

James Henry Hammond Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2002

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm75024695>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009169>

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Revised and expanded by Chanté Wilson

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R. Gardner, 2009

Collection Summary

Title: James Henry Hammond Papers

Span Dates: 1774-1875

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1823-1864)

ID No.: MSS24695

Creator: Hammond, James Henry, 1807-1864

Extent: 8,000 items

Extent: 38 containers plus 3 oversize

Extent: 10 linear feet

Extent: 20 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm75024695>

Summary: Senator, governor, and plantation owner. Correspondence, diaries, speeches, plantation manuals, account books, and scrapbooks pertaining chiefly to South Carolina and national politics in the three decades preceding the Civil War. Subjects include nullification, secession, slavery, the Southern Convention at Nashville, Tennessee (1850), state banks, states' rights, and the tariff. Also includes a mercantile letterbook, 1774-1780, of Andrew McLean.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Aldrich, A. P.--Correspondence.

Alvord, Bert--Correspondence.

Ayer, Lewis M.--Correspondence.

Boyce, Ker--Correspondence.

Brisbane, A. H. (Abbott Hall), 1804-1861--Correspondence.

Butler, Pierce Mason, 1798-1847--Correspondence.

Calhoun, John C. (John Caldwell), 1782-1850--Correspondence.

Clark, James L.--Correspondence.

Felder, John Myers, 1782-1851--Correspondence.

Gadsden, James, 1788-1858--Correspondence.

Hamilton, James, 1786-1857--Correspondence.

Hammond, James Henry, 1807-1864.

Hayne, Isaac W. (Isaac William), 1809-1880--Correspondence.

Hayne, Robert Young, 1791-1839--Correspondence.

Keitt, Lawrence M. (Lawrence Massillon), 1824-1864--Correspondence.

McDuffie, George, 1790-1851--Correspondence.

McLean, Andrew (Merchant) Andrew McLean mercantile letterbook. 1774-1780.

Patterson, Angus--Correspondence.

Pemberton, A. H.--Correspondence.

Pickens, F. W. (Francis Wilkinson), 1805-1869--Correspondence.

Porter, Wm. D. (William Dennison), 1810-1883--Correspondence.

Preston, William C. (William Campbell), 1794-1860--Correspondence.

Quattlebaum, Paul, 1812-1890--Correspondence.

Rhett, Robert Barnwell, 1800-1876--Correspondence.

Simms, William Gilmore, 1806-1870--Correspondence.

Trescot, William Henry, 1822-1898--Correspondence.

Tucker, Ben--Correspondence.

Walker, James M. (James Murdock), 1813-1854--Correspondence.

Organizations

Southern Convention (1850 : Nashville, Tenn.)

Subjects

Agriculture--South Carolina.
Banks and banking--Southern States.
Business records.
Enslaved persons--South Carolina.
Nullification (States' rights)
Plantations--South Carolina.
Secession.
Slavery--South Carolina.
Slavery--United States.
States' rights (American politics)
Tariff--United States.
Voyages and travels.

Places

South Carolina--Politics and government--1775-1865.
United States--Description and travel.
United States--Politics and government--1815-1861.

Occupations

Governors--South Carolina.
Plantation owners.
Senators, U.S. Congress--South Carolina.

Provenance

The papers of James Henry Hammond, senator, governor, and plantation owner, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1912.

Processing History

The papers of James Henry Hammond were arranged and described in 1945. A finding aid was created prior to the microfilming of the collection in 1974. When a portion of the collection was rehoused in 2002, the organization of the material remained unchanged. Although the finding aid and container list were revised to indicate the current housing, the container numbers noted in the microfilm edition reflect the original housing.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the James Henry Hammond Papers is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of James Henry Hammond are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on twenty reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, James Henry Hammond Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1807, Nov. 15	Born, Newberry District, S.C.
1825	Graduated from South Carolina College, Columbia, S.C.
1828	Admitted to the South Carolina bar and practiced law, Columbia, S.C.
1830	Established, Southern Times, a pro-nullification newspaper
1831	Married Catherine E. FitzSimons Became a cotton planter at "Silver Bluff" on the Savannah River
1832	Unsuccessful candidate for nullification convention
1834	Elected to Congress
1836-1837	Toured Europe
1841	Commissioned general in the South Carolina militia
1842-1844	Governor of South Carolina
1850	Attended the Southern Convention in Nashville, Tenn.
1855	Moved to "Redcliffe" on Beach Island in the Savannah River
1857-1860	United States senator
1864, Nov. 13	Died, Redcliffe, S. C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of James Henry Hammond (1807-1864) span the years 1774 to 1875, with the bulk of the material dated 1823-1864. The collection consists largely of bound volumes of correspondence and speeches but also includes diaries, plantation account books and manuals, scrapbooks, and manuscript and printed copies of Hammond's speeches and for the most part reflects state and national politics in the decades preceding the Civil War.

The earliest diary, in a volume labeled "Commonplace Book, 1829," covers the year 1831. Three small volumes of diary notes and memoranda, chiefly 1836-1838, record Hammond's travels in America and abroad. Later diaries contain entries from 1841 to 1846. Plantation books, 1832-1858, contain memoranda of crops to be planted, lists of slaves, and notes on the management of slaves.

Subjects mentioned in both the correspondence and speeches include states' rights, slavery, state banks, the Southern Convention of 1850 at Nashville, Tennessee secession, nullification, and the tariff. Correspondents include A. P. Aldrich, Bert Alvord, Lewis M. Ayer, Ker Boyce, A. H. Brisbane, Pierce Mason Butler, John C. Calhoun, James L. Clark, John Myers Felder, James Gadsden, James Hamilton, Isaac W. Hayne, Robert Young Hayne, Laurence M. Keitt, George McDuffie, Angus Patterson, A. H. Pemberton, F. W. Pickens, Wm. D. Porter, William C. Preston, Paul Quattlebaum, Robert Barnwell Rhett, William Gilmore Simms, William Henry Trescot, Ben Tucker, and James M. Walker. A card index to names of correspondents is available in the Manuscript Division Reading Room and on reel twenty of the microfilm edition of the papers.

The collection also includes a letterbook, 1774-1780, consisting of mercantile letters of Andrew McLean, written from Savannah and Augusta, Georgia, to Clark & Milligan, merchants in London, England.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material and therein chronologically.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 13,253

Container	Contents
BOX 1 REEL 1	Correspondence and speeches
BOX 1 REEL 1	1832, Dec. 13-1830, Dec. 8
BOX 2 REEL 1	1830, Dec. 14-1833, Jan. 5
BOX 3 REEL 2	1833, Jan. 8- Aug. 6
BOX 4 REEL 2	1833, Aug. 16-1834, May 17
BOX 5 REEL 3	1834, May 19-1836, Mar. 6
BOX 6 REEL 3	1836, Mar. 8-1838, Feb. 9
BOX 7 REEL 4	1838, Feb. 13-1840, Mar. 16
BOX 8 REEL 4	1840, Mar. 17-July 9
BOX 9 REEL 5	1840, July 10-1841, Aug. 27
BOX 10 REEL 5	1841, Aug. 31-1843, Dec. 29
BOX 11 REEL 6	1843, Dec. 30-1845, June 14
BOX 12 REEL 6	1845, June 15-1846, Oct. 12
BOX 13 REEL 7	1846, Oct. 15-1847, Aug. 25
BOX 14 REEL 7	1847, Aug. 26-1848, June 2
BOX 15 REEL 8	1848, June 9-Dec. 27
BOX 16 REEL 8	1848, Dec. 29-1849, Dec. 16
BOX 17 REEL 9	1849, Dec. 17-1850, Aug. 12
BOX 18 REEL 9	1850, Aug. 14-1851, July 7
BOX 19 REEL 10	1851, July 16-1853, Nov. 18
BOX 20 REEL 10	1853, Nov. 25-1857, July 24
BOX 21 REEL 11	1857, July 31-1858, Jan. 30
BOX 22 REEL 11	1858, Jan.31-Mar. 21
BOX 23 REEL 12	1858, Mar. 22-May 8
BOX 24 REEL 12	1858, May 9-Aug. 10
BOX 25 REEL 13	1858, Aug. 13-Dec. 20
BOX 26 REEL 13	1858, Dec. 21-May 26
BOX 27 REEL 14	1859, May 27-Apr. 22
BOX 28 REEL 14	1860, Apr. 23-Nov. 16
BOX 29 REEL 15	1860, Nov. 20-1861, Nov. 26
BOX 30 REEL 15	1861, Nov. 29-1864, Jan. 18
BOX 31 REEL 16	1864, Feb. 15-1875, June 28
BOX 32 REEL 16	Undated
BOX 33 REEL 16	Undated
BOX 34 REEL 17	Diaries
BOX 34 REEL 17	1837, Apr. 19-1855, Aug.
BOX 34 REEL 17	1836
BOX 34 REEL 17	1838, Apr. 12-May 14
BOX 34 REEL 17	1841, Feb. 6-1846, Feb. 14
BOX 34 REEL 17	1831, "Commonplace Book, 1829"
BOX 34 REEL 17	Notes and miscellany, 1850

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 35 REEL 18	Silver Bluff plantation book, 1832
BOX 35 REEL 18	Plantation books
BOX 35 REEL 18	1840-1848 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 35 REEL 18	1849-1857 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 35 REEL 18	1857-1858
BOX 35 REEL 18	List of Negroes, 1846
BOX 35 REEL 18	Account book, 1840-1857
BOX 36 REEL 19	Scrapbooks
BOX 36 REEL 19	1857-1858
BOX 36 REEL 19	1858
BOX 36 REEL 19	Hammond Township Districts
BOX 37 REEL 19	McLean, Andrew, letterbook, 1774-1780 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 37 REEL 20	Index of correspondents (<i>Available in Manuscript Division Reading Room</i>)
BOX 37 not filmed	Printed matter
	(7 folders)
BOX 38	(2 folders)
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Plantation books (Container 35; Reel 18)
BOX OV 1	1840-1848
BOX OV 2	1849-1858
BOX OV 3	McLean, Andrew, letterbook, 1774-1780 (Container 37; Reel 19)