

# Mathews Court House (Va.) Account Books

Mathews Court House (Va.) Account Books  
1838-1874



## Title Statement

Mathews Court House (Va.) Account BooksMathews Court House (Va.) Account Books, 1838-1874  
Ms.1940.021

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## Publication Statement

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## Profile Description

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**Language Usage:** Description is written in: English, Latin script.

**Descriptive Rules:** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

Ms.1940.021

### Unit Date

1838-1874

### Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

### Abstract

This collection contains day books from a general mercantile business in Mathews County, Virginia, likely operated by Francis Armistead with a succession of partners.

### Extent

0.9 Cubic Feet 3 boxes

### Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

## Administrative Information

### **Conditions Governing Access**

The collection is open for research.

### **Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use**

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### **Source of Acquisition**

The Mathews Court House (Va.) Account Books were acquired by the univeristy in 1939 or 1940 and transferred to Special Collections and University Archives in 1955.

### **Processing Information**

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Mathews Court House (Va.) Account Books commenced and was completed in November 2011. Initial description was completed in or prior to May 1970.

### **Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Mathews Court House (Va.) Account Books, Ms1940-021, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

## **Historical Note**

The volumes in this collection seem to have been rebound soon after having been aquired by Virginia Tech, with all original identifying information lost in the process. Latter-day labels on the new bindings, however, indicate that the ledgers originated with stores operated by Francis Armistead and a succession of business partners. The day book spanning 1838-1839 bears the name Tompkins, Armistead and Diggs, while the 1850-1852 volume is labeled "F. A. & Co." On the front endpaper of the 1869-1874 day book is written "A & M [Armistead & Marchants?]." The text of an 1845 deed, found online, identifies Francis Armistead and Albert Diggs as the surviving partners in the firm of Tompkins, Armistead and Diggs. Francis Armistead appears in the 1860 census as a 50-year-old merchant, living in Mathews Court House, Virginia; he appears again in the 1870 and 1880 censuses with the same occupation. A Francis Armistead (1809-1896) is buried in Mathews County's Armistead-Miller Family Cemetery.

## **Scope and Content**

This collection contains three day books maintained by a general mercantile business, likely operated by Francis Armistead with a sucession of partners, in Mathews Court House, Virginia. The volumes provide customer names, dates of transactions, descriptions and prices of items purchased.

## **Keywords**

Account books  
Mathews County (Va.)  
Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

## **Rights Statement for Archival Description**

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## **Arrangement**

The collection is arranged chronologically.

## **Description of Subordinate Components**

**Day book**

**Unit Date** 1838-1839

**box** 1

**Day book**

**Unit Date** 1850-1852

**box** 2

**Day book**

**Unit Date** 1869-1874

**box** 3