



SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

George E. Walker papers, 1793-1891
SCHS 1129.00
Container 11/501

Creator: Walker, George E.

Description: 0.25 linear ft.

Biographical/Historical Note: Charleston, S.C. civil engineer and architect. In 1854 he was appointed constructing architect for the South Carolina State House in Columbia and became a resident of that city. In 1855 he was dismissed from his position and censured by the commissioners in charge of the project. Walker defended himself in a pamphlet and went on to other projects including designing buildings at South Carolina College and Columbia Female College and churches in Abbeville, Columbia, and Newberry, S.C. He was also the architect of Free School No. 6 in Charleston, S.C. and the College of Charleston library building, and took part in the surveys and construction of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad. During the Civil War he built Battery Bee at the west end of Sullivan's Island (1862) and other defensive works. In 1850 Walker married Agnes M. Frost. He died in Columbus, Ga. while there to inspect railroads for the Confederacy.

Scope and Content: Papers chiefly consist of photocopies of Walker's professional papers including correspondence, specifications, and drawings.

Photocopies include estimates (1856?) for [J.] H. Carson's house in Charlotte (N.C.); specifications for Charleston Free School No. 6 (1851) and the lecture room of First (Scots) Presbyterian Church of Charleston (S.C.) (1853); "Architect's Diary, New State Capitol" (Aug. 3 to Nov. 11, 1854); "Report on New Water Works for the City of Columbia, S.C." (n.d.) as well as related correspondence with American Machine Works (Springfield, Mass.) and others, and notes, formulae, and estimates concerning a pumping engine; specifications (n.d.) for houses in Columbia (S.C.) for James D. Treadwell and Mr. Bronson; drawings and plans of a courthouse; specifications for a spire and a church lecture room; "Specifications for a Church to be Erected in the Adams' Settlement, Richland District, S.C." (n.d.).

There is also a photocopy of instructions (1829) to A. Trouche [Auguste Paul Trouche of Charleston, S.C.?] from Thomas Doughty of Boston (Mass.) regarding color mixing and painting and glazing a landscape painting. The instructions are a copy made by Walker in 1847. In addition, there are photocopies of correspondence, resolutions, and other documents (1854-1855) concerning the design and construction of the new state capitol building in Columbia (S.C.), consulting architect John R. Niernsee, and Walker's dismissal from the project; surveying plans; and drawings of architectural ornaments and other subjects.

Other items include obituaries (1863) of George E. Walker; photocopies of title pages of books including a cabinet maker's price and design book (London, 1793) with inscriptions by Robert Walker (probably George E. Walker's father); and a conveyance (1891) of J.R. Kemp's patent for brick kilns to T.J. Lipscomb and J. Frost Walker.

Preferred Citation: Walker, George Edward, d. 1863. George E. Walker papers, 1793-191. (1129.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Note: Originals in private collection.

Search terms:

Doughty, Thomas, 1793-1856.
Niernsee, John Rudolph, d. 1885.
Trouche, Auguste Paul.
Walker, George Edward, 1826-1863.
Walker, J. Frost.
South Carolina State House (Columbia, S.C.)
Architecture -- South Carolina.
Painting.
Waterworks -- South Carolina -- Colombia.
Charleston (S.C.)
Columbia (S.C.)
South Carolina -- History -- 1775-1865.
Architectural drawings.
Letters (correspondence)
Specifications.
Architects.
Civil engineers.

11/501/1-18 Walker, George E., d. 1863

Architectural papers, 1829-1863. Approx 150 items.

Columbia and Charleston architect. Copies of George E. Walker's drawings, correspondences, and other architectural papers. Included are estimates (1836) for a house in Charlotte NC, specifications for Scots Presbyterian Church Hall, Charleston and the free school, Charleston (1853), architect's diary (1854) for the new state capital in Columbia; report and correspondence (1856-1857) with the American Machine Works, Springfield MA, regarding the construction of the Columbia Water Works, specifications for James D. Treadwell house in Columbia; courthouse drawings; misc. building estimates; specifications for a spire; church lecture room specifications; specifications for Adams settlement church, Richland Co.; specifications for Bronson's residence, Columbia; instructions (1829) of Thomas Doughty regarding glazing; correspondence (1854-1855) much regarding state capital construction, misc. resolutions, letters and plans, patent for bricks and drawings.