

James Henry Hammond Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Prepared by Carolyn Sung
Revised and expanded by Chanté Wilson



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2002

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/mss.contact>

Finding aid encoded by Glenn R.
Gardner, 2009

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms009169>

Collection Summary

Title: James Henry Hammond Papers

Span Dates: 1774-1875

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1823-1864)

ID No.: MSS24695

Creator: Hammond, James Henry, 1807-1864

Extent: 8,000 items; 38 containers plus 3 oversize; 10 linear feet; 20 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Senator, governor, and plantation owner. Correspondence, diaries, speeches, plantation manuals, account books, and scrapbooks pertaining chiefly to South Carolina and national politics in the three decades preceding the Civil War. Subjects include nullification, secession, slavery, the Southern Convention at Nashville, Tennessee (1850), state banks, states' rights, and the tariff. Also includes a mercantile letterbook, 1774-1780, of Andrew McLean.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Aldrich, A. P.--Correspondence.

Alvord, Bert--Correspondence.

Ayer, Lewis M.--Correspondence.

Boyce, Ker--Correspondence.

Brisbane, A. H. (Abbott Hall), 1804-1861--Correspondence.

Butler, Pierce Mason, 1798-1847--Correspondence.

Calhoun, John C. (John Caldwell), 1782-1850--Correspondence.

Clark, James L.--Correspondence.

Felder, John Myers, 1782-1851--Correspondence.

Gadsden, James, 1788-1858--Correspondence.

Hamilton, James, 1786-1857--Correspondence.

Hammond, James Henry, 1807-1864.

Hayne, Isaac W. (Isaac William), 1809-1880--Correspondence.

Hayne, Robert Young, 1791-1839--Correspondence.

Keitt, Lawrence M. (Lawrence Massillon), 1824-1864--Correspondence.

McDuffie, George, 1790-1851--Correspondence.

McLean, Andrew. Andrew McLean papers. 1774-1780.

Patterson, Angus--Correspondence.

Pemberton, A. H.--Correspondence.

Pickens, F. W. (Francis Wilkinson), 1805-1869--Correspondence.

Porter, Wm. D. (William Dennison), 1810-1883--Correspondence.

Preston, William C. (William Campbell), 1794-1860--Correspondence.

Quattlebaum, Paul, 1812-1890--Correspondence.

Rhett, Robert Barnwell, 1800-1876--Correspondence.

Simms, William Gilmore, 1806-1870--Correspondence.

Trescott, William Henry, 1822-1898--Correspondence.

Tucker, Ben--Correspondence.

Walker, James M. (James Murdock), 1813-1854--Correspondence.

Organizations

Southern Convention (1850 : Nashville, Tenn.)

Subjects

Banks and banking--Southern States.
Business records.
Nullification (States' rights)
Plantations.
Secession.
Slavery--United States.
States' rights (American politics)
Tariff--United States.

Places

South Carolina--Politics and government--1775-1865.
United States--Politics and government--1815-1861.

Occupations

Governors--South Carolina.
Plantation owners.
Senators, U.S. Congress--South Carolina.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of James Henry Hammond, senator, governor, and plantation owner, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1912.

Processing History

The papers of James Henry Hammond were arranged and described in 1945. A finding aid was created prior to the microfilming of the collection in 1974. When a portion of the collection was rehoused in 2002, the organization of the material remained unchanged. Although the finding aid and container list were revised to indicate the current housing, the container numbers noted in the microfilm edition reflect the original housing.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the James Henry Hammond Papers is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of James Henry Hammond are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on twenty reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, James Henry Hammond Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1807, Nov. 15	Born, Newberry District, S.C.
1825	Graduated from South Carolina College, Columbia, S.C.
1828	Admitted to the South Carolina bar and practiced law, Columbia, S.C.
1830	Established, <i>Southern Times</i> , a pro-nullification newspaper
1831	Married Catherine E. FitzSimons Became a cotton planter at “Silver Bluff” on the Savannah River
1832	Unsuccessful candidate for nullification convention
1834	Elected to Congress
1836-1837	Toured Europe
1841	Commissioned general in the South Carolina militia
1842-1844	Governor of South Carolina
1850	Attended the Southern Convention in Nashville, Tenn.
1855	Moved to “Redcliffe” on Beach Island in the Savannah River
1857-1860	United States senator
1864, Nov. 13	Died, Redcliffe, S. C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of James Henry Hammond (1807-1864) span the years 1774 to 1875, with the bulk of the material dated 1823-1864. The collection consists largely of bound volumes of correspondence and speeches but also includes diaries, plantation account books and manuals, scrapbooks, and manuscript and printed copies of Hammond’s speeches and for the most part reflects state and national politics in the decades preceding the Civil War.

The earliest diary, in a volume labeled “Commonplace Book, 1829,” covers the year 1831. Three small volumes of diary notes and memoranda, chiefly 1836-1838, record Hammond’s travels in America and abroad. Later diaries contain entries from 1841 to 1846. Plantation books, 1832-1858, contain memoranda of crops to be planted, lists of slaves, and notes on the management of slaves.

Subjects mentioned in both the correspondence and speeches include states’ rights, slavery, state banks, the Southern Convention of 1850 at Nashville, Tennessee secession, nullification, and the tariff. Correspondents include A. P. Aldrich, Bert Alvord, Lewis M. Ayer, Ker Boyce, A. H. Brisbane, Pierce Mason Butler, John C. Calhoun, James L. Clark, John Myers Felder, James Gadsden, James Hamilton, Isaac W. Hayne, Robert Young Hayne, Laurence M. Keitt, George McDuffie, Angus Patterson, A. H. Pemberton, F. W. Pickens, Wm. D. Porter, William C. Preston, Paul Quattlebaum, Robert Barnwell Rhett, William Gilmore Simms, William Henry Trescot, Ben Tucker, and James M.

Walker. A card index to names of correspondents is available in the Manuscript Division Reading Room and on reel twenty of the microfilm edition of the papers.

The collection also includes a letterbook, 1774-1780, consisting of mercantile letters of Andrew McLean, written from Savannah and Augusta, Georgia, to Clark & Milligan, merchants in London, England.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material and therein chronologically.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 13,253

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Correspondence and speeches
REEL 1	
BOX 1	1832, Dec. 13-1830, Dec. 8
REEL 1	
BOX 2	1830, Dec. 14-1833, Jan. 5
REEL 1	
BOX 3	1833, Jan. 8- Aug. 6
REEL 2	
BOX 4	1833, Aug. 16-1834, May 17
REEL 2	
BOX 5	1834, May 19-1836, Mar. 6
REEL 3	
BOX 6	1836, Mar. 8-1838, Feb. 9
REEL 3	
BOX 7	1838, Feb. 13-1840, Mar. 16
REEL 4	
BOX 8	1840, Mar. 17-July 9
REEL 4	
BOX 9	1840, July 10-1841, Aug. 27
REEL 5	
BOX 10	1841, Aug. 31-1843, Dec. 29
REEL 5	
BOX 11	1843, Dec. 30-1845, June 14
REEL 6	
BOX 12	1845, June 15-1846, Oct. 12
REEL 6	
BOX 13	1846, Oct. 15-1847, Aug. 25
REEL 7	
BOX 14	1847, Aug. 26-1848, June 2
REEL 7	
BOX 15	1848, June 9-Dec. 27
REEL 8	
BOX 16	1848, Dec. 29-1849, Dec. 16
REEL 8	
BOX 17	1849, Dec. 17-1850, Aug. 12
REEL 9	
BOX 18	1850, Aug. 14-1851, July 7
REEL 9	
BOX 19	1851, July 16-1853, Nov. 18
REEL 10	
BOX 20	1853, Nov. 25-1857, July 24
REEL 10	
BOX 21	1857, July 31-1858, Jan. 30
REEL 11	

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 22	1858, Jan.31-Mar. 21
REEL 11	
BOX 23	1858, Mar. 22-May 8
REEL 12	
BOX 24	1858, May 9-Aug. 10
REEL 12	
BOX 25	1858, Aug. 13-Dec. 20
REEL 13	
BOX 26	1858, Dec. 21-May 26
REEL 13	
BOX 27	1859, May 27-Apr. 22
REEL 14	
BOX 28	1860, Apr. 23-Nov. 16
REEL 14	
BOX 29	1860, Nov. 20-1861, Nov. 26
REEL 15	
BOX 30	1861, Nov. 29-1864, Jan. 18
REEL 15	
BOX 31	1864, Feb. 15-1875, June 28
REEL 16	
BOX 32	Undated
REEL 16	
BOX 33	Undated
REEL 16	
BOX 34	Diaries
REEL 17	
BOX 34	1837, Apr. 19-1855, Aug.
REEL 17	
BOX 34	1836
REEL 17	
BOX 34	1838, Apr. 12-May 14
REEL 17	
BOX 34	1841, Feb. 6-1846, Feb. 14
REEL 17	
BOX 34	1831, "Commonplace Book, 1829"
REEL 17	
BOX 34	Notes and miscellany, 1850
REEL 17	
BOX 35	Silver Bluff plantation book, 1832
REEL 18	
BOX 35	Plantation books
REEL 18	
BOX 35	1840-1848 <u>See Oversize</u>
REEL 18	
BOX 35	1849-1857 <u>See Oversize</u>
REEL 18	
BOX 35	1857-1858
REEL 18	
BOX 35	List of Negroes, 1846
REEL 18	

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 35 REEL 18	Account book, 1840-1857
BOX 36 REEL 19	Scrapbooks
BOX 36 REEL 19	1857-1858
BOX 36 REEL 19	1858
BOX 36 REEL 19	Hammond Township Districts
BOX 37 REEL 19	McLean, Andrew, letterbook, 1774-1780 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 37 REEL 20	Index of correspondents (<i>Available in Manuscript Division Reading Room</i>)
BOX 37 not filmed	Printed matter
	(7 folders)
BOX 38	(2 folders)
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Plantation books (Container 35; Reel 18)
BOX OV 1	1840-1848
BOX OV 2	1849-1858
BOX OV 3	McLean, Andrew, letterbook, 1774-1780 (Container 37; Reel 19)