

JOSEPH DOBSON COLLECTION

Accession Number 21
1780 – 1890 and undated
1 folder

Provenance: This collection of personal papers was found among county records returned from the Paul Fink Collection to the archives by the McClung Historical Collection, Knoxville, Tenn., on August 26, 2019. In July 2020, the papers were processed as a separate manuscript collection.

Access Note: The papers are available for research use.

Biographical Note: Joseph Dobson was born in 1756 in Lunenburg County, Virginia. His family moved to Burke County, North Carolina in 1764. Dobson was a surveyor, who became a wealthy farmer and land speculator. Eventually, he owned approximately 100,000 acres of property in present-day Yancey County, Mitchell County and the surrounding region. During the American Revolution, he saw service against the British in campaigns in North Carolina and South Carolina. He was wounded at the Battle of Kings Mountain. He died in Burke County, North Carolina in 1836. Dobson's Knob, which is the mountain that can be seen at the intersection of U.S. Highway 221 and North Carolina Highway 226, is named for his family.

Scope and Content Note: The collection consists of land records, primarily land grants and deeds related to property transactions involving Joseph Dobson and members of his family and covers over a hundred-year period from 1780-1890. The property involved was in western North Carolina. Documents are arranged in chronological order with undated documents filed at the end. The collection is housed in a map folder and stored in the map cabinet by accession number.

Important subjects include:

Deeds—North Carolina
Dobson family
Dobson, Joseph
Land grants—North Carolina

Folder/Item List

Folder 1 (oversized)

1. State of North Carolina Grant # 2496 to Joseph Dobson, land entry, October 10, 1787.
2. State of North Carolina Grant # 2254 to Joseph Dobson, land entry, April 8, 1789.
3. Joseph Dobson to Waightstill Avery, deed, November 30, 1790.
4. Ann Dobson to Joseph Dobson, deed, December 10, 1791.
5. Joseph Dobson to Alexander McKay, deed, September 20, 1796.
6. George Baker to Joseph Dobson, deed, October 1, 1796.
7. John Carswell to Joseph Dobson, deed, February 17, 1798.

8. State of North Carolina Grant #2246 to Joseph Dobson, land entry, April 5, 1798.
9. Joseph Dobson to Jonathan Tipton, deed, March 10, 1800.
10. Waightstill Avery to Joseph Dobson, deed, November 7, 1800.
11. John Strother to Joseph Dobson, deed, November 20, 1800.
12. Joseph Dobson to George Crosnor, deed, December 20, 1800.
13. James Erwin, esquire and Mary Erwin, his wife to Joseph Dobson, deed, September 10, 1802.
14. Joseph Dobson to John Blevins, deed, December 10, 1802.
15. Joseph Dobson to Jonathan Tipton, deed, March 7, 1803.
16. Solomon Stansbury to Joseph Dobson, deed, July 24, 1804.
17. Hugh Davidson to Joseph Dobson, deed, January 23, 1805.
18. Thomas Knight to Joseph Dobson, deed, February 5, 1805.
19. Joseph Dobson to John Ratiliff, deed, June 10, 1805.
20. Samuel Chinn [?] to Joseph Dobson, deed, September 19, 1806.
21. John Dobson: power of attorney given to Abner Jervis, October 15, 1850.
22. Receipt for "State Grant no. 631," received of W. V. Harrison, unidentifiable signature and J. L. West, October 1890.
23. State of North Carolina grant No. 2752 to Joseph Dobson, undated.