



**William Cain family papers, 1704 - ca. 1975.
SCHS Call # 281.00**

Creator: Cain, William, 1792-1878.

Description: approx. 3 linear ft.

Biographical/Historical Note: St. Johns (Berkeley) Parish, S.C. plantation owner, South Carolina legislator, and S.C. Lt. Governor. He was the son of Daniel Cain (d. 1794). William Cain and Isaac Marion Dwight purchased Somerset Plantation in 1827, and Cain later bought Dwight's share. He added lands to Somerset and also acquired Somerton Plantation. William Cain first married Anna Maria Dubose, who died in 1827. His second wife was Ann Palmer, daughter of Joseph Palmer and Catherine Porcher.

Scope and Content: The bulk of this collection consists of property records dating back to early grants for lands that would become Somerton and Somerset plantations in Berkeley County (S.C.). Papers of William Cain (1792-1878) include correspondence (1830s-1870s); slave records, including bills of sales, lists, and a mortgage (1845; oversize) on fifteen slaves (named in document); estate records; miscellaneous items, including a broadside (1831; oversize) for the State Rights and Free Trade Association; and muniments, beginning with a copy of a 1704 grant of 760 acres to Lambert Landers. Other persons named in the muniments include Paul Ravenel (and other Ravenel family members), Abraham and Thomas Chinnors, Daniel Cain, Frederick A. Porcher, Isaac M. Dwight, Benjamin Dehay, Jr., Paul Durant, Samuel Jerman Palmer, David N. Carlile, Daniel Cahusac, Morton Waring, Jr., and Blake Leay White.

Property records, most of which are oversize, include a fragment of a grant to John Midon (or Medon), with an attached plat (1711) for 207 acres in Berkeley County; a grant (1713) to Champernoun (or Champernown) Elliot; a grant (1717) of 125 acres to Elizabeth Wetherick; a lease (1728) for 325 acres, by Mrs. Elizabeth Wetherick to Paul Ravenel; a detailed plat (1818) of land belonging to Thomas Porcher (probably White Hall Plantation); a title (1838) to Mitton (or Mitten) Plantation; and a plat (n.d.) of Oakfield Plantation.

Cain family papers consist of correspondence (1876-1912); estate records of Daniel Cain; genealogical notes; miscellaneous material, including papers concerning a book about St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, and meteorological records (1940s?) for Pinopolis (S.C.) kept by Mrs. Florence R. Lucas; property records, mostly pertaining to Cain and Porcher family lands (Pooshee, Somerton, and Somerset plantations) in Berkeley County which were lost to the Santee-Cooper hydroelectric project; and writings, including poems and part of a manuscript history of Berkeley County (S.C.).

Preferred citation: Cain, William, 1792-1878. William Cain family papers, 1704-ca. 1975. (281.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Collection Outline:

BOX 1

281.01.01 William Cain Papers

- 281.01.01 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1830s-1870s, n.d.
 - 281.01.01 (E) 01 Estate records
 - 281.01.01 (F) 01 Financial records
 - 281.01.01 (M) 01 Miscellaneous material (includes slave records)
 - 281.01.01 (P) 01 Property records and muniments (non-oversize documents)
- These consist of:

- 1704 - grant (copy), 760 acres to Lambert Landers
- 1709 - grant, with plat, 90 acres to Champernoun Elliott
- 1710 - grant, with plat, 100 acres to Champernoun Elliott
- [1713] articles of agreement, between John Midon & Thomas Chinnners
- 1715 - grant (fragment) to Thomas Chinnners
- 1727 - will (copy) of Thomas Chinnners
- 1735 - plat (fragment) of 58 acres of Abraham Landers
- 1757 - bond, Abraham Chinnners to Benjamin Mazyck
- 1770 - grant (copy), 150 acres to Daniel Cain
- [1823] plat (fragment, with deed?), William Mazyck to Thomas Porcher
- 1826 - plat, 267 acres, George Durant
- 1836 - conveyance, Morton Waring, Jr. to F.A. Porcher ("Oldfield")
- 1836 - conveyance (copy), Daniel Cahusac to Wm. Cain
- 1859 - conveyance, Morton Waring, Jr. to F.A. Porcher ("Buncomb")
- [no date] - plat (fragile condition; use photocopy)
- [no date] - chain of title
- [no date] - [grant] fragment (fragile)

BOX 2

281.02 Cain Family Documents

- 281.02.01 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1876-1912
- 281.02.01 (E) 01 Estate records of Daniel Cain
- 281.02.01 (F) 01 Financial records
- 281.02.01 (M) 01 Miscellaneous material (includes genealogical info)
- 281.02.01 (P) 01 Property records
- 281.02.01 (W) 01 Writings

BOX 3 (Oversize items)

[1711] Grant, to John Midon (or Medon?) (fragile, damaged condition)
1713 Grant (w/ plat) to Champernoun Elliott (damaged, fragile)
1715/16 Conveyance, to Charles Howard (fragile, damaged condition)
1717 Grant (w/ plat), 120 acres to Elizabeth Wetherick
1727 Indenture, between Daniel Ravenel and Paul Ravenel
1728 Indenture: conveyance of three tracts, Elizabeth Wetherick to Paul Ravenel
1728 Indenture, Elizabeth Wetherick to Paul Ravenel (fragile, damaged)
1746 Indenture, between Benjamin Williamson et al. and Benjamin Mazyck
1757 Indenture: lease, Abraham Chinnners to Benjamin Mazyck
1757 Indenture, Abraham Chinnners to Benjamin Mazyck (damaged)
1780 Bond, Blake Leay White to Daniel Mazyck
1813 Grant, 517 acres to David N. Carlile (fragile condition)
1813 Conveyance (w/ 1818 plat), Elizabeth [Straham] et al. to Peter Sanders
1818 Plat, Thomas Porcher (probably White Hall Plantation)
1827 Indenture re Somerset Plantation
1827 Title, to Isaac M. Dwight and William Cain
1828 Plat (torn; edged with blue ticking), "part of Somerset"
1828 Plat, Isaac M. Dwight, "part of Somerset"
1829 Conveyance, Somerton Plantation, Daniel Ravenel to Samuel J. Palmer
1829 Title, Benjamin Dehay to William Cain
1830 Indenture, between Isaac M. Dwight and William Cain
1830 Indenture, between Isaac M. Dwight and William Cain
1830 Conveyance, 265 acres, Charles Sanders to Isaac M. Dwight
1831 Broadside: State Rights and Free Trade Association
1831 Conveyance, Somerton Plantation, Samuel J. Palmer to F.A. Porcher
1833 Conveyance, 278 acres, John A. Purkey to Benjamin Dehay
1834 Conveyance, Benjamin Dehay to Isaac M. Dwight
1835 Conveyance of Somerset Plantation, Isaac M. Dwight to Benjamin Dehay
1835 Conveyance, Paul Durant to Frederick A. Porcher
1836 Mortgage of Mitton (or Mitten) Plantation
1838 Conveyance of Mitton (or Mitten) Plantation, to William Cain
1838 Conveyance, William J. Dennis to F.A. Porcher
1840 Conveyance of Somerset, Benjamin Dehay to William Cain
1841 Mortgage, William Cain to Henry W. Ravenel
1845 Mortgage on slaves, William Cain to Daniel [J.] Cain
1856 Conveyance, James W. Gray (Master in Equity) to William Cain
1859 Mortgage, William Cain to Frederick A. Porcher
1859 Conveyance, Somerton Plantation, F.A. Porcher to William Cain
1892 Plat, "dividing lines of [Hanover] and White Hall plantations"
no date Plat (fragile, damaged condition)
no date Plat of 1470 acres (marked "Oakfield" on the back)
no date Plat (in pencil)
no date several fragments