RECORDS OF ANTE-BELLUM SOUTHERN PLANTATIONS
FROM THE REVOLUTION THROUGH THE CIVIL WAR

Series B
Selections from the South Carolina Historical Society

UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS OF AMERICA
Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War

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A Guide to

Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations from the Revolution through the Civil War

Series B
Selections from the South Carolina Historical Society

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A microfilm project of
UNIVERSITY PUBLICATIONS OF AMERICA, INC.
44 North Market Street • Frederick, MD 21701

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ISBN 0-89093-777-X.
NOTE ON SOURCES

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For any illegible item, please refer to the specific reel and frame number when writing to the South Carolina Historical Society, 100 Meeting Street, Charleston, South Carolina, 29401, which will provide a transcription or copy of the item.

EDITORIAL NOTE

The map of the state of South Carolina used on this microfilm is that of Anthony Finley, 1841. Maps of the individual districts are from Robert Mills, Atlas of South Carolina, 1825.

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Reel 1

*Thomas Porcher Ravenel Papers, 1731–1899, Charleston District, South Carolina.*

Thomas Porcher Ravenel Papers, 1731–1899, Charleston District, South Carolina, call numbers 12/313–12/318. Records kept by the Ravenel family consist of bound diaries, daybooks, plantation records, estate accounts, and other materials. Earliest accounts pertain to “Pooshee” plantation, St. John’s, Berkeley Parish and begin with Rene Ravenel. Henry Ravenel of “Hanover” plantation held 2,700 acres of the same parish and was credited with 47 slaves in the 1756 tax assessment. The estate of Paul D. Ravenel gave bedsheets to 109 slaves at “Pooshee” during 1841; his son Dr. Henry Ravenel held 115 slaves there in 1860. Much material in the collection relates to lands, plantation management, slave lists, and crops, especially rice and cotton. Personal diaries cover most of the period and include comments on Civil War experiences at home and in the Confederate army. Other material relates to the Black Oak Agricultural Society, South Carolina College [now the University of South Carolina], French Huguenots in South Carolina, and the St. John’s Hunting Club. *See also* Henry Ravenel Papers.

0001 Introductory materials. 4pp.
0532  “Extracts from the Minutes" of St. John’s Parish Church, 1753–1808 (12/314/1). 9pp.
0635  Unidentified Daybook from the Secretary’s Office, 1788–1794 (12/314/3). 100pp.

**Reel 2**

*Thomas Porcher Ravenel Papers cont.*

0840  Family Correspondence, 1850–1859 (12/315/15). 64pp.
Thomas Porcher Ravenel Papers cont.

0001 Family Correspondence, 1863–1868 (12/315/17). 120pp.

Reel 4

Thomas Porcher Ravenel Papers cont.

0017 Catalogue of the Trustees, Faculty, and Students of South Carolina College, January 1842 (12/318/2). 8pp.
0025 Catalogue of the Trustees, Faculty, and Students of South Carolina College, January 1843 (12/318/3). 9pp.
0128 Frederick A. Porcher, Oration Delivered before the Citizens of Pineville, South Carolina, July 4, 1831 (12/318/7). 9pp.
0146 Two Diaries From Middle St. John's Parish, Berkeley, South Carolina, February-May, 1865 (12/318/9). 3pp.
0205 "In Memoriam, Daniel Ravenel, Tribute of the French Protestant Church, of Charleston, to Their Late President," 1874 (12/318/14). 8pp.

Henry Ravenel Papers, 1716–1876, Charleston District, South Carolina

Henry Ravenel Papers, 1716–1876, Charleston District, South Carolina, call number 11/331. These records kept by the Ravenel family primarily contain business papers including land and slave mortgages, deeds, accounts of purchase and sale, wills, and estate papers. Persons reflected in the records are Rene, Henry, James, Dr. Henry, and Henry W. Ravenel. The Henry Ravenel estate in St. John's, Berkeley, Parish contained 48 slaves on “Brunswick” plantation in 1823. A copy of a confession relating to the Denmark Vesey slave rebellion of 1822 appears on frames 0894–0896. Another folder contains letters written by H.W. Ravenel on a journey north in 1853. See also Thomas Porcher Ravenel Papers.
Reel 5

*Thomas Walter Peyre Plantation Journal, 1812–1851, Charleston District, South Carolina*

Thomas Walter Peyre Plantation Journal, 1812–1851, Charleston District, South Carolina, call number 34/466. Thomas Walter Peyre of "Spring Grove" plantation, St. John’s Parish, kept a careful journal of agricultural experiments, involving cultivation methods for corn, cotton, ground nuts, potatoes, and other crops and the use of various manures, lime, and plaster of paris. Also detailed are the hours allotted slaves for tasks on the plantation. His records show 221/4 “full” hands in 1836 and 25 hands for 1849. Other items entered and indexed in the volume range from the dates of the confinement of pregnant slaves to accounts of company at “Spring Grove,” with dates of arrival and departure and the number of horses. Tasks ranged from splitting rails and spinning cotton or wool to cultivating rice and maintaining canals. On frame 0294 are Peyre’s estimates for the production of all plantations in middle St. John’s Parish during 1846.

0001 Introductory Materials. 4 pp.
Samuel Barker Estate Account Books, 1826–1850, Charleston, South Carolina

Samuel Barker Estate Account Books, 1826–1850, Charleston, South Carolina, call number 34/336. Samuel Barker was an attorney in Charleston. He was in partnership with King until 1834, when the partnership was dissolved. These books relate to monies brought in and disbursed by him as an executor or administrator of estates and as a trustee. Families mentioned include Barker, Broughton, Ferguson, Gaillard, Gourdin, Holbrook, Kochler, McBride, Malcolmson, Mitchell, and Williams. Other indexed entries include “cash,” “King and Barker,” “my profession,” and “South Mulberry” plantation. Loose papers include a list of 87 slaves showing family groupings, occupations, and dates of birth. See also Gourdin-Gaillard Family Papers.

Gourdin-Gaillard Family Papers, 1795–1886, Charleston and Georgetown Districts, South Carolina

Gourdin-Gaillard Family Papers, 1795–1886, Charleston and Georgetown Districts, South Carolina, call numbers 11/164–11/166. The estate of Theodore Gourdin was appraised at over $120,000 in 1826 and contained four plantations: “Murry’s Ferry,” “Red Clay,” “Shoe Seggers” and “Linud’s Ferry,” as well as a house in Pineville and 360 slaves. In 1871 Dr. Robert M. Gourdin was assessed for over 2,500 acres. In 1900, the Gourdin estate laid claim to over 25,000 acres. These records contain extensive slave lists and papers pertaining to rice and cotton cultivation. Among the many fascinating features of this collection are contracts (1865–1866, 1883–1891) made with freedmen by Theodore L. Gourdin and Samuel Gaillard Stoney. Also included are papers regarding the Harriet Porcher Gaillard plantation, “New Hope,” and accounts of Esther Holbrook. See also Samuel Barker Estate Books.
Gourdin-Gaillard Family Papers cont.

Reel 7

*Gourdin-Gaillard Family Papers cont.*


*“Richmond” Overseer Journal, 1859–1860,*

*Charleston District, South Carolina*

“Richmond” Overseer Journal, 1859–1860, Charleston District, South Carolina, call number 34/184. Dr. Benjamin Huger of “Richmond” plantation on the Cooper River owned 155 slaves in 1860. His was primarily a rice plantation and the overseer noted ditching and cropping methods used in the cultivation of this staple. Other articles noted as being grown or dispersed to the “people” were corn, fish, meat, oats, peas, potatoes, and tobacco. Livestock notes recorded include the number, increase, and slaughter of cows, goats, horses, pigs and sheep. A slave was
flogged on September 12, 1859, and another ran away, was caught, and confined on May 17–18, 1860.

0946 Introductory Materials. 5pp.

Reel 8

Alonzo White Slave Auction Book, 1853–1863, Charleston District, South Carolina


0001 Introductory Materials. 4pp.

John B. Milliken Plantation Journals, 1853–1889, Charleston District, South Carolina

John B. Milliken Plantation Journals, 1853–1889, Charleston District, South Carolina, call number 34/196. “Mulberry” plantation on Cooper River is the subject of these four volumes and one folder. Volume 1, kept by Thomas Milliken, contains a detailed description of rice and corn cultivation methods, daily tasks, weather, sicknesses of and food consumed by slaves, and the annual produce of the plantation. The two overseers’ books contain similar, but less detailed information. The first 46 frames of volume 4 are an account book, apparently of a factor or consignment merchant, from 1863–1864. The subsequent 256 frames are John B. Milliken's detailed records of “Mulberry” from 1877–1899 and include notes on wages of freedmen, crops, and other items. Some unusual entries in these volumes treat a hurricane in August 1885 and the earthquakes of August 31-October, 1886.

0078 Introductory Materials. 5pp.
Paul D. Weston Papers, 1786–1869, Georgetown District, South Carolina

Paul D. Weston Papers, 1786–1869, Georgetown District, South Carolina, call number 11/453. Dr. Paul D. Weston of "Hampstead" and other lands on the PeeDee River died in 1837. In the slave papers of his estate were noted 118 slaves bought by his son, Dr. Francis Weston, and 146 bought by his brother Francis Weston. Dr. Francis Weston of "Hasty Point" on the PeeDee had 164 slaves in 1841 and 152 working slaves, out of 335, in 1860. He was active in the Winyah and All Saints Agricultural Society. Extensive files in this collection document rice sales, purchase of medical supplies, and household and plantation expenses. Land papers document numerous land transactions and mortgages. N.B.: The arrangement of these papers has been altered since the filming.

0580 Introductory Materials. 3pp.
0634 Francis Weston, Medical College Lecture Cards, 1830–1832 (11/453). 5pp.
Reel 9

Paul D. Weston Papers cont.


John Sparkman Plantation Book, 1859–1864,
Georgetown District, South Carolina

John Sparkman Plantation Book, 1859–1864; 1923, Georgetown District, South Carolina, call number 34/210. Dr. James Ritchie Sparkman of “Dirleton” plantation held 166 slaves in 1859. Among the records in this book are the slaves’ birthdates and family groupings as well as their allotments of material for clothing and their measurements. Other records of workers (dating from as late as 1923) are interspersed with the original entries. “Dirleton” on the Pee Dee River was a rice plantation in the estate of Edward Thomas Heriot and was managed after his death by his son-in-law Dr. James R. Sparkman. See also Series A, Part 2, James Ritchie Sparkman Papers.

0077 Introductory Materials. 3pp.

Joshua John Ward Plantation Journals, 1800–1869,
Georgetown District, South Carolina

Joshua John Ward Plantation Journals, 1800–1869, Georgetown District, South Carolina, call number 34/171. These accounts relate to
“Brookgreen,” “Alderly,” “Prospect Hill,” “Springfield” and “Longwood” plantations in the estate of Colonel Joshua John Ward. The estate totaled 1,130 slaves, the greatest number held by a single owner in the U.S., according to the 1860 census. The earliest records of 1831 are for “Rose Dew” plantation. Rice was the major staple, although substantial numbers of hogs and cattle and volumes of corn were needed to feed so many people. With Colonel Ward’s demise in 1853, the estate was managed by his son, Joshua, who apparently made the subsequent entries regarding the various plantations along the PeeDee.

0137 Introductory Materials. 3pp.

**Dr. Andrew Hasell Medical Account Book, 1830–1842, Georgetown District, South Carolina.**

Dr. Andrew Hasell Medical Account Book, 1830–1842, Georgetown District, South Carolina, call number 34/247. Dr. Hasell ministered to the physical needs of plantation peoples, free and slave, including those of Colonel J.J. Ward, Dr. Paul Weston, the Aistons, and Colonel Belin. These records run from 1830 to 1842 and contain notes on vaccinations, cuppings, bleedings, powders, and other prescriptions, as well as insurance policy work. Accounts include the names of persons treated, their maladies, and prescriptions for cure. On frame 552 is a list of charges for the treatment of various ailments.

0276 Introductory Materials. 3pp.

**Reverend Alexander Glennie Parish Diary, 1832–1859, Georgetown District, South Carolina**

Reverend Alexander Glennie Parish Diary, 1832–1859, Georgetown District, South Carolina, call number 34/156. Reverend Alexander Glennie, rector of All Saints Episcopal Church in Georgetown, was 28 when he arrived in 1832. When he began the All Saints Sunday School Society in 1832, he had 10 black communicants; by 1862 he had 529. He authored *Sermons Preached on Plantations to Congregations of Slaves*, published at Charleston in 1840. Among the plantation chapels he visited were: “Woodbourne,” “Laurel Hill,” “Brookgreen,” “Oaks,” “Litchfield,” “Waverly,” “Midway,” “True Blue,” “Hagley,” “Fairfield,” “Sandy Knoll,” “Cedar Grove,” and “Mount Arena.”
Thomas Aston Coffin Plantation Book, 1800–1813, Beaufort District, South Carolina

Thomas Aston Coffin Plantation Book, 1800–1813, Beaufort District, South Carolina, call number 34/199. “Coffin Point” plantation on Saint Helena Island fronted on Saint Helena Sound. A record indicates that, in 1816, fifty-nine workers planted 356 acres in cotton, corn, root potatoes, slips, and rice. Ebeneezer Coffin died in 1816 and was succeeded by Thomas Aston Coffin. E.W. Rose was overseer in 1812–1813. Eight ships carpenters and Mr. Wright arrived and built a brig, “Pilgrim,” in 1816. Included are navigational notes on Saint Helena Sound and notes on unusual weather.

Daniel Webb Plantation Book, 1815–1860, Colleton District, South Carolina

Daniel Webb Plantation Book, 1815–1860, Colleton District, South Carolina, call number 34/170. In 1817, Daniel Webb purchased 310 acres called “Chatsworth” on the Ashepoo River and, nearby, two tracts of land called the “Key” containing 318 and 200 acres. These records note rice, cotton, corn, oats, potatoes, and livestock work from day to day. Weather occurrences noted include a hurricane, September 27, 1822. Webb also recorded Charleston affairs, neighborly visits, and a journey north lasting from July-September 1850.
Glover Family Papers, 1690–1904, Colleton and Charleston Districts, South Carolina

Glover Family Papers, 1690–1904, Colleton and Charleston Districts, South Carolina, call numbers 11/155–11/156. The earliest accounts relate to William Glover, who died in 1691, in Henrico County, Virginia. Joseph Glover was active in the Colleton County militia by 1775. Dr. Joseph Glover possessed 150 slaves at his death in 1840. Dr. Francis Glover continued at "Pon Pon" plantation as a rice planter. Among the many fascinating articles in this collection are accounts of a dispute between neighbors over water rights and ditching methods. Numerous slave papers include lists, mortgages, and sales accounts. See also Series A, Part 2, Glover Family Plantation Books.


Dr. H.C. Glover, Correspondence, Slave, and Estate Papers, 1832 (11/155/39). 28pp.

Dr. Joseph Glover, Correspondence, 1832 (11/155/40). 3pp.


Peter Glover, Dr. Joseph Glover, and Dr. Henry Charles Glover, Road and Land Correspondence, 1839 (11/155/46). 23pp.

Dr. Henry Charles Glover and Dr. Joseph Glover, Correspondence, Marriage Settlement, and Estate Inventory, 1840 (11/156/1). 31pp.


0917 Dr. Francis Glover, Slave Papers, 1843 (11/156/14). 3pp.
0923 Dr. Francis Glover, Bond, 1843 (11/156/16). 3pp.
0949 Dr. Francis Glover, Court of Freeholders, Dispute with Neighbor, and Jane Glover, Estate Papers, 1844 (11/156/18). 12pp.
0961 Dr. Francis Glover, Dispute with Neighbor, 1844 (11/156/19). 4pp.
0965 Dr. Francis Glover, Dispute with Neighbor, 1844 (11/156/20). 3pp.
0974 Dr. Francis Glover and Dr. Henry Charles Glover, Correspondence and Estate Papers, 1845 (11/156/23). 18pp.
1037 Dr. Francis Glover, Correspondence, Dispute with Neighbor, and Marriage Settlement, 1850, 1855–1856, and 1868 (11/156/31). 15pp.
1086 Elizabeth Smith, Plat of Land in Colleton, South Carolina, 1765 (11/156/40). 2pp.
1091 John Griggs, Plat of Land in Charleston District, South Carolina, ca. 1786 (11/156/42). 2pp.
1115  Dr. Francis Glover, Plat of Land on Sandy Dam Branch, Colleton District, 1841 (11/156/49). 4pp.
NOTE ON RELATED MANUSCRIPTS

by David Moltke-Hansen and Harlan Greene
The South Carolina Historical Society

Researchers interested in our holdings of other plantation and slave-related papers may wish to consult the South Carolina Historical Society Manuscript Guide (1979) for items held by them and the subsequent quarterly issues of the South Carolina Historical Magazine for more recently accessioned collections. The Reprint Company, Post Office Box 5401, Spartanburg, SC 29304, offers the following collections for sale, in microfiche form:


Langdon Cheves papers (1736–1863) of Calhoun, Beaufort, Abbeville, and Orangeburg Counties.


Ball Family papers (1731–1861) of St. John’s, Berkeley Parish.

Middleton Place Plantation papers (1781–1884) of Dorchester County, formerly Charleston District.

Thomas Chaplin Plantation Journal (1845–1886) of Tombee Plantation, St. Helena’s Island, Beaufort County.

Bluff Plantation book (1755–1759; 1770–1774) of Cooper River, Berkeley County.

Rev. Archibald Simpson Journals (1748–1784), Colleton and Charleston County area Presbyterian minister.

Elias Rivers family papers (1827–1913) of James Island, Charleston District.

Among the collections housed at the South Carolina Historical Society, 100 Meeting St., Charleston, SC 29401 are the following:

Cheves-Middleton family papers (1770–1906) of Georgetown, Berkeley, Sumter, and Charleston Counties.

Allston-Pringle-Hill family papers (1812–1920) of the Georgetown area.

Vanderhorst family papers (1682–1944), of Kiawah Island, Charleston District.

Porcher family papers (1715–1961) of Pineville and Berkeley County.

Harriott H. Ravenel papers (1694–1930) of Goose Creek and Berkeley County.
Waring and Hayne factors (1755–1871) for Charleston and Beaufort area planters.

Wragg family papers (1708–1860) of Orangeburg, Colleton, Beaufort, Cheraw, St. James, Goose Creek, and Edisto Island areas.

Baker-Grimké family papers (1683–1930) of Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester Counties.

Legare and Colcock factors (1855–1865) for South Carolina low-country planters.

Smythe-Stoney-Adger family papers (1796–1930) of the Berkeley County area.

Hering-Middleton family papers (1674–1882) of Goose Creek and Dorchester County.
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SERIES A. Selections from the South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina

SERIES B. Selections from the South Carolina Historical Society

SERIES C. Selections from the Library of Congress

SERIES D. Selections from the Maryland Historical Society

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