



Finding Aid for

**RICHMOND HILL PLANTATION PHOTOGRAPH ALBUMS,
CIRCA 1947**

Accession 00.1334.504

Finding Aid Published: August 2017

Benson Ford Research Center
The Henry Ford
20900 Oakwood Boulevard · Dearborn, MI 48124-5029 USA
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OVERVIEW

REPOSITORY: Benson Ford Research Center
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ACCESSION NUMBER: 00.1334.504

CREATOR: Ford Motor Company

TITLE: Richmond Hill Plantation Photograph Albums

INCLUSIVE DATES: Circa 1947

QUANTITY: 2.4 cubic ft. (4 boxes containing 4 volumes)

LANGUAGE: The materials are in English.

ABSTRACT: Collection of four photograph albums which document Henry and Clara Ford's home at Richmond Hill, Georgia, and the surrounding community during the mid-1940s.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- ACCESS RESTRICTIONS:** The collection is open for research.
- COPYRIGHT:** Copyright has been transferred to The Henry Ford by the donor. Copyright for some items in the collection may still be held by their respective creator(s).
- ACQUISITION:** Donated to The Henry Ford, date unknown.
- RELATED MATERIAL:** Related material held by The Henry Ford:
- Richmond Hill Plantation Records Series, 1773-1954. Accession 97.
- General Personal Records Series, 1823-1984. Accession 23.
- The Reminiscences of Mr. Ben G. Brewton. Accession 65.
- General Photographs Series, 1913-1954. Accession 64.167.833.
- PREFERRED CITATION:** Item, folder, box, accession 00.1334.504, Richmond Hill Plantation Photograph Albums, Benson Ford Research Center, The Henry Ford
- PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Collection processed by Brian Wilson, August 2017.
- DESCRIPTION INFORMATION:** Finding aid written by Brian Wilson, August 2017, and published in same month.

Finding aid prepared using Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS) and local guidelines.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Richmond Hill Plantation, located near Ways Station, Georgia, was built as a winter residence for the Fords, and was occupied from 1937-1950. Although Henry and Clara stayed in Georgia only a month or so each spring, the plantation operated all year. The Fords implemented programs designed to improve life, schools, and medical care in the surrounding community while working at the same time toward increased agricultural and lumbering productivity. In 1941, the community of Ways Station was renamed to Richmond Hill after the site of the Ford's home.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of four (4) photograph albums, all brown leather covered spiral binders measuring 16 x 11.5 x 2 inches. The albums are in pairs, marked "Book 1" and "Book 2" on respective covers, with the pairs varying slightly in content and arrangement. Although it is unknown as to when the albums came to The Henry Ford, based on the source of the binders and the original images, it is thought that they were produced by an entity within Ford Motor Company, and perhaps intended as gifts for the Ford family or for staff of the Plantation.

The photographs in the albums are black-and-white prints, measuring 11 x 14 inches, mounted back-to-back, and housed in clear plastic sleeves. The prints were made from a series of photographs taken by the Ford Motor Company Photographic Department dated January 1947, and numbered 83750.1 through 83750.272. There are approximately 130 prints in each pair of albums with most prints having titles stenciled on their faces, although the image numbers are not visible.

The photographs illustrate the Ford's home; other Ford operation buildings; buildings in the surrounding community; Ford employees; and members of the surrounding community, both white and African American.

SUBJECT TERMS

Names, Personal and Corporate

Ford, Henry, 1863-1947

Subjects

Plantations--Georgia

Ford, Henry, 1863-1947--Homes and haunts

Geographic

Richmond Hill (Ga.)

Genre and Form

Photographs

Photograph albums

CONTAINER LIST

Box no.	Description
Box 1	Richmond Hill Plantation, Book 1 (single volume; spiral binder with leather covers; 16 x 11.5 x 2 inches; 35 pages)
Box 2	Richmond Hill Plantation, Book 2 (single volume; spiral binder with leather covers; 16 x 11.5 x 2 inches; 30 pages)
Box 3	Richmond Hill Plantation, Book 1 (single volume; spiral binder with leather covers; 16 x 11.5 x 2 inches; 32 pages)
Box 4	Richmond Hill Plantation, Book 2 (single volume; spiral binder with leather covers; 16 x 11.5 x 2 inches; 30 pages)