1-11-2017

Shakers - South Union, Kentucky (MSS 600)

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ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY

Ann Lee (1736-1784), mother of Shakerism, claimed a few years before her death to have experienced a vision in which she saw the next great opening for the gospel occurring in 1801 or 1802 in the southwestern part of the United States. John Meacham, Benjamin S. Youngs, and Issachar Bates embarked on a missionary journey to that area on January 1, 1805. This trek proved to be one of more than one thousand miles. Because of the great religious revival taking place in Logan County, Kentucky, the Shakers proceeded to that region. They gained converts and in 1807 established a communal society, which practiced celibacy and pacifism, at South Union in Logan County. Membership peaked at 349 in 1827. Disbanded in 1922, South Union was the last of the six western societies to close.

COLLECTION NOTE

This collection consists of the South Union, Kentucky Shaker Necropolis, a compiled list of deaths occurring at the colony since 1810. Although the volume is dated 1906, deaths as late as 1918 are recorded. The original is stored separately in a secure vault; for the convenience of researchers, the versions in this collection consist of a photocopy of the original (Folder 2) and a typescript (Folder 3).

The information in the volume consists of the deceased’s name, place and date of birth, date of death, and age at death. An index of names is included in the typescript.

SHELF LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOX 1</th>
<th>Shakers – South Union, Kentucky</th>
<th>1906</th>
<th>3 items</th>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>1 item</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>South Union, Kentucky Necropolis – Photocopy</td>
<td>n.d.</td>
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Folder 3  South Union, Kentucky Necropolis – Typescript  n.d.  1 item
of Folder 2

**BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD**

MSS  SHAKERS – South Union, 1906
600    Kentucky

South Union, Kentucky, Shaker Necropolis, a compilation of deaths at the colony from 1810-1918. The deceased’s name, place and date of birth, date of death and age at death are provided.
1 box. 3 folders. 3 items. Original, photocopy, typescript.
SC2017.2.5

**SUBJECT ANALYTICS**

Shakers – South Union, Kentucky – Deaths, 1810-1918
Shakers – South Union, Kentucky – Vital statistics

Niedermeier/Jeffrey  01/11/2017