

Guide to the Dickens family papers

OSB MSS 302



by Emily Komornik

November 2021

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	4
Immediate Source of Acquisition	4
Conditions Governing Access	4
Conditions Governing Use	4
Preferred Citation	4
Processing Information	4
Biographical / Historical	4
Scope and Contents	5
Arrangement	5
Collection Contents	6
Series I: Correspondence, 1795–1928 and undated	6
Dickins Family	6
Ellis Family, 1811–1873	6
Other Correspondence	6
Series II: Charters and Legal Documents, circa 1449–1670	7
Series III: Other Papers, 1725–2000 and undated	8
Selected Search Terms	10

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: OSB MSS 302

CREATOR: Dickins family

TITLE: Dickins family papers

DATES: 1449-2000 and undated

BULK DATES: 1449-1899

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.5 linear feet (6 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English; Latin

SUMMARY: The Dickins Family Papers contains correspondence, writings, legal documents, and other papers relating to Rachel Dickins, Thomas Eden Dickins, and other members of the Dickins family, as well as diaries, poetry, and a collection of fifteenth through seventeenth century charters with seals. Other materials in the collection relate to James Bean, an assistant paymaster with the East India Company in the Philippines in 1764, Captain William Wilkinson, a financial agent to Sir George Hay, and Wallace of Craigie, a descendant of William Wallace. Also included are genealogical charts linking the Dickins family to Pocahontas through her marriage to John Rolfe, and twentieth century documents concerning family history.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.dickins>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.dickins>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Bernard Quaritch on the James Marshall and Marie-Louise Osborn Collection Fund, 2004.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Dickins Family Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Dickins Family Papers. James Marshall and Marie-Louise Osborn Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections as they are acquired, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

Biographical / Historical

The Dickins family lived in Oxfordshire and Warwickshire, England, and included Rachel Dickins (-1761) of Suffolk; Thomas Eden Dickins (1832-1857), 2nd Lieutenant of Artillery in the East India Company; Colonel Francis E.A. Dickins (1827-1912), a merchant in India; Reverend Charles Dickins (1829-1917); William Dickins (1795-1885), a barrister; and W.P. Dickins (active 1899).

Scope and Contents

The Dickins Family Papers contains correspondence, writings, legal documents, and other papers relating to Rachel Dickins, Thomas Eden Dickins, and other members of the Dickins family, as well as diaries, poetry, and a collection of fifteenth through seventeenth century charters with seals. Other materials in the collection relate to James Bean, an assistant paymaster with the East India Company in the Philippines in 1764, Captain William Wilkinson, a financial agent to Sir George Hay, and Wallace of Craigie, a descendant of William Wallace. Also included are genealogical charts linking the Dickins family to Pocahontas through her marriage to John Rolfe, and twentieth century documents concerning family history.

Arrangement

Organized into three series: I. Correspondence, 1795-1928 and undated. II. Charters and Legal Documents, circa 1449-1670. III. Other Papers, 1725-2000 and undated.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1795–1928 and undated

0.75 linear feet (2 boxes)

This series contains correspondence between members of the Dickins family, the Ellis family, and others, including Thomas Hay of Mordington and Captain William Wilkinson. Included are letters from Francis Atherton Dickins to his wife, Emily Elwes Dickins, during a six-month tour of Kashmir, India, as a trader with the East India Company, letters to Lucy Park Dickins from her father, J.A. Park and her husband, solicitor William Dickins; and letters concerning financial transactions, especially loans, between Thomas Hay and Captain William Wilkinson.

Organized into three subseries: Dickins Family, Ellis Family, and Other Correspondence. Materials within each grouping maintain the order found at the time of acquisition.

Dickins Family		
b. 1, f. 1-8	Herbert S. Dickins letters to S. E. [Nina] Dickins	1847–1855
b. 1, f. 9-10	J.A. Park and family to daughter, Lucy Dickins	1825–1834
b. 1, f. 11-13	William Dickins, solicitor, to his wife Lucy Park [Dickins]	1795–1885
b. 1, f. 14	Reverend Charles Dickins to Miss S.E. Dickins	1847–1850
b. 1, f. 15-16	Miscellaneous Dickins family	1805–1878 and undated
b. 1, f. 17-18	Letters to Miss Selvia Dickins, 1849-1890	1834–1928
b. 1, f. 19-20	Letters from Thomas Eden Dickins to various correspondents	1849–1858
b. 1, f. 21	Colonel Francis Atherton Dickins to his wife, Emily Elwes Dickins	1872
b. 2, f. 22-25	Ellis Family	1811–1873
Other Correspondence		
b. 2, f. 26-28	General	1831–1870 and undated
b. 2, f. 29	Thomas Hay of Mordington and Captain William Wilkinson	1748–1752
b. 2, f. 30	Unsigned letter from Gloucester Castle [with transcription]	1770

Series II: Charters and Legal Documents, circa 1449–1670*0.5 linear feet (1 box)*

This series contains English, Welsh, and Scottish charters, indentures, and exemplifications, mostly relating to property. Documents are chiefly written in Latin on vellum and affixed with wax seals of varying sizes.

Organized chronologically.

b. 3, f. 31	Welsh title deeds	circa 1449
b. 3, f. 32	[English] exemplification	1456
b. 3, f. 33-36	Scottish charters with seals	1490–1636
b. 3, f. 37	Documents relating to Wallace of Craigie	1508–1509, 1529
b. 3, f. 38	Welsh charter	1573
b. 3, f. 39	Indenture	1636–1651
b. 3, f. 40	Charter relating to John Martland, Second Earl of Lauerdale	1670

Series III: Other Papers, 1725-2000 and undated*1.25 linear feet (3 boxes)*

This series primarily contains twentieth century materials related to family history, such as correspondence, legal documents, printed materials, transcriptions, and dealer inventories, as well as eighteenth and nineteenth century writings, including poetry, diaries, and the last will and testament of Rachel Dickins. Genealogical charts and family seats track the history of the Dickins family and connect them to Pocahontas (Matoaka) through her marriage to John Rolfe. Printed materials include brochures and pamphlets describing Dickins family property, including the houses in Chastleton and Cherington, as well as a history of the Craigie family.

Materials maintain the order found at the time of acquisition.

b. 4, f. 41	Dickins family pedigree and <i>A History of Chastleton</i>	1938 and undated
b. 4, f. 42-43	Pocahontas collection [genealogical charts and biographical printouts]	circa 1899, 1913, 1973, and undated
b. 4, f. 44	<i>Chastleton House</i> and correspondence regarding the Dickins collection	1997-1998
b. 4, f. 45-46	Dickins family history	circa 1894-1932 and undated
b. 4, f. 47-48	Dickins family pedigree, genealogy charts, and accounts	circa 1967-1994 and undated
b. 4, f. 49	Eight poems by J.C.P.	circa 1776 and undated
b. 4, f. 50	Catalog and collection of historical manuscripts and autograph letters	1926
b. 4, f. 51	Leather notebook with poem referring to Napoleon's campaign in Egypt	circa 1798
b. 4, f. 52	Handwritten description of some items [possibly by dealer]	undated
b. 5, f. 53	Hampstead literature	1974-1983
b. 5, f. 54	Payne, Major P.I.C. [letter and supporting documentation regarding James Bean's involvement with the East India Company]	1968-1971
b. 5, f. 55	Payne Major P.I.C. [letter and transcription from the National Army Museum]	2000
b. 5, f. 56	"Conservationist's Guide to Hampstead"	1982
b. 5, f. 57	<i>Book of Wallace, vol. I</i> [printout, annotated]	undated
b. 5, f. 58	[Letter from G.I. Smiley, Clerk of the Somerset County Council, regarding public records of the Parish Council]	1915 July
b. 5, f. 59	Civil War commission [including an attestation and release of debts by Thomas Hay of Mordington and letters from Captain William Wilkinson]	1725-1748
b. 5, f. 60	Invitation to Walton Bridge Regatta and supporting documents	1775, 1975-1983
b. 5, f. 61	Rachel Dickins' recipe and receipt book	undated
b. 5, f. 62	"Probate of the Will of Rachel Dickins, Widow" [and supporting documents]	1761, 1972-1983

b. 5, f. 63	"Six Months in Fairyland" [journal of Colonel F.A. Dickins]	1872
b. 6, f. 64-66	Dickins family history	1805-1934
b. 6, f. 67	Dickins family history and family works	1845 and undated
b. 6, f. 68	<i>A Little History of Cherington and Stourton, Warwickshire</i> , by Margaret Dickins [printout]	1934
b. 6, f. 69	Copy of a letter from the retired Reverend Bishop Jebb to a clergyman and his diocese	1808 February
b. 6, f. 70	Copper engraved billheads, [with notes, invoices, and some correspondence]	circa 1830-circa 1866

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Genres / Formats

Conveyances
Diaries
Family histories
Family papers
Indentures
Legal documents
Letters (correspondence)
Personal journals
Poetry
Receipts (financial records) -- Great Britain --
18th century
Receipts (financial records) -- Great Britain --
19th century
Recipes

Geographic Names

England -- Social life and customs -- 18th
century
Great Britain -- Colonies -- Asia
Great Britain -- Colonies -- Description and
travel
Great Britain -- Commerce -- India
India -- Commerce -- Great Britain
Jammu and Kashmir (India)

Subjects

Genealogy
Imperialism
Merchants -- India
Real property

Names

Bean, James, active 1794
Dickins, Charles, Reverend, 1829-1917
Dickins, Francis E.A., Colonel, 1827-1912
Dickins, Lucy, active 1825-1853
Dickins, Rachel, -1761
Dickins, Thomas Eden, 1832-1857
Dickins, W.P., active 1899
Dickins, William, 1795-1885
Hay, Thomas, active 1705-1750
Rolfe, John, 1585-1622

Wallace, William, Sir, -1305
Wilkinson, William, Captain

Families

Craigie family
Dickins family
Ellis family

Corporate Bodies

British East India Company
East India Company