

A Guide to the Berkeley Family Papers

Berkeley Family Papers 1536-present
1536-present

A Collection in the Special Collections Department 38-113
Special Collections, University of Virginia Library
2018

History

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Title Statement

A Guide to the Berkeley Family Papers

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Profile Description

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February 18, 2004 PUBLIC "-//University of Virginia::Library::Special Collections Dept.//TEXT (US::ViU::01015::Berkeley and Noland Families Papers)//EN" "ViU01015.sgm" converted from EAD 1.0 to 2002 by v1to02.xsl (sy2003-10-15).

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Descriptive Summary

Collection Number

38-113

Language

English

Extent

circa 20,000 items

Repository

Special Collections, University of Virginia Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

See the [University of Virginia Library's use policy](#).

Acquisition Information

The collection was placed on deposit by various members of the Berkeley family between 1933 and 1999. The papers were made a gift to the Library by Edmund Berkeley, Jr. and Edmund Berkeley, III on November 20, 2018.

Preferred Citation

Berkeley Family Papers, 1653-1930, Accession #38-113, Special Collections, University of Virginia Library, Charlottesville, Va.

Scope and Content

This collection primarily includes personal correspondence and legal and business papers of the Berkeley Family . Interfiled with these papers are extensive papers of the closely-related Noland family . The joined collection comprises about 20,000 items (ca. 85 Hollinger documents boxes on about 38 feet of shelving) dating between 1653 and 1930, with the heaviest concentration in the nineteenth century.

The Berkeleys were in Virginia very early, and settled first in Gloucester County. The family was in Middlesex County by the first decade of the eighteenth century where they built " Barn Elms" on the Piankatank River (on the north bank from present Berkeley Island). About 1820 they left Middlesex for " Aldie, " Loudoun County where they remained until 1882 when they moved to Red Hill, Albemarle County. The name "Edmund" appears in every generation.

The bulk of the Berkeley Papers concern business matters, especially farming operations on lands in Gloucester, Middlesex, King William, Prince William, Hanover, Lancaster, Loudoun, Albemarle, Clarke, and other counties.

Because of the close ties between the Berkeley and Noland families there are many common correspondents and much complementary material in the various groups of Noland and Berkeley families papers received by the Library from a number of donors over almost fifty years. Accordingly, the groups of Noland family papers have been interfiled into the Berkeley Papers. Separate folders have been used, and the accession numbers assigned to each group as it was received by the Library appear on the folders.

Much of the Noland material concerns "Airwell," Hanover County, and William Noland, Carter B. Berkeley, and Nelson Berkeley. Other items and topics of interest in the combined collections include: letters from Berkeley family members attending the University of Virginia; letters written by during the Civil War, especially by the Berkeleys serving in the Eighth Virginia Infantry Regiment. Letters written by Edmund Berkeley (1824-1915) relate many anecdotes about prominent persons such as the Marquis de Lafayette, James Monroe, Catesby ap Roger Jones, Andrew Jackson, Abel Parker Upshur, Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, Daniel Webster, Charles Dickens, Sam Houston, and Theodore Roosevelt. He also describes events such as the explosion of the cannon named the "Peacemaker" on board the U.S.S. Princeton in 1844. Edmund served as Lieutenant Colonel of the Eighth Virginia, and his letters and those of his brother Norborne Berkeley (1828-), colonel of the Regiment, describe the many actions in which the regiment was involved such as Bull Run, Seven Pines, and Gettysburg, as well as life in Union prison camps, especially Johnson's Island, after their capture at Gettysburg following Pickett's charge.

The portion of the collection accessioned as #8221 includes personal correspondence of Landon C. Berkeley, Anne Poe Harrison (Landon's wife), Cynthia Berkeley, Edmonia Berkeley, and Francis Lewis Berkeley (1859-1942). Topics mentioned in these letters include: the election of 1856; horse racing; speeches by Dwight Lyman Moody ; Wellesley College; the Miller School of Albemarle, Albemarle County, Virginia; Oregon in the 1880's; While Sulphur Springs, Virginia; slave hiring; Mary Custis Lee, [Chiswell Dabney] "Chilly" Langhorne; and William Mahone. Correspondents in this section include John Thompson Brown, John Warwick Daniel, Andrew Jackson Montague, John Barbee Minor, Thomas Nelson Page, Thomas Walter Harrison, and Micajah Woods.

There are bound volumes in #8221 that include class notebooks used by Francis Lewis Berkeley at the University of Virginia, 1896-1899, while taking courses in geology and agricultural chemistry, and his diary for 1906-1910 (Boxes 78-80). Other bound volumes include: a school notebook kept by Cynthia Berkeley in 1887 (Box 78); a mill ledger kept by William Noland at Aldie, Loudoun County; accounts, 1854-1885, kept by William Noland Berkeley ; a common stock register, 1915-1930, of G.E. Smith with E.L. Rothschild Co.; and a trigonometry notebook, 1912.

Financial and legal papers in #8221 consist of deeds, receipts cancelled checks, and similar material. There is a large body of financial and legal papers of John Crissey of New York, an in-law of the Berkeleys.

Container List

Correspondence and Business Papers

Unit Date 1536 January -1717 December

Container Box 1

Unit Date 1718 January -1757 October

Container Box 2

Unit Date 1757 November -1768 February

Container Box 3

Unit Date 1768 March -1775 July

Container Box 4

Unit Date 1775 August -1785 March

Container Box 5

Unit Date 1785 April -1787 December

Container Box 6

Unit Date 1788 January -1791 December

Container Box 7

Unit Date 1792 January -1794 December

Container Box 8

Unit Date 1795 January -1797 May

Container Box 9

Unit Date 1797 June -1799 May

Container Box 10

Unit Date 1799 June -1801 May

Container Box 11

Unit Date 1801 June -1802 March

Container Box 12

Unit Date 1802 April -1803 November

Container Box 13

Unit Date 1803 December -1805 January

Container Box 14

Unit Date 1805 February -1807 January

Container Box 15

Unit Date 1807 February -1810 August

Container Box 16

Unit Date 1810 September -1811 December

Container Box 17

Unit Date 1812 January -1813 October

Container Box 18

Unit Date 1813 November -1815 October

Container Box 19

Unit Date 1815 November -1816 July

Container Box 20

Unit Date 1816 August -1817 November

Container Box 21

Unit Date 1817 December -1818 November

Container Box 22

Unit Date 1818 December -1820 April

Container Box 23

Unit Date 1820 May -1821 November

Container Box 24

Unit Date 1821 December -1823 January
Container Box 25
Unit Date 1823 February -1824 February
Container Box 26
Unit Date 1824 March -1825 April
Container Box 27
Unit Date 1825 May -1826 December
Container Box 28
Unit Date 1827 January -1828 March
Container Box 29
Unit Date 1828 April -1829 December
Container Box 30
Unit Date 1830 January -1831 March
Container Box 31
Unit Date 1831 April -1833 April
Container Box 32
Unit Date 1833 May -1835 August
Container Box 33
Unit Date 1835 September -1837 June
Container Box 34
Unit Date 1837 July -1839 August
Container Box 35
Unit Date 1839 September -1841 January
Container Box 36
Unit Date 1841 February -1842 October
Container Box 37
Unit Date 1842 November -1843 December
Container Box 38
Unit Date 1844 January -1845 December
Container Box 39
Unit Date 1846 January -1847 October
Container Box 40
Unit Date 1847 November -1848 December
Container Box 41
Unit Date 1849 January -1850 March
Container Box 42
Unit Date 1850 April -1851 February
Container Box 43
Unit Date 1851 March -1842 December
Container Box 44
Unit Date 1853 January -1854 February
Container Box 45
Unit Date 1854 March -1855 January
Container Box 46
Unit Date 1855 February -1856 August
Container Box 47
Unit Date 1856 September -1857 December
Container Box 48
Unit Date 1858 January -1860 November
Container Box 49
Unit Date 1860 December -1861 December
Container Box 50

Unit Date 1862 January -1863 September

Container Box 51

Links [Gettysburg letter](#)

Unit Date 1863 October -1865 September

Container Box 52

Unit Date 1865 October -1868 July

Container Box 53

Unit Date 1868 August -1873 March

Container Box 54

Unit Date 1873 April -1877 May

Container Box 55

Unit Date 1877 June -1878 December

Container Box 56

Unit Date 1879 January -1880 January

Container Box 57

Unit Date 1880 February -1881 July

Container Box 58

Unit Date 1881 August -1883 May

Container Box 59

Unit Date 1883 June -1886 January

Container Box 60

Unit Date 1886 February -1888 March

Container Box 61

Unit Date 1888 April -1889 November

Container Box 62

Unit Date 1889 December -1890 December

Container Box 63

Unit Date 1891 January -1897 December

Container Box 64

Unit Date 1898 January -1903 February

Container Box 65

Unit Date 1903 March -1907 April

Container Box 66

Unit Date 1907 May -1912 November

Container Box 67

Unit Date 1912 December -1919 February

Container Box 68

Unit Date 1919 March -1932 May

Container Box 69

Unit Date 1932 June -1943 April

Container Box 70

Unit Date 1943 May -1947 April

Container Box 71

Unit Date 1947 May -1983

Container Box 72

Undated and Miscellaneous Papers

Undated and Miscellaneous Papers

Container Boxes 73-77

Bound Volumes

"Smith's Lives of the Berkeley's"

Unit Date 1803

Container Box 78

Ledger of William Noland, (#8221, Vol. 1)

Unit Date 1817 -1818

Container Box 78

Memoranda Book, (#8221, Vol. 2)

Unit Date 1838 -1850

Container Box 78

Ledger of William N. Berkeley, (#8221, Vol. 3)

Unit Date 1854 -1885

Container Box 78

Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley, (#8221, Vol. 6)

Unit Date ca. 1880

Container Box 78

School Notebook of Cynthia Berkeley (#8221, V. 7)

Unit Date ca. 1887

Container Box 78

Geology Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley (#8221, V. 8)

Unit Date 1896

Container Box 78

Geology Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley (#8221, V. 9)

Unit Date 1896

Container Box 79

Geology Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley (#8221, V.10)

Unit Date 1896

Container Box 79

Geology Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley (#8221, V.11)

Unit Date 1896

Container Box 79

Geology Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley (#8221, V.12)

Unit Date 1896

Container Box 79

Mineralogy Notebook of F. L. Berkeley, (#8221, V. 13)

Unit Date 1896

Container Box 79

Geology Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley (#8221, V.14)

Unit Date 1896

Container Box 79

Geology Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley (#8221, V.15)

Unit Date 1897

Container Box 80

Diary of Francis L. Berkeley, (#8221, Vol. 16)

Unit Date 1905 -1910

Container Box 80

Account Book of Mrs. G.D. Smith in Account with E.L. Rothschild & Co., Stockbrokers, (#8221, V. 17)

Unit Date 1915 -1930

Container Box 80

Trigonometry Notebook of M. Sutherland (#8221, V. 18)

Unit Date 1932

Container Box 80

General Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley

Unit Date ca. 1896

Container Box 80

English Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley

Unit Date ca. 1896

Container Box 80

U.S. History Notebook

Unit Date ca. 1934

Container Box 80

Autograph Book of Francis L. Berkeley, (Spine is labeled:"Mathematics U.S. Naval Academy")

Unit Date ca. 1897

Container Box 80

Chemistry Notebook of J.T.D. Bell

Unit Date 1892

Container Box 80

Chemistry Notebook of William N. Berkeley

Unit Date No date

Container Box 81

U.S. History Notebook of Francis L. Berkeley

Unit Date 1877

Container Box 81

UVa Class Notes of Francis L. Berkeley, Jr.

Unit Date ca. 1930

Container Box 81

Papers Left by Charles W. Coleman, concerning the families of Smith, Tucker, White, etc.

Unit Date 1927

Container Box 81

Scrap Book #2

Unit Date 1926 -1951

Container Box 82

Autobiography of Major General Randolph Carter Berkeley, USMC, (#8221, Vol. 19)

Unit Date 1959

Container Box 82

The commissioning of United States Ship "Berkeley" (DDG-15), [photo album]

Unit Date 1962

Container Box 82

Yearbook of Field Artillery Replacement Center, 4th Training Regiment, Fort Bragg

Unit Date 1941

Container Box 82

Britain's Homage to 28,000 American Dead

Unit Date 1952

Container Box 82

UVa Dedication of War Memorial Plaques

Unit Date 1960 June 11

Container Box 82

"An Occasional Bulletin," The Virginia Historical Society

Unit Date 1962, April

Container Box 82

"The Iron Worker"

Unit Date 1957, Spring

Container Box 82

Ephemera [match case and dress shirt studs]

Unit Date No date

Container Box 82

Confederate envelopes

Unit Date ca. 1861 -1865

Container Box 82

19th Century postage stamps

Container Box 82

two leather wallets

Unit Date No date

Container Box 82

Berkeley Family Bible

Container Box 83

"Early Covers"

Unit Date No date

Container Box 83

Oversize Items

Family Bible (Lacks covers and end pages)

Container OS Box 1 (Box)

Printed Book, The History of England, Vol. XVI

Container OS Box 2 (Box)

Printed Book, The History of England, (title excised)

Container OS Box 3 (Box)

Ledger / Account Book

Unit Date ca. 1801-1818

Container OS Box 4 (Box)

Ledger / Account Book

Unit Date ca. 1729-1760

Container OS Box 4 (Box)

Business Ledger

Unit Date ca. 1801-1802

Container OS Box 5 (Box)

Business Ledger, William N. Berkeley (#8221)

Unit Date ca. 1857-1868

Container OS Box 5 (Box)

Diplomas and Certificates (rolled)

Container OS Box 5 (Box)

Genealogical Charts (rolled)

Container OS Box 5 (Box)

Genealogical Charts

Container OS Box 6 (Box)

Certificates

Container OS Box 6 (Box)

Engraving, "Berkeley Castle" (photostat)

Container OS Box 6 (Box)