

Cole, Henry Denison Papers

Henry Denison Cole Papers
1786-1939

Title Statement

Cole, Henry Denison PapersGuide to the Henry Denison Cole Papers Mss. 39.1 C67

Author: Special Collections Staff.

Publication Statement

Publisher: Special Collections Research Center

William & Mary Special Collections Research Center
Earl Gregg Swem Library
400 Landrum Dr
Williamsburg, Virginia
Business Number: 757-221-3090
spcoll@wm.edu
URL: <https://libraries.wm.edu/libraries-spaces/special-collections>

2007-06-04

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-06-19 07:02:50 -0400.

Language Usage: English

Revision Description

2023 Does not match inventory in Archival Resources of Virginia.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Mss. 39.1 C67

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/8976

Unit Date

1786-1939

Language

English

Creator

Cole, Henry Denison, 1856-1938

Creator

Cole Family

Creator

Ewell, Benjamin Stoddert, 1810-1894

Creator

Roberts, William Thomas

Creator

Rockefeller, Abby Greene Aldrich

Creator

Rockefeller, Jr., John D. (Davison), 1874-1960

Creator

Tyler, Lyon Gardiner, 1853-1935

Creator

Washington, Booker T., 1856-1915

Extent

13.00 Linear Feet

Repository

Special Collections Research Center

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access:

Collection is open to all researchers. Manuscript collections and archival records may contain materials with sensitive or confidential information that is protected under federal or state right to privacy laws and regulations, such as the Virginia Public Records Act (Code of Virginia. § 42.1-76-91); and the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Code of Virginia § 2.2-3705.5). Confidential material may include, but is not limited to, educational, medical, and personnel records. If sensitive material is found in this collection, please contact a staff member immediately. The disclosure of personally identifiable information pertaining to a living individual may have legal consequences for which the College of William and Mary assumes no responsibility.

Conditions Governing Use:

Before reproducing or quoting from any materials, in whole or in part, permission must be obtained from the Special Collections Research Center, and the holder of the copyright, if not Swem Library.

Acquisition Information:

Gift

Preferred Citation:

Cole Papers, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

Preferred Citation

Henry Denison Cole Papers. Incorrectly titled as "Cole Papers" in Archival Resources of the Virginias."

Biographical Information:

Henry Denison Cole (1856-1938) was a resident of Williamsburg for his entire life. He operated a book shop on Duke of Gloucester Street and served as postmaster of Williamsburg, 1884-1889; treasurer of Bruton Parish Church; secretary of the alumni of the College of William and Mary; judge of elections and member of the Democratic committee; the Williamsburg school board; and the board of trustees of Eastern State Hospital. Further information about this individual or organization may be available in the Special Collections Research Center Wiki: http://scdbwiki.swem.wm.edu/wiki/index.php/Henry_Denison_Cole.

Scope and Contents

Included are minutes of the Wise Light Infantry Co. of Williamsburg, 1881-1882; the College of William and Mary Alumni Association, 1906-1917; papers concerning the College of William and Mary including letters, 1873, from Benjamin S. Ewell; the Williamsburg Free School Trustees, 1870-1907; and the Democratic Committee of Williamsburg.

Also accounts of the state school funds, 1894-1911; the city school funds, 1906-1911, 1919-1924; Bruton Parish Church 1897-1938; and of Robert F. Cole (father of Henry D. Cole), 1843-1856.

Also lists of registered voters in Williamsburg, 1889-1896, 1902-1925, and papers relating to property in Williamsburg and the restoration of Bruton Parish Church, 1905-1906.

The collection also includes stereoptican slides and letters from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. and Abby Aldrich Rockefeller.

Includes W. T. Roberts letter, 20 November 1901 criticizing the college, president [Lyon G.] Tyler and the vice-president of the Board of Visitors as a "moral leper." Roberts was rector of Bruton Parish Church (Box 4, folder 1)

The finding aid for this collection is available online at:

<http://vip.lib.virginia.edu:8080/cocoon/vivaead/published/wm/viw00005.xml.frame>

Separated Materials

The Language of Flowers, published by George Routledge and Son, Ltd., London. Includes notation: "Mr. H.D. Cole, Sept. 1892, Natural Bridge" and November 19, 1935. Moved to Rare Books.

Keywords

Account books
Correspondence
Financial records
Minutes
Photographs
Slides (photographs)
Williamsburg (Va.)--City Council
Williamsburg (Va.)--History--19th century
Williamsburg (Va.)--History--20th century
Williamsburg (Va.)--Post Office
African Americans--Virginia--Suffrage
College of William and Mary--History--19th century
Democratic Party (Williamsburg, Va.)
Photography, Stereoscopic
Virginia. Constitutional Convention (1901-1902)
Virginia. Militia. Wise Light Infantry
Voting--Virginia--History
Stereographs
Medicine--Prescriptions--19th century
Programs
Broadside
Bruton Parish Church (Williamsburg, Va.)
College of William and Mary--Alumni and alumnae
Roberts, William Thomas
Rockefeller, Abby Greene Aldrich
Rockefeller, John D. (John Davison), 1874-1960
Washington, Booker T., 1856-1915

General

Other Information:

Additional information may be found at <http://ead.lib.virginia.edu/vivaead/published/wm/viw00005.frame>

Arrangement of Materials:

This collection is arranged into fourteen Series: 1. Papers of Williamsburg City Council, 2. Papers of Williamsburg Post Office, 3. Miscellaneous Letters, 4. Business Papers of H. D. Cole, 5. Papers of the Cole Family, 6. Papers relating to William and Mary College, 7. Wise Infantry Minute Book, etc., 8. Printed Material and Stereoptican Slides, 9. William and Mary Alumni Association, 10. Post Card and Shop Account Book, 11. Papers Relating to Schools, 12. Bruton Parish Records, 13. Williamsburg Democratic Records, and 14. Artifacts.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series 1: Williamsburg Organizations

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607570

Unit Date 1861-1936

Scope and Contents

Henry Denison Cole's papers from his participation in Williamsburg Area organizations.

Sub-series 1: Williamsburg City Council Papers with City Ordinances

Unit ID id160273

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422443

Unit Date 1889-1899

Scope and Contents

Papers of the Williamsburg City Council, including a manuscript draft of the first ordinance regulating automobile traffic, contract for city gas lighting system, duties of city scavenger, papers regarding bond issue for city water works and sewage disposal, 1889-1891. Doctor bills for small-pox vaccinations, 1899.

Papers

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607493

Mixed Materials 1 (Box)

Sub-Series 2: Williamsburg Post Office Papers, Cole as Postmaster

Unit ID id160276

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422455

Unit Date 1884-1889

Scope and Contents

Papers of Williamsburg Post Office while Cole served as Postmaster.

Papers

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607494

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 1 (Folder)

Sub-Series 3: Correspondence and Ephemera from Williamsburg Organizations

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607505

Unit Date 1861-1936

Scope and Contents

Includes fire insurance contract, Eastern State Hospital letter from the engineer, Colonial Hotel ephemera, arrest warrant and letters from local citizens about local matters, North Carolina Coupon Bond, 1861. Programs for "The Unveiling of a Monument of the site of the Old Capitol...1904," "Celebration of the Ter-Centennial at Jamestown Island...1907, First Peninsula School Fair, 1913, Farmers' Institute 1905;" flyer for Educational and Civic Association 'Trip Around the World,'and invention to luncheon at the Colonial Inn, 1910.

Ephemera and Correspondence

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607506

Mixed Materials 3 (Box)

Container 5 (Folder)

Sub-Series 4: Papers relating to William & Mary

Unit ID id160290

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422461

Unit Date 1851-1901

Scope and Contents

Three 1872 letters from Benjamin S. Ewell. Legal papers with William & Mary, sealed and signed by

Three 1875 letters from Benjamin S. Ewell. Legal papers with William & Mary, sealed and signed by Robert Saunders, 1847. Receipt to Gustavus Lobby for philosophy course, signed by Silas Totten, 1851. Open letter from W. T. Roberts, Rector of Bruton Parish Church, criticizing the college, President Tyler, and the Vice President of the Board of Visitors as a "moral leper," 1901 November 20.

William and Mary Related Papers

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607500

Mixed materials 4 (box)

Container 1 (Folder)

Sub-Series 5: Records Relating to Schools

Unit ID id160300

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422448

Unit Date 1894-1930

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, receipts, and personnel papers concerning the Williamsburg School Board. Includes a 1897 indenture/deed between John and Menirva Dahn and Moses Harrell of the School Board to sell land for a school; 1919 letter from the APVA (Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities) protesting the decision to erect a school on the Palace Green; money pledges by citizens for building the new school; correspondence about firing and keeping Mrs. Jones as a teacher; re-application letter by John S. Charles to be principal of the Nicholson School (1899) and his resignation letter (1900) (the 1899 re-application includes petitions in support of Charles by parents and children. Mr. Charles was principal for 15 years); note on envelope states that The Nicholson School was built in 1897 and gives cost of school; and correspondence, receipts and supply orders for schools (1917-1918). In 1897, one school is called "White School #1." In 1918, one school called "Model School."

Bound volume of minutes of meetings of Trustees of the Williamsburg Free School, 1870-1907.

Miscellaneous loose papers pertaining to the school. Bound volume of Williamsburg school accounts and funds, both state and local, 1911-1920. Bound volume of accounts of state school funds, 1894-1911.

Bound volume of accounts of city school funds, 1919-1924. Miscellaneous papers and letters to the school board.

Williamsburg School Board records

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607536

Unit Date 1897-1918

Mixed materials 5b (box)

Scope and Contents

Correspondence, receipts, and personnel papers concerning the Williamsburg School Board. Includes a 1897 indenture/deed between John and Menirva Dahn and Moses Harrell of the School Board to sell land for a school; 1919 letter from the APVA (Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities) protesting the decision to erect a school on the Palace Green; money pledges by citizens for building the new school; correspondence about firing and keeping Mrs. Jones as a teacher; re-application letter by John S. Charles to be principal of the Nicholson School (1899) and his resignation letter (1900) (the 1899 re-application includes petitions in support of Charles by parents and children. Mr. Charles was principal for 15 years); note on envelope states that The Nicholson School was built in 1897 and gives cost of school; and correspondence, receipts and supply orders for schools (1917-1918). In 1897, one school is called "White School #1." In 1918, one school called "Model School."

Williamsburg school related minutes, accounts, and correspondence

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607532

Unit Date 1870-1924

Mixed Materials 6 (box)

Scope and Contents

Bound volume of minutes of meetings of Trustees of the Williamsburg Free School, 1870-1907.

Miscellaneous loose papers pertaining to the school. Bound volume of Williamsburg school accounts and funds, both state and local, 1911-1920. Bound volume of accounts of state school funds, 1894-1911. Bound volume of accounts of city school funds, 1919-1924. Miscellaneous papers and letters to the school board.

Sub-Series 6: Bruton Parish Church Business Papers

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607501

Financial papers of Bruton Parish Church with Letter from Lyon G. Tyler

Unit ID id160302

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422449

Unit Date 1901-1916

Mixed Materials 7a (Box)

Scope and Contents

Financial papers of Bruton Parish Church, 1897-1938. Reply of President Lyon G. Tyler to November open letter by W. T. Roberts, Rector of Bruton Parish, 1901. W. T. Roberts Letter, 20 November 1901.

Letter from Roberts who was rector of Bruton Parish Church criticizing the college, president [Lyon G.] Tyler and the vice-president of the Board of Visitors as a "moral leper." 20 November 1901

Reply of William and Mary president Lyon G. Tyler to November open letter by W. T. Roberts, rector of Bruton Parish Church. 20 November 1901

Contributions to Bruton Parish Church, Bound Volume

Unit ID id160303

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422450

Unit Date 1889-1925

Mixed Materials 7b (Box)

Scope and Contents

Bound volume of contributions to Bruton Parish Church, 1930.

Financial and Business Papers of Burton Parish Church

Unit ID id160308

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422453

Unit Date 1924-1936

Mixed materials 10 (Box)

Scope and Contents

Financial and business papers of Burton Parish Church arranged by years, 1924-1936.

Sub-Series 7: Democratic Committee Minutes, List of White and Black Registered Voters (1889-1896) and 3 Bound Volumes for Registered Voters

Unit ID id160307

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422452

Unit Date 1889-1925

Scope and Contents

Bound volume of minutes of Democratic Committee in Williamsburg. In this volume, laid-in, is a Poll Tax poster for Williamsburg, ca. late 1800's-early 1900's. Registered voters in the city white and colored lists, 1889-1896. In the back of the volume there is a collection of ballots. Three bound volumes with lists of registered voters in the city, 1902-1925. Minutes of the Williamsburg Democratic Committee during the presidential campaign, 1900-1904.

Political Papers

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607549

Mixed Materials 9 (Box)

Sub-Series 8: Wise Light Infantry Company of Williamsburg Minute Book, Colonial Williamsburg Agreement, Newspaper Clippings, Army and Navy Register

Unit ID id160293

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422462

Unit Date 1880-1935

Scope and Contents

Minute book of the Wise Light Infantry Company of Williamsburg, 1881-1882. Printed copy of agreement between the City of Williamsburg and Williamsburg Holding Company, now Colonial Williamsburg, 1928. Newspaper clippings, primarily of Yorktown Centennial Celebration, including 1881 October 18 edition of Army and Navy Register listing events, people, military units and their officers.

Documents

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607507

Mixed materials 4 (box)

Container 2 (Folder)

Series 2: Personal Papers

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607571

Unit Date 1857-1934

Sub-Series 1: Business papers of Henry Denison Cole

Unit ID id160281

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422457

Unit Date 1857, 1871, 1894-1934

Scope and Contents

Includes rent and sale contracts for his Williamsburg property. Sale for standing lumber, tax returns, fire insurance policies, four certificates from governors appointing Cole to board of trustees of Eastern State Hospital, lawsuit judgments (1907), Richmond and York River Railroad Company share, January-October 1857 store account for Catherine Maupin, contract between C. Burress and John C. Tilford for property in Williamsburg, 1871.

Papers

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607496

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)

Sub-Series 2: Property Papers of H. D. Cole, Robert F. Cole, and Jesse Cole

Unit ID id160283

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422458

Unit Date 1843-1910

Scope and Contents

Concerning property of H. D. Cole, his father Robert F. Cole, his grandfather Jesse Cole.

Property Papers

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607497

Mixed Materials 3 (Box)

Container 1 (Folder)

Sub-Series 3: Cole's Bank and Account Books, Richneck Farm Accounts, Scrapbook

Unit ID id160298

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422447

Unit Date 1870-1924

Scope and Contents

Bound property sales account book, undated; newspaper clipping scrapbook with notes, divided by subjects such as asylum, weddings, deaths, receptions, William & Mary, Williamsburg and others; personal bank account book with deposits and withdrawals from Peninsula, Derickson and Williamsburg banks, 1897-1909; and an account books with blacksmith accounts (1836-1838) and Richneck Farm

accounts with include slave purchases with names, home remedies and farm accounts.

Bound Volumes

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607545

Unit Date 1836-1909

Mixed Materials 5a (box)

Scope and Contents

Bound Property sale account book, undated; newspaper clipping scrapbook with notes, divided by subjects such as asylum, weddings, deaths, receptions, William & Mary, Williamsburg and others, undated; personal bank account book with deposits and withdrawals from Peninsula, Derickson and Williamsburg banks, 1897-1909; and an account books with blacksmith accounts (1836-1838) and Richneck Farm accounts with include slave purchases with names, home remedies and farm accounts (1846-1891).

Rent collections volume

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607546

Unit Date 1901-1909

Mixed materials 8 (box)

Cole's shop Accounts

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607547

Unit Date 1895-1916

Mixed materials 8 (box)

Scope and Contents

Wood and periodical accounts of Cole's shop

Post cards and Souvenir Booklets Material

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607548

Mixed materials 8 (box)

Scope and Contents

Notes, memos and clippings used to prepare post cards and souvenir booklets

Sub-Series 4: Newspaper Clippings

Unit ID id160285

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422460

Unit Date 1883-1911

Scope and Contents

Assorted newspaper clippings, including page about legal proceedings, 1990 and account of burning of Williamsburg Courthouse, 6 April 1911.

Newspaper Clippings

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607499

Mixed Materials 3 (Box)

Container 3 (Folder)

Sub-Series 5: Correspondence

Unit ID id160279

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422456

Unit Date 1887-1934

Scope and Contents

Letter from Paris describing his balloon ascent from E. W. Blodgett, 1899 October 9. Public reaction to Dreyfus case. Letter on growth and development around Lynchburg, 1911 April 16. Letters political and personal, 1888-1936. Letter regarding C. H. Fine, 1911. Letter from John D. Rockefeller, Jr. 1934 March 2.

Letter from Abby A. Rockefeller. Letter from John Clofton to Cole about death of Cole's father, 1887.

Correspondence

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607495

Mixed Materials 2 (Box)

Container 2 (Folder)

Series 3: Letters from Lucy Winder to her Parents

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607503

Unit Date 1911

Scope and Contents

Letters from Lucy Winder to her parents while on a European tour.

Letters

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607504

Mixed Materials 3 (Box)

Container 4 (Folder)

Series 4: Medical Remedies

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607523

Scope and Contents

Remedy for Lock Jaw and Putrid Sore Throat.

Remedies

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607526

Mixed materials 4 (box)

Container 3 (Folder)

Language of Flowers

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607527

Mixed materials 4 (box)

Container 4 (Folder)

Series 5: Stereographs

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607524

Scope and Contents

125 stereographs.

Stereographs

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607525

Mixed materials 4 (box)

Container 4 (Folder)

Series 6: Artifacts

Unit ID id293203

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/422454

Scope and Contents

Hand-thrown stoneware cup and saucer. Tea cup is bowl-shaped and has no handle. Mottled semi-gloss glazes in brown, yellow, green and gray. No visible maker's mark; wheel-throwing marks visible on the bottom of saucer. Dimensions: cup 1 3/4" H x 3 1/8"; diameter; saucer 1 1/8" H x 4 7/8" diameter. Condition is good; cup has two small cracks from firing, and glaze crazing exhibits some stains from use. Images available at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/scrc/13452400185> and

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/scrc/13452525163>.

Artifacts

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/607533

Mixed Materials 11 (box)