

John White Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2021

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm2017086179>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms020008>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2020

Collection Summary

Title: John White Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1852-1862

Bulk Dates: 1861-1862

ID no.: MSS86179

Creator: John White, 1833-1872

Extent: 20 items

Extent: 1 container

Extent: .2 linear feet

Extent: 6 digital files (233 KB)

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2017086179>

Summary: Christian minister and congregational missionary. Correspondence written while on a mission in the Sherbro Island area of Sierra Leone in the 1850s and 1860s.

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

Thielke, John

White, John, 1833-1872.

Subjects

Christianity.

Congregational churches--Connecticut--Woodstock.

Congregational churches--Missions--Sierra Leone--Sherbro Island.

Faith.

Missions--Sierra Leone--Sherbro Island.

Sierra Leoneans--Social life and customs--19th century.

Slavery.

Places

Sherbro Island (Sierra Leone)--Description and travel.

Sherbro Island (Sierra Leone)--History--19th century.

Sherbro Island (Sierra Leone)--Social life and customs--19th century.

Sierra Leone--History--19th century.

Woodstock (Conn.)--History--19th century.

Occupations

Clergy.

Missionaries.

Acquisition Information

The papers of John White were given to the Library of Congress by John Thielke in 2017.

Processing History

The papers of John White were arranged and described by Elizabeth Livesey in 2020, with assistance from Amanda Loeb.

Digital files were received as part of the John White Papers on a CD-R, which was assigned a unique digital ID number. Use the digital ID number to request access copies of the associated files. A description of the standard processes taken on all born digital records can be found in the MSS Processing History Note: Born Digital Materials at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.digital>.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the John White papers is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of John White are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Access to digital content is available onsite only in the Manuscript Reading Room and requires advanced notice. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.

Technical Requirements

Digital files were created in Microsoft Word 97-2003 and a text editor, program unknown. The content includes text files in .doc and plain text formats.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or digital ID number, John White Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

John White was born on September 18, 1833. While serving as a congregational minister in North Woodstock, Connecticut, in the 1850s, White embarked on several missions to the Sherbro Island area of Sierra Leone. In 1855 he married Jane E. Lindsley, who later accompanied him on several additional missions in the early 1860s. After returning to the United States due to his poor health, White served as the founding minister of the First Congregational Church in Ames, Iowa, from 1865 to 1868. White died on March 23, 1872.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of John White (1833-1872) span the years 1852-1862, with the bulk of the material dating from 1861 to 1862. The collection contains correspondence written by White to his home congregation in North Woodstock, Connecticut, while on missions in the Sherbro Island area of Sierra Leone. Digital files consist of transcriptions of White's letters, written by the donor and his family. Topics include White's Christian beliefs, descriptions of the island and the people he encountered, and his belief in the abolition of slavery.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material and therein chronologically. The file structure of the digital content has been maintained as received.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1852-1862 (4 folders)
BOX 1	Transcriptions, 1999-2015
DF	Transcriptions, digital, 1852-1862 Digital ID: mss86179_072_001 Transcriptions created between 1999 and 2015.