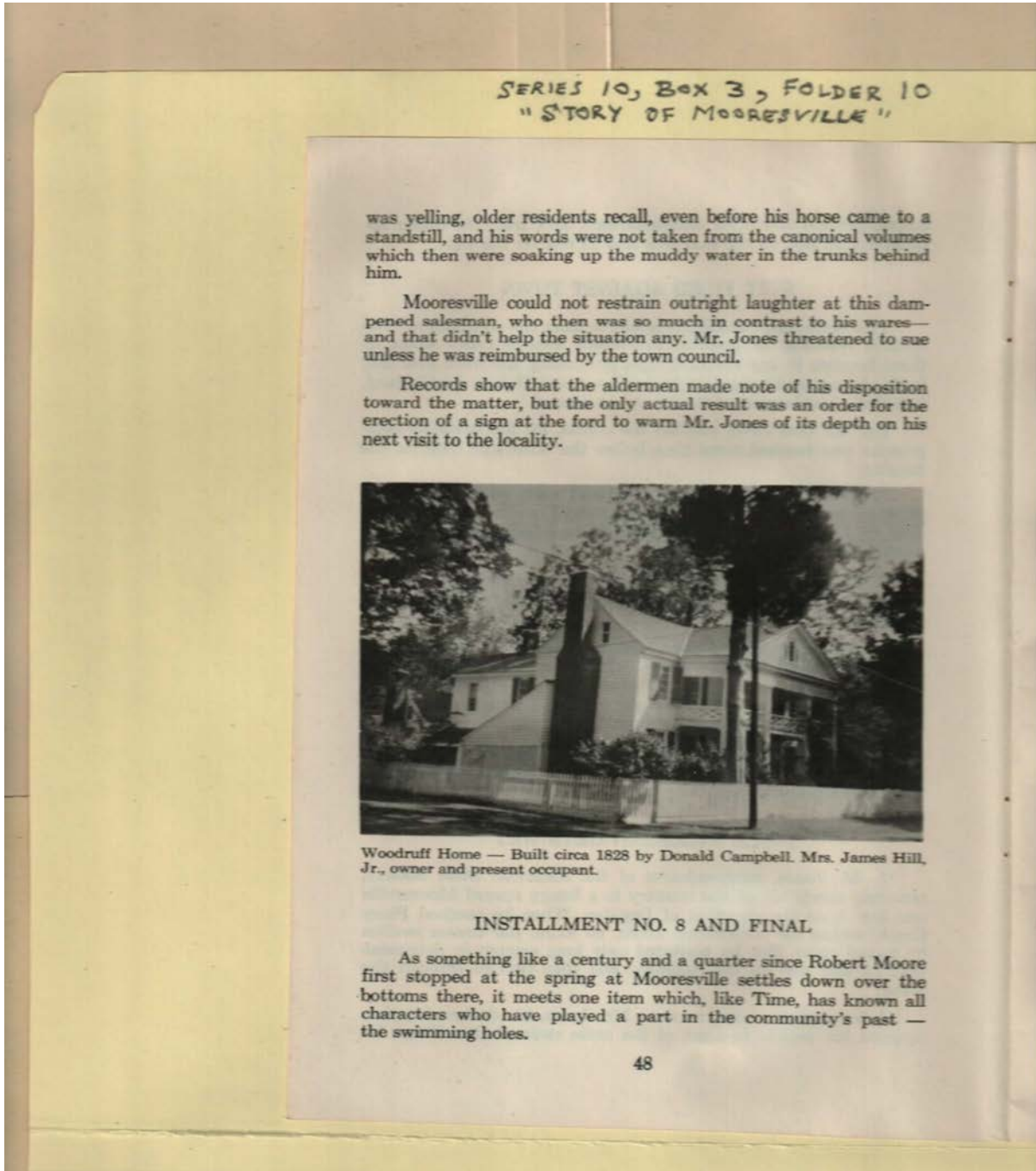
Bibb, Porter
Carney, Ed M.

Hazelwood, Orren
Jones, A. M.

McClelland, Robert

Types:

booklet



Names:

Campbell, Donald
Hill, James, Jr., Mrs.

Jones, A. M.
Moore, Robert

Woodruff Home

Types:

booklet

photograph

SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"

Throughout all this period, they have watched — the "Suck", where Piney Creek disappears under ground; the "Upper Sinks," where it reappears, and where Limestone rock in its bottom forms a natural stairway; the "Widow's Hole," a quarter of a mile south, to which tradition says a widow regularly went to feed fish, and the "Olac," also below town.

At one time or another, in the water of these pools, have bathed men among Alabama's first, English settlers, senators, congressmen, church leaders, Federal and Confederate soldiers and officers, and many persons prominent in other fields.

Along with Moore not many years after he arrived, swam Washington Keyes, postmaster at Mooresville in 1825; James H. Gamble, captain in the War of 1812; James Hollingsworth, formerly a resident of Huntsville; Amos Vincent, builder of a brick store there; Dr. William T. Minor, grandfather of Minor Lyle, now dean of law at the University of Virginia, who lived at the present Hundley home, site of the first millinery store in the town, and Emanuel Isom, grandfather of the present B. D. Lindsay of Belle Mina, who built, around 1826, a home of dove-tailed logs for Dr. Wiley Adams, a building which was torn down to make way for the John H. Peebles residence of today.

DANIEL COLEMAN ARRIVES

In 1819, a young law student, Daniel Coleman, joined the group about the pools. He was born in Caroline County, Virginia, in 1801, and lived there until he was 16. At that age, with his father dead and his family reduced to poverty, he left home to make his own living.

At the Kanawha Salt Works, he obtained a position for one year as a teacher, saving enough money during this period to complete a course at Transylvania University. He then became a court scribe at Frankfort, Ky., reading law at the same time.

Coleman had been in Mooresville only one year when he was chosen a judge of the Limestone County Court, through the influence of Capt. Nicholas Davis, Representative in the first legislature of Alabama in 1819, member of the Senate from 1820 to 1828, and for five sessions its president.

In 1835, Coleman represented Limestone County in the legislature. Six years later, he was elected judge of the circuit court, an office he held until 1853.

Names:

Adams, Wiley, Dr.
Coleman, Daniel
Davis, Nicholas,
Captain

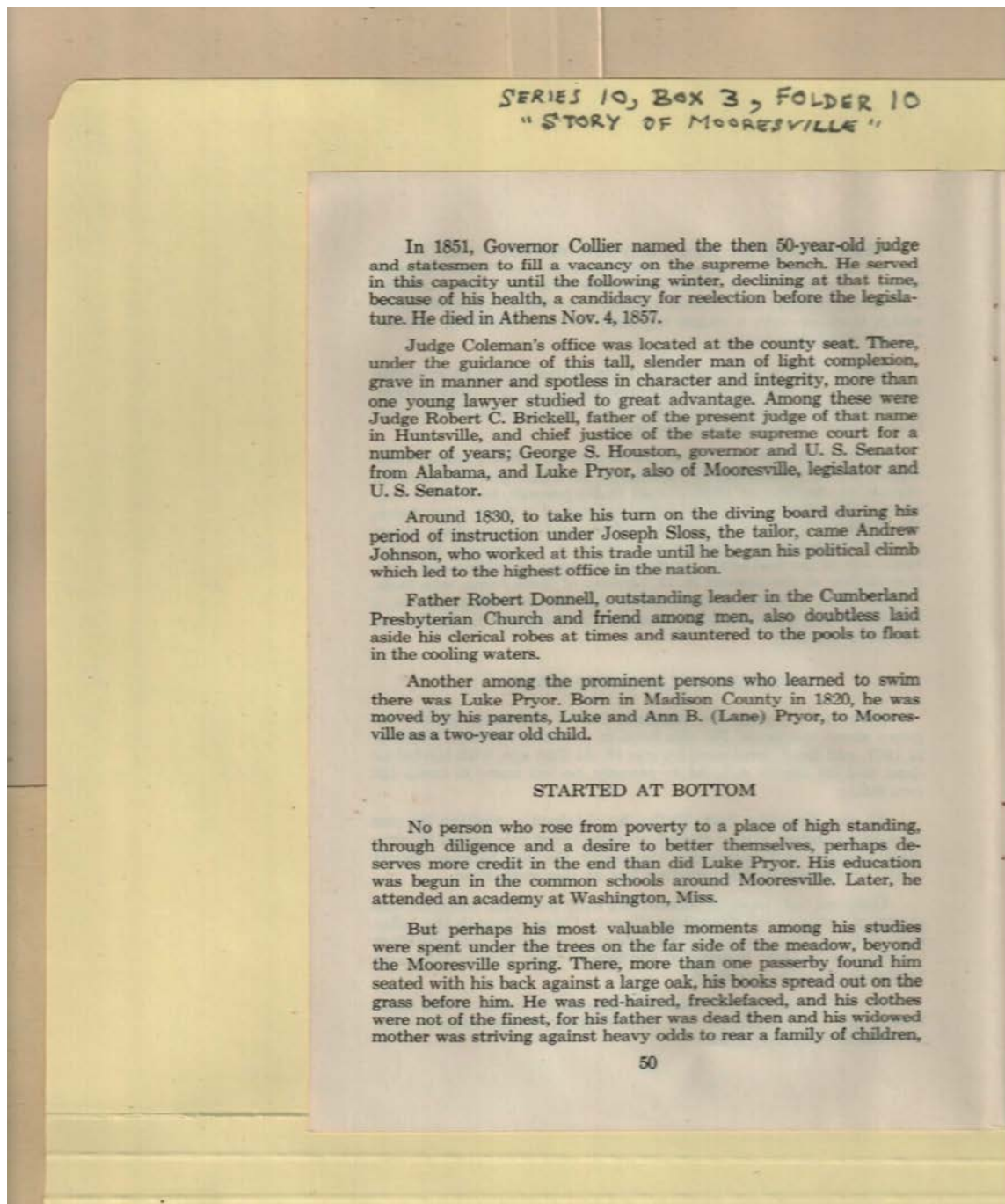
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Hollingsworth, James
Keyes, Washington
Lindsay, B. D.

Lyle, Minor
Minor, William T.,
Dr.
Peebles, John H.

Vincent, Amos

Types:

booklet



Names:

Brickell, Robert C.,
Judge
Coleman, Judge

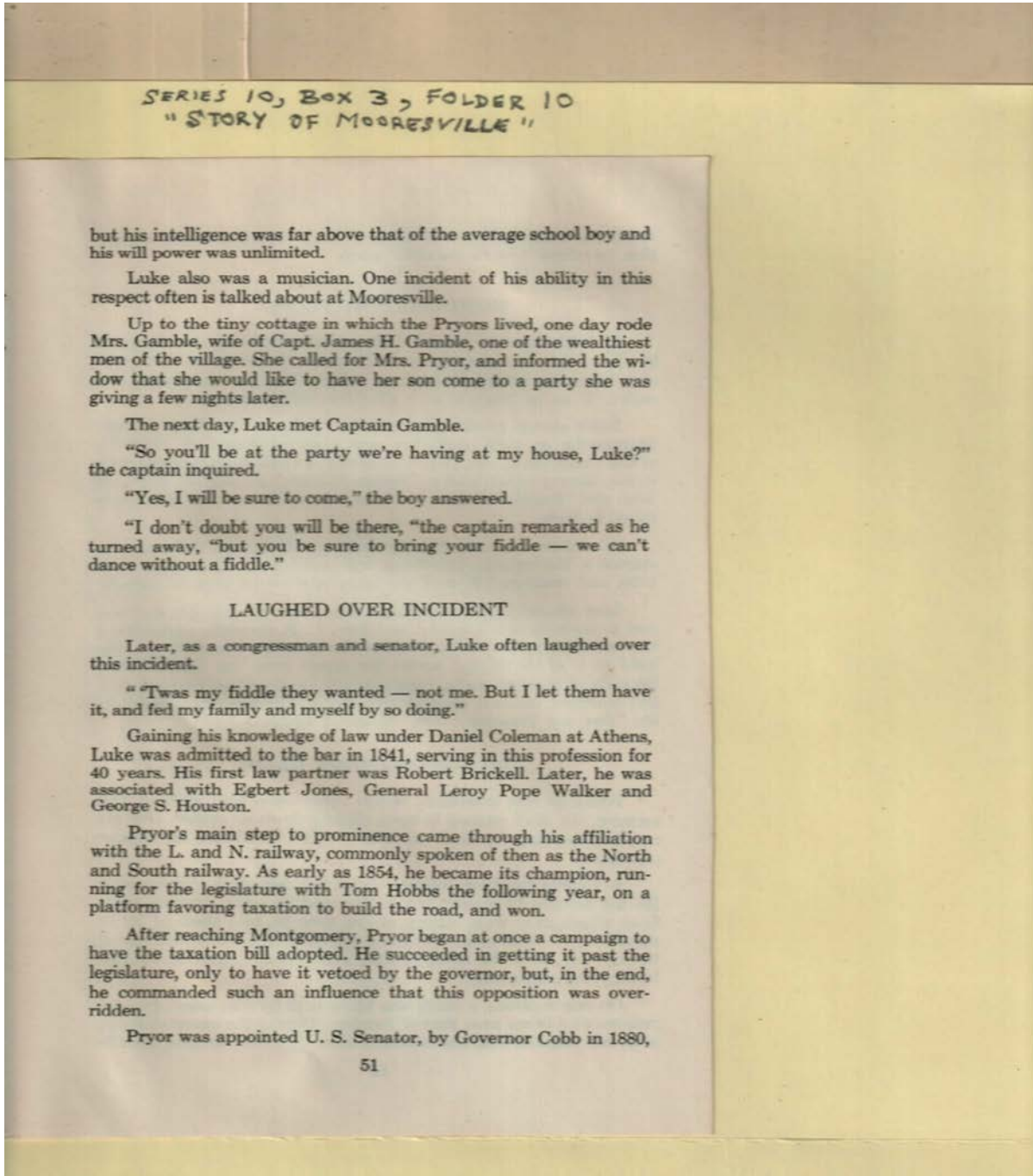
Collier, Governor
Donnell, Robert,
Father

Houston, George S.
Johnson, Andrew
Pryor, Ann B. Lane

Pryor, Luke
Sloss, Joseph

Types:

booklet



Names:

Brickell, Robert C.
Cobb, Governor
Coleman, Daniel

Gamble, James H.,
Captain
Hobbs, Tom

Houston, George S.
Jones, Egbert
Pryor, Luke

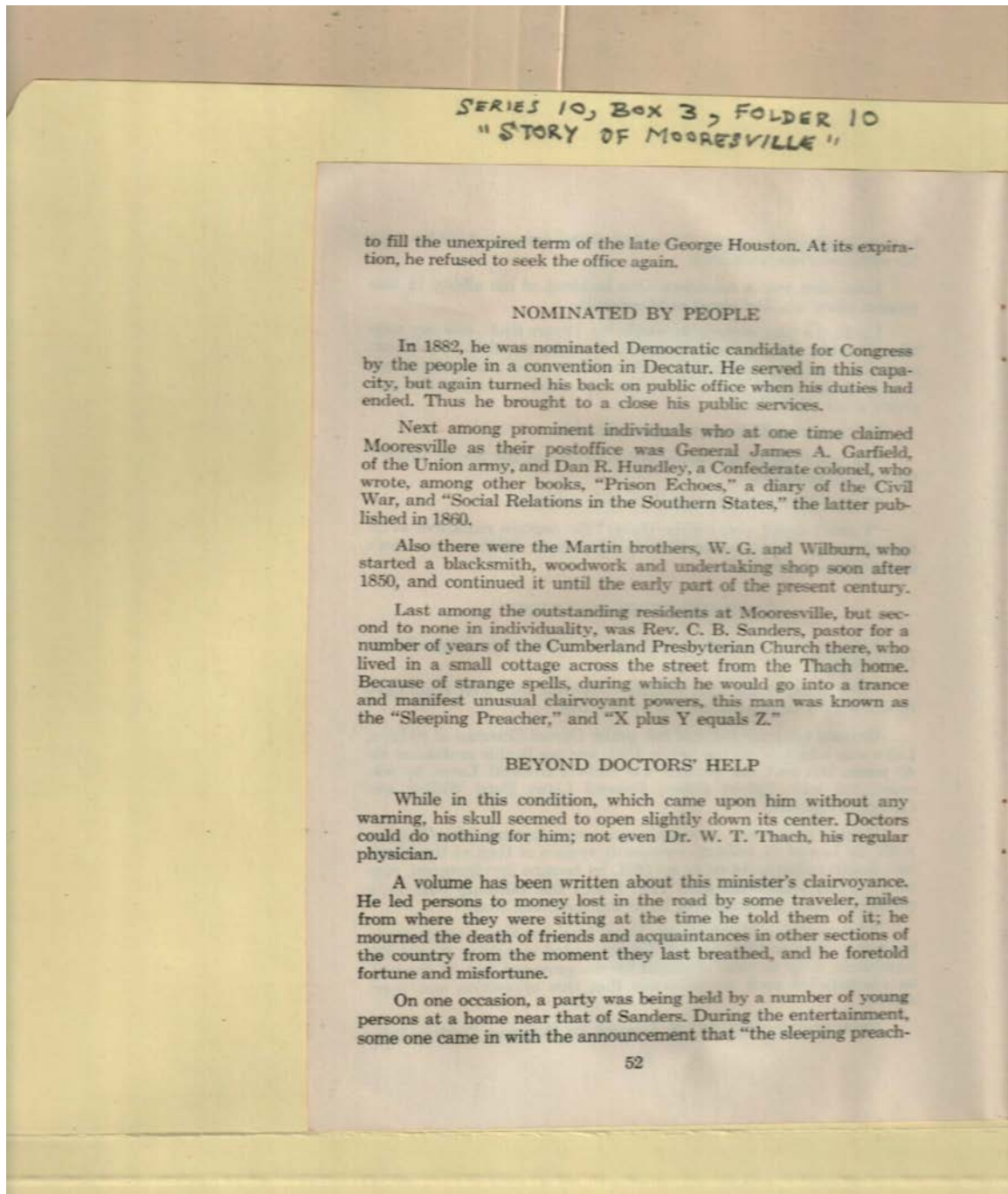
Walker, Leroy Pope,
General

Types:

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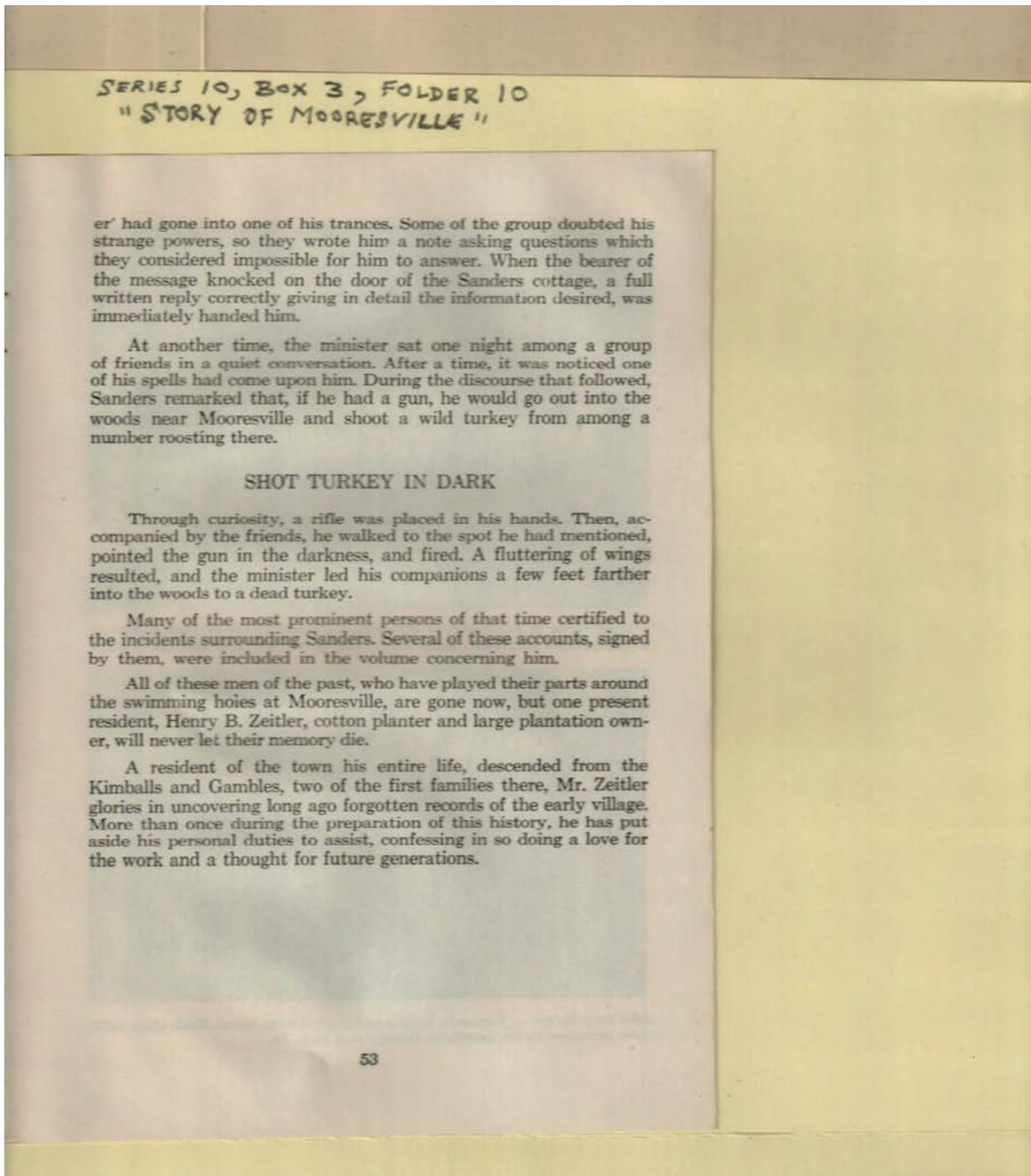
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General
Houston, George

Hundley, Dan R.
Martin, W. G.
Martin, Wilburn

Sanders, C. B., Rev.
Sleeping Preacher
Thach, W. T., Dr.

Types:

booklet



Names:

Gamble,

Kimball,

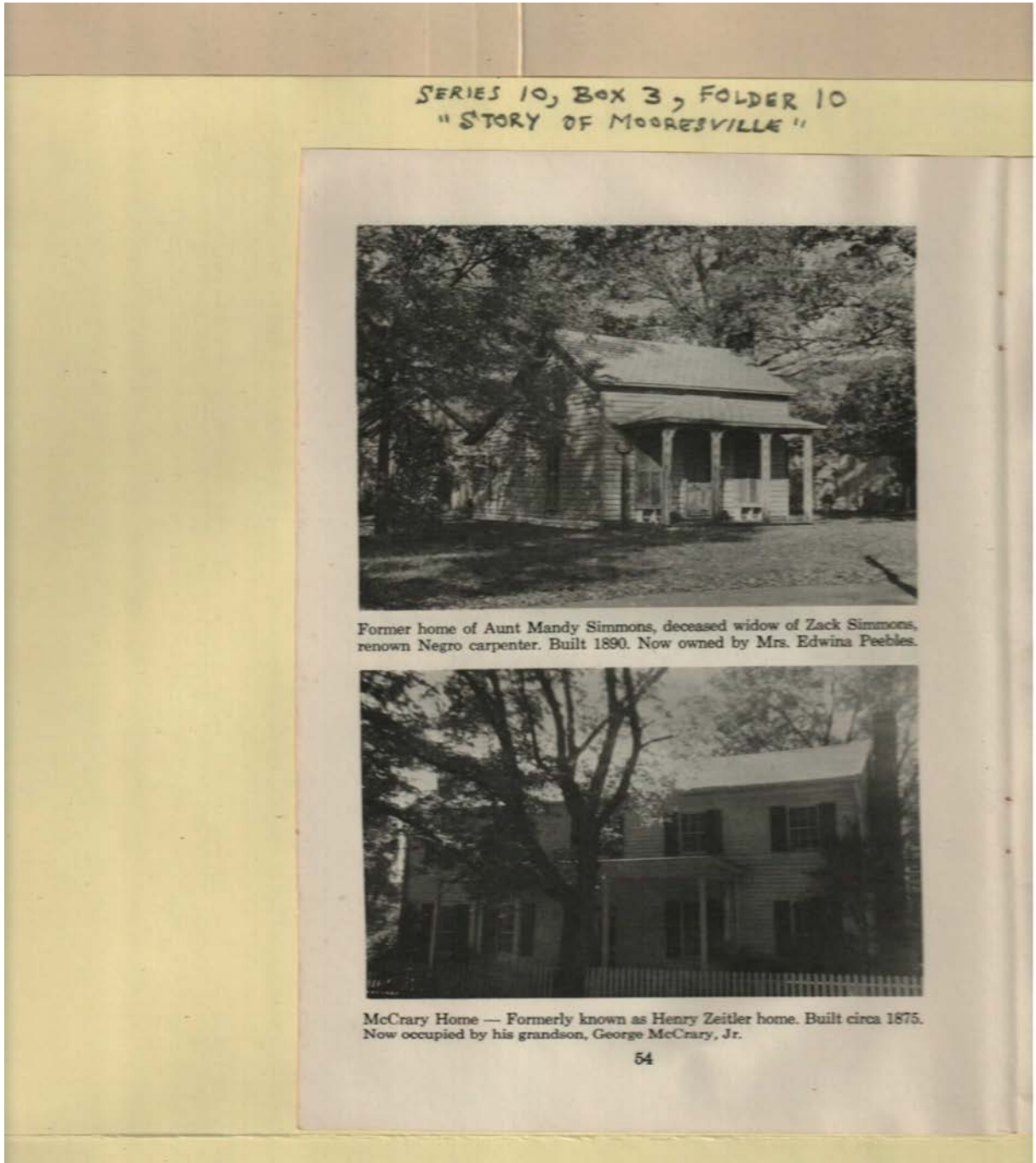
Zeitler, Henry B.

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Simmons Home
McCrary Home

McCrary, George, Jr.
Peebles, Edwina,
Mrs.

Simmons, Mandy
Simmons, Zack
Zeitler, Henry

Types:

photograph

SERIES 10, BOX 3, FOLDER 10
"STORY OF MOORESVILLE"



Zeitler-Hill home — Built by Henry B. Zeitler 1927. Now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Willis Hill.

THE END

55

Names:

Hill, Willis, Mr. &
Mrs.

Zeitler, Henry B.
Zeitler-Hill Home

Types:

photograph

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Collection Scope and Content: The Collection of 114 Linear ft. includes a total of 156 Archival Boxes. The Frances Cabaniss Roberts collection covers the historical records of the Cabaniss Roberts family. This collection contains extensive correspondence records of the Cabaniss Roberts family circa 1830 to 1930.

Archives/Special Collections Access Restrictions: None

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