

Ingles Family Collection

Ingles Family Collection
1797-1823



Title Statement

Ingles Family CollectionIngles Family Collection, 1797-1823 Ms.2002.021

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2002.021

Unit Date

1797-1823

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The Ingles Family Collection includes the Ferry Hill Ledger (1797-1804) and 3 of 6 volumes of Ingles Family Bible (1823); first available documentation of Mary Draper Ingles (kidnapped at infamous Draper Meadows Massacre and later escaped from Shawnee Indian captivity) and William Ingles, operator of Ingles Ferry, Ingles Ferry Hill Tavern, and blacksmith shop. Documentation of the family's extraordinary history, its ferry, and related enterprises provides scholars with unparalleled material for the study of Southwest Virginia.

Extent

0.6 Cubic Feet 2 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Source of Acquisition

The Ingles Family Collection was donated to Special Collections in 2002.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement and description of the Ingles Family Collection was completed in Summer 2002.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Ingles Family Collection, Ms2002-021, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Mary Draper Ingles, trans-Alleghany pioneer, was born in Philadelphia in 1732, the daughter of George and Elenor Hardin Draper. In 1748, she moved with her parents to Southwest Virginia, where Mary married William Ingles (born in London, 1729) in 1750. The Draper and Ingles families together established the first English-speaking settlement west of the Alleghanies at Draper's Meadow (predecessor to today's Blacksburg).

In July 1755, Mary Draper Ingles, her sons George and Thomas, her sister-in-law Betty Draper and others were captured during a Shawnee raid and were led up the New River and into present-day Kentucky. Eventually, Mary escaped, and her 850-mile trek back to her home has been documented in a number of published sources and a dramatic interpretation.

After her return, Mary and her husband William lived in Bedford County for several years but eventually returned to Montgomery County. At a location within the bounds of present-day Radford, Virginia, they established Ingles Ferry, which eventually grew to include a tavern, general store and blacksmith shop. Mary would give birth to four more children (John, Mary, Susan and Rhoda) before her husband died in 1782. Mary died in 1815.

Scope and Content

The Ingles Family Collection contains a ledger from the Ferry Hill store with entries dated between 1797 and 1804, and three of six volumes of the Ingles family Bible (published by Samuel T. Armstrong in 1823).

Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

Montgomery County (Va.)

Women -- History

Ingles family

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Description of Subordinate Components

Ferry Hill Ledger

Unit Date 1797-1804

box 1

Ingles Family Bible (3 volumes)

Unit Date 1823

box 2