



SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Alston-Pringle-Frost papers, 1693-1990
SCHS# 1285.00
Containers 28/630-638

Description: 5 linear ft.

Creators:

Alston, William
Frost, Francis LeJau
Frost, Susan Pringle
Glennie, Alexander
Pringle, Edward.
Pringle, Mary Motte Alston
Pringle, Susan
Pringle, William Bull
Alston family
Pringle family
Frost family

Scope and Content: Papers consist of correspondence, financial and property records, and other items pertaining to the Alston, Pringle, and Frost families of South Carolina, collected mainly by Mary Motte Alston Pringle (1803-1884). Also included are the papers (1822-1870) of Mary Motte Alston Pringle consisting of bound manuscript volumes (see separate record under her name).

Correspondence (1775-1958) includes extensive correspondence (1840s-1884) of Mary Motte Alston Pringle with her children, including many letters from her at Runimede Plantation and in Charleston (S.C.) to her daughter Susan concerning family matters and Susan's education and upbringing; letters (1853-1889, with transcriptions) from Edward J. Pringle (1826-1899) to his family concerning his life in San Francisco (Ca.) as a young attorney there during and after the gold rush, litigation regarding Spanish and Mexican land grant claims, politics, the treatment of the Chinese ("they are abused & beaten & shot here like dogs"), and other topics; love letters between Francis LeJau Frost, and his fiancée, then wife, Rebecca B. Pringle Frost, as he attempted to reestablish rice planting on the Santee River, and while travelling as a salesman for phosphate companies; and letters of Susan Pringle Frost (1873-1960) regarding the Miles Brewton House (Charleston, S.C.) and her life as a court reporter, realtor, pioneer preservationist, and suffragette. Other correspondents include Edward Frost., Rev. Paul Trapier, Rev. Peter J. Shand, and Rev. Alexander Glennie (concerning Glennie's possible appointment to an African bishopric in the 1840s). Correspondence also includes photocopies of two letters, both dated October 1818, from Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) to William Alston (1756-1839) regarding Jefferson's recommendations on wine.

An undated letter from the 1850s recounts how Albert Sumner, the brother of Charles Sumner, tried to separate a slave family he had inherited by offering the father in a separate sale. Sumner then offered the man to Charles T. Lowndes (who had purchased the family) at an exorbitant price, and Lowndes purchased the man in order to restore him to his family.

Papers of William Bull Pringle include accounts (1866-1870) with factors James R. Pringle & Son for rice sales and milling and household and plantation expenses; estate records of William A. Williams, Pringle's overseer (1844-1845); and slave bills of sale. There are also business receipts (1792-1832) of William Alston (1756-1839); and a receipt book (1866-1872) of William Alston Pringle. Property records (1693-1918) include a 1735 grant of land in Craven County (S.C.) to Andrew Broughton and a 1794 grant in Camden District (S.C.) to Robert Brodie.

Other items include genealogical and biographical materials; recipes; ephemera; estate records; almanacs; legal documents; a scrapbook mainly concerning the Miles Brewton House; writings; William Alston's bills of sale for race horses and a groom (slave), horse pedigrees, and a diagram of a race track (ca. 1787-1803); "The Life of St. Paul" (1882, ms volume with illustrations); and research notes (1988-1990). Miscellaneous items include a legal address (1862?) to the "Gentlemen of the Court of Inquiry" concerning the duel between William R. Calhoun and Alfred M. Rhett; and communion cards issued to slaves in All Saints Parish (S.C.).

Also see: Cote, Richard. *Guide to the Alston-Pringle-Frost Manuscript Collection in the South Carolina Historical Society*. Charleston, 1990. This item includes biographical sketches of creators, a full chronology, indexes for correspondence by both author/recipient and a chronological index.

Preferred Citation: Alston-Pringle-Frost papers, 1693-1990 (bulk 1780-1958). (1285.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Detailed Collection Inventory:

Series Overview:

- 1285.01 Alston-Pringle-Frost Family Papers
- 1285.02 Mary Motte Alston Pringle Papers
- 1285.03 William Alston Pringle Papers

Container List: (28/xx corresponds to container #)

28/630

1285.01 Correspondence, 1775-1856

28/631

1285.01 Correspondence, 1857-1863

28/632

1285.01 Correspondence, 1864-1869 (also correspondence dated 186-?)

28/633

1285.01 Correspondence, 1870-1880

28/634

1285.01 Correspondence, 1881-1901

28/635

1285.01 (M) Miscellaneous papers arranged alphabetically
1285.01 (M) 01.01 Alston family: genealogical information.
1285.01 (M) 01.02 Alston, Susan Pringle: copy of will, 1920.
1285.01 (M) 01.03 Alston, Theodosia Burr, 1783- 1813: secondary information.
1285.01 (M) 01.04 Alston, William, 1756-1839: commission (1787), obituary, receipts (1792-1832), and papers pertaining to horse racing (ca.1787-1803).

1285.01 (M) 01.05 Brewton, Miles, 1731-1775: genealogical and secondary data.
1285.01(M) 01.06 Frost family: "Jottings, A Brief Sketch of My Life, A Tribute, Memories of My Father, A Tour through the Miles Brewton Garden in March, April, and May, 1948" by Susan Pringle Frost; and genealogical information.

1285.01(M) 01.07 Frost, Edward, 1801-1868: obituaries.
1285.01 (M) 01.08 Frost, Francis LeJau, 1837-1912: obituaries, genealogical and military (Confederate service) data.

1285.01(M) 01.09 Frost, Francis LeJau, 1875-1935: obituaries and memorials, etc.
1285.01(M) 01.10 Frost, Rebecca M., 1877-1971: school records.
1285.01(M) 01.11 Frost, Susan Pringle, 1873-1960: clippings, records of real estate transactions, obituary, and an address about "The Cultural Value of Charleston."

28/636

1285.01(M) 01.12 Motte, Rebecca, 1738- 1815: biographical information.
1285.01(M) 01.13 Pringle family: genealogy.
1285.01(M) 01.14 Pringle, Edward Jenkins, 1796-1838: account with Davison & Simpson, 1827.

1285.01(M) 01.15 Pringle, Edward Jenkins, 1826-1899: note of exchange, 1856.
1285.01(M) 01.16 Pringle, John Julius, 1772-1843: bonds, copy of will, memorial, stock certificates, legal documents, etc.

1285.01(M) 01.17 Pringle, John Julius. 1824-1901: receipt, 1861.
1285.01(M) 01.18 Pringle, Mary M., 1803-1884: religious and other verse.
1285.01(M) 01.19 Pringle, Robert, 1702-1776: copy of will.
1285.01(M) 01.20 Pringle, Robert, 1837-1863: obituaries.
1285.01(M) 01.21 Pringle, Susan, 1829-1917: copybook (1850s), copies of will, etc.'
1285.01(M) 01.22 Pringle, William Alston, 1822-1895: obituary and memorial.
1285.01(M) 01.23 Pringle, William Bull, 1800- 1881: legal documents, slave bills of sale, financial and property records; accounts with James R' Pringle & Son (1866-1870); and estate records of William A. Williams, the superintendent at Pringle's North Santee plantation (1844 -1845, Wm. B. Pringle, administrator).

28/637

- 1285.01(M) 02 Miscellaneous papers arranged by material type
- 1285.01(M) 02.01 Miscellaneous records: chiefly legal documents, including a handwritten address to the "Gentlemen of the Court of Inquiry" concerning the duel between Col. William R. Rhett and Alfred M. Rhett, which resulted in the death of Calhoun.
- 1285.01(M) 02.02 All Saints Parish communion cards: cards "used by Rev. Alex Glennie in his work among the Negroes" bear the name of three slaves.
- 1285.01(M) 02.03 Ephemera: calling cards, Confederate veteran memorabilia, etc.
- 1285.01(M) 02.04 Land and property records: 1693-1834.
- 1285.01(M) 02.05 Maps: includes Lt. Robert Pringle's map of Tennessee (1850); a map of San Francisco (ca. 1850?); and a hand-drawn map of rice plantations in the Winyah Bay area, with a corresponding list of plantation names and land owners.
- 1285.01(M) 02.06 Recipes and a prescription (Lady Baltimore cake, etc.)
- 1285.01(M) 02.07 Rice culture (newspaper article, 1897).
- 1285.01(M) 02.08 Stocks, bonds, and currency.
- 1285.01(M) 02.09 Miles Brewton House, records of sale, 1917 -1919.
- 1285.01(M) 02.10 Scrapbook and commonplace book, much of which pertains to the Miles Brewton House. Includes: religious verse, poetry, letters from guests at the MBH (1920s), and clippings. (Formerly numbered volume 16)
- 1285.01(M) 02.11 Miles Brewton House research notes, 1988-1989: memoranda by Richard N. Cote, project researcher'
- 1285.01(M) 02.12 Miles Brewton House account book (?), 1890-1926- In two different handwritings. (Formerly numbered volume 18)

28/638

- 1285.01 (M) 02.13 Miles Brewton House guest book, 1931-1939 (Formerly numbered volume 17)

*1285.02**Mary Motte Pringle Papers*

- 1285.02.01 Recipe book kept by Mary Brewton Alston and Mary M. Pringle.
- 1285.02.02 "The Life of St. Paul" - a religious copybook illustrated with ink drawings. Fragile condition; use photocopy.
- 1285.02.03 Estate receipt book ("1843" on cover). Receipts for the estate of Mrs. E. M. Pringle, administered by James R. Pringle'

28/639

- 1285.02.04 Religious notebook, 1822-1860; 1865-1881. Prayers written by Mary M. Pringle for her family
- 1285.02.05 Religious copybook of Mary M. Pringle, 1859.

- 1285.02.06 Notebook containing Mary M. Pringle's counsel to her sons concerning their reading, education, and general deportment' Dated "1826" on cover.
- 1285.02.07 Notebook of Mary M. Pringle with content similar to preceding book.
- 1285.02.08 Copybook of Mary M. Pringle, 1827-1844. Contains poetry and religious writings, including prayers written at Runimeade Plantation in 1844.
- 1285.02.09 Mary M. Pringle's household inventory book, 1834-1865.
- 1285.02.10 Mary M. Pringle's record of servants, 1850-1861. Record of clothing and supplies issued.
- 1285.02.11 Mary M. Pringle literary notebook. Reflections on literature.
- 1285.02.12 Notebook, n.d., belonging to Mary M. Pringle or Susan Pringle. Reflections on literature.
- 1285.02.13 Recipe book of Mary M. Pringle, n.d.' Recipes from prominent Low country women and from black cooks; also formulae for medicines and remedies for ailments (on exhibit at the South Carolina Historical Society Museum; Reproduction available).

28/640

- 1285.02.14 Recipe book, n.d.
- 1285.02.15 Notebook containing religious prose, n.d.
- 1285.02.16 Mary M. Pringle literary and philosophical copybook. "1818" on cover. (Formerly numbered volume 19)
- 1285.02.17 Mary M. Pringle copybook' 1818 (formerly numbered vol. 20).
- 1285.02.18 Mary M. Pringle writings and estate records: some religious writings and copies of her will.

1285.03 William Alston Pringle Papers

- 1285.03.01 Receipt book, 1866-1872. Fragile; use photocopy. (Formerly numbered volume 22)
- 1285.03.02 Almanacs, 1881-1882, attributed to William A. Pringle' Two Miller's Almanacs annotated with comments on the weather. (Formerly numbered volumes 24 and 25)

28/641

Stamps and covers, RESTRICTED