



Horlbeck Brothers records, 1824-1860
SCHS #0179.00

Creator: Horlbeck Brothers

Description: 11 v. (contained in 2 boxes and 4 wrapped oversize volumes)

Biog./Historical Note: The original members of this Charleston (S.C.) building and architectural business were John Horlbeck, Jr. (1771-1846) and Henry Horlbeck (1776-1837), but subsequent members of the firm often cited as "H. Horlbeck and Brothers" included Henry (1800-1872), Daniel, Edward (1809-1893), and John Horlbeck (1817-1892).

Scope and Content: Included in these records are day books (1824-1828; 1834-1836; 1835-1837; 1842-1845; 1849-1858; 1853-1855; 1856-1860) which list chronologically the work done for private, commercial, municipal, religious and institutional clients, noting client's name and/or street address, type of remodeling, repair or construction done, and number of employees and types of materials used; with a few wages and prices given also. Buildings and structures worked on by apparently slave and free workmen included streets and drains throughout the city, the Market, Jail, Workhouse, Guard House, Military Hall, various banks, a firehouse, the Fireproof Building, St. Michael's Church, the "Jews's synagogue," the German Friendly Society Hall, as well as dozens of others for various persons, including "colored" men and women, as occasionally noted. Other records include an 1843 list of which supplies were used for which jobs; an indexed ledger (1839-1846) detailing, by name of client, specific work done and fees charged, including those for badges (slave tags?) for employees; a cash book (1839) listing expenses for labor, lime, bricks, "negro cloth," etc., with income from fees; an estimate book (1842-1849) with projected costs, lists of supplies, descriptions and occasional drawings of floorplans for structures such as dwelling houses, stables, and kitchens to be built or repaired; a volume (1851- 1855) listing work done on various streets and drains for City Council; and an unrelated volume of newspaper clippings (1824-1829) on mostly political subjects kept by Daniel Horlbeck (b. 1807). Interspersed throughout the volumes are notations on the brickyard at the Horlbeck family plantation, Boone Hall, and the loading and unloading of schooners of building supplies as well as such commodities as hay, rice, flour, lard and glue. During the Civil War, these volumes were pasted over with newspaper clippings; clippings have been removed but misleading dates (1861-1865) often appear written over the original text. There are gaps of missing pages in several volumes. (Formerly SCHS 33/100-101)

Preferred citation: Horlbeck Brothers (Charleston, S.C.). Horlbeck Brothers records, 1824-1860. (179.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Horlbeck Brothers (Charleston, S.C.)
Architects -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Architectural firms -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Brickmaking -- South Carolina -- Charleston County.
Building materials -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Building trades -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Buildings -- South Carolina -- Charleston -- Repair and reconstruction.
Buildings -- South Carolina -- Charleston -- Specifications.
Drainage -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Dwellings -- South Carolina -- Charleston -- Maintenance and repair.
Slave labor -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Slaves -- South Carolina -- Charleston.
Streets -- South Carolina -- Charleston -- Maintenance and repair.
Boone Hall Plantation (S.C.) Charleston (S.C.) – History

Container List:

BOX 1

0179.01 (C) 01 Records, 1839; 1842-1849. One part of this volume is a cash book (1839) for Henry Horlbeck and Brother, listing expenses and income. Expenses were for black and white labor, lime, bricks, “negro cloth,” etc. income came mostly from clients payments. Another part of the volume, an estimate book (1842-1849) of H. Horlbeck Brothers with projected costs, lists of supplies, descriptions and occasional floor plans and drawings for structures to be repaired, remodeled or 4 build, including dwelling houses (one for “colored man”), a fire house, white washing the Charleston Jail, the Military Hall, etc.

0179.01 (C) 02 Clipping book, 1824-1829. Volume contains newspaper clippings (1824-1829) on mostly political subjects kept by Daniel Horlbeck (b. 1807).

0179.01 (D) 01 (1824-1828) Daybook, 1824-1828 (oversize wrapped volume). Daybook lists chronologically by owner or by name of property the work done. Notations on the number of black and white workmen (?), supplies used, costs and type of remodeling, building or repairs done. The partners in the firm were John Horlbeck, Jr. and Henry Horlbeck; work was done on domestic, public, fraternal and religious structures, as well as city streets.

0179.01 (D) 01 (1834-1836) Records, 1834-1836; 1843 (oversize wrapped volume). Front part of volume is a daybook (1834-1836) listing remodeling and construction done for private, municipal, religious and institutional clients, noting type of work done and how many black and white employees and supplies used. With frequent notations regarding the City Market. The back of the volume lists supplies used in 1843 for which clients, as well as noting

work done day by day. With frequent notations of brick making at Boone Hall. Partners in the firm were John Horlbeck, Jr. and Henry Horlbeck.

0179.01 (D) 01 (1835-1837) Daybook, 1835-1837. Book lists chronologically work done around town for private, municipal, religious and organizational clients, often noting owners name and street. With varying notations on supplies used, prices, type of repair or building done and which black or white workmen employed. With some notations regarding brick making at their Boone Hall Plantation. In book is list of employees. Partners in the Horlbeck Brothers firm were John Horlbeck, Jr. and Henry Horlbeck; volume bears the names of Henry and Edward Horlbeck.

0179.01 (D) 01 (1837-1838) Daybook, 1837-1838 (oversize wrapped volume). A chronological listing of work done, listing private, religious, and civic or institutional property worked on, the type of work done, and the number of black and white employees and kinds of supplies used. With notations on wages and clothes for employees. Work was done on the Fireproof Building, "Jew's Synagogue," The Market and dozens of other structures. Partners in the firm were John Horlbeck Jr and Henry Horlbeck, but volume bears the initials of H. and Edward Horlbeck.

0179.01 (D) 01 (1839-1847) Ledger, 1839-1847. An arrangement by account, articulating work done for private, civic, religious and institutional clients, specifying the type of repair, remodeling or construction, supplies and workers used with notation on clothing and badges (slave tags?) for workers. Accounts are with the Fire Master, Commissioners of streets. City Council (for the Guard House), a "colored woman" and dozens of others. Indexed.

BOX 2

0179.01 (D) 01 (1842-1845) Daybook, 1842-1845 (oversize wrapped volume). A chronological listing of work done by the firm, listing the name or address of the private, commercial, civic, religious or institutional client, the type of work done, and how many black & white employees and which materials used. With frequent notations on the family brickyard at Boone Hall Plantation and occasional mentions of transferring rice and rice flour. Buildings worked on included St. Michael's Episcopal Church, the work house, the German Friendly Society, various banks, etc. The volume was used by "H. Horlbeck & Brother," probably Henry Horlbeck.

0179.01 (D) 01 (1849-1858) Daybook, 1849-1858. One part of the volume details work done (1851-1855) for the City Council, paving and building and repairing draining, etc along the streets, etc. the remainder (1849-1858) is a daybook (with many pp missing) detailing types of work and how many employees used.

0179.01 (D) 01 (1853-1855) Daybook, 1853-1855. A chronological listing by name or address of work done for private, civic, religious, and institutional clients. Notations were made on supplies used, black and white workmen employed and the type of remodeling, repair, or construction done. The volume bears the names of Henry, Daniel, Edward and John Horlbeck.

0179.01 (D) 01 (1856-1860) Daybook, 1856-1860. Chronological listing of supplies used for various jobs throughout the city for private, civic, religious, or institutional clients. Besides such items as bricks and sand, etc. there are mentions of glue, hay, lard, etc. being unloaded from schooners and credited to various places around the city.