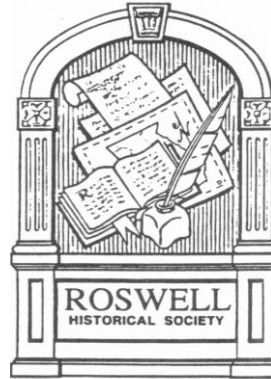


Obediah B. Copeland family papers  
1819-1989  
MS 34



Roswell Historical Society/City of Roswell Research Library and Archives

**Contact Information:**

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Title: Obediah B. Copeland family papers  
Dates: 1819-1989  
Quantity: 3 linear ft. (4 boxes)  
Identification: 2000-03

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**Biographical or Historical Note**

Obediah B. Copeland (circa 1835-1895) was born in Georgia. He was the son of Elisha and Rebecca Copeland.

Obediah was a private in Company A, 38<sup>th</sup> Georgia Regiment during the Civil War. He was wounded in the knee and back on 17 September 1862 at Sharpsburg, Maryland. He returned to service in 1864 and was taken as a prisoner of war on 9 July 1864 at Rossville, Georgia. He was released on 16 June 1865 at Camp Douglas, Chicago, Illinois. He returned Georgia and began buying land in what was at that time DeKalb County (later called Milton County and presently Fulton County).

He married Salina Corley (circa 1839-1930). In 1865, Obediah and Salina built a home south of the Chattahoochee River. The home was located on the site of the present-day Dunwoody Springs Elementary School on Roberts Drive.

Copeland owned a general store with a Post Office named Groganville. He was the postmaster of the Groganville, Georgia U. S. Post Office in the 1870s. He also owned a cotton gin.

According to *The Dunwoody Story*, written by Elizabeth L. Davis and Ethel W. Spruill, Obediah and Salina had nine children:

1. William Curtis died as a child.
2. Laret Luciser died as a child.
3. General Jackson married Isabella McCullion.
4. Eliza Octavia married John W. Henry.
5. Mary Jane married Calhoun Spruill.
6. Larkin E. Married Lavada Ball. He owned a store and home on Chamblee-Dunwoody Road, where Dunwoody Village is now located.
7. John W. married Mary Donaldson. Mount Vernon Shopping Center is now on the site of his old home.
8. George M. married Fanny Crenshaw.
9. Robert Lee married Sarah Downs. After the death of Obediah, Robert bought the old homestead and 50 acres of land. They had two daughters:
  1. Zadie Lou married Joe Clifford Brumbelow.
  2. Lee Eula married Daniel Webster Hembree. Lee Eula lived in the home place of Obediah and Salina.

Obediah and Salina are buried in Ebenezer Cemetery in Dunwoody.

Their homestead was purchased by Fulton County. The house was razed. Dunwoody Springs Elementary School was built on the site and opened to students in 2002.

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### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists of papers of Obediah B. Copeland and related family members from 1819 to 1973. The papers include correspondence, receipts, estate documents, land records, printed and published material.

The collection documents Copeland's service in Company A of the 38<sup>th</sup> Georgia Regiment during the Civil War. Of particular interest is a poem, listed in correspondence that he wrote to his wife during this time. It also documents his employment as postmaster of the Groganville, Georgia U. S. Post Office.

The records reflect the family's involvement with the organization of the Sharon Methodist Church, their interest in the Primitive Baptist Association, and their association with various area schools.

**Organization Note**

Organized in nine series:

- (1) Obediah B. Copeland Papers and Related Records,
  - (2) Salina Corley Copeland Papers,
  - (3) Copeland/Hembree/Brumbelow Family Papers,
  - (4) G. W. Downs Papers,
  - (5) Land Records,
  - (6) Miscellany
  - (7) Records of Sharon Methodist Church,
  - (8) Published and Printed Materials,
  - (9) Artifacts
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**Selected Search Terms**

Copeland, Obediah B., circa 1830-1895

Civil War

Primitive Baptist Association

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**Related Materials**

VIS 4 Obediah B. Copeland family photograph collection.

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**Restrictions on access**

Unrestricted access.

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**Administrative Information****Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Obediah B. Copeland family papers, Manuscript Collections, Roswell Historical Society/City of Roswell Research Library and Archives, Roswell, GA.

**Source**

Betty Brumbelow O'Quinn

Additional material was donated by Edd O'Quinn, Mrs. O'Quinn's husband.

Mrs. O'Quinn was the great-granddaughter of Obediah B. Copeland.

**Processing**

Processed by Aubrey Morris, Nancy Gray, Elaine DeNiro