



Chesnut family papers, 1741-1900
SCHS 1165.00
Container 12/33-38

Creator: Chesnut family.

Description: 2.25 linear ft.

Biographical/Historical note: South Carolina family. John Chesnut (1743-1818), a native of Virginia, was a Camden District, S.C. merchant, plantation owner, and state legislator. He owned large tracts of land in the vicinity of the Wateree River. He was the father of James Chesnut (1773-1866), a plantation owner and state legislator, and the grandfather of James Chesnut, Jr. (1815-1885), who served in the South Carolina legislature and the U.S. Senate and was a member of the committee which drafted the Ordinance of Secession in 1860. James Chesnut, Jr. married Mary Boykin Miller (1823-1886), daughter of South Carolina governor Stephen Decatur Miller.

Scope and content: Papers consist of financial and property records, correspondence, estate records, legal documents, and other items. Included are the papers of John Chesnut (1743-1818), James Chesnut (1773-1866), James Chesnut (1815-1885), Stephen Decatur Miller (1787-1838), and John L. Manning (1816-1889).

Papers pertain to the business, financial, and plantation affairs and political activities of three generations of the Chesnut family, John Chesnut, James Chesnut, and James Chesnut, Jr., as well as James Chesnut, Jr.'s father-in-law Stephen Decatur Miller and John L. Manning.

Preferred citation: Chesnut family. Chesnut family papers, 1741-1900. (1165.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Note: Available in microform.

Provenance: Forrest Sweet; exchange.

Search terms:

Chesnut family.

Chestnut family.

South Carolina -- History.

South Carolina -- Politics and government.

Business records.

Estate records.

Financial records.

Legal documents.

Letters (correspondence)

Property records.

Series Outline and container listing:

1165.01 PAPERS OF INDIVIDUAL CHESNUT FAMILY MEMBERS

- 1165.01.01 Chesnut, John, 1743 1818. John Chesnut papers, 1741 1814. Ca. 1050 items.
 - 12/033-034 Business and land papers, 1741-1799 (750 items).
 - 12/034/21-41 Business and plantation papers, 1800-1814 (300 items).
- 1165.01.02 Chesnut, James, 1773 1866. James Chesnut papers, 1815 1849. Ca. 1200 items.
 - 12/035/01-40 Plantation papers, 1815-1829 (600 items).
 - 12/036/01-32 Plantation and political papers, 1830-1849 (600 items).
- 1165.01.03 Chesnut, James, 1815 1885.
 - 12/036-037 James Chesnut papers, 1850 1900. Ca. 325 items.

1165.02 CHESNUT ALLIED FAMILIES

- 1165.02.01 Miller, Stephen Decatur, 1787 1838.
 - 11/037/15-38 Stephen Decatur Miller papers, 1821 1834. Ca. 250 items.
- 1165.02.02 Manning, John Laurence, 1816 1889.
 - 12/038/01-21 John L. Manning papers, 1839 1888 (bulk 1839 1863) Ca. 300 items.