

# A Guide to the John S. Major Arithmetic Book, 1800-1803

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A Collection in the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library MS 92.2  
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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

A Guide to the John S. Major Arithmetic Book, 1800-1803

**Subtitle:** Major, John S., Arithmetic Book, 1800-1803

**Collection:** MS 92.2

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

## Publication Statement

**File size:** ca. 1 Kilobyte

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**Publisher:** John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word 2000, created by Doug Mayo, 10/09/2002

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Revision Description

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Feb 13, 2004</b> | PUBLIC "-//Colonial Williamsburg Foundation::John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library//TEXT (US::ViWC::viwc00044::Guide to the John S. Major Arithmetic Book)//EN" "viwc00044" converted from EAD 1.0 to 2002 by v1to02.xsl (sy2003-10-15). |
| <b>Feb 26, 2004</b> | converted to conform to eadVIVA.dtd by vivastrict.xsl                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>2013-11-21</b>   | Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.                                                                                                                                                                            |

## Descriptive Summary

**Manuscript number**

MS 92.2

**Language**

English

**Creator**

John S. Major, b. 1787.

**Extent**

1 item (396 p.)

**Repository**

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

## Administrative Information

**Access**

There are no restrictions.

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**Acquisition Information**

Purchase, 1992.

**Preferred Citation**

John S. Major Arithmetic Book, Manuscript MS 92.2, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

## Biographical/Historical Information

John Sleet Major was a resident of Culpeper County, Virginia.

## Scope and Content Information

Arithmetic exercise book. Includes questions and answers, exercises, examples, case or story questions, and a multiplication table. Major's tutors were Gilbert Christian and Edward Wall. Includes several personal comments or signatures. Lessons worked on range from elementary addition to more complex banking and mercantile concepts. Lessons include addition and subtraction of dry measure, wine measure, cloth measure, time, motion and apothecaries weight; compound multiplication; short, simple, long and compound division; reduction in money; tare and tret, rule of three; simple and compound interest; brokerage; rebate or discount; equation of payments; barter; loss & gain; simple and compound fellowship; exchange (with some examples of bill of exchange with European firms); comparison of weights and measures; media and alternate alligation; comparative arithmetic; arithmetical progression; geometrical progression; vulgar fractions; decimal fractions; square roots; the cube; biquadrate; sursolid; annuities or pensions in arrears and other subjects.

## Index Terms

**Persons:**

Major, John S., b. 1787.

Christian, Gilbert.

Wall, Edward.

**Subjects:**

Arithmetic--Early works to 1900.

Arithmetic--Study and teaching--Virginia--History--19th century.

Education--Virginia--History--19th century.