

A Guide to the Latane Family Papers

Latane Family Papers 1650-1898

1650-1898

A Collection in the Special Collections Department 6490
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History

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A Guide to the Latane Family Papers

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Descriptive Summary

Collection Number

6490

Language

English

Collector

Lucy Temple Latane and James A. Latane, Jr.

Extent

ca. 710 items

Repository

University of Virginia. Library. Special Collections Dept.

Alderman Library
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903
USA

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open to research.

Use Restrictions

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

Acquisition Information

This collection was originally loaned to the University of Virginia Library by Lucy Temple Latane but was later given to the Library by James A. Latane, Jr. on December 7, 1988.

Funding Note

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Preferred Citation

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Scope and Content

This collection of papers, 1650-1898, consists of ca. 710 items pertaining to the Latane family of Essex County, Virginia. Included are correspondence, business and legal papers, papers re military and religious matters, school notebooks, and certificates of graduation from schools at the University of Virginia.

Although little seems to be known or published about the Latane family, valuable information may be found in Parson Latane 1672-1732 by Lucy Temple Latane (Mss CS71.L347 1936); Essex County, Virginia: Its Historic Homes, Landmarks and Traditions edited by Essex County Woman's Club (F232.E7E7 1940); and, Settlers, Southerners, Americans: The History of Essex County, Virginia 1608-1984 by James B. Slaughter (F232.E7S5 1985).

The early eighteenth century correspondence contains many letters from Henry Latane and his wife, Anne Latane, London, England, to his brother, Lewis Latane (1672-1732) and his third wife, Mary (Deane) Latane (1685-1765), South Farnham Parish, Essex County. Some of the letters are written in French but the majority of them are in English. During the 1720s, Henry frequently advised Lewis to grow another crop besides tobacco, saying that Europe could not consume all that comes from America. In a letter of January 13, 1730, Henry is "impatient to know what the fate of Europe whether warr or Peace everything seems to tend to a Crisis ...," possibly referring to the trade conflict between England and Spain.

After her husband's death in 1732, Mary (Deane) Latane managed the property that came to her and her children, with the help of her cousin, William Beverley (1698-1756). There are several letters, 1733-1750, from Beverley discussing the settlement of her husband's estate and the sale of her tobacco. In addition, there are business correspondence, bills of lading, invoices, and other papers concerning the sale of tobacco.

Letters of interest include correspondence of Spencer Roane (1762-1822), King and Queen County, and William Latane (1750-1811), Essex County, July 1791-August 1792, concerning the deed and survey for the "Mount Clement Trail of Land," and another on July 25, 1804 re the suit of Braxton vs Roane; letters on April 19, 1825, June 13, 1826, and November 18, 1826, from James Montague, Harden County, Kentucky, to friends in Essex County, concerning various aspects of life in Kentucky such as the conflict between anti-relief and relief parties, tobacco sales, and prices of corn, flour, cotton, whiskey, et al.; one on June 9, 1854, from Rev. Henry W. L. Temple, Wayland, to James Allen Latane, University of Virginia, discussing Bishop William Meade's visit; and, several letters, October 25, 1864, December 4, 1871, February 2 and June 15, 1883, and June 13, 1885, from Thomas S. Watson, Bracketts, chiefly to Julia A. Holladay, Botetourt County, Virginia, mentioning news of family and friends, new dwellings built on Ionia, and his being disqualified as a member of the legislature.

Letters pertaining to black history include one of December 10, 1772, from Samuel Peachey, Jr., Occoquan Furnace, to William Latane, Essex County, asking him to send a young black at Christmas because the latter wants to learn the blacksmith trade; one of November 10, 1788, from Bartlett Williams, New Kent, to William Latane, Essex County, complaining about Latane's man Ephraim corrupting his blacks, and requesting that he not be permitted to visit his plantation; a circular, February 27, 1794, referring to the transportation of slaves from Africa to the West-India islands; one of February 28, 1809, from S. Chenault, Nelson County, Kentucky, re the "elopement" of Franklin and his recovery by a Captain Lafon who kept him in his possession for awhile; correspondence between Henry Waring Latane(1782-1860), Essex County, and his brother-in-law, John Temple(-1812), Parkersburg, re the death of Temple's father and the division of his slaves at "Goldberry," December 10, 1811 and January 8, 1812; and, one of June 13, 1885, from Thomas S. Watson, Bracketts, to Julia A. Holladay, Botetourt County, mentioning the poisoning of some children by a black woman.

The business papers are comprised of accounts and administrative and estate papers as well as general correspondence and papers. The accounts are chiefly for members of the Latane and Waring families, and, to a lesser extent, for members of the Allen family and Temple family. The administrative and estate papers concern the estates of William Peachey(-1700), Lewis Latane(1672-1732), Robert Payne Waring(-1799?), William Latane(1750-1811), John Temple(-1812), Lewis Dix(-1815?), James Allen(-1820?), Ann Latane(-1820?), and Henry Waring Latane(1782-1860). Also, there are business papers pertaining to black history; and, a separate itemized listing has been compiled.

The legal papers contain many indentures, land grants and plats/surveys for lands in Essex County, King and Queen County, and Rappahannock County. These papers are helpful in determining ownership of lands held by the Latane Family, Roane Family, Allen Family, and Dix Family. In addition, there are copies of wills for members of the Latane, Roane, Allen, and Dix families. The wills also contain references to the division of blacks among the families.

There are also genealogical, military, and religious material. The military papers, 1814-1828, pertain chiefly to James Allen's career as captain in the Virginia militia and include abstracts of forage, regimental orders, receipt for arms, detailed returns of arms accoutrements, and rosters of officers and other personnel. Among the miscellaneous papers is a small group of material concerning religious matters, particularly having to do with South Farnham Parish in Essex County. Included are a letter, December 17, 1716, from Alexander Spotswood to the vestry of the parish re their decision to suspend Lewis Latane from his ministerial office; a hymn book belonging to John Latane; and, two letters about the weakening of the Church in Virginia.

Organization

The material is grouped into the following series: I. Correspondence; II. Business Papers; III. Legal Papers; IV. Miscellaneous; V. Bound Volumes; and, VI. Oversize.

Container List

Correspondence

Correspondence of the Latane family (in French)

Unit Date 1720-1730, n.d.

Container Box 1

Correspondence of the Latane family

Unit Date 1720-1891, n.d.

Container Box 1

Extent (5 folders)

Business Papers

Accounts

Unit Date 1711-1851

Container Box 1

Extent (3 folders)

Administrative and Estate Papers

Unit Date 1700-1860

Container Box 1

Business Correspondence

Unit Date 1764-1866, n.d.

Container Box 1

Business Papers

Unit Date 1700-1779

Container Box 1

Business Papers

Unit Date 1780-1865, n.d.

Container Box 2

Extent (2 folders)

Taxes Paid in Essex County

Unit Date 1815-1866

Container Box 2

Legal Papers

Indentures

Unit Date 1667-1867

Container Box 2

Extent (2 folders)

Land Grants and Plats/Surveys

Unit Date 1650-1895

Container Box 2

Legal Papers

Unit Date 1748-1864

Container Box 2

Wills

Unit Date 1710-1839

Container Box 2

Miscellaneous

Genealogy of the Latane and related families

Unit Date 1892-1898

Container Box 2

Jefferson Society of the University of Virginia Address by James Allen Latane

Unit Date 1853 April

Container Box 2

Memoranda Books

Unit Date 1707-1794, 1803

Container Box 2

Military Papers

Unit Date 1814-1828

Container Box 2

Miscellaneous

Unit Date 1700-1788, n.d.

Container Box 2

Virginia Newspapers

Unit Date 1798, 1812

Container Box 2

Bound Volumes

Arithmetic Book of Henry Waring Latane

Unit Date ca. 1721

Container Box 3

University of Virginia Mathematics Lectures, notes kept by James Allen Latane

Unit Date 1849-1850

Container Box 3

University of Virginia Moral Philosophy Lectures, notes kept by James Allen Latane

Unit Date 1850-1851

Container Box 3

University of Virginia Law School Lectures, notes kept by James Allen Latane and George Magruder

Unit Date 1851-1852, 1853-1854

Container Box 3

Oversize

Two Indentures between William Roane and Mary Latane

Unit Date 1742

Container Oversize Box M-1 (Box)

Certificates of graduation in French Language and Literature, Spanish Language, Latin Language, Moral Philosophy, Ancient Languages and Literature, and Chemistry from the University of Virginia for James Allen Latane

Unit Date 1859-1851

Container Oversize Box M-1 (Box)

Bachelor of Arts Diploma from the University of Virginia for James Allen Latane

Unit Date 1851

Container Oversize Box M-1 (Box)

Certificates of graduation in General Chemistry and Physics from the University of Virginia for Henry Waring Latane

Unit Date 1878

Container Oversize Box M-1 (Box)

