

# Guide to the Johan William Colenbrander Collection

MS 1460



compiled by Diane E. Kaplan

May 1987

Yale University Library  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
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beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1460

**CREATOR:** Colenbrander, Johan William, 1859-1918

**TITLE:** Johan William Colenbrander collection

**DATES:** 1860-1998

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists primarily of photocopies of documents and photographs, assembled by Johan Cornelis Alphons Lawrence Colenbrander, which relate to the personal life and professional activities of his father, Johan W. Colenbrander.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1460>

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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.1460>.

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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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of J. C. A. L. Colenbrander, 1985-1995, 1998.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Johan William Colenbrander Collection (MS 1460). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Johan Colenbrander was born in Pinetown, Natal, in 1857. He enlisted with the Natal Mounted Rifles in 1870 and participated in the Zulu War in 1879. Colenbrander was active as a soldier, businessman, interpreter, agent, and hunter in Natal, Swaziland, Bulawayo, and Matabeleland until 1900 when he moved to South Africa to command Kitchener's Fighting Scouts. After the Boer War, Colenbrander was engaged in several unsuccessful business ventures in South Africa, Rhodesia, and Mexico. He died in 1918.

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## Scope and Contents

The Johan William Colenbrander Collection consists of photocopies of documents and photographs, assembled by Johan Cornelis Alphons Lawrence Colenbrander, which relate to the personal life and professional activities of his father, Johan W. Colenbrander. Copied documents include letters written to J. C. A. L. Colenbrander by other family members and acquaintances of J. W. Colenbrander, papers held by archives in Zimbabwe and South Africa, and clippings and other printed material.

J. C. A. L. Colenbrander collected much biographical and genealogical data. Photocopies are bound together according to his arrangement and are extensively annotated with his comments.

J. C. A. L. Colenbrander donated his collection to the Yale Library from 1985 to 1990. He also donated similar materials to Rhodes House at Oxford University, the National Archives of Zimbabwe, and the Kille Campbell Archives in Durban, Natal.

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## Collection Contents

### Original accession

b. 1, f. 1	J. C. A. L. Colenbrander's correspondence concerning his research on Johan William Colenbrander	1950-1955, 1986
b. 1, f. 2-2e	Family history	1951-1979 [ca.1984], 1993, 1998, undated [ca.1860-1985]
b. 1, f. 3	Photographs	[ca. 1860-1985]
b. 2, f. 4	Guides to Johan William Colenbrander papers in South Africa	1940
b. 2, f. 5 - 9	J. C. A. L. Colenbrander's collection of documents relating to Johan William Colenbrander: photocopies	[ca.1861-1984]
b. 3, f. 10 - 13	J. C. A. L. Colenbrander's collection of documents relating to Johan William Colenbrander: photocopies	[ca. 1861-1984]
b. 3, f. 14	"The Record of the Court of Inquiry on the Shangani Expedition," photocopy from original in National Archives of Zimbabwe	1893 December 20

## **Accession 1991-M-014: Additional Material**

See Series I, Box 3, Folder 14

**Accession 1993-M-020: Additional Material**

b. 1, f. 1	<i>Sibebu Ka Mapita: a Study in the Problems of Zulu Leadership in the Years 1879-1884</i> , by P. J. Colenbrander	1972
b. 1, f. 2	"Some Reflections on the Kingship of Mpande," by P. J. Colenbrander English	undated

## **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**

South African War, 1899-1902

### **Geographic Names**

South Africa -- History -- 1836-1909

Zimbabwe -- History

### **Genres / Formats**

Photographs

### **Occupations**

Soldiers

### **Names**

Colenbrander, Johan Cornelis Alphons

Lawrence

Colenbrander, Johan William, 1859-1918