

AUGUSTUS O. BACON COLLECTION
PP0006

Descriptive Summary

Creator Bacon, Augustus Octavius, 1839-1914

Title Augustus O. Bacon Collection

Accession Number PP0006

Physical Description 1 small archival box

Inclusive Dates 1853-1868

Language Note English

Administrative Information

Repository

Mercer University Library
Archives and Digital Initiatives
1501 Mercer University Dr.
Macon, Georgia 31207
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Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Augustus O. Bacon Collection. Archives and Digital Initiatives, Mercer University Library, Macon, GA.

Acquisition

Gift of Dr. Spencer B. King

Processing note

Inventory prepared by Special Collections Assistant, unknown, and Rachel Lukavsky, 2021.

Restrictions on access

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Collection Description*Biographical Note*

Augustus O. Bacon was born on October 20, 1939, in Bryan County, Georgia. He earned his B.A. (1859) and L.L.B. (1860) from the University of Georgia. He began a law practice in Atlanta, Georgia in 1860. He later joined the Confederate Army during the Civil War. Augustus O. Bacon married Sarah Virginia Lamar on April 19, 1864. In 1866, he moved to Macon, Georgia, to practice law. He was elected to Georgia House of Representatives in 1870 and served for 12 years, being elected as the Speaker of the House five times. He also served as a United States Senator (1895-1914). Bacon died on February 14, 1914, in Washington, D. C. His farm, located in Macon, Georgia, was bequeathed to the city of Macon to become a park, Baconsfield Park. Because his will stipulated that the park be used by white citizens only, it became the subject of two U.S. Supreme Court cases.

Scope and Content Note

The A. O. Bacon Papers contains one letter (1864) and three diaries (1853, 1861, and 1868). The collection may have been received through Dr. Spencer King.

Subjects

University of Georgia
Baconsfield Park- Macon – Georgia
Georgia House of Representatives
United States Senate
Supreme Court of the United States

Related Material

None

Series Description

Series 1: Correspondence

Series 2: Diaries

Container List**SERIES 1: CORRESPONDENCE**

Folder 1/1: Letter from Bacon to Mother, March 20, 1864:*Describing recent illness, travels for business, and anticipated trip home*

SERIES 2: DIARIES

Folder 1/2: Diary, January 15, 1853-March 21, 1853: *Describes daily life in Tuskegee, Alabama, including family, school, church, etc.*

- Folder 1/3: *Diary, August-November 1861: Written while Bacon was serving as Adjutant of the 9th Georgia Infantry Regiment, the diary gives a detailed account of the movements of the Regiment from August to November. Written mainly while Bacon served in Virginia, the diary describes life as a soldier; the aftermath of the first battle at Bull Run (Manassas) including a description of the hospital and battlefield with a hand-drawn sketch, and comments on the actions of Generals Robert Patterson, Joseph Johnston, and Pierre Beauregard.*
- Folder 1/4: *Diary, June-December 1868: Recounts his travels from Macon, Georgia to New York to attend the Democratic National Convention. Traveled through Atlanta, Nashville, Louisville, Cincinnati, and Pittsburgh, describing what he saw and relating it to events of recent war. Gives account of Democratic National Convention in July 1868. Late July 1868 – December 1868, covers political events both state and national, including presidential election. Last entry; handwritten transcript of a speech he delivered at Covington, Georgia on September 5, 1868.*