



**Gibbes Family papers, 1769-1945.**  
**SCHS 1035.00**  
**Containers 11/151-152**

**Creator:** Gibbes Family

**Description:** Ca. 100 items.

**Biographical/Historical Note:** South Carolina family. Sarah Reeve Gibbes (1746-1825) was the wife of Robert Gibbes (1732-1794). They lived at Peaceful Retreat, a plantation on Johns Island, S.C. Their children included Mary Anna Gibbes (b. 1767), who married Alexander Garden (1757-1829); Lewis Ladson Gibbes (1771-1828), who married Maria Henrietta Drayton; Sarah Reeve Gibbes (b. 1775), who married Jonathan R. Wilmer; John Gibbes (1765-1831); and Juliet G. Gibbes (1778-1850), who married Barnard Elliott. Mary Augusta N. Gibbes (1844-1913), the great-granddaughter of Robert Gibbes (1732-1794), married Robert C. Gilchrist (1829-1902).

**Scope and Content:** Papers consist of correspondence, writings, recipes, genealogical material, accounts, and other items.

Correspondence (1800-1892)) includes letters of Lewis Reeve Gibbes (son of Lewis L. Gibbes) to family members concerning his education, travels, and family matters; and letters (1841-1844) from Benjamin S. Gibbes (1802-1858), son of John Gibbes, to his wife Ann Ward Roper Gibbes (1813-1870). Other correspondents include Robert C. Gilchrist, Maria H. Drayton Gibbes, Juliet G. Gibbes, and Robert B. Gilchrist.

Genealogical material (n.d.) includes a family register, photographs of family members (with some negatives), and notes on the Gibbes and Gilchrist families. Writings (ca. 1820-1945) include an essay about Johns Island (S.C.); memoirs (1928) of William R. Greer concerning the Washington Light Infantry during Reconstruction; an article about Charleston (S.C.); and essays on cotton gins, Mary Anna Gibbes Garden ("Girl Heroine of the Revolution"), and other subjects.

Papers (1769-1797) of Sarah Reeve Gibbes include her letters (1783-1784) to her son John Gibbes at Princeton College regarding his education, proper manners, dancing in Charleston (S.C.), illnesses in the family, and other matters; an inventory and appraisal (1794) of the estate of her husband Robert Gibbes (naming many slaves); an account (1789) for the sale of rice; and a letter (1793) from Sarah Reeve Gibbes (b. 1775) to her brother Lewis L. Gibbes at Princeton regarding social and family matters.

Other items include drawings (some miniature); a paper cut-out; a commonplace book (ca. 1820) of Maria H. Drayton Gibbes (b. 1783 or 1784) containing literary passages and poems; recipe books containing recipes for jelly, pudding, and other dishes as well as medicinal remedies and household hints; a bound volume containing receipts and accounts (1859-1863) of Robert C. Gilchrist and notes on Charleston history; a volume marked "Daybook" containing mostly notes on Charleston art, architecture, and history; a deed of gift of slaves (1822) and other

legal documents; a bank account book (1825-1830) of Micah Jenkins; and a diary (December 1831) of Nathaniel Bowen Gibbes (b. 1815), son of Lewis Ladson Gibbes.

**Preferred Citation:** Gibbes family. Gibbes family papers, 1769-ca. 1935. (1035.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

**Search terms:**

Gibbes, Robert, 1732-1794 -- Estate.  
Gibbes, Sarah Reeve, 1746-1825.  
Gilchrist, Robert C. (Robert Cogdell), b. 1829.  
Gibbes family.  
Gibbs family.  
Gilchrist family.  
Slaves -- South Carolina.  
Charleston (S.C.)  
Johns Island (S.C.) -- History.  
South Carolina -- History.  
Commonplace books.  
Diaries.  
Drawings.  
Letters (correspondence)  
Negatives.  
Photographs.  
Recipes.  
Slave records.  
Writings.

**11/151-152 Gibbes-Gilchrist Family, ca. 1820s-1930s**

**Writings, Recipes ca. 1820s-1930s. 9 items**

Charleston family. Writings regarding John's Island, Mary Anna Gibbes, a description of Charleston and experiences in the Washington Light Brigade at the end of Reconstruction. Commonplace book of Maria H. Gibbes (ca. 1820). Two notebooks (1930s) on Charleston art and architecture with an account book (1859-1865) of Robert C. Gilchrist included in one of the books. Recipe books (pre-1850 and ca. 1890).

**11/151/1-10 Gibbes, Sarah R. 1746-1825**

**Letters, 1769-1797. 14 items**

Charleston wife of Robert Gibbes. Letters (1783-1784) of SG to her son, John Gibbes, Princeton University, regarding JG's education, proper behavior, dancing in Charleston (9/16/83) and other social matters, health in Charleston (with much mention of a measles epidemic), a Gibbes plantation on the Combahee River, and family matters. Also receipts and accounts (1769-1797), including rice and estate accounts (1789-1793) with lists of slaves belonging to RG and a receipt for wine (1797). Some mention of Mary A. Gibbes' future marriage to Maj. Alexander Gordon. Chronologically arranged.

**11/151/11-19 Gibbes-Gilchrist Family, 1810-1892**

**Letters, papers, 1810-1892. 33 items.**

Charleston family. Correspondence, mostly from Charleston of Daniel Hall (re rice sales, 1810) Maria H. Gibbes, Prof. Lewis R. Gibbes (regarding Charlestonians in Paris and Paris architecture 1837), Benjamin Gibbes (regarding hunting and family matters, 1841-1844), Annie W. Gibbes (regarding weddings and other matters), R.B. Gilchrist (regarding the fourth of July Celebration, Charleston, 1840), R.C. Gilchrist (regarding Civil War on James Island) and family matters (1861-1867 and 1885 cyclone on Sullivan's Island). Bank book (1825-1830) of Micah Jenkins in account with the U.S. Bank. Journal (1831) of N. Bowen Gibbes, age 15, regarding weather and hunting near Pendleton. Chronologically arranged.

**11/152/2-6 Gibbes-Gilchrist Families, n.d.**

**Genealogy notes and photographs, n.d. Approx. 40 items**

Charleston families. Genealogical notes, family registers, charts, notes on Gibbes family in England, Barbados, and SC. Biographical notes on Gilchrist family members. Photographs and drawings of family members. Two small drawings of a potential emblem for the SC exposition in Charleston (1901-1902)