

# Guide to the Elihu Yale Collection

MS 566



compiled by John Espy and staff of Manuscripts and Archives

April 1981

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 566

**CREATOR:** Yale, Elihu, 1649-1721

**TITLE:** Elihu Yale collection

**DATES:** 1610-2000

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 8.25 linear feet (9 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** A miscellaneous collection of documents, printed or photocopied, by and about Elihu Yale. Included are records of the Agency of Fort St. George (Madras, India), 1679-1692, during the years of Elihu Yale's governorship, biographical and genealogical materials, copies of correspondence (1699-1719) with Catherine and Elihu Nicks and material on Madras, India and Wrexham, Wales. In the few family papers are a copy of the will of Thomas Yale (1619), the "Recipe book" of Lady Bab North, written for Elihu Yale's granddaughter, memorabilia, and photographs of Yale family tombs and portraits.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0566>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0566>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

While this collection as a whole is available for research, parts of it may be restricted due to law, university policy or fragility. Any restricted material will be noted as such.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown, though much of the material in this collection is likely in the public domain. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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### Preferred Citation

Elihu Yale Collection (MS 566). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

In 1671 Elihu Yale was appointed a writer in the East India Company. He was sent to Madras, India in 1672, and became a member of the council and second in command to the governor. In 1687 Yale became president and governor of Fort Saint George. He returned to England in 1699, where he carried on trade in diamonds. In 1718 Yale made a gift to the Collegiate School at New Haven, Connecticut, which, in appreciation, changed its name to Yale College.

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## Scope and Contents

The Elihu Yale Collection is a compilation of printed materials and photographs — and a few original documents — concerning Elihu Yale (1649-1721), one of Yale College's early benefactors. The materials cover the dates 1610 (photostat)-1987. Only a small part of the collection could be considered as the papers of Elihu Yale or the Yale family; in almost every case the collection contains only the photostatic copy of a document housed elsewhere (particularly at the Public Record Office in London). The chief exceptions to this are an intriguing eighteenth-century manuscript volume of recipes, prepared for Yale's granddaughter, Lady Barbara North, and one volume of a rare printed catalogue of Yale's estate.

Most of the material about Yale is printed matter, available elsewhere, but there are also notes, typescripts and letters by various people interested in Elihu Yale. Of these, the largest single segment is that collected by Charles Hervey Townshend (1833-1904).

Because of the many sources, and the likelihood that material will be added from time to time, the collection has been arranged topically rather than by author. The more significant items, however, though filed according to topic, are foldered and listed individually. Oversize materials concerning all topics are filed in the folios at the end of the collection.

For further photographs, the reader should consult the "Individuals" section of the Yale Picture Collection. Books about Elihu Yale are catalogued under Ycz. Y2.

## Collection Contents

### Original accession, Circa 1610-1987

4.25 linear feet (5 boxes, 1 folio box, 1 folio)

#### FOLIO

Letters (Originals in Public Records Office, London. With copy of a letter from Elizabeth L. Saxe to Robin Winks, 1975 Aug 30.)

b. 1, f. 1	Elihu Yale to Catherine Nicks A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1699-1710, 1975, undated
b. 1, f. 2	Catherine Nicks to Elihu Yale A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1705-1708
b. 1, f. 3	Elihu Yale to Elihu Nicks A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1719
b. 1, f. 3	Henry Tombs to Elihu Yale	1708
b. 1, f. 3	Edward Harrison to Elihu Yale	1710
b. 1, f. 3	Receipts	1698, 1707
Writings		
b. 1, f. 4-12	<i>Records of Fort St. George. Diary and Consultation Book, 1677-1681, 1687-1698</i>	1912-1917
b. 1, f. 13	Miscellaneous photostats and transcriptions, and related printed matter	Undated
Family papers		
b. 2, f. 14	Thomas Yale: will (Ms copy. From the Public Episcopal Registry at Chester. With letter from Virgil D. Allen to Donald L. Jacobus.)	1619, 1942
b. 2, f. 14a	W.P. Yale: correspondence re: Vaughan Almshouses	1855-1860
b. 2, f. 15	"Lady Bab North's Receipt Book" English	Undated
Writings about Elihu Yale		
Folio		
General biography		
b. 2, f. 16	Dexter, Franklin B.: notes, transcriptions of documents, correspondence, photograph	1874-1904, undated
b. 2, f. 17	Francis, Marguerite: "Governor Yale" (mimeograph of radio script, with clipping re: broadcast)	1951

## Writings about Elihu Yale &gt; General biography (continued)

b. 2, f. 18	Madras (Presidency) Record Office: "Elihu Yale" and "Thomas Wavell" (typescripts)	1944, undated
b. 2, f. 19	Stewart, Nathaniel B.: Yale" (typescript, with mimeograph of another draft, and related correspondence)	1910
b. 2, f. 20	Stokes, Anson Phelps: review of Hiram Bingham's <i>Elihu Yale</i> (typescript)	1939
b. 2, f. 21	Tibbitts, E.G.: account of the discovery of documents relating to Elihu Yale at Warwick in 1936 (typescript, with carbon of letter to Tibbitts from James T. Babb)	1947, undated
b. 2, f. 22	Wynkoop, Gerardus H.: "Eliugh Yale (The Wales Yales)" (copy of typescript)	1971
b. 2, f. 23	Record of "Eliah" Yale's admission to Merchant Taylor's School (photostat)	1662
b. 2, f. 24	Catalogue of Yale's estate, vol. 3	[1722]
b. 2, f. 25	<a href="#">Miscellaneous documents, printed matter, and memoranda</a>	1689-1978, undated
b. 2, f. 26	Copies of printed and pictorial matter, and photograph, re: Elihu Yale, Thomas "Diamond" Pitt and John Evans, collected and annotated by Edward J. Hughes	1716-1981
b. 2, f. 27-28	Published articles and miscellaneous printed matter	1843-1950, undated
Genealogy		
b. 2, f. 29	Yale, Elihu (1807-?): letters to Edward C. Herrick	1849
b. 2, f. 30-31	Miscellaneous notes, printed matter, photographs	1850-1972, undated
Wrexham, Wales		
b. 3, f. 32	Gourlay, T.: watercolors of Yale tomb and Wrexham Parish Church	1905, undated
b. 3, f. 33	Shaw, Robert: drawing of Yale tomb, with related correspondence	1898, 1904, undated
b. 3, f. 34	Yale tomb: miscellaneous photographs, sketches, postcards, correspondence, printed matter	1899-1971, undated
b. 3, f. 35	<a href="#">Wrexham Parish Church (St. Giles): miscellaneous photographs, postcards, correspondence, printed matter</a>	1828, 1901-1979, undated
b. 3, f. 36	Plas Grono and general: miscellaneous postcards, printed matter, photographs	1875-1960, undated
Wales - General		
b. 3, f. 37	Yale, George W.: "The Yales in Wales" and "The Place in Yale" (annotated mimeographs, with letters and enclosures from Gerard E. Jensen)	1951, 1954

## Writings about Elihu Yale &gt; Wales - General (continued)

b. 3, f. 38	Miscellaneous printed matter	1927-1952, undated
	Bishop Lloyd's House, Chester, England	
b. 3, f. 39	Block, Rudolph Edgar: letter to Samuel J. Record, with photographs	1935
b. 3, f. 40	Miscellaneous printed matter	1956, undated
	Madras, India	
b. 3, f. 41	Bullitt, William C.: letter to Chauncey B. Tinker, enclosing letters from Robert Rostow, Jr., re: tombstones and artifacts	1951
b. 3, f. 42	Ogden, John T.: letters to Alex M. Hammer, with pamphlet on St. Mary's Church, Fort St. George, Madras; "A walk round St. Mary's" (pamphlet)	1958, 1985
b. 3, f. 43	Russell, John S., Jr.: "Elihu Yale; His Life and Times in Madras, India" (typescript of Dartmouth thesis)	Undated
b. 3, f. 44	Miscellaneous photographs, postcards, correspondence, printed matter	1755, 1902-1980, undated
b. 3, f. 45	Yale and Yale College: miscellaneous printed matter	1836, 1882-1961, undated
	Portraits	
b. 3, f. 46	Correspondence re: purchase of portrait from R. Eden Dickson	1910-1912
b. 3, f. 47	Vietor, Alexander O.: "An Elihu Yale Conversation Piece" (photostats of <i>Yale University Library Gazette</i> article, with related photographs, correspondence, and genealogy, re: Chatsworth Group Portrait)	1960-1961, undated
b. 3, f. 48	Miscellaneous photographs, printed matter	1910, 1913, 1927, undated
b. 4, f. 49	Artifacts: miscellaneous photographs, printed matter, memorabilia, correspondence	1916-1972, undated
	Papers of Charles Hervey Townshend	
b. 4, f. 50	"The Plaintiff in Error's Case" (Ms copy of document, with notes) English	1717-1721
b. 4, f. 51	"Pedigree of Yale" (draft and copies of article, with notes and correspondence) English	1898, undated
b. 4, f. 52	"Yale Wills" (notes, transcriptions, correspondence, printed copies) English	1897-1898, undated
b. 4, f. 53	Letters to others (drafts), with notes	1892-1903, undated
b. 4, f. 54	Letters from Alfred Neobard Palmer, with photograph	1898-1903, undated
b. 4, f. 55	Letters from others, with notes by Townshend	1892-1902

## Writings about Elihu Yale &gt; Papers of Charles Hervey Townshend (continued)

b. 4, f. 56	Notes on Eatons, with transcriptions of documents and clippings	Undated
b. 4, f. 57	Notes on Lloyds, with transcriptions of epitaphs	Undated
b. 4, f. 58	Notes on Tallmadges, with transcriptions of documents	Undated
b. 4, f. 59	Notes on Yales	Undated
b. 4, f. 60	Notes on various individuals and families with transcriptions of documents	Undated
b. 4, f. 61	Miscellaneous notes and transcriptions	1892, 1899, undated
b. 4, f. 62	Miscellaneous items	1890-1899
b. 5, f. 63	Tricentenary of Elihu Yale as Governor of Fort St. George, Madras, India (1687-1692): stamp covers, printed material, newspaper clippings, and photograph	1987
Documents		
b. 6	Invoice signed by Elihu Yale (original, framed)	1683
b. 6	Indenture signed by Yale's great-grandfather David Yale (photostat)	1610
b. 6	Safe passage for ship <i>Borneo Merchant</i> , signed by Yale and others (photostats.) Original is in Accession 2013-M-075; researchers must use this photostatic copy.	1685
b. 6	Printed list of Yale College theses and graduates (photographs. Original in Yale College Triennial Catalogues.)	1718
b. 6	Evans, Susan A.: "Ancestry": genealogical account of the Evans and Yale families (photostat of Ms)	1915
Memorabilia		
b. 6	Rubbing of inscription on silver platter presented by Yale to St. Mary's Church, Fort St. George, Madras, with letter from Shepherd Stevens	1933
b. 6	Drawing of Wrexham Parish Church, with related printed matter	1915
b. 6	Etching of St. Giles Church, Wrexham, by J. Bruce Barkley	1967
b. 6	Sign from exhibition commemorating 300th anniversary of Yale's birth	1949
Printed matter		
b. 6	Yale genealogical charts	1962, undated
b. 6	Newspaper article on relation of Ferris family to Yale (photostat, with letter from Edward H. Leete)	1867, 1933
b. 6	Article on Yale portraits	1913
Photographs		



## Photographs (continued)

b. 6	<a href="#">Yale tomb</a>	Undated
b. 6	Wrexham Parish Church	Undated
b. 6	David Yale tomb in Madras	Undated
b. 6	Silver platter	Undated
b. 6	<a href="#">Yale portraits</a>	Undated
b. 7	Yale, Elihu (1807-?): genealogical chart	1850
b. 7	Photograph of snuff box portrait	Undated
b. 7	Photograph of indenture signed by Elihu Yale as one of four assignees of commission of a bankruptcy award and photograph enlargement of Yale's signature and seal	1718 July 31

**Accession 2002-M-040: Additional materials**

This accession consists of research materials relating to Elihu Yale compiled by Professor Bruce Stowe for use by Yale's Tercentennial Committee.

b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence	1986-1998
b. 1, f. 2-4	Notes, bibliographies, chronology	1990, undated
b. 1, f. 5	Genealogy chart	2000

## Accession 2013-M-075: Additional material

b. 1, f. 1	Safe passage for ship <i>Borneo Merchant</i> , signed by Yale and others Due to its physical nature, researchers must use the photostatic copy of this document located in <a href="#">box 6 of the original accession</a> .	1685
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## **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.

### **Geographic Names**

India -- Politics and government -- 997-1765  
Madras (India)  
Wrexham (Wales)

### **Names**

Yale, Elihu, 1649-1721