

Inventory of the Robert Pleasants Letterbook 1771-1781

Robert Pleasants Letterbook, 1771-1781.

1771-1781.

A Collection in the Manuscripts and Rare Books Department Mss. MsV Cp9

Earl Gregg Swem Library, College of William and Mary

2002

History

Processed by: Special Collections Staff

Funding: Web version of the finding aid funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Title Statement

Inventory of the Robert Pleasants Letterbook 1771-1781

Subtitle: Pleasants, Robert; 1722-1801.

Collection: Mss. MsV Cp9

Sponsor: Web version of the finding aid funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Publication Statement

File size: 2.5 kb

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from paper by means of a word processing program. Microsoft Word 2000. Machine-readable finding aid created by Victoria Yoder, 4/03/2002.

Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

Feb 16, 2004 PUBLIC "-//College of William and Mary::Earl Gregg Swem Library::Special Collections//TEXT (US::ViW::viw00075::Inventory of the Robert Pleasants Letterbook)//EN" "viw00075.xml" converted from EAD 1.0 to 2002 by v1to02.xsl (sy2003-10-15).

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2013-11-21 Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Descriptive Summary

Collection number

Mss. MsV Cp9

Language

English

Creator

Robert Pleasants.

Physical Description

Bound volume.

1 item. 154 pages. 24 1/2 cm.

Repository

Special Collections, Earl Gregg Swem Library, College of William and Mary

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Collection is open to all researchers.

Publication Rights/Restrictions on Use

Before publishing quotations or excerpts from any materials, permission must be obtained from the Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books, and the holder of the copyright, if not Swem Library.

Acquisition Information

In the possession of Swem Library before 1939.

Preferred Citation

Robert Pleasants Letterbook, Manuscripts and Rare Books Department, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

Alternative Form Available

Several of the letters from this letterbook have been printed in the *William and Mary Quarterly*. They can be found under the title "Letters of Robert Pleasants, of Curles." 2nd series, I and II. 1921: 107-113, 167-182; 1922: 257-275.

Letters have also been reprinted in the Master Thesis of August Betsy, entitled *Robert Pleasants Letterbook, 1771-1773*. This can be found under the call number LD6051 .W5m Hist., 1976, A93.

Additional Separated, Related and Bibliographic Material

Separated Material

Other items of Robert Pleasants' are located within the Manuscripts and Rare Books Department, Swem Library.

Robert Pleasants Account Book, Manuscripts and Rare Books Department, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

Unit Title Robert Pleasants Account Book,

Unit ID Collection number: Mss. MsV Ame102

Robert Pleasants Ledger, Manuscripts and Rare Books Department, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.

Unit Title Robert Pleasants Ledger,

Unit ID Collection number: Mss. MsV Ame101

Related Materials at Haverford College Library

Other collections pertaining to this collection are located at Haverford College Library. There are three such collections at this institution consisting mostly of correspondence of Robert Pleasants.

Unit Title Virginia: in the High Court of Chancery, March 16, 1798. [microform] : Between Robert Pleasants, son and heir of John Pleasants, dee'd. Plif. and Mary Logan, widow and administratrix of Charles Logan, and devisee of John Pleasants and Jonathan Pleasants,

Extent 18 pages. Item available on microform format.

Unit ID Collection number: EVANS 38963

Papers, 1750-1936, Manuscripts Collection, Special Collections, Magill Library, Haverford University.

Unit Title Papers of Anthony Benezet (1713-1784),

Extent 60 items. (1 box)

Unit ID Collection number: 852

American Friends' Letters, Manuscripts Collection, Special Collections, Magill Library, Haverford University.

Unit Title American Friends' Letters,

Extent ca. 406 folders. (19 boxes)

Unit ID Collection number: 851

Bibliography

Letters of Robert Pleasants, of Curles. William and Mary Quarterly, 1921: 107-113, 167-182; 1922: 257-275. Betsy, August Robert Pleasants Letterbook, 1771- 1773. 1976.

Biographical/Historical Information

Robert Pleasants was born at "Curles," Henrico County, Virginia and lived his entire life there. He was an active member of the Society of Friends. His brother Samuel Pleasants (1737-1807) was a successful merchant in Philadelphia. Sometime after 1771, he entered into a mercantile company (Robert Pleasants & Co.) which did business as a consignment tobacco exporter. He organized an abolition society in 1790.

Scope and Content Information

Letterbook, 1771-1781, of Pleasants includes letters written to family members, friends and to merchants in Philadelphia, New York and England. Subjects include shipping of tobacco and other crops, buying of goods, the Quaker religion, slavery and its abolition, and the coming and progress of the American Revolution. Includes letter, March 1781, to [Benedict Arnold] and a letter, 22 September 1773, to Archibald Cary concerning the treatment of religious prisoners in the Chesterfield County, Virginia jail. Another correspondent was Anthony Benezet. Also includes a deed of manumission.

Controlled Access Terms

Persons:

Arnold, Benedict, 1741- 1801.

Cary, Archibald, 1721-1787.

Benezet, Anthony, 1713-1784.

Subjects:

Quakers-- Virginia.

Slavery--Virginia--History--18th century.

Slavery--Southern States--History--18th century.

Abolitionists.

Jails--Virginia--History--18th century.

Abolitionists--Virginia.

Abolitionists-- Southern States.

Geographical Names:

United States--History--Revolution, 1775- 1783.

Chesterfield County (Va.)--History--18th century.

Henrico County (Va.)--History--18th century.

Occupations:

Merchants--Virginia--History--18th century.

