



SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

McPherson estate collection, 1757-1927 (bulk 1770-1870) **SCHS# 0636.00**

Description: 3 linear ft. (2 boxes)

Scope and content: Collection consists of miscellaneous papers mostly relating to individuals in South Carolina. Most or all of these documents were collected by George Bruce McPherson, Jr. (1938-2016) of Greenville, S.C. Included are land grants, maps, legal documents, property records, letters, bonds, and currency. Some of the earliest South Carolina documents consist of a series of writs of attachments, 1767-1787, issued by the Charleston District Court of Common Pleas. Another early South Carolina document is a plat (1787) of a wharf in Charleston owned by Mrs. Rebecca Motte. Other 18th century documents consist of a grant (1794) of 315 acres in Ninety Six District to Christopher Lewis, with an attached plat and seal; and a fragment of a grant (1799) of 640 acres to Joseph Robinson. The earliest 19th century South Carolina document include an invoice (1804) issued to Messrs. West & Lindsey for purchases of foodstuffs and dry goods from Dalton & Pagan; and an insurance policy, 1804, issued to Robert J. Thurston on a cargo of rice shipped from Charleston to New York, underwritten by B. M. Mumford at the Tontine Coffee House (N.Y.). Other early 19th century documents consist of a deed of conveyance (1805) of 125 acres in Pendleton District on Brushy Creek, sold by Elliott Clardy of Greenville District to James Clardy, and part of land originally granted to James Wafford (or Wofford); a deed of conveyance (1815), of 100 acres in Pendleton District, sold by William Faris to David Spearman; a deed of conveyance (1822) of a tract of land in Pendleton District on Brushy Creek off the Saluda River, sold by Randolph Dalton of Greenville District to Adam Elrod; and a deed of conveyance (1835) for Crafts Wharf in Charleston, sold by Arthur Middleton to James Hamilton, with an attached plat. A letter (1837) from Lester & Kilgore at Pleasant Grove (Greenville District) to Adam Elrod concerns the pricing of yarn products. Slave records include the will, 1831, of Stephen McWhite of St. Stephen's Parish, S.C.; and a bill of sale, 1854, for "two slaves ... Mary & John" sold by John W. Baker of Greenville District to his son William L. Baker in trust for John Harvey Baker.

A small collection of James P. Boyce papers includes a stock certificate (1860) for the Georgia Railroad and Banking Company, issued to Boyce as trustee for Mrs. Mary C. Lane; two powers of attorney (1861) pertaining to transfers of shares in this company; and a related letter (1861).

McBee family papers (1864-1869) mostly pertain to the estate of Vardry McBee. These estate records include tax receipts; a receipted invoice for the Mountaineer newspaper; an invoice

(1866) for materials used in the building of a house in Greenville; and a document (1866) relating to real estate partitioned to Alexander McBee. Also found among these papers are two possibly unrelated military records, which consist of a return (1798) of infantry, artillery, and cavalry units detached from the “First Brigade of the Eighth Division” (state militia); and an invoice (1814) of ordnance stores to be sent to Haddrell’s Point.

Papers relating to Joel R. Poinsett include a letter to Dr. Joseph Johnson dated 10 December 1836 which concerns a petition by Darlington District residents “praying to be incorporated to construct a road from Darlington & Mechanicsville through Sumterville ... to be united with the Hamburg rail.”

Other items in the collection include an advertising broadside [1871] for stationery featuring a portrait of General Robert E. Lee, printed by Walker, Evans & Cogswell. There are also three documents apparently unrelated to the South Carolina material, which consist of a deed of conveyance (1768) of a tract of land in Connecticut, sold by Robert [Moore] to Jonathan Whaples (or Whapler); the will (1822) of Chamberlayne (or Chamberlain) Jones of Amelia County, Virginia; and a slave bill of sale (1856) executed in McDowell County, North Carolina.

Mooney family correspondence, 1860-1870, mostly consists of letters from George H. Mooney in Georgia to his mother and sister in Greenville, S.C. Of note is his wartime letter, 15 May 1861, written from Pensacola, Florida, where he is stationed with his regiment.

The Joseph Reid financial papers, 1850-1858, consist of receipts, bills, and promissory notes.

Box 1 contains smaller documents arranged in two series. The first series is a group of legal documents, property and financial records, letters, and other items, arranged chronologically. The second series within this box is a group of small collections.

Box 2 contains oversize documents arranged chronologically.

Preferred citation: McPherson estate collection, 1757-1927 (bulk 1770-1870). (0636.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Boyce, James Petigru, 1827-1888

Lee, Robert E (Robert Edward), 1807-1870 -- Portraits

McBee, Vardry, 1775-1864 -- Estate

Mooney, George H., 1825-1891

Poinsett, Joel Roberts, 1779-1851 -- Correspondence

Thurston, Robert Jenkins, 1774-1806

South Carolina Court of Common Pleas (Charleston District)

South Carolina Militia -- 18th century

Bank notes -- South Carolina

Land grants -- South Carolina

Paper money -- South Carolina

Plantations -- South Carolina -- Pendleton District

Slave records -- South Carolina -- Berkeley County

Slave records -- South Carolina -- Greenville District

Wharves -- South Carolina -- Charleston
Writs -- South Carolina
Fort Pickens (Fla.)
Pensacola (Fla.) -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Container listing:

BOX 1

- 1 Writ of attachment, 1767. A royal writ to the provost marshal “to attach the bodies of Henry Reeves and Thomas Poole of Charles Town Merchants” to answer in court to David Stoddard.
- 2 Deed of conveyance, 1768. Deed conveys a tract of land in Connecticut, sold by Robert [Moore] to Jonathan Whaples (or Whapler).
- 3 Writ of attachment, 1777. Writ orders sheriffs to arrest John Ward to answer to Thomas Hopper in the Charleston District Court of Common Pleas on a charge of assault.
- 4 Writ of attachment, 1778. Writ orders sheriffs to arrest James Steedman to answer to Edmund Egan on a plea of trespass.
- 5 Writ of attachment, 1778. Writ orders sheriffs to arrest Thomas Ladson to answer to Hans Can in the Charleston District Court of Common Pleas.
- 6 Writ of attachment, 1785. Writ orders sheriffs to arrest Samuel Cooper to answer to Keating Simons and James Simons on a plea of trespass.
- 7 Writ of attachment, 1785. Writ orders sheriffs to arrest James Cannon to answer to Henry Putnam for debt.
- 8 Writ of attachment, 1785. Writ orders sheriffs to arrest Abraham Seixas to answer to Charles Stone on a plea of trespass.
- 9 Writ of attachment, 1787. Writ orders sheriffs to arrest Thomas Eveleigh to answer to Henry Laurens and others on a plea of trespass.
- 10 Petition, 1794. Petition to the South Carolina Senate by the subscribers, directors and stockholders of the “Company for promoting an inland navigation between Santee & Cooper rivers” asking that the negroes employed on the construction of the canal be exempted from working on the “high roads” of the state.
- 11 Letter, 4 December 1794, from William Moultrie to the South Carolina Senate relating the resignation of William Thomas as a judge in the “County Court of Marlborough.”
- 12 Receipt, 1795. Thomas Sumter acknowledges the receipt of money from “Samuel Fley late Sheriff of [Clarendon] County’ in the case of Ann Bowen v. Matthew Patterson.

- 13 Letter, 11 April 1796, written on behalf of Charles Cotesworth Pinckney to Henry Ravenel concerning a commission for John McCrea “to be Colonel of the 27th Regiment.”
- 14 Land grant (fragment), 1799. Grant of 640 acres to Joseph Robertson.
- 15 Receipt, 1799, signed by Charles Cotesworth Pinckney for pay received from the Paymaster General.
- 16 Invoice, 1804, for items purchased from Walton & Pagan by West & Lindsey in Charleston, S.C. Goods listed include cotton cards, sugar, hats, pins, button, coffee, and bananas.
- 17 Deed of conveyance, 1805, for 125 acres in Pendleton District, sold by Elliott Clardy to James Clardy.
- 18 Letter, 5 June 1809, from Andrew Pickens in Pendleton, S.C., to William W. Woodward, a Philadelphia stationer, transmitting payment for religious books including Bibles and Scott’s Essays.
- 19 Deed of conveyance, 1815, for 100 acres on the waters of Brushy Creek in Pendleton District, sold by William Faris (or Farris) to David Spearman.
- 20 Letter, 10 February 1817, from Charles Cotesworth Pinckney on Pinckney Island to Williamson & DeVillers concerns the delivery of “200 feet of White Pine” and the need for more “such boards.”
- 21 Deed of conveyance, 1822, for a tract of land on Brushy Creek in Pendleton District, sold by Randolph Dalton of Greenville District to Adam Elrod of Pendleton District.
- 22 Will, 1822, of Chamberlayne Jones of Amelia County, Virginia.
- 23 Will, 1831, of Stephen McWhite of St. Stephen’s Parish, S.C. bequeaths a number of slaves (named in document) to family members.
- 24 Bill of sale, 1834, for “a negro woman named Margaret and child named Tena,” sold by William Zimmerman of Orangeburg District to Henty Dantzer.
- 25 Letter, 8 July 1837, from Lester & Kilgore at Pleasant Grove (Greenville District, S.C.) to Adam Elrod in Anderson District, concerns the pricing of yarn.
- 26 \$3 note issued by the South Carolina Rail Road (Charleston), ca. 1840.
- 27 Letter, 16 October 1841, from Jasper N. Thurston in Greenville District to Thomas W. Roe concerns personal matters.
- 28 Letter, 3 July 1844, from Thomas Anderson in Clinton, Mississippi, to Mrs. Martha Dickinson in Greenville, S.C. informs her of the death of her sister Mrs. Aurelia Hardwick and the estate bequests to Mrs. Dickinson including “a negro man named Simon, a woman named Milley, Jane a girl” and other property.

- 29 Stock certificate, 1853, for seven shares of stock in the Greenville and Columbia Railroad Company, issued to William M. Hughey.
- 30 \$10 note issued by The Farmers and Exchange Bank of Charleston, 1853.
- 31 Bill of sale, 1854, for “two slaves ... Mary & John” sold by John W. Baker of Greenville District to his son William L. Baker in trust for John Harvey Baker.
- 32 Bill of sale, 1856, for “a Negro slave named [Buinavestia] aged about six years,” sold by John W. Craig of McDowell County, N.C. to A. M. Gillespie.
- 33 \$5 note issued by The State Bank of South Carolina, 1860.
- 34 Ten cent note, Corporation of Charleston, 1861.
- 35 \$100 bond issued by the State of South Carolina, 1861.
- 36 Court order, 1862, in the debt case of McLeod (or MacLeod) v. Gardner in Camden, S.C.
- 37 Fifty cents note, Bank of the State of South Carolina, 1862.
- 38 Fifty cents note, Bank of the State of South Carolina, 1862, bearing an image of Fort Moultrie.
- 39 \$100 note issued by the Confederate States of America, 1862.
- 40 Stock certificate, 1870, South Carolina Loan and Trust Company, issued to Henry B. Judd, 1870, and transferred to Elizabeth C. Judd, 1898.
- 41 Advertisement for stationery bearing an engraving of General Robert E. Lee, [1871].
- 42 \$20 revenue bond scrip, State of South Carolina, 1872.
- 43 \$50 revenue bond scrip, State of South Carolina, 1872.
- 44 Letter of introduction, 13 February 1873, from Wade Hampton to Robert N. Gourdin.
- 45 Subpoena, 1876, Anderson County, S.C., issued to J. W. Baker.
- 46 Invoice, 1878, of Knobloch & Small, Charleston, S.C., No. 177 East Bay Street, bearing an image of a building or factory.
- 47 Stock certificate, 1870, South Carolina Loan and Trust Company, issued to Henry B. Judd, 1870, and transferred to Elizabeth C. Judd, 1898.
- 48 Portrait of Edward Rutledge (1749-1800), engraved by J. B. Longacre, no date.
- 49 Typescript copy (n.d.) of “From a New England Woman’s Diary in Dixie in 1865” by Mary Ames (published 1906). The last page is a handwritten genealogy of the descendants of William Bayard Whaley.

- 50 Miscellaneous items, including envelopes; a letter (1908) to Laurence Orr Patterson in Greenville, S.C.; and a circular (1879) from E. W. Corey, a Boston leather merchant, sent to [Henry] Green Ingram at Sandy Flat, Greenville County, S.C.

Small collections:

- 51 Papers relating to the transfer of shares of stock in the Georgia Rail Road and Banking Company, 1860-1861. Includes powers of attorney; a stock certificate made out to James P. Boyce as trustee of Mrs. Mary C. Lane; and a letter from James P. Boyce in Greenville, S.C.
- 52 Papers relating to John C. Calhoun, including his autograph as Secretary of War; his "Address" on slavery (1850); and a letter (1845) to Mr. Hubbard.
- 53 McBee Family papers, 1864-1869. These mostly pertain to the estate of Vardry McBee. Estate records include tax receipts; a receipted invoice for the Mountaineer newspaper; an invoice (1866) for materials used in the building of a house in Greenville; and a document (1866) relating to real estate partitioned to Alexander McBee. Also found among these papers are two possibly unrelated military records, which consist of a return (1798) of infantry, artillery, and cavalry units detached from the "First Brigade of the Eighth Division" (state militia); and an invoice (1814) of ordnance stores to be sent to Haddrell's Point.
- 54 Papers relating to Joel R. Poinsett, consisting of a letter (1836) to Dr. Joseph Johnson about a petition to the South Carolina Senate that relates to the construction of a railroad from Darlington to Hamburg; a letter (1837) to W. B. Coggins at West Point Academy; and undated letter of introduction to General Jesup; and a portrait of Poinsett engraved by J. B. Longacre.
- 55 Mooney family correspondence, 1860-1870. Includes two letters from G.H. Mooney (George H. Mooney, 1825-1891) to his sister Miss Maria E. Mooney (later Mrs. Henry Green Ingram) in Greenville, S.C. He writes to her from Butler, Georgia on 15 January 1860, and from Griffin, Ga., on 15 April 1860, about his travels, school, and personal matters. He also writes to his mother, Mrs. M. A. E. Mooney (Mary A. E. Barry Mooney, 1816-1872; wife of Valentine Mooney) in Greenville from Griffin on 8 April 1860. Of note is G. H. Mooney's wartime letter, 15 May 1861, from a military camp at Pensacola, Florida, in which he describes his journey from Griffin to Florida, and his impressions of Pensacola Bay and Fort Pickens (which is occupied by U.S. troops). He also mentions General Braxton Bragg, and a visit by President Jefferson Davis and Louis Wigfall. (The roster of the 5th Georgia Volunteer Infantry Regiment lists a George H. Mooney. This unit served initially in Pensacola, Fla.) A letter dated 19 September 1870 is from Mary E. Ingram in Greenville, S.C., to her mother Mrs. M. A. E. Mooney in Newberry, S.C., mainly concerns family matters.
- 56 Joseph Reid financial papers, 1850-1858. Papers consist of receipts, receipted bills, and promissory notes. One bill (1850) features an engraving of the American Hotel ("corner

of King and George Sts.”) in Charleston, S.C. The documents are datelined Columbia, S.C., Rose Hill, Ga., and Charleston, S.C.

BOX 2

Oversize documents (arranged roughly by size):

- 1 Map, 1757. Carte de la Caroline et Georgie, by Jacques Nicholas Bellin.
- 2 \$100 coupon bond, 1861, issued by the State of South Carolina.
- 3 Land grant, 1770, with plat. Royal grant to Valentine Bell, 100 acres in Craven County on the north side of the Broad River on a branch of Turkey Creek.
- 4 Land grant, 1785, with plat. Grant to Bazzel (Basil?) Hallum, 380 acres in Ninety Six District on Eighteen Mile Creek off the Savannah River.
- 5 Land grant, 1787, with plat. Grant to Samuel Luke, 100 acres in Ninety Six District on a “small branch of Duncan’s Creek.”
- 6 Map, 1787. Plan of the Siege of Charlestown in South Carolina. Map depicts details of the Charleston peninsula and the harbor and surrounding islands, including Fort Sullivan (“now Fort Moultrie”) and other fortifications, the location of the British fleet, a distillery, etc. Folds indicate that it was taken from a book (Tarleton or Steadman’s histories?).
- 7 Land grant, 1794, with plat and attached seal. Grant to Nathaniel Smith, 1000 acres in Camden District on the “waters of Colonels Creek.”
- 8 Land grant, 1794, with attached plat and seal. Grant to Rowland Guffen, 1000 acres in Orangeburg District on “waters of South Edisto.”
- 9 Pardon, 1853. State of South Carolina pardon for assault and battery issued to Merit Perrit (or Parrit), signed by Governor John L. Manning.
- 10 Land grant, 1794, with attached plat and seal. Grant to Christopher Lewis for 315 acres in Ninety Six District.
- 11 Cargo insurance policy, 1804. Policy issued to Robert J. Thurston on a cargo of rice shipped from Charleston, S.C. to New York City, underwritten by B. M. Mumford at the Tontine Coffee House in New York.
- 12 Power of attorney, 1805. John Geddes of Charleston, S.C. appoints Edward Penman of London as his attorney to recover debts on his behalf.
- 13 Conveyance, 1834. Deed of conveyance for 30 Broad Street, Charleston, S.C., sold by Gilbert Chalmers Geddes to Charles D. Carr.

- 14 Coupon bond, 1869. \$500 bond issued by the Savannah and Charleston Rail Road Company.
- 15 Plat, [1787]. "A Plan of a Body of Land & Wharf Belonging to Mrs. Rebecca Motte" from a survey by Joseph Purcell, 1787.
- 16 Equity title, 1820. Court of Equity commissioner Benjamin H. Buckner conveys a plantation on Saint Helena Island to Saxby Chaplin.
- 17 Conveyance, 1835, with plat. Arthur Middleton conveys a wharf in Charleston (Crafts Wharf) to James Hamilton.
- 18 Colcock estate records, 1839. Thomas Lehre, Esquire, Ordinary, grants letters testamentary to William F. Colcock relating to the estate of C. J. Colcock.
- 19 Witherspoon appointment, 1879. B. J. Witherspoon appointment as a judge in Lancaster County, S.C.
- 20 Bond, 1889. \$500 bond issued by the City of Greenville, S.C.