

White, Ambrose H. Letter Book

Ambrose H. White Letter Book

1828-1834

Title Statement

White, Ambrose H. Letter BookGuide to the Ambrose H. White Letter Book SC 00636

Author: Finding Aid Authors: Steven M. Bookman, University Archives Specialist.

Publication Statement

Publisher: Special Collections Research Center

William & Mary Special Collections Research Center

Earl Gregg Swem Library

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Williamsburg, Virginia

Business Number: 757-221-3090

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URL: <https://libraries.wm.edu/libraries-spaces/special-collections>

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Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2025-05-15 12:34:50 -0400.

Language Usage: The collection description/finding aid is written in English

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 00636

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/3183

Unit Date

1828-1834

Language

English

Creator

White, Ambrose H., 1800-1881

Extent

0.01 Linear Foot

Extent

141 manuscript pages

Repository

Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access:

Collection is open to all researchers.

Conditions Governing Use:

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Acquisition Information:

Acc. 2013.252 was received by Special Collections via U.S.P.S. on 10/15/2013.

Processing Information:

Accessioned and minimally described by Steven Bookman, University Archives Specialist, in October 2013.

Preferred Citation:

Ambrose H. White Letter Book, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

Biographical Information:

Captain Ambrose H. White was born in Marblehead, Massachusetts, 1800 December 17, and began his career at sea when he was 13. At the age of 23, White achieved the rank of master and continued to sail for 30 years, 12 years of which was in the China and Batavia, later Indonesia, trade. In 1824, he resided in Newburyport, Massachusetts and became a Calcutta merchant until his death. White married Harriet Spalding on 1834 April 20, and joined the Marine Society of Newburyport in 1838. Captain White commanded the ships *Virginia*, *Potomac*, *Ashtabula*, *Argonaut*, *Ashburton*, *Alciope*, *Franchise*, and *Moses Brown*. He died in Boston, Massachusetts on 1881 June 3 at the age of 80.

Scope and Contents

Letter copy book, 1828-1834, consisting of letters to the owners of the ship *Alciop* written by Captain Ambrose H. Smith. The letters pertain to freight (fish, salt, cotton, tobacco, etc.), finances, weather, conditions on board the ship, receipts, and other information. The letters were written while Captain White was at sea or at ports such as Liverpool, England, Cadiz, Spain, New Orleans, Louisiana, Richmond, Virginia, and Hampton Roads, Virginia. The book also includes three copies of instructions to Captain White, three memorandums of agreements, eight invoices, two accounts of sale, and one freight list.

Keywords

Letter books

Massachusetts--Social life and customs--19th century

Merchants--Massachusetts

Merchant mariners--United States--History--19th century

United States--Commerce--Europe

Physical Characteristics or Technical Requirements:

The fragile nature of this material may limit handling.

Arrangement of Materials:

This collection is not yet fully arranged and described. Researchers may wish to consult with a staff member for further information in advance of using the collection.

Description of Subordinate Components

Letter book

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/243484

Unit Date 1828-1834

Mixed Materials Small Collections Box 22 (Box)

Container 1 (folder)