Inventory of the The St. Andrew's Society of Charleston Records, 1729-2001
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Descriptive Summary

Title: The St. Andrew's Society of Charleston records

Date(s): 1729-2001

Creator: St. Andrew's Society of Charleston, South Carolina

Abstract: This collection includes administrative, financial, and membership records, records of charitable assistance, and other materials of the St. Andrew's Society of Charleston. Records document the social and benevolent activities of the St. Andrew's Society between the years 1729 to 2001.

Extent: 12 linear feet
(10 document boxes, 1 carton, 5 flat boxes, 1 oversize folder, 2 oversize books)

Repository: Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries
66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29424
Phone: (843) 953-8016
Fax: (843) 953-6319
URL: http://archives.library.cofc.edu

Call Number: Mss 0144

Language of Material: Materials in English

Historical Note

The St. Andrew's Society is a social and benevolent organization founded in 1729 in Charleston, South Carolina. Named after the patron saint of Scotland, it is the oldest organization of its type and the progenitor for many other St. Andrews Societies in North and South America, Europe, and Asia. Established to "do generous and charitable actions... and [to] promote some public good," the organization initially provided assistance through monetary handouts to the poor and disadvantaged of Charleston. Today the organization provides regular funding to various local charities and educational institutions each year.

While membership in the benevolent society was, for the most part, of Scottish origin, the Society did not limit its membership to Scotchmen or persons of Scottish descent. Membership was open to any person over the age of eighteen, regardless of their nationality, religion, or profession. On the eve of the American Revolution membership in the organization had grown to over one hundred. The American Revolution, and later, the Civil War, would interrupt the activities of the Society, resulting in a decrease in membership. Despite these interruptions, membership in the organization would steadily increase, and in 1897, the Society would pass a resolution limiting the number of members to two hundred, with any additional individuals applying for membership to be placed on a waiting list.

Revenues used for charity were acquired through admission fees, annual dues, and contributions. Additional income was generated from fines, including fines for non-attendance, for refusal to serve as an officer, and for failure to perform committee duty. However, regular membership fees constituted the principal source of revenue for the Society. Charity was extended to all cases that seemed worthy and came within the Society's resources. Any individuals requiring immediate relief could receive any sum under twenty dollars. From 1804 to 1812 the Society also provided elementary education for the disadvantaged children of Charleston through its Society School, located at 49 Church Street.
Prior to the construction of St. Andrew's Hall, organizational meetings were held quarterly in member's homes on the last days of February, May, August, and November. These meetings would eventually be held monthly after 1818. General meetings would be taken up with the reports of the Committee of Charity, later the Committee of Relief, and the Committee on the Treasurers Account, as well as any requests for charity, and new business. The annual anniversary meetings, held on the morning of November 30th, St. Andrew’s Day, were taken up with the election of the new officers for the forthcoming year as well as the officers for the various committees that comprised the St. Andrew's Society. The day would conclude with the annual anniversary banquet. Originally a small affair consisting of dinner, music, and various toasts, in time the celebration would grow to include bagpipe processions, greetings from sister societies, poems, speeches, addresses by prominent speakers of the day, and honored guests.

Completed in 1815 and located on Broad Street, the St. Andrew's Hall became the headquarters of the St. Andrew's Society and an epicenter for Charleston's social, cultural, and political events. When South Carolina delegates gathered to formally renounce allegiance to the United States, St. Andrew's Hall was selected as the meeting place and has the distinction of being the site where the Ordinance of Succession was signed. In 1861, a fire destroyed a portion of the city, including St. Andrew's Hall. Afterwards the Society would hold their meetings at various locations throughout Charleston. In 1867, the Society began holding its monthly meetings at the South Carolina Society Hall, located on 72 Meeting Street, where the Society still holds its meetings to this day.

Collection Overview

This collection includes administrative, financial, and membership records, records of charitable assistance, and other materials of the St. Andrew's Society of Charleston. Records document the social and benevolent activities of the St. Andrew's Society between the years 1729 to 2001. Administrative records include the original handwritten Rules and Autograph book, containing the original rules of the St. Andrew's Society including the signatures of the original 34 members, annual rule books of the St. Andrew's Society, containing the rules and by-laws of the Society, lists of officers and members for the year. There are also bound meeting minutes from 1934 to 1987, and reports from the Committee on Relief, and the Committee on Accounts. Also included in the collection are financial records containing membership arrears for dues and fines, operational receipts for hall rental, gas, printing costs for rule books, and advertising fees for meetings. Ledgers, journals, and cashbooks listing the society's funds, money paid out and received, and expenses are also included. There are also membership records containing membership applications, letters of resignation as well as waiting lists and yearly accepted members to the Society. The collection also includes material concerning to the Society's charitable activities including personal applications for assistance and charitable receipts for monies received. Materials relating to the annual St. Andrew's anniversary banquet including invitations, attendee's lists, and programs are also included in the collection. A small amount of material relating to the lot purchase and construction of the St. Andrew's Hall is also included as well as publications and objects collected by the organization.

Collection Arrangement

1. Administrative records, 1746-1987
2. Financial records, 1743-1942
3. Membership records, 1729-1984
4. Charitable assistance, 1739-1899
5. St. Andrew's Day Anniversary banquets, 1756-2001
6. St. Andrews Hall, circa 1804-2005
7. Publications, 1822-1938
8. Objects, 1967, undated
Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

Copyright Notice

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Related Material

Related materials in Special Collections include *The History of the St. Andrew's Society of Charleston, South Carolina, 1729-1929* (1929) by J. H. Easterby and *Rules of the St. Andrew's society, of the city of Charleston, South Carolina* (1892). Pamphlets include *Rules, list of officers and members from 1729 to 1901, with historical sketch of the society* (1901), *The St. Andrews Society Charleston, South Carolina* (1959), *Officers and members of the St. Andrew's Society, Charleston, S.C., November 30th, 1903* (1903), and *Presented by The St. Andrew's Society on the Occasion of the Two Hundredth Anniversary, November Thirtieth, as a Tribute to Major General William Moultrie, Sixth President of the Society, 1787-1789* (1929) by The St. Andrew's Society of Charleston, and *Address Delivered in The First Presbyterian Church before The St. Andrew's Society, of the City of Charleston, on their Centennial Anniversary, the 30th of November, 1829, at their request* (1829) by Mitchell King.

Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person, family, or organization, by topical subject, by place, and by types of material.

Names

St. Andrew's Society of Charleston, South Carolina--Membership
St. Andrew's Society of Charleston, South Carolina--Records and correspondence
St. Andrew's Society of Charleston, South Carolina--Rules and practice

Subjects

Societies--South Carolina--Charleston
Charities--South Carolina--Charleston

Places

Charleston (S.C.)--Societies and clubs
Types of Material

Administrative records
Black-and-white prints
Board games (game sets)
Books
Correspondence
Cashbooks
Elevations (orthographic projections)
Financial records
Journals (accounts)
Ledgers (account books)
Minutes
Minute books
Pamphlets
Periodicals
Posters
Printing plate
Programs (documents)
Sheet music
Woodblock (printing block)

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], The St. Andrew's Society of Charleston records, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Temporary custody receipt from St. Andrew's Society received June 2008. Deed of Gift from St. Andrew's received [pending] 2011.

Processing Information

Processed by Joshua Minor and Neal Polhemus, December 2010-November 2011.

Encoded by Joshua Minor, December 2011.

Reviewed, edited, and uploaded by Martha McTear, January 2012.
Detailed Description of the Collection

1. Administrative records, 1746-1987

This series includes the original handwritten St. Andrew's Society Rules and Autograph book, containing the original rules of the St. Andrew's Society including the signatures of the original 34 members and a facsimile presented to the College of Charleston on May 13, 1939, by M. Rutledge Rivers, President of the St. Andrew's Society and the Board of Trustees of the College of Charleston. This series also includes annual rule books, containing the rules and by-laws of the Society, lists of officers and members for the year, addresses, poems, and a brief historical sketch of the society. Also included are amendments, committee reports, annual and monthly minute books, and other organizational materials of the St. Andrew's Society.

Rules and Autographs, 1730-1995
(Oversize book)

Rules and Autographs, 1730-1939
(Oversize book)
Facsimile of the original Rules and Autographs.

Rule books and by-laws, 1817-1901

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<td>6</td>
<td>Rule book, 1901</td>
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<td>Rule book of the President of St. Andrews, 1870</td>
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<td>Rule book of the Secretary of St. Andrews, 1870</td>
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<td>Contains handwritten corrections to by-laws and additional notes.</td>
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<td>Resolutions, 1815-1939</td>
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<td>Committees, 1760-1937, undated</td>
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Committee on Relief, 1774-1899, undated

Box 2 Folder 3
Minute book, 1815-1864

Box 2 Folder 4
Minute book, 1875-1877

Box 2 Folder 5
Reports, 1892-1899

Box 2 Folder 6
Recommendations, 1864-1894

Box 2 Folder 7
General, 1774, 1798, undated

Box 2 Folder 8
Committee on Accounts reports, 1888-1937

Box 2 Folder 9
Committee of Stewards, 1893
Donations and Subscriptions committee, 1798-1802

Box 2 Folder 10
Subscription list, 1798

Box 2 Folder 11
General, 1802, undated

Box 2 Folder 12
Committee Officers, 1893-1897

Box 2 Folder 13
Other committees, 1805, 1811

Minutes, 1746-1987

Annual meeting minutes, 1746-1759

Box 2 Folder 14
1746-1759

Box 2 Folder 15
1760-1816

Box 2 Folder 16
General meeting minutes, 1763-1798

Bound meeting minutes, 1864-1987

Box 3 Folder 1
1864, June 30-1867, July 1

Box 3 Folder 2
1869, August 31-1886, November 30

Box 3 Folder 3
1887, January 31-1898, October 31

Box 3 Folder 4
1898, September 3-1906, August 31

Box 3 Folder 5
1906, October 1-1914, December 31

Box 3 Folder 6
1934, January 31-1943, August 31

Box 3 Folder 7
1943, September 30-1944, September 30

Box 11 Folder 1
1953, January 31-1958, October 31

Box 11 Folder 2
1958, November 29-1963, November 30

Box 11 Folder 3
1963, October 23-1968, November 26
Box 11 Folder 4  1968, December 3-1973, December, 31
Box 11 Folder 5  1974, January 31-1979, November 1
Box 11 Folder 6  1979, November 30-1984, May 31
Box 11 Folder 7  1984, June 29-1987, December 1

Correspondence, 1772-1945

Box 4 Folder 1  1772-1792
Box 4 Folder 2  1806-1899
Box 4 Folder 3  1906-1945

Included is a letter from Alphonso T. Clearwater containing a box made from the rafters of the St. Giles cathedral in Edinburgh and a lid made from Queen Mary's tree.

Box 4 Folder 4  Moultrie Montague letters, 1929

Photostat copies of the Moultrie Montague letters.

2. Financial records, 1743-1942

This series includes yearly statements of accounts current with the treasurer for the St. Andrew's Society and the St. Andrew's Charity School, charity school funds, statements showing yearly, quarterly and monthly arrears for membership and not dining, and operating receipts for hall rental, gas, printing costs for rule books, and advertising fees for meetings. Also included are ledgers, journals, and cashbooks listing the society's funds, money paid out and received, and expenses.

Accounts Current with Treasurer, 1768-1823

St. Andrews Society, 1768-1820

Box 12 Folder 1  1768-1823
Box 4 Folder 5  1792-1820

St. Andrews Charity School, 1804-1815

Box 12 Folder 2  1804-1815
Box 4 Folder 6  Account books, 1800-1815

Two small booklets listing accounts current with the treasurer.

Box 4 Folder 7  Statement of Treasurer, 1877-1896
Box 4 Folder 8  Treasury reports, 1811, 1877
Box 4 Folder 9  Cash statements, 1756-1825
Box 4 Folder 10  Bank of South Carolina, 1814-1817
Box 4 Folder 11  Bonds and notes, 1766-1896, undated
Charity school funds, 1803-1815

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<td>Insurance records, 1942</td>
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<td>Insurance records, 1819, 1823</td>
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Arrears, 1743-1874

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<td>1821-1824, 1874, 1890</td>
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<td>1793-1819, undated</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Receipt book, 1798-1801

Ledgers, journals, and cashbooks, 1814-1940
3. **Membership records, 1729-1984**

This series includes individual membership applications, rolls listing yearly membership additions, letters of resignation, and records listing deceased and resigned members of the St. Andrew's Society.

**Membership applications, 1893-1939**

- Box 6 Folder 3: 1893-1899
- Box 6 Folder 4: 1935-1939

**Waiting list, 1906-1918**

- Box 6 Folder 5

**Members admitted, 1739-1795**

- Box 12 Folder 5

**Roll of yearly additions, 1892-1918**

- Box 6 Folder 7

**Alphabetical roll, 1900-1943**

- Box 6 Folder 8

**Elections, 1768-1895, undated**

- Box 7 Folder 1

**Officers and members, 1896, 1900**

- Box 7 Folder 2

**Letters of Resignation, 1895-1938, undated**

- Box 7 Folder 3: 1895-1899
- Box 7 Folder 4: 1935-1938, undated

**Member records, undated**

- Box 7 Folder 5

**Membership book, microfiche roll number one, 1729-1984**

- Box 7 Folder 6

**Members lists, 1751-1825, undated**

- Box 7 Folder 7

**Membership general, 1746, 1808, 1932, 1935**

- Box 7 Folder 8

Includes the last will and testament of James Stewart, an original member of the St. Andrews Society.

**Clippings, 1906, 1929, 1938 undated**

- Box 7 Folder 9
4. Charitable assistance, 1739-1899

This series includes petitioner's lists presented at annual meetings, orders for charitable assistance from the president and vice-president of the St. Andrew's Society, and applications for charitable assistance. Also included are individual charitable receipts for monies received from the St. Andrew's Society.

Petitioner lists, 1768-1817

Orders for charitable assistance, 1739-1822

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 7 Folder 10</th>
<th>Petitioner lists, 1768-1817</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Box 7 Folder 13</td>
<td>1761-1769</td>
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<td>Box 7 Folder 14</td>
<td>1770-1796</td>
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<td>Box 7 Folder 15</td>
<td>1801-1822</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Applications for charitable assistance, 1747-1899, undated

| Box 7 Folder 16 | 1747-1758 |
| Box 7 Folder 17 | 1760-1769 |
| Box 7 Folder 18 | 1770-1774 |
| Box 8 Folder 1  | 1790-1798 |

| Box 8 Folder 2 | 1804-1808 |
| Box 8 Folder 3 | 1817-1823, 1893, 1899 |
| Box 8 Folder 4 | circa 1700s-1800s |

Includes photostats.

Charitable receipts, 1747-1897, undated

| Box 8 Folder 5 | 1747-1750 |
| Box 8 Folder 6 | 1752-1757 |
| Box 8 Folder 7 | 1764-1773 |
| Box 8 Folder 8 | 1790-1799 |
| Box 8 Folder 9 | 1800-1810 |
| Box 8 Folder 10 | 1811-1820 |
| Box 8 Folder 11 | 1821-1825 |
| Box 8 Folder 12 | 1877-1879 |
| Box 8 Folder 13 | 1880-1889 |
| Box 8 Folder 14 | 1890-1897 |
| Box 8 Folder 15 | circa 1700s-1800s |

### 5. St. Andrew’s Day anniversary banquets, 1756-2001

This series includes invitations and responses from prominent politicians, handwritten attendee’s lists, banquet programs, toasts, and other material related to the St. Andrew's Day Anniversary Banquets held annually on November 30th in Charleston.

#### Invitations and responses, 1788-1941, undated

| Box 8 Folder 16 | 1788-1795, undated |
| Box 8 Folder 17 | 1895-1899 |
| Box 8 Folder 18 | 1900-1941, undated |

- Includes declination letter from Charles Pinckney.
- Includes declination letters from Wade Hampton.

#### Attendee’s lists, 1756-1824

| Box 8 Folder 20 | 1756-1795 |
| Box 8 Folder 21 | 1806-1810 |
| Box 8 Folder 22 | 1811-1824 |

#### Programs, 1893-2001

| Box 8 Folder 23 | 1893 |
| Box 8 Folder 24 | 1894 |
| Box 8 Folder 25 | 1910 |
| Box 8 Folder 26 | 1911 |
| Box 9 Folder 1 | 1912 |
| Box 9 Folder 2 | 1924 |
| Box 9 Folder 3 | 1934 |
| Box 9 Folder 4 | 1935 |
| Box 9 Folder 5 | 2001 |
| Box 9 Folder 6 | Program notes, undated |

#### Toasts, early 1800s

| Box 9 Folder 7 |

#### Addresses, 1950, undated

| Box 9 Folder 8 |
Box 9 Folder 9  Committee of Enquiry, 1760-1773
Box 9 Folder 10  Greetings, 1896-1941, undated
Box 9 Folder 11  Cost, 1769, 1895, 1899
              Sheet music, 1882, 1887, 1888
Box 9 Folder 12  Robin Adair, 1882
Box 9 Folder 13  Annie Laurie, 1887
Box 9 Folder 14  Auld Lang Syne, 1888
Box 9 Folder 15  Star Spangled Banner, 1888
Box 9 Folder 16  Glee Club, 1943, 1951, undated
Box 9 Folder 17  269th St. Andrews dinner, 1998
              Videocassette of banquet.
Box 9 Folder 18  Other St. Andrews anniversaries, 1923-1941
              Invitations and programs of other St. Andrews Societies.
Box 9 Folder 20  Other events, 1859, 1901
              Robert Burns centennial and Queen Victoria memorial.

6. St. Andrew's Hall, circa 1804-2005

    This series contains an elevation drawing, an expense statement listing construction material quantities, sums
    paid, and work performed, and the terms of sale for the St. Andrew's Hall lot. Also included are inventories listing
    miscellanea located in St. Andrew's Hall and materials relating to the South Carolina Society.

Oversize Paper Folder 1  Elevation drawing, undated
              (Flat storage)
Box 12 Folder 6  Expense statement, circa 1804
Box 9 Folder 21  Terms of sale, circa 1810, 1866
Box 9 Folder 22  Inventories, 1819, 1820
Box 9 Folder 23  Prints, undated
Box 10 Folder 1  South Carolina Society, 1885, 2005
              Repair statement and anniversary banquet menus.
7. Publications, 1822-1938

This series includes national and international books, newspapers, and periodicals collected by the St. Andrew's Society. Books relate to the history of St. Andrew's Society as well as to other St. Andrew's Societies in New York and Philadelphia. Pamphlets relate to the by-laws of the St. Andrew's Society of Oakland, California, as well as poetry, Scottish dress and Scottish history. Periodicals relate to the death of Queen Victoria and also to the history of the St. Andrew's Society.

Books, 1822-1929

Box 10 Folder 2  
*The Coronation or Hypocrisy Exposed and Sullivan's Island Satirical Poems, 1822*

Box 10 Folder 3  
*History of the St. Andrews Society, 1929*  
Includes handwritten chapters.

Box 10 Folder 4  
*The Moultrie Montague Letters, 1904*

Box 15  
*Robert Burns and Walter Scott Illustrated, 1899*  
Donated to the St. Andrews Society by William Ashmead Courtenay.

Box 10 Folder 5  
*St. Andrews Society of the State of New York, 1895*

Box 10 Folder 6  
*St. Andrews Society of Philadelphia, 1896*

Pamphlets, 1888-1917, undated

Box 10 Folder 7  
*Constitution and By-Laws of the St. Andrews Society of Oakland, California, 1888*

Box 10 Folder 8  
*Douglas's Yearbook of Scottish Associations, 1913-1917*

Box 10 Folder 9  
*Poems by Weelum, undated*

Box 10 Folder 10  
*Royal Scotland, undated*

Box 10 Folder 11  
*The Scottish National dress, undated*

Box 10 Folder 12  
*Stray Leaves Garnered, 1899*

Periodicals, 1901-1938

Box 12 Folder 7  
*The Graphic, 1901*

Box 10 Folder 13  
*Harpers Weekly, 1904*

Box 12 Folder 8  
*The Illustrated London News, 1901*

Oversize Paper Folder 1  
*The Illustrated London News supplements, 1901*  
(Flat storage)

Box 12 Folder 9  
*The Scottish American, 1917*

Box 10 Folder 14  
*United Scottish Association Halloween Annual, 1938*

Box 10 Folder 12  
Declaration of Independence reproduction, undated
8. Objects, 1967, undated

This series includes a backgammon board and a small woodblock used for printing. Also included is an ivory mallet, a gift of Sir James Doak.

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<td>17</td>
<td>Pine cone, undated</td>
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