

Mary Telfair papers

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Telfair, Mary, 1791-1875.
Title:	Mary Telfair papers
Dates:	1790-1875
Extent:	0.2 cubic feet (2 folders, 1 oversize folder)
Identification:	MS 0792

Biographical/Historical Note

Mary Telfair (1791-1875) was the daughter of Edward Telfair. She was active in cultural and social affairs in Savannah, Georgia. As the last surviving child of Edward Telfair, she came into possession of most of the large fortune accumulated by him. By her will she bequeathed sums of money or income-producing property to the Independent Presbyterian Church in Savannah, the Presbyterian Church in Burke County, and the Georgia Historical Society. To this last organization, she bequeathed her home and most of its contents for the establishment of the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences. She also left funds for the establishment and maintenance of the Telfair Widow's Home and the Telfair Hospital for Women, both in Savannah.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists primarily of documents relating to Telfair property. Included are a grant of 400 acres of land in Burke County to Thomas Kirkpatrick, 1790, signed by Edward Telfair, Governor; a bill of sale for slaves, 1812; a deed from the Trustees of the Independent Presbyterian Church to Alexander Telfair for pew #6, 1818; a survey of Edward Telfair's property in Burke County, and a note by Mary Telfair stating that if she survived her sister, Margaret Telfair Hodgson, and her husband, Mrs. Hodgson wants property appropriated for the establishment and maintenance of a Female Hospital in Savannah. These papers were given to the Telfair Hospital Board by the executors of Mary Telfair's estate; they are in very fragile condition and may not be used; photocopies are available for use. Also included is a letter from Mary Telfair to Sophie Clinch, written from Savannah, 1875. In the letter, Telfair writes of her loneliness, Savannah, a several mutual friends. Sophie Clinch was Sophie H. Gibbes Couper Clinch, the second wife of Gen. Duncan L. Clinch.

Index Terms

Burke County (Ga.)
Independent Presbyterian Church (Savannah, Ga.)
Land grants.
Letters (correspondence)
Savannah (Ga.)
Slave trade--Georgia.
Telfair, Alexander, 1789-1832.
Telfair, Edward, approximately 1735-1807.
Telfair, Mary, 1791-1875.
Women's hospitals--Georgia--Savannah.

Physical and Technical Access Restrictions

Excepting the letter from Mary Telfair to Mrs. Sophie Clinch, this collection is extremely fragile and must not be used. Photocopies are available for use.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Some material was acquired from the Telfair Hospital Board, which received the material from the executors of Mary Telfair's estate.

Preferred Citation

[item identification], Mary Telfair papers, MS 792, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Telfair Hospital Board, 1960 (Items 1-5); Edith D. Johnston, 1951 (Item 6).

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2012 Documenting Democracy grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Container List

Fldr

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Photocopies of documents re Telfair property, 1790-1870s |
| | Grant of 400 acres of land in Burke County to Thomas Kirkpatrick, 1790 May 25, 2.0 p.
Signed by Edward Telfair, Governor. Plat and pendant seal attached. |
| | Marshall's bill of sale of slaves by writ of Fieri Facias against Emanuel Wambersie to George Haig, 1812 June 2, 1.0 p. |
| | Deed, Trustees of the Independent Presbyterian Church to Alexander Telfair, Pew No. 6, 1818 May 15, 1.0 p. , DS. |

Survey of Edward Telfair's property in Burke County. M., Undated
unsigned.

Note by Mary Telfair stating that is she (Mary) survived her sister, Margaret Telfair Hodgson and her husband, Mrs. Hodgson wants property appropriated for the establishment and maintenance of a Female Hospital in Savannah, undated
unsigned. 187?

Fldr	Item	
2	6	Mary Telfair to Mrs. Sophie Clinch. Savannah, 1875 May 16, 4.0 p. Writes of her loneliness, description and news of Savannah; mentions several mutual friends.
oversize_folder		
2		Original documents regarding Telfair property, 1790-1870s FRAGILE; MAY NOT BE USED.