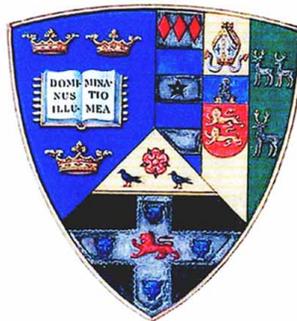


Guide to the George Whitefield Collection

1735- 1763



DREW

George Whitefield Collection

1735- 1763

0.82 cu. feet

drew.ms.2432

The purpose of this finding aid is to help you understand the nature of this collection and to assist you in the retrieval of material from this collection. The following pages contain a brief biographical history of the person, or persons, who created or collected these papers, followed by a general description of the collection in the scope and content note. If more detailed information is warranted then series descriptions also appear. The container listing appears last and is the listing of material in each box, or container, of this collection. To request material you need to turn to the container listing section. It is essentially a listing of file folders, or artifact items, in the collection. Each folder, or item, has a call number associated with it. Each folder also lists the inclusive dates of the material in the folder. On the material request form list both the call number and the folder, or item, title. Use a different line for each folder, or item, requested. When your request sheet is complete, or full, bring it to the archivist and the material will be retrieved.

Biographical Note

George Whitfield (1714-1770) a British evangelist, was born in Gloucester, England December 16, 1714. He was educated at Pembroke College, Oxford University. While there, he became a member of the Holy Club. Through the study of Puritan literature he became convinced of "free grace" and "justification by faith only."

After graduation he became popular as a preacher of the gospel of the new birth. Whitefield and the Wesleys had a close relationship, beginning with the Holy Club. However, as Whitefield's views on predestination became more Calvinistic, his theological relationship with the Wesleys became more and more strained. In 1738, he followed the Wesleys in mission to Savannah, Georgia. From 1748, Whitefield became closely associated with the Countess of Huntingdon. As her appointed chaplain, he became deeply involved in her mission to revive the Church of England.

Whitefield may fairly be called a Calvinistic Methodist. He carried his message far and wide, including thirteen trips to America.. He was one of the leading preachers of the Great Awakening. Worn out by his limitless travels and his preaching, Whitefield died of an asthma attack at Newburyport, Massachusetts on September 30, 1770.

Scope Note

The Whitefield collection is comprised of his correspondence dealing with a variety of topics. There are eleven letters, some original and others are copies of letters. There are two letters to Charles Wesley, one of which, written December 20, 1736, mentions Whitefield's willingness to go to Georgia. This may be the first recorded mention of his interest in the Georgia mission. The other Charles Wesley letter was written in 1763. The remainder of the correspondence ranges over a variety of topics. Some of the letters are original, but others are copies. The remainder of the collection is made up of miscellaneous items including clippings, a funeral hymn, and a Whitefield portrait. Another item of special note is Captain William Grant's journal. Grant was a close friend and supporter of Whitefield. The covers the years April 24,1740 through September 20, 1742. Part of the content document's the Grant's travels with Whitefield in Georgia. But the primarily focus is on Grant's spiritual experiences. Finally, there is a George Whitefield Bible printed in 1761. There are notes included which provide information about its origins and the donors and owners over the years. The single artifact in the collection is small hand bone purported to be from Whitefield. The bone was donated to the Drew University Methodist Collection in 1982.

Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner. The collection is arranged on an item level and placed in chronological order where possible.

Related Material

See the nine letters in the Countess of Huntingdon in the Drew University Methodist collection.

Bethlehem , Pennsylvania collection. University of Michigan

William Hunter collection. Royal College of Surgeons, England

George Whitefield collection. Methodist Archives and Research Centre, John Rylands University Library of Manchester, England.

Access Restrictions

Copyright still owned by Drew. Permissions to publish must be directed to Drew

Restrictions on Use

Detailed use restrictions relating to our collections can be requested from the office of the archivist at the General Commission on Archives and History. Photocopying is handled by the staff and may be limited in certain instances. Before using any material for publication from this collection a formal request for permission to publish is expected and required.

Preferred Citation

When citing material from this collection please use the following format: Direct reference to the item or its file folder, George Whitefield Collection, Methodist Collection - Drew University, Madison, New Jersey. Do not make use of the item's call number as that is not a stable descriptor.

Subject Terms

Subject Names - Personal

Bennet, John
Buchan, L.
Loyd, Mr.
Wesley, Charles
Wilkes
Gallatine, Mrs.

Subject Topics

Calvinistic Methodists
Circuit riders
Orphanages
Travel.

Subject Geographic

England
Georgia
New England
New Jersey



Pennsylvania
South Carolina

Genre

Bibles
Books
Clippings
Correspondence
Diaries
Eulogies
Hymns

Occupations

Minister.

Added Names - Persons

Gant, William

Table of Contents

Container List

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
2128-3-4:1	Letter to an unidentified friend, April 27 (discussion about Savannah activity and orphan house; printed)	1740
2128-3-4:2	Letter to Charles Wesley, December 20 (hand-written)	1736
2128-3-4:3	Letter to unidentified person, January 29 (hand-written)	1742
2128-3-4:4	Letter to Mrs. Gallatine, November 8 (facsimile)	1749
2128-3-4:5	Letter to Mr. Loyd, February 22 (hand-written)	1750
2128-3-4:6	Letter to John Bennet, August 30 (hand-written)	1752
2128-3-4:7	Hieroglyphics Letter (printed)	1761
2128-3-4:8	Letter to Charles Wesley, December 26 (hand-written)	1763
2128-3-4:9	Letter to Mr. Savage, March 15 (photocopy)	1765
2128-3-4:10	Letter to My Dear Captain, July 28 (photocopy)	1767
2128-3-4:11	Letter to Mrs. Cartret, December 7 (hand-written)	1767
2128-3-4:12	Letter fragment (photocopy)	Undated
2128-3-4:13	Fragmented Journal, November 28 (photocopy)	1743
2128-3-4:14	Hymn (printed)	1770
2128-3-4:15	Letter fragment (unidentified)	Undated
2128-3-4:16	Clippings	1740-1978
2128-3-5:1	Whitefield Bible	1761
2128-3-6:1	Captain William Grant Journal, April 24 - September 20	1740-1742