

Barrell family papers 4078972

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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
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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Barrell Family
Title:	Barrell family papers
ID:	4078972
ID:	MS#0082
Date [inclusive]:	1751-1929
Date [bulk]:	1791-1889
Physical Description:	1.25 linear feet 3 document boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	The collection consists primarily of personal correspondence between members of the Barrell family in London, the United States, Barbados, and Demerara which was then a part of British Guiana. The collection also contains several family chronicles, a diary and cashbook belonging to Theodore Barrell, autograph albums belonging to Walter Newberry Barrell and Theodora Barrell, and photographs and silhouettes.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Barrell Family Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical / Historical

The Barrell Family were noted merchants and businessmen in London and in Colonial Demerara, now part of Guyana.

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Biographical / Historical

Theodore Barrell, the son of Walter Newberry Barrell, a London-based businessman, was born in Boston in 1771. He spent most of his career working as a merchant in the Americas, including in Barbados where he met his wife Elizabeth Beckles Barrell (born November 18, 1783) and in Demerara.

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Biographical / Historical

Theodore Barrell died in Saugerties, New York in 1846.

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Summary

The collection consists primarily of letters to Theodore Barrell from members of the Barrell family in London, the United States, Barbados. The collection also contains geneological chronicles, a diary and cashbook belonging to Theodore Barrell, autograph albums belonging to Walter Barrell and Theodora Barrell, an exercise book belonging to John Stayner Barrell, and silhouettes and photographs of the Barrell family and of their property.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in five series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

xml document instance created by Carrie Hintz EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2011-02-10 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Alternate Form Available

Manuscripts and photographs are on: microfilm. 4079759

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Walter E. Benjamin. Method of acquisition--gift; Accession number--M59.

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 03/31/89.

Processing Information

Papers Re-processed Jenny Mathias, MSLIS Pratt Institute 2011 2010.

Processing Information

Finding aid written Jenny Mathias, MSLIS Pratt Institute 2011 2010.

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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Controlled Access Headings

- Families -- Barbados
- Families -- Guyana
- Merchants
- London (England) -- Description and travel
- Barbados -- Description and travel
- Guyana -- Commerce
- Guyana -- Description and travel
- Diaries
- Photographic prints
- Autographs (manuscripts)
- British Guiana -- Description and travel
- Barrell, Walter
- Barrell, Theodore

Collection Inventory

Series I: Correspondence, 1751-1853

Scope and Contents

This series is composed of primarily letters from various members of the Barrell family to Theodore Barrell, There are also a few letters to other members of the Barrell family, however the bulk of the correspondence is addressed to Theodore. The largest single group comprises the letters of Walter Barrell in London to his son, Theodore who was then a merchant in Demarara. These letters mention such family affairs as births, deaths and marriages, business matters including payments received and payments due, and advice from father to son on interpersonal matters often including remarks on religion and faith. Some correspondence makes passing mention of the change of rule in Demarara from British to Dutch and then back to British rule again from 1802-1803 and the beginning of the Napoleonic Wars in Europe. The majority of the correspondence from other members of the family deals with major family events, health of family members and friends of the family and trade matters.

Title/Description	Instances	
A-B, 1751-1841	box 1	folder 1
Barrell, Abigail, 1794-1846	box 1	folder 2
Barrell, Theodore, 1836-1845	box 1	folder 3
Barrell, Walter to Theodore Barrell, 1781-1804	box 1	folder 4
Barrell, William to Theodore Barrell, 1795-1803	box 1	folder 5
C-Z, 1794-1853	box 1	folder 6
Massa, Theodora, 1837-1844	box 1	folder 7

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Series II: Autograph Albums, Diaries, and Exercise Book, 1814-1881**Scope and Contents**

This series contains autograph books belonging to Theodore Barrell's children, Walter Newberry Barrell and Theodora Barrell, a diary and cashbook belonging to Theodore Barrell from 1841 and an exercise book belonging to John Stayner Barrell dated 1814-1816.

Theodore Barrell's diary and cashbook of 1841 details his observations on subjects ranging from weather conditions to comparisons of different branches of the Christian faith. The diary and cashbook also lists cash receipts and expenditures and marks important historical dates and Barrell family events.

John Stayner Barrell's exercise book is mainly composed of his study of the French language including vocabulary, verb conjugations and extensive translations from English to French. The book also contains brief entries on such subjects as social customs in letter writing, shorthand notation, arithmetic and religion. The exercise book also contains lovingly illustrated family trees for the Barrell family and the Stayner family.

This series also contains a diary compiled by Charles Barrell, Elizabeth Barrell, Elizabeth Massa, and Theodora Barrell including historical events as well as daily occurrences.

Title/Description	Instances	
Barrell, Charles-- Diary, 1837-1881 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 2	folder 1

Scope and Contents

(compiled with Elizabeth Barrell, Elizabeth Massa, and Theodora Barrell)

Barrell, John Stayner-- Exercise Book	box 2	folder 2
Barrell, Theodora-- Autograph and Commonplace Book, 1820-1826	box 2	folder 3
Barrell, Theodore-- Diary and Account Book, 1841	box 2	folder 4
Barrell, Walter Newberry-- Autograph and Commonplace Book, 1823-1827	box 3	folder 1

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Series III: Visual Materials, Undated, 1864-1889**Scope and Contents**

This series contains a small number of photographs of members of the Barrell Family and property owned by the family. There are also two silhouettes.

Title/Description	Instances	
Photographs, undated, 1864-1889	box 3	folder 2
Silhouettes, undated	box 3	folder 3

Scope and Contents

(one is of Theodora Barrell)

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Series IV: Geanealogical Material and Family Documents**Scope and Contents**

This series is comprised of notes about the genealogy of the Barrell Family and family and legal documents such as land deeds and wills.

Title/Description	Instances	
Notes on Barrell Family genealogy, 1929	box 3	folder 4
Barrell Family Chronology, 1579-1849	box 3	folder 5
Barrell Family Chronology, 1878	box 3	folder 6

Scope and Contents

(compiled by Charles Barrell and enclosed in a letter to his cousin)

Conveyance of Property by Theodore Barrell to Ferdinand Massa, 1831	box 3	folder 7
Notice of Lottery or Sale of Theodore Barrell's Property in Demerara, 1804	box 3	folder 8
Scope and Contents		
(printed broadside)		
History of the Gall Estate	box 3	folder 9
Gall, Elizabeth		
Last Will and Testament, 1813	box 3	folder 10
Copy of a Paper Handed to Miss Gall, 1916	box 3	folder 11
Barrell, Theodore-- Sketches of the Demerary Incidents 2nd September 1791 to 29th March 1800, September 1791, March 1800	box 3	folder 12
Mscellaneous Items	box 3	folder 13

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Series V: Books Owned by the Barrell Family

Title/Description	Instances
<i>The Bouquet: A Selection of Poems</i> owned by Elizabeth Barrell	box 3
<i>De L'education des Enfants</i> owned by Theodore Barrell	box 3

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