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Duer family papers 4078716

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.

New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Duer family
Title:	Duer family papers
ID:	4078716
ID:	MS#0369
Date [inclusive]:	1784-1937
Physical Description:	2.515 linear feet 7 manuscript boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	The Duer Family papers include correspondence, diaries, genealogical manuscripts and notes, miscellaneous poetry, and early photographs, daguerreotypes, tintypes, engravings, and illustrations (the Duer coat of arms). The collection depicts aspects of social customs in Old New York, patriotism, and life abroad.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Duer family papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

The Duer Family was one of the founding families of New York City. Prior to moving to New York from England, the Duer Family had purchased tracts of land on the Hudson River near Albany. The area, known as Fort Miller, served as their first residence and as the site of their early financial ventures. By 1776 the Duer family had built a successful mercantile business based primarily on lumber production.

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Biographical / Historical

The Duer family patriarch, William Duer (March 18, 1743-May 7, 1799), was an American lawyer, developer, and speculator who lived in New York City. A Federalist, he had served in the Continental Congress and the convention that framed the New York Constitution. In 1778, he signed the United States Articles of Confederation. Duer was married to Katherine "Kitty" Alexander, the daughter of the Revolutionary War General William Alexander (Lord Stirling), and together they had three sons: William, Alexander and John.

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Biographical / Historical

William Alexander Duer (1780-1858) grandson of William Duer through his son John, was an American lawyer, jurist, educator, member of the New York State Assembly (1816), and one of the first eight New York State Circuit Courts judges appointed (1823). He served as the President of Columbia College (now Columbia University) from 1829 to 1842.

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Biographical / Historical

William Alexander and Hannah Denning Duer (1782-1862) had four children: Henrietta Amlie, Frances Maria, Catherine Theodora, and William Denning. The writings and correspondence of William Alexander, Hannah Maria Denning Duer, and their daughter Frances Maria Duer Hoyt are featured throughout this collection.

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Summary

The Duer Family Papers consists primarily of correspondence, documents, and books pertaining to the Duer Family as well as tintypes, daguerreotypes, photographs and illustrations. Also included in the collection are the diaries of Frances Maria Duer Hoyt's travels in Europe from 1864 to 1894, and the diaries of Hannah Maria Denning Duers from 1838 to 1862.

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Arrangement

Some of the correspondence and manuscripts are cataloged.

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged in three series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

File created. XML document instance created by Catherine C. Ricciardi EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2011-03-04 2011-03-08 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Miller, Alice Duer. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1937.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Benjamin, Mary. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1956.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Miller, Denning. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1981.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Granat, Henry. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1986.

Ownership and Custodial History

The Duer family papers were assembled by Caroline King Duer (1865-1956), Alice Duer Miller (1874-1942, Barnard College A.B., 1899), and May King Van Rensselaer (1848-1925).

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 06/--/1989.

Processing Information

Papers processed by Vanessa Cano (Pratt Institute, 2011).

Processing Information

Finding aid written by Vanessa Cano (Pratt Institute, 2011) February 2011.

Accrual

No additions expected

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Related Materials

Selected Related Material-- at Columbia

[Alice Duer Miller Papers](#), Barnard College Archives.

Selected Related Material-- at Columbia

[Duer Family Papers](#), Barnard College Archives.

Selected Related Material-- at Columbia

[Elizabeth Meads Duer Papers](#), Barnard College Archives.

Selected Related Material-- at Columbia

[Caroline King Duer Papers](#), Barnard College Archives.

Selected Related Material-- at Columbia

["Reminiscences of Caroline King Duer,"](#) Oral History Research Office.

Selected Related Material-- Other Repositories

[Papers of George Washington,](#) University of Virginia.

Selected Related Material-- Other Repositories

[Papers of William Duer,](#) New-York Historical Society.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Aristocracy (Social class) -- New York (State) -- New York -- History -- 19th century
- Expatriation
- Families -- New York (State)
- Patriotism -- United States
- Wealth -- Social aspects -- New York (State) -- New York -- History -- 19th century
- Women -- Diaries
- France -- Description and travel
- Italy -- Description and travel
- Daguerreotypes (photographs)
- Photographs
- Genealogies (histories)
- Alexander, William, 1726-1783
- Bridgen, Anna
- Duer, Caroline, 1865-1956
- Duer, Hannah Maria Denning, 1782-1862
- Duer, William, 1747-1799
- Duer, William Alexander, 1780-1858
- Hoyt, Frances Maria Duer
- Miller, Alice Duer, 1874-1942
- Van Rensselaer, May King, 1848-1925
- Van Rensselaer, Stephen, 1764-1839
- Columbia College (New York, N.Y.) -- Presidents
- United States. Continental Congress -- Membership

Collection Inventory

Series I: Correspondence and Manuscripts, 1784-1937

Title/Description	Instances
B-D	box 1
Bridgen, Anna	box 1
Duer, Hannah Maria Denning (Mrs. William Alexander)	box 1
Duer, William	box 1
Duer, William Alexander	box 1
Hoyt, Frances Maria Duer (Mrs. Henry Sheaff)	box 2
K-V, and miscellany	box 3
King, James Gore	box 3
Miller, Alice Duer	box 3
Poor, Henry William	box 3
Swan, Jane P.	box 3
Van Rensselaer, May King	box 3

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Series II: Photographs and Illustrations

Title/Description	Instances
Duer Family Daguerrotypes	box 4
Scope and Contents	
These include images of Caroline King Duer, William Alexander Duer, Hibbard, John Meads, Orlando Meads, Elizabeth Wilson Meads (Mrs. Orlando), Orlando Meads, Jr., and the Meads Family.	
Unidentified Duer Family Daguerrotypes	box 5
Photographs, Engravings, and Coat of Arms Illustrations	box 6

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Series III. Books, 1847-1867

Title/Description	Instances
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Duer, William A. <i>The Life of William Alexander, Earl of Stirling</i> . New York: Wiley & Putnam, 1847	box 7	folder 1
Duer, William A. <i>A Course of Lectures on the Constitutional Jurisprudence of the United States delivered annually in Columbia College of New York</i> . Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1856	box 7	folder 2
Duer, William A. <i>Reminiscences of an Old New Yorker</i> . New York; W.L. Andrews, 1867	box 7	folder 3

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