

A Guide to the Francis Nicholson Papers, 1680-1721

Francis Nicholson Papers, 1680-1721.
1680-1721.

A Collection in the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library MS 43.4
John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
2003

History

Processed by: Special Collections staff

Title Statement

A Guide to the Francis Nicholson Papers, 1680-1721

Subtitle: Nicholson, Francis, Papers, 1680-1721

Collection: MS 43.4

Publication Statement

File size: ca. 12 Kilobytes

Date: © 2003 By the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. All rights reserved.

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

[Conditions of Use](#)

Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word 2000, created by Doug Mayo, 07/17/2003

Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

Feb 13, 2004	PUBLIC "-//Colonial Williamsburg Foundation::John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library//TEXT (US::ViWC::viwc00113:Guide to the Francis Nicholson Papers)//EN" "viwc00113.xml" converted from EAD 1.0 to 2002 by v1to02.xsl (sy2003-10-15).
Feb 26, 2004	converted to conform to eadVIVA.dtd by vivastrict.xsl
2013-11-21	Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Descriptive Summary

Manuscript number

MS 43.4

Language

English

Creator

Francis Nicholson.

Extent

1 volume and 83 items.

Repository

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

Administrative Information

Access

There are no restrictions.

Publication Rights/ Restrictions on Use

Before publishing quotations or excerpts from any materials, permission must be obtained from the Special Collections Librarian/ Associate Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts, and the holder of the copyright, if not the Rockefeller Library at Colonial Williamsburg.

Acquisition Information

Purchase, 1943.

Preferred Citation

Francis Nicholson Papers, Manuscript MS 43.4, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Alternative Form

Available on microfilm M-1554. Photocopy of "Treatise on the Flora and Fauna of Virginia" (PH/02/11) and selected transcripts (TR/21) also available.

Additional Descriptive Data

Related Material at the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library

There is one collection within Special Collections, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library that relates to this collection. This is the Francis Nicholson Papers, 1695-1765.

The Francis Nicholson Papers, 1695-1765, Special Collections, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library; including correspondence to Nicholson, governor of Virginia, and papers concerning Nicholson's will.

Unit Title Francis Nicholson Papers,

Extent 17 items.

Unit ID MS 86.10

Biographical/Historical Information

Francis Nicholson (1660-1728) was one of the chief founders and benefactors of the College of William and Mary, lieutenant governor of Virginia, 1690-1692, and governor, 1698-1705.

Scope and Content Information

Letters and papers of Francis Nicholson. The papers contain five main subjects: the college; Nicholson's infatuation for Lucy Burwell; Nicholson's colonial administration; addresses to the Crown; and church affairs. The feud between Nicholson and Commissary James Blair, president of the college, is apparent through all five.

The collection includes "Treatise on the Flora and Fauna of Virginia, 1680," an early partial copy of one of the first scientific accounts of Virginia's plants, insects, and mollusks, by the Rev. John Banister; a letter from Blair to Nicholson reporting Robert Boyle's bequest to the College, February 27, 1691/2; letters from John Locke to Nicholson and Blair; Blair's 1703 "Memorial Concerning my troubles and Conduct in Virginia with relation to Governor Nicholson and the Causes of my Coming for England," which he sent Dr. Tenison, Archbishop of Canterbury; and a petition against Nicholson from members of the Council of Virginia to Queen Anne, May 20, 1703. Also, the draft of a letter from Nicholson to Henry Compton, Bishop of London, requesting that his "Accusers may be obliged to give Under their hands what they have to lay to my Charge," July 29, 1702.

Among the correspondents are Lewis Burwell, Benjamin Harrison, the Rev. Mungo Ingles, Richard Ingoldsby, the Rev. Owen Jones, Philip Ludwell, Lord Nottingham, Col. Robert Quarry, Lt. John Riggs, and Lord

Weymouth.

Index Terms

Persons:

Banister, John, 1650-1692.
Blair, James, 1656-1743.
Boyle, Robert, 1627-1691.
Burwell, Lewis, d. 1710.
Burwell, Lucy.
Compton, Henry, 1632-1713.
Harrison, Benjamin, 1645-1713.
Ingles, Mungo, Reverend.
Ingoldsby, Richard, Sir, d. 1685.
Jones, Owen.
Locke, John, 1632-1704.
Ludwell, Phillip, 1672- 1727.
Nicholson, Francis, 1655-1728.
Nottingham, Daniel Finch, Earl of, 1647-1730.
Quary, Robert.
Riggs, John.
Weymouth, Lord.

Subjects:

Botany--Virginia.
Colonial administrators--Virginia.
Courtship--Virginia.
Love poetry, American--Virginia--Williamsburg.

Corporate Names:

College of William and Mary.

Geographical Names:

Virginia-- Politics and government--To 1775.

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically.

Contents List

Partial copy of "1680 Treatise on the Flora and Fauna of Virginia." 1680

Folder 1

Letter. London, [Blair] to [Nicholson], incomplete, pp. 1-4, An Account of the College Business [note: rest of letter in VMHB VII (1900) pp. 160-163.] 3 December 1691

Folder 2

Letter. London, James Blair to Francis Nicholson. 27 February 1691/2

Folder 2

Petition of James Blair to Sir Edward [Edmund] Andros with two accounts. 19 October 1693

Folder 2

Letter. London, Benjamin Harrison, Jr. to [Nicholson], Gov. of Maryland. 1 September 1698

Folder 2

Virginia, James City, [Nicholson] to Bishop of London, draft. 4 February 1698/9

Folder 2

James City, Francis Nicholson to Sheriffs, Governor's order for birds for King William, endorsed. 1 March 1698/9

Folder 2

Letter. James City, [Francis Nicholson] to "Your Ladyship" [Lucy Burwell], draft. 10 March 1698/9

Folder 2

5 Student Speeches (numbered separately). [1 May 1699]

Folder 2

Proposition by James Blair for supplying Virginia with Clergy. 6 September 1699

Folder 3

Letter. London, J[ohn] Locke to [Francis Nicholson], endorsed. 10 October 1699

Folder 3

Letter. London, J[ohn] Locke to James Blair, endorsed. 16 October 1699

Folder 3

Letter. James Town, Francis Nicholson to the High Sheriff of New Kent County, Commands about ministers, etc. executed. 3 March 1699/1700

Folder 3

Letter. Nicholson to [Micajah or Richard Perry], draft incomplete, pp. 3-6. [Winter or early spring 1699/1700]

Folder 3

Letter. Bishop of London to Francis Nicholson, incomplete, p. 3. [April-Aug. 1700]

Folder 3

Letter. Middle Plantation, James Blair to [Francis Nicholson] 2 copies of which one endorsed. 9 August 1700

Folder 3

Letter. [Francis Nicholson] to Major Burwell. 14 March 1700/1

Folder 3

Letter. Lewis Burwell to [Francis Nicholson]. 15 March 1700/1

Folder 3

Letter. Francis Nicholson to Major Burwell. Note: all on same sheet, contemporary copies. 21 March [1700/1]

Folder 3

[Francis Nicholson] to Major Lewis Burwell (2 letters), and Burwell to Nicholson, copies. 14-21 March 1700/1

Folder 3

Letter. [Francis Nicholson] to [Mrs. Burwell]. 24 March 1700/1

Folder 3

Letter. Williamsburg, [Nicholson] to Major Dent. 18 July 1701

Folder 3

Letter. Williamsburg, [Nicholson] to Major Dent. Copies. Note: 2 on same sheet. 27 August 1701

Folder 3

Council and Burgesses to King. Date from C. S. P. XIX. [27 September 1701]

Folder 3

Letter. Whitehall, Lord Nottingham to [Francis Nicholson], copy. 7 May 1702

Folder 4

Letter. J. Braine, Channel Daltmo[uth] Dist[ri]ct, to Nicholson. 16 July 1702

Folder 4

Letter. On board the H. M. S. Southampton, off Capes [of Va.] [Nicholson] to [Bishop of London], draft. 29 July 1702

Folder 4

Letter. Virginia, [Nicholson] to Lt. John Riggs. 7 August 1702

Folder 4

Letter. Bishop of London to F. Nicholson, endorsed. 7 October 1702

Folder 4

Letter. Chelsey [?] to F. [Nicholson]. 8 December 1702

Folder 4

Letter. Lewis Burwell to F. [Nicholson], copies 2 on one sheet. 26 December 1702 and 6 January 1702/3

Folder 4

Letter. Williamsburg, F. [Nicholson] to [Lewis Burwell], drafts of 2 letters on same sheet. 4 January 1702/3

Folder 4

Letter. Williamsburg, F. [Nicholson] to [Lucy Burwell], draft. 7 January 1702/3

Folder 4

Letter. Williamsburg, F. [Nicholson] to Mrs. Burwell, draft. 7 January 1702/3

Folder 4

Letter. House of Burgesses to Queen Anne. 10 April 1703

Folder 5

Letter. Members of Council to Queen Anne, endorsed, attested copy. 20 May 1703

Folder 5

Letter. New York, Lt. John Riggs to F. [Nicholson]. 15 July 1703

Folder 5

Letter. Nicholson to [?], incomplete. [Summer of 1703?]

Folder 5

Letter. Col. Robert Quarry to [Bishop of London?]. 15 October 1703

Folder 5

Latin Poem to Nicholson. 5 November 1703

Folder 5

Blair to [Archbishop of Canterbury], Memorial against Nicholson, with reasons for coming to England. [ca. October-November 1703]

Folder 5

Letter. London, Lord Weymouth to Nicholson, endorsed. 9 February 1703/4

Folder 5

N. D. Copy of letter, Owen Jones to Bishop of London, with Richard Ingoldesby to Bishop of London, on same sheet. 11 February 1703/4

Folder 5

Copy of the Affidavit of Stephen Fouace, clerk, relating to the Mal: Administrations of Col: Nicholson, Governor of Virginia; Sworn the 25 of April 1704. 25 April 1704

Folder 6

Blair's Affidavit, endorsed copy. 25 April 1704

Folder 6

Further Affidavit of James Blair, 2 copies with 1 endorsed. 1 May 1704

Folder 6

Affidavit of Capt. James Moodie, endorsed copy. 1 May 1704

Folder 6

An abstract of the Chief Articles of Gov. Nicholson Mal Administrations in Virginia, 3 copies. 24 May 1704

Folder 7

Affidavit of James Blair, clerk endorsed copy. 7 June 1704

Folder 7

Letter. Williamsburg, F. [Nicholson] to Col. Custis, draft. 12 June 1704

Folder 7

Letter. Williamsburg, F. [Nicholson] to Madame Page, draft. 14 November 1704

Folder 7

Ballad Address to defend Gov. Nicholson, this manuscript printed in London 1704. "1704"

Folder 7

Letter. Williamsburg, F. [Nicholson] to Rev. Guy Smith, draft. 20 January 1704/5

Folder 7

Letter. Virginia, [?] to [Nicholson ??]. 20 February 1704/5

Folder 7

Letter. Williamsburg, John Hall to Mr. Hyde Torway. 5 March 1704/5

Folder 7

Letter. Virginia, Nicholson to [?]. 8 March 1704/5

Folder 7

William and Mary College, Rev. Mongo Ingles to F. [Nicholson], 2 copies one of which is amended attested copy sent [Gov. Nott]. 8 August 1705

Folder 7

Williamsburg, Minutes of meeting of Clergy of Virginia. 29 August 1705

Folder 8

Williamsburg, Minutes of meeting of Clergy of Virginia re: Nicholson, with letter of Bishop of London, 29 April 1705. 29 August - 21 September 1705

Folder 8

Memorandum re several faults in the Building of William and Mary College. [ca. 1703-1705]

Folder 8

Letter. Virginia, [Rev. Mongo Ingles ?] to Nicholson. 22 December 1705

Folder 8

Rev. Mongo Ingles to Nicholson, copy attested by N., can't tell if date is when made or when attested. 7 February 1705/6 [?]

Folder 8

Virginia, Col. Philip Ludwell to F. Nicholson. 27 March 1717

Folder 8

Memorandum to "His Excellency" on state of Virginia [not to Governor of Virginia]. [ca. summer-fall 1721]

Folder 8

Memorandum to go to Mr. Blair. Mentions Col. Ludwell and Lucy Ludwell. N. D.

Folder 9

Memorandum to Major Burwells. N. D.

Folder 9

Memorandum to go in the morning to Major Burwells. N. D.

Folder 9

Memorandum to tell Major Burwell. N. D.

Memo (at night) re going to Major Burwell in the morning. 27 February

Folder 9

Memo to desire Major Burwell to send. N.D.

Folder 9

Letter. [Francis Nicholson] to my dear Soul [lucy Burwell]. Also [Francis Nicholson] to My dear Saint [Lucy Burwell] on same sheet. N.D.

Folder 9

Letter. Williamsburg, [Francis Nicholson] to My dear Dove [Lucy Burwell]. 30 December

Folder 9

Poem to Lucy Burwell. N.D.

Folder 9

Poem to Lucy Burwell. N.D.

Folder 9

Poem. "Virginia's Complaint Against the Plaintiffs," 2 copies. N.D.

Ballad. "The Barter." N.D.

Folder 9

Poem. "The Rackett." N.D.

Folder 9