

# A Guide to the John and James Murray Mason Papers

John and James Murray Mason Papers 1798-1847  
1798-1847

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A Collection in the Special Collections Department 5036  
Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library  
1997

## History

**Processed by:** Special Collections Department Staff  
**Date Completed:** 1997  
**Encoded by:** Elizabeth Slomba

## Title Statement

A Guide to the John and James Murray Mason Papers

**Subtitle:** Mason, John and James Murray.

**Collection:** 5036

**Author:** Processed by Special Collections Dept. staff; machine-readable finding aid created by Elizabeth Slomba

**Sponsor:** Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

## Publication Statement

**File size:** 10 Kilobytes

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**Publisher:** University of Virginia Library

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from WordPerfect. [Date of source: 1997.]

**Language Usage:** Description is in English.

## Revision Description

**Feb 17, 2004** PUBLIC "-//University of Virginia::Library::Special Collections Dept.//TEXT (US::ViU::00983::John and James Murray Mason Papers)//EN" "ViU00983.sgm" converted from EAD 1.0 to 2002 by v1to02.xsl (sy2003-10-15).

**Feb 27, 2004** converted to conform to eadVIVA.dtd by vivastrict.xsl

## Descriptive Summary

**Collection Number**

5036

**Language**

English

**Extent**

26 items

**Repository**

University of Virginia. Library. Special Collections Dept.

Alderman Library  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903  
USA

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

Collection is open to research.

**Use Restrictions**

See the [University of Virginia Library's use policy](#).

**Acquisition Information**

This collection was purchased by the Library from Mrs. Laura Lee Dorsey of Charlottesville, Virginia, on May 7, 1955.

**Funding Note**

Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

**Preferred Citation**

John and James Murray Mason Papers, Accession 5036, Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

## Scope and Content

The Mason papers consist of 26 items, 1798-1847, chiefly correspondence between General John Mason, one time Superintendent of the Indian Department and his son, James Murray Mason(1798-1871), the U.S. Senator and Confederate diplomat, on personal and financial affairs. Six of the letters are from John Mason's friend, Richard Rush(1780-1859), in London, England, as minister to Great Britain, discussing political affairs in London and the United States, including frequent mention of the American Colonization Society, the African Institution, William Wilberforce, and Sir Charles McCarthy. One letter, dated March 13, 1813, is from Ely Magruder in Barbados, West Indies, to James Madison, answering charges that he acted as a secret agent of the United States government and commenting on wartime conditions there. Another from Senator John Taylor of Caroline, 1803, requests information on a Virginia-Maryland boundary dispute; and three 1847 letters discuss the collection of a debt by John Jordan Crittenden. There is also a facsimile of the Non-Importation Resolutions of 1765.

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