

Lincoln County, N. C.  
Creek Nation  
1813-1836

179

**Physical Description:** 102 items; correspondence, articles (memoirs), general orders, troop returns, letter book, roster, orderly books, circular, declaration, maps (sketches), etc.

**Acquisition:** Biennial Report, 1918-1920, gift of Major William A. Graham, commissioner of agriculture (1908-1923) and grandson of Joseph Graham.

North Carolina State Archives  
Raleigh, North Carolina

**Description:** Joseph Graham (1759-1835) of Lincoln County was a native of Pennsylvania who was brought as a child to Mecklenburg County. His service in the Revolutionary War spanned 1778-1781, with active service (15 engagements) in both the continental line and state militia for 24½ months. After the war, he was sheriff of Mecklenburg County and a delegate to the constitutional conventions of 1788 and 1789. He was elected (1789) to the original board of trustees of the university, a state senator, 1788-1792, and an active officer in the state militia until 1820. In 1814 he commanded a brigade of detached militia from North Carolina-South Carolina against the Creek Indians in the upper Creek Nation. From 1791 until two years before his death he was engaged in planting and iron manufacturing at Vesuvius Furnace in Lincoln County. One of his sons was Governor William A. Graham, 1845-1849.

For additional information see: Dictionary of American Biography, VII, 479; Maj. William A. Graham, General Joseph Graham and his Papers on North Carolina Revolutionary History, 1904; The Papers of William Alexander Graham, ed, J. G. deRoulhac Hamilton, I, 1957; The Papers of Archibald D. Murphey, ed. Wm. H. Hoyt, I-II, 1914.

In this collection are articles on Revolutionary War action in western North Carolina, 1780-1781, written in 1820-1821 by General Joseph Graham; militia papers for the North Carolina-South Carolina brigade commanded by Graham during the Creek Indian War, 1814; militia papers of the 5th Division, N. C. Militia, 1814-1819; and a few personal letters on iron ores, internal improvements, etc., 1823-1836.

## GRAHAM, JOSEPH, PAPERS

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Description: (cont'd)

REVOLUTIONARY WAR, 1780-1781

About 1820 Archibald D. Murphey began gathering material from several persons for a history of the Revolutionary period which would correct mistakes or supply omissions concerning North Carolina troops in published histories. General Joseph Graham contributed several articles on action in the western section of the state. In this collection are some of the drafts kept by Graham of the articles which he sent to Murphey.

When Murphey died in 1829, Joseph Graham's grandson William A. Graham took from the Murphey papers his father's letters to Murphey and a portion of the narrative on the war. These are now in the Joseph Graham Papers, Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. This material, with numerous changes in phraseology and arrangement, was published in the University Magazine IV (1855) and reprinted in V (1856). The magazine accounts were later republished in General Joseph Graham and his Papers on North Carolina Revolutionary History (1904) and The Papers of Archibald D. Murphey (1914). Some of the narrative and associated letters were also published in State Records of North Carolina, XIX (1901).

## Arrangement of Papers:

P.C. 60.1 folder 1 [1820-1821]	Article, <u>Battle of Ramsour's Mill</u> , June 20, 1780. Two drafts.
folder 2 [1820-1821]	Article, <u>Activities between Battle of Ramsour's and Hanging Rock</u> , June 22 - August 6, 1780: Expedition against Tories embodied under Col. Bryan in the Forks of the Yadkin River; Col. Davidson surprises a party of Tories in the vicinity of Colson's Mill--near the confluence of Rocky River and Pee Dee; Hill's Iron Works Burned by the enemy; Gen. Sumter is placed at the head of N. C. militia; unsuccessful attack on Rocky Mount.

GRAHAM, JOSEPH, PAPERS

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## Arrangement of Papers: (cont'd)

P.C. 60.1 folder 2 [1829-1821] (cont'd)

Note: On pages adjoining 7 and 8 of the above article is a will of John Bumgarner, June, 1818. Later will in Lincoln Co. records, October, 1819.

P.C. 60.1 folder 3 [1820-1821]

Article, Activities after the Battle of Hanging Rock (August 7, 1780): Charlotte Cross Roads; McIntyre's Farm (October 3); Gov. Martin's proclamation (October 3), Ferguson's expedition Cornwallis retreats from Charlotte reorganization of Gates' army; Gen. Greene assumes command; Battle of Cowan's Ford (February 1, 1781) From Cowan's Ford to Guilford Courthouse: Shallow Ford; Gen. Pickens assumes command; Hart's Mill; Pyle's Massacre; Dickey's Farm (Death of Maj. Lewis); Clapp's Mill; Whitsell's Mill.

Sketches of position of forces at beginning of battles (1) Cowan's Ford, February 1, 1781, and (2) Clapp's Mill, March 1, 1781.

folder 4 1827

Correspondence, Joseph Graham, Vesuvius Furnace to Archibald Murphey, December 20, 1827.  
Re Revolutionary War.

folder 5 1832

Deposition, Joseph Graham, Lincoln County court, 1832, citizen military service, 1778-1781, 16 p for federal pension.

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CREEK INDIAN WAR, 1814

In January, 1814, President Madison called upon the governors of North and South Carolina to each supply a regiment to serve six months to reinforce Gen. Andrew Jackson of the Tennessee militia in the action against the Creek Indians in the Alabama area. A general to command the two regiments making up the brigade was to be a North Carolinian. The detached regiment in North Carolina, organized in Salisbury under the command of Col. Jesse A. Pearson of Iredell County, was "drafted" from various regiments in the western part of the state (Mecklenburg, Lincoln, Iredell, Rowan, Wilkes, Surry, Randolph) in the command of Gen. Ephraim Davidson of Iredell County, who declined to lead the NC/SC brigade because of poor health. Gen. Joseph Graham of Lincoln County was appointed in his place.

The N. C. regiment marched on March 1 from Salisbury to join the S. C. regiment for duty with troops from Georgia, Tennessee, the Mississippi Territory, as well as regular U. S. troops. The brigade did not reach the seat of war until after Gen. Andrew Jackson's victory at the Horseshoe Bend of the Tallapoosa River, Alabama, (March 27). However, General Graham's command received the surrender of several hundred Indians and was used to garrison forts thought necessary to keep the Indians in subjection. Some detachments of his command were in skirmishes, but there was no engagement of the whole brigade. Gen. Graham had frequent talks with some of the Indian chiefs concerning their submission and the peace. The N. C. regiment returned to the state and was mustered out the latter part of August, 1814.

Arrangement of Papers:

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| P.C. 60.1 folder 6 1813 | <u>Roster</u> , major-generals and brigadier generals, N. C. Militia, January 1, 1813. Names of counties for each brigade.  |
| folder 7 1814           | <u>Correspondence</u> , Feb-Sept, 1814, 18 items<br>Eight letters of Feb-Mar, addressed to Gen. Graham concern his appointment, recommendations for staff appointments, search for military dress and equipment, etc., from Ephraim Davidson (Feb 18), Duncan Cameron (Feb 21), William Polk (Feb 22, Mar 8), Jesse A. Pearson (Mar 1), Gov. William Hawkins (Feb 21, Mar 8). Also Thomas Pickney (Jan 28) to Gov. William Hawkins. |

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Arrangement of Papers: (cont'd)

P.C. 60.1 folder 7 1814. Nine of the Apr-Sept letters:

Apr 12. Benjamin Hawkins, Indian Agent [See DAB], Gen. Jackson's brilliant achievements, 550 "Red Troops," transportation problems, attack on Indian towns.

Apr 14. Lt. J. Willie, U. S. Militia, Fort Lawrence. Lacks tools to repair roads and men to ferry wagons over river.

May 8. Gen. Andrew Jackson, Huntsville. Returns two horses stolen by Indians; 18-20 more stolen from either Jackson or Graham.

May 8. Gen. Andrew Jackson. To contractor and quartermaster, Fort Deposit. Re rations for express rider and horse enroute to Gen. Pickney.

May 9. Christian Limbaugh, Indian Agency, Cowetan. Requests help procuring express riders to carry mail to Ft. Lawrence.

May 17. Col. Homer Virgil Milton, Alabama Heights. Describes barbarity of "savages" and complicity of English; advises attack on Pensacola to shut off support to Indians.

Jun 1. John Steddum [half-breed]. Intelligence that 2,000 English troops at mouth of Apalachicola River; building houses and calling for Indians. [Enclosure of May 25]

Jun 18. Benjamin Hawkins. Re Indians drawing provisions from U. S. forts; other Indians receiving munitions from British.

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## Arrangement of Papers: (cont'd)

P.C. 60.1 folder 7 1814

Correspondence (cont'd)

Jun 19. Gen. Thomas Pickney, Headquarters, 6th military district, Raleigh. Gen. Jackson appointed major general in U. S. Army and commander 7th district.

folder 8 1814

Letter Book

Contains 46 pages of correspondence, May 10-Jul 29, from either Gen. Graham or his aide-de-camp, H. W. Connor, to Gen. Thomas Pickney, Col. Jesse A. Pearson, Christian Limbaugh, Col. Benjamin Hawkins, Gen. Andrew Jackson, Col. Rubin Nash re Graham's efforts to contain the Indians, utilize their services, receive prisoners, etc.

Sketches with descriptions of Battle of Horseshoe Bend and the four forts built by the Carolina Brigade: Forts Jackson, Decator, Burrows, and Bainbridge.

folder 9 1814

Orderly Books

Vol. I, Feb-May, indexed. Most entries are by Francis K. Huger, adj. gen., or H. W. Connor, aide-de-camp. Instructions for grand parade, to officers on guard, and regulations for musters and inspections.

P.C. 60.2 folder 10

Vol. II, May-June, fragment. Usual orders; list of those mustered out unfit for service, Camp Jackson near Fort Toulouse, Creek Nation [most are S. C. men]; court martial proceedings, including charges against Col. Rubin Nash, commander of the S. C. regiment, for conduct unbecoming an officer (June 18).

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## Arrangement of Papers: (cont'd)

P.C. 60.2

Orderly Books (cont'd)

folder 11 1814

Fragment, Jun - Jul  
July 3 entry--directions for 4th of July  
muster and salute.

folder 12

Miscellaneous Loose Papers  
General Orders, Jul 5 - Sept 10; Court  
Martial Papers, May-Jun; list unfit for  
service (S.C.), May 1.

Troop Returns

folder 13 1814

Monthly return, Brigade, Ft. Jackson, June

folder 14

Weekly returns, companies, Apr-Jun, n.d.

folder 15

Muster Roll, Col. Nash's S. C. regiment, Ft.  
Lawrence. 101 men, 4 officers, 4 sergeants

Quartermaster's Returns

folder 16 1814

Abstract of provision issued at forts in  
Creek Nation, Feb 20-Jun 30, to U. S. troop  
volunteer militia, Indians under command  
Gen. Graham. Two weekly provision returns  
Apr-May.

folder 17 1814

"Returns" Indians and Negroes

List of tribes--for each the number of  
families, men, women, children, forts  
where fed.

List of Negroes taken prisoner during  
expedition down Alabama River, June 1.  
6 women, 12 children with owner's names.  
Three children taken at Ft. Mims; one  
woman speaks only Indian language.

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N.C. MILITIA, 5th DIVISION, 10th BRIGADE, 1814-1819

Arrangement of Papers:

P.C. 60.2 folder 18

Correspondence, 1814, 1821, 1823

September 24, 1814. Montfort Stokes, Wilkesborough. To Gen. Graham, Lincoln Co. re troop return; account for castings purchased by trustees of University to be paid by Col. Polk of the building committee.

February 19, 1821. Gen. Graham. To Gov. Jesse Franklin. Re resignation and need for appointment of successor.

July 25, 1823. George W. Warner, Rutherfordton. Re organization of volunteer rifle company challenged by adjacent regiment. opinion requested.

folder 19

Troop Returns, annual, 1814-1819

1814	1st Rutherford Regiment, 10th Brigade
1815	1st Rutherford Regiment, 10th Brigade
1816	1st Rutherford Regiment, 10th Brigade
	2nd Rutherford Regiment, 10th Brigade
	10th Brigade, Gen. Graham commanding.
1817	5th Division, Gen. Graham commanding.
	Cavalry Regiment, 10th Brigade
1818	5th Division, Gen. Graham commanding
	1st Rutherford Regiment, 10th Brigade
	Cavalry Regiment, 10th Brigade
1819	Cavalry Regiment, 10th Brigade
	Cavalry Regiment, <u>15th Brigade</u>

folder 20

General Orders, 1818, n.d.

Includes instructions for brigade review, Aug. 1818.

folder 21

Miscellaneous Paper, n.d. Commission, James Norris, asst. deputy quartermaster, \_\_\_\_\_ Brigade, N. C. Militia, signed by Gov. William Miller, 1814-1817.

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GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE, 1831-1836.

Arrangement of Papers:

- P.C. 60.2 folder 22 January 21, 1823. Denison Olmsted, Chapel Hill. Re specimen of Lincoln iron ore; asks 7 questions re iron beds; interested in manganex used for firestone similar to plumbago near Raleigh; ref to a Mr. Robins of Fayetteville, potters kiln.
- May 3, 1823. Denison Olmsted, Chapel Hill. Re specimens of ores; ref to Col. Clemens' iron works in Stokes Co. and to custom of workmen lighting their furnaces "with all possible splendor" on Christmas Eve.
- July 1, 1831. David Taylor, near Waynesborough, Ga. Requesting expertise for building iron and smelting furnace.
- September 3, 1833. Gen. Graham to David L. Swain. Re internal improvements--railroads from coastal areas (Beaufort and Cape Fear); suggests route from Brunswick Town via Fayetteville, Raleigh, Oxford; need for port comparable with Charleston or Baltimore.
1813. "Observations on the Principles of Rail Roads in N. C. etc."
1836. Thoughts on taxation, surplus fund, schools, lunatick asylum [good for family but public won't support], penitentiary [schools of roguery where younger learn crime from the older], railroads, schools [erect a second university at Beaties Ford to serve the west]
- November 12, 1836. Obituary of Gen. Joseph Graham by R. H. Morrison, his son-in-law. Printed.

MISCELLANEOUS

P.C. 60.2 folder Circular, Caswell County. Election, 1836.

Anti-VanBuren tract; charges of being pro-abolitionist and pro-Catholic; running mate (R.M. Johnson) charged with miscegenation.

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**Finding Aids:**

↳ **Main Entry Card**

**Geographic Cards**

Lincoln County  
Alabama

**Date Cards**

1780-1781  
1814-1819  
1823  
1831-1836

**Autograph Cards:**

Cameron, Duncan  
Davidson, Ephraim  
Graham, Joseph  
Hawkins, Benjamin  
Hawkins, William  
Jackson, Andrew  
Limbaugh, Christian  
Milton, Homer Virgil  
Olmsted, Denison  
Pearson, Jesse A.  
Pierce, Riddick  
Pinckney, Thomas  
Polk, William  
Steddum, John  
Stokes, Montfort  
Taylor, David  
Warner, George W.

**Subject Cards**

ABOLITION  
BEAUFORT  
CATHOLICISM  
CASWELL COUNTY  
COMMERCE AND BUSINESS  
CREEK INDIANS  
ELECTION, 1836  
FOURTH OF JULY  
GRAHAM, JOSEPH  
INDIANS  
INSANE ASYLUM

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Finding Aids (cont'd)

Subject Cards (cont'd)

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS  
LINCOLN COUNTY  
MCCAULEY, WILLIAM  
MAIL DELIVERY  
MAPS (Sketches)  
MILITARY UNIFORMS  
MILITIA, N. C.  
MILITIA, CREEK NATION  
MINES AND MINING  
MURPHEY, ARCHIBALD  
NASH, RUBIN  
NEGROES (prior to 1865)  
NORRIS, JAMES  
PENITENTIARY  
RAILROADS  
RUTHERFORD COUNTY  
SALISBURY  
SOCIAL LIFE AND CUSTOMS, CHRISTMAS EVE  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
U. S. ARMY  
WAR - CREEK INDIAN WAR  
- REVOLUTIONARY WAR

See also: Benjamin Hawkins Papers, P. C. 569  
William A. Graham Papers, P.C. 61  
Gov. William Hawkins Letter Book, GLB 20  
Adjutant General's Records, AG 6-9  
Military Collection, War of 1812, Box 10  
[Copy, Andrew Jackson's letter of April 2, 1814, to  
Secretary of War reporting victory over Creek Indians]  
Southern Historical Collection, UNC-Chapel Hill  
Joseph Graham Papers, #284  
William A. Graham Papers, #285

WORK SHEET

NUMBER: P.212

NAME OF COLLECTION: JOSEPH GRAHAM PAPERS (COPY OF P.C. 60)

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DATES: 1780-1836

ACQUISITION INFORMATION: Filed by Archives and Records from originals in its custody. Accessioned August 13, 1979.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: ca. 100 feet 35 mm. negative microfilm  
(Security copy only)

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION: See P.C. 60