

# Thomas, William, Account Book

William Thomas Account Book

1845-1852



## Title Statement

Thomas, William, Account Book William Thomas Account Book, 1845-1852 Ms.1940.031

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## Publication Statement

**Publisher:** Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Special Collections and University Archives, University Libraries (0434)  
560 Drillfield Drive  
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Blacksburg, Virginia 24061  
Business Number: 540-231-6308  
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## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2025-10-09 07:02:43 -0400.

**Language Usage:** Description is written in: English, Latin script.

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

Ms.1940.031

### Unit Date

1845-1852

### Language

The materials in this collection are in English

### Abstract

This collection contains an account book of William Thomas, a merchant in Blacksburg, Virginia, during the mid-19th century.

### Creator

Thomas, William, 1796-1863

### Extent

0.3 Cubic Feet 1 box

### Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

## Administrative Information

### **Conditions Governing Access**

The collection is open for research.

### **Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use**

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### **Source of Acquisition**

The William Thomas Account Book was donated to Newman Library in October 1975.

### **Processing Information**

The processing and description of the William Thomas Account Book commenced in October 2011 and was completed in November 2011.

### **Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], William Thomas Account Book, Ms1940-031, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

## **Biographical Note**

The 1860 census records only one William Thomas in Blacksburg: a 64-year-old Maryland-born farmer. According to various sources, a Blacksburg merchant named William Thomas was born in Maryland on May 25, 1796. The son of Giles T. and Nancy Ann Wheeler Thomas, William Thomas moved to the Blacksburg area while in his late teens. In 1819, he married Rachel Montgomery Hoge (1800-1828), and the couple had three children. Following Rachel's death, Thomas married Lucretia Howe (1806-1889), with whom he had five children. Thomas served as Montgomery County sheriff and operated a successful mercantile business and tanyard, as well as a farm. He also had an interest in Montgomery White Sulphur Springs and served in Virginia's General Assembly, as clerk for Blacksburg's Presbyterian Church, and as a trustee of the Blacksburg Female Academy. William Thomas died on February 14, 1863 and is buried in Blacksburg's Westview Cemetery.

## **Scope and Content**

This collection consists of a single account book maintained by William Thomas, a merchant in Montgomery County, Virginia around the middle of the 19th century. It includes names of customers, itemized lists of goods purchased, dates of purchases, and amounts paid.

## **Keywords**

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South  
Montgomery County (Va.)

## **Rights Statement for Archival Description**

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## **Description of Subordinate Components**

### **Account book**

**Unit Date** 1845-1852

**box** 1