

Guide to the Lyon Family Business Papers

GEN MSS 1960



Sarah Lerner

March 2022

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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: GEN MSS 1960

CREATOR: Lyon, William, 1748-1830

TITLE: Lyon Family Business Papers

DATES: 1714-1830

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3.75 linear feet (22 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English (Latin script)

SUMMARY: Account books, journals, and waste books kept by multiple members of the Lyon family and relating to personal and professional financial or business matters in New Haven, Connecticut, 1714-1830. Among those identified as using the volumes are William Lyon (1716-1767), William Lyon (1748-1830) and business partner Jeremiah Atwater, Nathaniel Lyon (1762-1836), and William Lyon (1772-1841). Volumes dating between 1788 and 1795 document William Lyon (1748-1830) and Jeremiah Atwater's woolen manufacturing business.

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

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.lyonfamilybusiness>.

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

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source unknown.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Lyon Family Business 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

Lyon Family Business Papers. General 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, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards. For more information, please refer to the Beinecke Manuscript Unit Processing Manual.

Volume titles have been taken from volume spines, covers, title pages, and the like. These titles are typically in the hand of members of the Lyon family, but some appear to have been assigned by unidentified individuals.

Former call number: Z35 005

Biographical / Historical

William Lyon (1716-1767) was married to Elizabeth Maltby Lyon (1727-1810), with whom he had two sons: William Lyon (1748-1830) and Nathaniel Lyon (1762-1836). He was active in both Boston, Massachusetts, and New Haven, Connecticut, before removing to Barbados for his health.

William Lyon (1748-1830) was a lottery agent, merchant, and banker, as well as a founding member of the Second Company of the Governor's Foot Guards. In 1788, Lyon and Jeremiah Atwater (1744-1835) established a woolen manufacturing business in New Haven, Connecticut. This manufactory was in operation until 1795, when Lyon became the first cashier of the newly organized New Haven Bank.

William Lyon was married to Lois Mansfield Lyon (1745-1821), with whom he had five children--among them William Lyon (1772-1841), who was a clerk at the New Haven Bank.

Scope and Contents

Account books, journals, and waste books kept by multiple members of the Lyon family and relating to personal and professional financial or business matters in New Haven, Connecticut, 1714-1830. Among those identified as using the volumes are William Lyon (1716-1767), William Lyon (1748-1830) and business partner Jeremiah Atwater, Nathaniel Lyon (1762-1836), and William Lyon (1772-1841). Volumes dating between 1788 and 1795 document William Lyon (1748-1830) and Jeremiah Atwater's woolen manufacturing business.

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically.

Collection Contents

| | | |
|-------|------------------------------|-----------|
| b. 1 | Ledger | 1714-1725 |
| b. 2 | Ledger A | 1739-1742 |
| b. 3 | Ledger B | 1741-1756 |
| b. 4 | Ledger D | 1754-1770 |
| b. 5 | Journal No. 1 | 1767-1790 |
| b. 6 | Memorandum book No. 1 | 1767-1790 |
| b. 7 | Cash book No. 1 | 1767-1804 |
| b. 8 | Ledger B | 1770-1790 |
| b. 9 | Waste book No. 1 | 1783-1785 |
| b. 10 | Ledger A | 1783-1789 |
| b. 11 | Waste book N. 2 | 1785-1787 |
| b. 12 | Account book | 1785-1796 |
| b. 13 | Waste book | 1787-1788 |
| b. 14 | Ledger B | 1788-1797 |
| b. 15 | Second journal or waste book | 1790-1793 |
| b. 16 | Ledger C | 1790-1830 |
| b. 17 | Journal No. 3 | 1793-1794 |
| b. 18 | Journal or waste book No. 4 | 1795-1830 |
| b. 19 | Account book | 1796-1799 |
| b. 20 | Ledger A | 1796-1803 |
| b. 21 | Journal or waste book | 1798-1802 |
| b. 22 | Journal or waste book No. 3 | 1802-1810 |

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.

Subjects

Merchants -- Connecticut
Textile industry -- Connecticut
Woolen and worsted manufacture --
Connecticut
Wool industry -- Connecticut

Geographic Names

Connecticut -- Economic conditions -- 18th
century
Connecticut -- Economic conditions -- 19th
century
New Haven (Conn.)

Genres / Formats

Account books

Occupations

Merchants -- Connecticut -- 18th century
Merchants -- Connecticut -- 19th century

Contributors

Lyon, William, 1748-1830
Atwater, Jeremiah, 1744-1835
Lyon, William, 1772-1841
Lyon, William, 1716-1767
Lyon, Nathaniel, 1762-1836
Lyons family