

Roger Jones Family Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

Prepared by Audrey Walker



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2009

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

Finding aid encoded by Library of
Congress Manuscript Division, 2010

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010131>

Collection Summary

Title: Roger Jones Family Papers

Span Dates: 1649-1896

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1724-1810)

ID No.: MSS28100

Creator: Jones family

Extent: 7,000 items; 40 containers; 8.8 linear feet; 15 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Correspondence, diaries, notebooks, financial and legal papers, miscellany, and printed matter, chiefly the papers of the descendants of Captain Roger Jones (1625[?]-1701), who accompanied Thomas Culpeper, Baron Culpeper (1635-1689), to Virginia in 1680, chronicling the lives of several generations of Jones family members in Virginia, North Carolina, and Kentucky.

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

Breckinridge, William Campbell Preston, 1837-1904--Correspondence.

Byrd, William, 1674-1744--Correspondence.

Carter, Robert, 1663-1732--Correspondence.

Catesby family.

Catesby, Mark, 1683-1749--Correspondence.

Culpeper, Thomas, Baron Culpeper, 1635-1689.

Goore, Charles, 1701-1783--Correspondence.

Henry, Patrick, 1736-1799--Correspondence.

Holloway, Elizabeth Catesby Cocke--Correspondence.

Jones family.

Jones, Elizabeth Cocke Pratt, 1701-1762. Elizabeth Cocke Pratt Jones papers.

Jones, Frederick, d. 1722. Frederick Jones papers.

Jones, L. H. (Lewis Hampton)--Correspondence.

Jones, Roger, 1625?-1701. Roger Jones papers.

Jones, Thomas ap Thomas, 1782-1843. Thomas ap Thomas Jones papers.

Jones, Thomas, 1726-ca. 1785. Thomas Jones papers.

Jones, Thomas, d. ca. 1757. Thomas Jones papers.

Jones, Thomas, d. ca. 1800. Thomas Jones papers.

Jones, Walter, 1745-1815. Walter Jones papers.

King, Walter--Correspondence.

Knox, Thomas, fl. 1758--Correspondence.

Mallory, Stephen R. (Stephen Russell), 1813-1873--Correspondence.

Molleson, William, b. 1732 or 3--Correspondence.

Muse, Laurence--Correspondence.

Nelson, Thomas, 1738-1789--Correspondence.

Pratt family.

Pratt, John--Correspondence.

Russell, James--Correspondence.

Warden, John--Correspondence.

Subjects

Agriculture--Virginia.

Courts--Virginia.

Plantations--Virginia.
Slavery--Virginia.
Tobacco--Virginia.

Places

Clark County (Ky.)--Social life and customs.
Henrico County (Va.)--Social life and customs.
Kentucky--Genealogy.
Kentucky--Social life and customs.
North Carolina--Genealogy.
North Carolina--Social life and customs.
Northumberland County (Va.)--Social life and customs.
Virginia--Genealogy.
Virginia--Social life and customs.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of the Roger Jones family were given to the Library of Congress by the heirs of Thomas Jones of Clark County, Ky., through Lewis H. Jones of Louisville, Ky., in 1912.

Processing History

The papers of the Roger Jones Family were arranged and described in 1980. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the Roger Jones family is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The collection is 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 these papers is available on fifteen reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition as available.

Preferred Citation

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

Scope and Content Note

The papers of the Roger Jones family cover the years 1649-1896, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the years 1724-1810. The papers consist of diaries, correspondence, financial papers, legal documents, memoranda, notebooks, survey plats, miscellaneous manuscripts, and printed matter. The collection is organized in [Family Papers](#), [Diaries and Notebooks](#), and a series of [Damaged Material](#).

The papers are a record of the descendants of Roger Jones (1625-1701) who accompanied Lord Culpeper (Thomas Culpeper, Baron Culpeper, 1635-1689) to America in 1680. However, by 1692 he had returned to England, and his sons, Frederick Jones and Thomas Jones, became the first members of the family to settle in America, where by 1702 they had begun purchasing land in Virginia. Later, Frederick moved to North Carolina where he died in 1722. Although letters and documents from various members of the family in North Carolina are scattered throughout the papers, the collection primarily traces the history until Thomas ap Jones moved to Kentucky around 1810. Composed essentially of the papers of the first sons through the fourth generation, the collection chronicles the history of the Jones family during its transition from an English family to an American one.

The first segment of papers focuses on Thomas Jones (died circa 1757) who married Elizabeth Cocke Pratt (1701-1762), daughter of Dr. William Cocke and widow of William Pratt. Most of the correspondence consists of letters exchanged between members of the family including Thomas's brother Frederick, his wife, and members of the Pratt and Catesby families. The letters generally depict the life of the planter class with emphasis on financial affairs, inheritances, marriage settlements, wills, and the education of the children. A few of the earlier ones reflect some concern for maintaining the same social status in Virginia that the family enjoyed in England. The non-family correspondence relates to financial matters such as Thomas Jones's extensive land holdings, shipments of tobacco, and the purchase of goods from England.

After 1757 the collection centers on the affairs of the oldest son, Thomas Jones (1726-circa 1785), a colonel in the state militia and a clerk of the Northumberland County Court. This group of papers contains numerous letters from his brother, Walter Jones (1745-1815), who studied medicine in Scotland and later served in the Virginia House of Burgesses and in the United States Congress. Because of Walter Jones's association with the county court, his papers include several non-family legal documents, actions brought before the court, lists of fees due the clerks, and bills and receipts for legal services rendered by Jones that often cite specifics of the cases involved. These documents supplement the public records of the transactions of the Northumberland County Court. Colonel Thomas Jones's papers also include correspondence with agents in England and Scotland who marketed the family's tobacco and purchased supplies for shipment to the colony.

A third and small group of papers belonging to Major Thomas Jones (died circa 1800) relate primarily to his business affairs, but includes some family correspondence, especially with his uncles, Frederick and Walter Jones. Several manuscripts concerning the schooner *Polly*, which Major Jones owned, and numerous diary-type memoranda covering finances, weather conditions, and plantation crops are interspersed in the later years of his papers. Three notebooks of plantation crop records and a memorandum book of notes and drafts of legal documents pertaining to Thomas Jones's service as justice of the peace of Henrico County between 1783 and 1794 are located in the [Diaries and Notebooks](#) series of the family papers.

After 1800 the papers are more fragmentary and mainly consist of family correspondence to Thomas ap Thomas Jones (1782-1843), who moved to Clark County, Kentucky. A memorandum book with an account of one of his journeys from Virginia to Kentucky is filed in the [Diaries and Notebooks](#) section of the papers.

All the family papers prior to the Civil War contain references to slave holdings, including some lists by plantations and records of expenditures for slave clothing and other needs.

The collection features two letters of the 1860s from Steven R. Mallory, secretary of the Confederate navy, to Lieutenant Catesby ap R. Jones, commander of the *Merrimac* in its battle with the *Monitor* and later chief of ordnance of the Confederate navy, and a statement from the chief clerk of the Peruvian Department of Foreign Affairs certifying Jones's service with the Peruvian government in 1866. A group of papers between 1879 and 1896 and some undated genealogical data generated by Lewis H. Jones in preparation for his family history, *Captain Roger Jones of London and Virginia* (Albany, N.Y., Joel Munsell's Sons, 1891), complete the family papers. Some

of the earlier letters and papers were published in three installments in the January, April, and July 1918 issues of the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*.

Correspondents in the collection include Bogle & Scott, William C. P. Breckinridge, William Byrd (1674-1744), Robert Carter (1663-1732), Mark Catesby, Farell & Jones, Charles Goore, Patrick Henry (1736-1799), Elizabeth Catesby Cocke Holloway, Elizabeth Cocke Pratt Jones (1701-1762), Lewis H. Jones, Roger Jones (1625[?]-1701), Walter Jones (1745-1815), Walter King, Thomas Knox, William Molleson, Lawrence Muse, Thomas Nelson (1738-1789), John Pratt, James Russell, and John Warden.

Three containers of severely damaged brittle and crushed fragments of correspondence, accounts, and printed matter located at the end of the collection have not been included in the microfilm edition of the Jones family papers.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in three series:

- [Family Papers, 1649-1896](#)
- [Diaries and Notebooks, 1758-1890](#)
- [Damaged Material](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1-35
REEL 1-15

Series

Family Papers, 1649-1896

Correspondence between family members, business associates, and others; financial papers including accounts, bills of lading, bonds, invoices, and receipts; legal documents such as wills, settlements, and lists of court cases; memoranda; survey plats; drawings; and printed matter.

Arranged chronologically with undated material identified as papers of prominent members of the family filed at the date or at the end of the year that they died.

BOX 36-37
REEL 15

Diaries and Notebooks, 1758-1890

Diaries and miscellaneous notebooks belonging to family members and others. Arranged alphabetically by name of person or type of material.

Arranged alphabetically by name of person or type of material.

BOX 38-40
not filmed

Damaged Material

Brittle fragments of correspondence, financial papers, and printed matter severely crushed and torn.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 18,063

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1-35 REEL 1-15	Family Papers, 1649-1896 Correspondence between family members, business associates, and others; financial papers including accounts, bills of lading, bonds, invoices, and receipts; legal documents such as wills, settlements, and lists of court cases; memoranda; survey plats; drawings; and printed matter. Arranged chronologically with undated material identified as papers of prominent members of the family filed at the date or at the end of the year that they died.
BOX 1 REEL 1	16 Oct. 1649-5 Nov. 1724
BOX 2 REEL 1	5 Jan. 1725-8 Nov. 1728
BOX 3 REEL 1	17 Nov. 1728-1 Dec. 1735
BOX 4 REEL 2	1 Dec. 1735-30 July 1743
BOX 5 REEL 2	1 Oct. 1743-2 June 1751
BOX 6 REEL 2	15 June 1751-25 Mar. 1854
BOX 7 REEL 3	22 Apr. 1754-2 Feb. 1756
BOX 8 REEL 3	17 Feb. 1756-24 Mar. 1758
BOX 9 REEL 3	8 Apr. 1758-18 Apr. 1759
BOX 10 REEL 4	19 Apr. 1759-5 Mar. 1761
BOX 11 REEL 4	17 Mar. 1761-14 Apr. 1762
BOX 12 REEL 5	23 Apr. 1762-3 Dec. 1763
BOX 13 REEL 5	20 Dec. 1763-3 Jan. 1765
BOX 14 REEL 5	4 Jan. 1765-29 July 1766
BOX 15 REEL 6	30 July 1766-5 Feb. 1768
BOX 16 REEL 6	7 Feb. 1768-16 May 1769
BOX 17 REEL 7	20 May 1769-15 Jan. 1770

Family Papers, 1649-1896

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 18 REEL 7	23 Jan. 1770-19 Dec. 1771
BOX 19 REEL 7	24 Dec. 1771-15 Sept. 1773
BOX 20 REEL 8	24 Sept. 1773-1 Apr. 1775
BOX 21 REEL 8	10 Apr. 1775-21 Aug. 1780
BOX 22 REEL 9	2 Sept. 1780-5 Dec. 1785
BOX 23 REEL 9	6 Dec. 1785-7 Apr. 1787
BOX 24 REEL 10	10 Apr. 1787-5 Dec. 1789
BOX 25 REEL 10	18 Dec. 1789-17 Sept. 1791
BOX 26 REEL 11	19 Sept. 1791-23 July 1793
BOX 27 REEL 11	27 July 1793-30 Jan. 1795
BOX 28 REEL 11	11 Feb. 1795-13 Sept. 1796
BOX 29 REEL 12	16 Sept. 1796-3 Jan. 1798
BOX 30 REEL 12	5 Jan. 1798-2 Apr. 1799
BOX 31 REEL 13	3 Apr. 1799-1 May 1800
BOX 32 REEL 13	2 May 1800-19 Nov. 1805
BOX 33 REEL 14	5 Jan. 1806-3 Apr. 1886
BOX 34 REEL 14	12 Apr. 1886-24 Feb. 1896, undated
BOX 35 REEL 15	Undated
BOX 36-37 REEL 15	Diaries and Notebooks, 1758-1890 Diaries and miscellaneous notebooks belonging to family members and others. Arranged alphabetically by name of person or type of material. Arranged alphabetically by name of person or type of material.
BOX 36 REEL 15	Account book, 1761-1764
BOX 36 REEL 15	Genealogical notes and addresses of family members, circa 1879-1890
BOX 36 REEL 15	Jones, Thomas (1726-circa 1785), memorandum and account book, 1758
BOX 36	Jones, Thomas (died circa 1800)

Diaries and Notebooks, 1758-1890

Container

Contents

REEL 15	
BOX 36	Arithmetic exercise book, 1794
REEL 15	
BOX 36	Memorandum book, including Meriwether Jones's name on inside cover,
REEL 15	1783-1794
BOX 37	Plantation crops and planting records, 1780-1799
REEL 15	
	(3 vols. and 6 loose pages)
BOX 37	Jones, Thomas (1782-1843), diary and notebook (Harrods Station, Ky., 15
REEL 15	June 1812, on cover), 1810-1816
BOX 37	Lucas, Robert, daybook, 1767-1769
REEL 15	
BOX 37	<i>The Traveller's Pocket-Farrier</i> , with holograph notes dated 1805
REEL 15	
BOX 37	Williams, Elijah, arithmetic exercise book, circa 1760
REEL 15	
BOX 38-40	Damaged Material
not filmed	
	Brittle fragments of correspondence, financial papers, and printed matter
	severely crushed and torn.
BOX 38-40	Fragments of correspondence, accounts, and printed matter
not filmed	