



SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Matthew Family Papers **SCHS# 0684.00**

Description: 0.75 linear ft. (2 boxes)

Scope and content: Collection contains papers of or relating to several related families, principally those of Matthew, Peronneau, Mathewes, Kahrs, and McGowan. Included are papers of Rosalie Olivecrona (Olive) McGowan Matthew and William McGowan Matthew, as well as papers relating to Clelia Peronneau Mathewes McGowan, William Campbell McGowan, John Douglas Matthew, Kathryn Kahrs Matthew, George Frederick Matthew of New Brunswick (Canada), and William Diller Matthew. The collection includes some family documents as well as extensive genealogical information on the principal families as well as the related families of Coffin, Larisey, Besselieu, and Diller. Papers relating to Rosalie Olivecrona (Olive) McGowan Matthew include birth certificates, an obituary, recipes, and a newspaper article (1982) about her relationship with the family of Rosalie Roos Olivecrona of Sweden. There are also papers relating to John Raven Mathewes and his plantation, Bear Island, and the military service of his grandson John Raven Mathewes.

Photographs, which have been removed to the Visual Material Collection (0684 VM), include images of John Raven Mathewes (1788-1867), Anna Peronneau Parker Gordon (1850-1936), and Clelia Peronneau Mathewes McGowan. Also included are photographs of George Frederick Matthew of Canada, and his family. There are numerous photographs relating to John Douglas and Olive Matthew, as well as William McGowan Matthew and Kathryn Kahrs Matthew and their daughter Kit. One group of cartes de visite which were removed from an album includes images of William Peronneau (1768-1848), Eliza Peronneau Mathewes (1835-1923), and John Raven Mathewes (1832-1892?). Other items include silhouettes (on greeting cards) by John Bennett.

Biographical/Historical note: George Frederick Matthew (1837-1923) was a noted Canadian scientist. His son, John Douglas Matthew (1885-1931) married Rosalie Olivecrona (Olive) McGowan of South Carolina, and they lived in Charleston. Olive Matthew was the daughter of Clelia Peronneau Mathewes McGowan (1865-1956) and William Campbell McGowan (1858-1998) of Abbeville, S.C., and she was the granddaughter of William Raven Mathewes (1829-1905) and Eliza Peronneau Mathewes (1825-1923) of South Carolina. William McGowan Matthew (1926-2015), the son of John and Olive Matthew, married Kathryn Kahrs (1929-2014), and their daughter Kathryn (Kit) Kahrs Matthew married Dr. George Stevens of Charleston.

Note: Photographs have been removed to visual materials collections (VM 0684.00).

Preferred citation: Matthew family papers, 1891-2021. (0684.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Mathewes, John R. (John Raven), 1788-1867.
Matthew, George Frederick, 1837-1923.
Matthew, Kathryn Kahrs, 1929-2014.
Matthew, William McGowan, 1926-2015.
McGowan, Clelia Peronneau Mathewes, 1865-1956.
Coffin family.
Diller family.
Kahrs family.
Matthews family.
McGowan family.
Peronneau family.
Bear Island (S.C.)
New Brunswick
South Carolina -- Genealogy

Container listing:

BOX 1

- 1 Papers relating to John Douglas Matthew (1885-1931), including clippings and memorials.
- 2 Papers relating to Rosalie Olivecrona (Olive) McGowan Matthew, including birth certificates, an obituary, recipes, and a newspaper article (1982) about her and her relationship with the family of Rosalie Roos Olivecrona of Sweden.
- 3 Papers of or relating to William McGowan Matthew (1926-2015), including military records.
- 4 Papers relating to the Matthew-Kahrs wedding in 1952 (William McGowan Matthew and Kathryn Kahrs).
- 5 Papers of or relating to the Kahrs family and relations including family Bible records and military records. Individuals represented include Albert Joseph Kahrs, John Henry Kahrs, and Vivienne Katherine Larisey, daughter of Henry Leon Larisey and Elizabeth Besselieu.
- 6 Papers relating to the Besselieu family, including family Bible records.
- 7 Papers of or relating to the Peronneau family, including genealogical information.
- 8 Papers relating to John Godfrey (died 1790), a progenitor of Rosalie Olivecrona McGowan Matthew through the Peronneau family.

- 9 "The Mathewes & Peronneau Families of Charleston, South Carolina." Photocopy of a family genealogy.
- 10 Papers relating to the Coffin (or Coffyn) family (relations of the Peronneau family).
- 11 Papers relating to membership in the Colonial Dames of America, including applications by Rosalie Olivecrona Matthew and Eliza Peronneau Mathewes.
- 12 Papers relating to Clelia Peronneau Mathewes McGowan and her husband William Campbell McGowan including newspaper clippings.
- 13 Papers mainly relating to donations of McGowan family papers to the South Caroliniana Library at the University of South Carolina.

BOX 2

- 1 "Pedigree of the Mathewes Family of S.C." Photocopy of a family genealogy "by D.E.H. Smith, 1911, with additions by Mrs. Thomas R. Waring, Jr., 1965."
- 2 Genealogical information on the Mathewes family and related families in Georgia and South Carolina. Includes information on the Confederate military service of John Raven Mathewes (1832-1892).
- 3 Genealogical information on the Mathewes family.
- 4 Pamphlet: "Descendants of Anthony Mathewes."
- 5 Papers relating to John Raven Mathewes and Bear Island Plantation.
- 6 Papers relating to George Frederick Matthew (1837-1923) of New Brunswick, Canada.
- 7 Papers relating to George F. Matthew and his family.
- 8 Papers relating to William Diller Matthew (1871-1930), son of George F. Matthew.
- 9 Papers relating Matthew and Diller families genealogy.
- 10 "The Diller Family." Photocopy of a book, 1942.
- 11 Papers relating to the Diller family.
- 12 Photocopies of 19th century stock certificates and currency removed to the stock and currency collections.

Oversize Documents (located in the vault flat files, by collection number)

- 1 Matthew family charts.

- 2 William McGowan Matthew's membership certificate, 2010, in the Military Order of the Stars and Bars.
- 3 Kathryn Kahrs Matthew's certificate of appointment, 2015, as director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, by President Barack Obama.
- 4 Kathryn Kahrs Matthew's certificate of appointment, 2021, as a member of the National Council on the Humanities, by President Joseph R. Biden.