Hooe Family Papers, 1829-1850: Finding Aid

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<tr>
<th>Summary Information</th>
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<td>Call number:</td>
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</table>
| Repository:         | Princeton University. Library. Dept. of Special Collections  
                      Manuscripts Division  
                      One Washington Road Princeton, New Jersey 08544 USA |
| Size:               | 0.2 linear feet  
                      1 box |
| Language(s) of Material: | English |
| Abstract:           | Consists of a small collection of correspondence and documents belonging to the Hooe family of Prince William County, Virginia, primarily concerning the hire and recapture of African Americans whom they enslaved on their plantation in the mid-19th century. |
| Location:           | This collection is stored onsite at Firestone Library. |
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**Biography/History**

The Hooe family were of Welsh descent and settled in colonial Virginia in the mid-17th century. In the late 18th century, Bernard Hooe acquired land in Prince William County, Virginia, and established a house and plantation called Hazel Plain, the remains of which later became part of the battlefield of Manassas. Other members of the Hooe family owned property nearby in Brentsville, Yorkshire, and Centerville, Virginia. Various family members, including John Hooe, Jr., held dozens of enslaved laborers on their plantations from the 17th through the mid-19th century.

**Description**

Consists of a small collection of correspondence and documents belonging to the Hooe family of Prince William County, Virginia, primarily concerning the hire and recapture of African Americans whom they enslaved on their plantation in the mid-19th century. Materials primarily relate to John Hooe, Jr., and James H. Reid, who was the administrator of Hooe's estate following his death. Other family members' names that appear in the documents include Bernard Hooe, Mary D. Hooe, and Dade Hooe. The majority of the collection consists of receipts, agreements, and correspondence related to the hire of enslaved laborers to neighboring plantation owners, as well as related taxes. Additional correspondence regards efforts to recapture enslaved people who had liberated themselves from the Hooes' plantation; these include letters from a Philadelphia lawyer and a Hampshire County (West Virginia) jailer about men purported to have escaped from the Hooes' plantation. There are also legal documents pertaining to a property dispute between John Hooe, Jr., and William Courtney, which contain inventories listing the names of enslaved people.

**Arrangement**

As no original order was discernible, materials were arranged by type/genre.

**Access and Use**

Access

Open for research.

Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. No further photoduplication of copies of material in the collection can be made when Princeton University Library does not own the original. Inquiries regarding publishing material from the collection should be directed to RBSC Public Services staff at rbsc@princeton.edu. The library has no information on the status of literary rights in the collection and researchers are responsible for determining any questions of copyright.
Provenance and Acquisition

Appraisal
No materials were removed from the collection during 2019 processing.

Processing and Other Information

Encoding
This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit 2019-04-12T16:08-0400

Descriptive Rules Used
Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

Subject Headings

- Hooe family
- Fugitive slaves -- Virginia -- 19th century.
- Plantations -- Virginia -- 19th century.
- Slaveholders -- Virginia -- 19th century.
- Slavery -- Virginia -- History -- 19th century.
- Prince William County (Va.) -- History -- Sources.
- Correspondence -- 19th century.
- Receipts -- 19th century.
- American history
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<th>Contents List</th>
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<td>C. Knight, Philadelphia, Letters to John Hooe, Jr., Brentsville, 1829 May-August</td>
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<td>Jacob Zimmerman, Jailer of Hampshire County, Letter to Col. John Hooe, Centerville, 1832</td>
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<td>William Courtney vs. John Hooe, Jr., Property Lawsuit Documents, 1829</td>
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<td>Mary L. Hooe Letters to Col. John Hooe, Yorkshire, 1843</td>
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<td>Letters to James H. Reid, 1842-1844</td>
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<td>Receipts and Agreements, 1834-1850</td>
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