

A Guide to the William H. Bowman Papers, 1856-1897 SC 0087

William H. Bowman Papers
1856-1897



Title Statement

A Guide to the William H. Bowman Papers, 1856-1897 SC 0087

Author: Sandra A. Joyner, Chelsea Gutshall

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820 Madison Drive
MSC 1706
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22807
Telephone: (540) 568-3612
library-special@jmu.edu
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Profile Description

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Revision Description

2013-11-21	Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.
January 2010	Updated by Chelsea Gutshall
2017	Collection renumbered.
2020-04-01	Minor revisions to finding aid.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 0087

Unit ID

/repositories/4/resources/242

Unit Date

1856-1897

Language

English

Abstract

The William H. Bowman Papers, 1856-1897, consist of the papers of William H. Bowman, including bills, receipts, and legal documents along with personal letters.

Creator

Bowman, William H. (William Harpine), 1833-1895

source

Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society

Extent

0.2 cubic feet 1/2 Hollinger box; 334 items

Repository

James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection. Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the James Madison University Special Collections Library to use this collection.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have not been transferred to the James Madison University Special Collection Library. For more information, contact the Special Collections Library Reference Desk (library-special@jmu.edu).

Acquisition Information

On deposit by the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society.

Processing Information

In order to streamline the process of applying collection numbers, Special Collections staff completed a large-scale renumbering campaign in the spring of 2017. **This collection was previously cataloged as SC 2020.**

Preferred Citation

[Identification of Item], [box #, folder #], William H. Bowman Papers, 1856-1897, SC 0087, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Va.

Bio/Historical Note

William Harpine Bowman was born on August 26, 1833 in Shenandoah County, Virginia. George Bowman, his first ancestor in Virginia, built the old Bowman homestead, called Fort Bowman or Harmony Hall, at Cedar Creek near Strasburg in 1751. After marrying Emily Frances Huffman, born January 25, 1837, in Harrisonburg, William Bowman settled in Peach Grove, Virginia, in Rockingham County, just southeast of Harrisonburg. There, he was involved in community affairs and served as the treasurer and possibly as the president of the Undine Lodge, where he also worked to support a community effort to purchase a stove for the New Union School in 1857. He further served his community by acting as a Justice of the Peace in the Ashby Township, Rockingham County, from 1870-1872.

Scope and Content

The William H. Bowman Papers, 1856-1897, consist of 334 items arranged in three series: Financial Papers, 1850s-1890s, Judgments and Warrants, 1870-1872, and Personal Papers, undated.

Series 1: Financial Papers, 1850-1890, is arranged in five folders. The first four folders detail the years from 1850-1890 and are primarily made up of receipts, purchase and debt payment notices, and tax forms. Earlier documents from the 1850s and 1860s include information on slaves owned by Bowman and his land holdings. Also included are subscriptions to the *Old Commonwealth*, *Rockingham Register*, and *Harrisonburg Free Press* newspapers, along with orders to the Atlantic and Virginia Fertilizing Company for "EUREKA"

Ammoniated Super-Phosphate Fertilizer. A March 8, 1890 receipt details a payment of three dollars for tuition paid to the Shenandoah Normal College and fire insurance purchased for one thousand one hundred twenty-five dollars from the Rockingham Home Mutual Fire Insurance Company on May 1, 1890. Of particular note is a July 17, 1897 purchase for a headstone for William Bowman by Annie Bowman. The final folder in this series consists of medical bills for such items as pain management and a prescription for Bowman's wife.

Series 2: Judgments and Warrants, 1870-1872, is divided into two folders of documents from Bowman's tenure as Justice of the Peace. The first folder contains items from 1870, the large majority of which are addressed to Rockingham County constables with orders to summon various individuals for hearings. The second folder spans the years of 1871-1872. Summons to court once more are the greater part of the folder but judgments commanding individuals to pay debts within an allotted time period are also included.

Series 3: Personal Papers, undated, is comprised of four items. Of interest is a letter from the Shenandoah Normal School principal, G.W. Hoenshel, dated February 15, 1891, with information concerning tuition and room and board expenses along with a brief description of the school and the date of the beginning of the spring term. A July 12, 1861, letter from Port Republic, Virginia, exempting William Bowman from military duty after a Regimental Court of Inquiry for the 58th Regiment is present.

Keywords

Farmers -- Virginia -- Biography
Agriculture -- Virginia -- History
Medicine -- Virginia -- Rockingham County -- History -- 19th century
Medical care -- Virginia -- Rockingham County -- History -- 19th century
Shenandoah River Valley (Va. and W. Va.) -- History
Shenandoah River Valley (Va. and W. Va.) -- Social life and customs
Rockingham County (Va.) -- History
Rockingham County (Va.) -- Social life and customs
Virginia -- History
Virginia -- Social life and customs
Rockingham County (Va.) -- Genealogy
Shenandoah River Valley (Va. and W. Va.) -- Genealogy
Virginia -- Genealogy
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
Financial Records
Legal documents
Receipts (financial records)
Summonses
Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society
Bowman, William H. (William Harpine), 1833-1895

Bibliography

Wayland, John B. *Men of Mark: and representative citizens of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County, Virginia*. Staunton: The McClure Company, Inc., 1943.

Provenance

Packaged in a large envelope on which was written: "From Dorice Graham from her great Uncle Ott Minnich. Donated [as a] collection of old papers from the collection. Presented [to the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Historical Society] on April 30, 1980."

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in three series:

- Financial Papers, 1850s-1890s
- Judgments and Warrants, 1870-1872
- Personal Papers, undated

Description of Subordinate Components

Financial Papers

Unit ID 1

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/749

Unit Date 1850s-1890s

Financial papers

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/752

Unit Date 1850s-1860s

Mixed Materials [1000886528] 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Financial papers

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/753

Unit Date 1870s

Mixed Materials [1000886528] 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Financial papers

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/754

Unit Date 1880s

Mixed Materials [1000886528] 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Financial papers

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/755

Unit Date 1890s, undated

Mixed Materials [1000886528] 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Medical Bills

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/756

Mixed Materials [1000886528] 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Judgments and Warrants

Unit ID 2

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/750

Unit Date 1870-1872

Judgments and warrants

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/757

Unit Date 1870

Mixed Materials [1000886528] 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Judgments and warrants**Unit ID** /repositories/4/archival_objects/758**Unit Date** 1871-1872**Mixed Materials [1000886528]** 1 (box)**Container** 7 (folder)**Personal Papers****Unit ID** 3**Unit ID** /repositories/4/archival_objects/751**Unit Date** undated**Mixed Materials [1000886528]** 1 (box)**Container** 8 (folder)