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Summary Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Repository</th>
<th>Haverford College Quaker &amp; Special Collections</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creator</td>
<td>Churchman, George, 1730-1814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>George Churchman diaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date [inclusive]</td>
<td>1759-1813</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extent</td>
<td>0.4 Linear feet</td>
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Preferred Citation
George Churchman diaries (MC.975.01.011), Quaker & Special Collections, Haverford College, Haverford, PA.
Biographical note

George Churchman (1730-1814) was born on October 28, 1730 in Nottingham, Pa, the son of John and Margaret (Brown) Churchman. In 1752, Churchman married Hannah James, the daughter of Mordecai and Gaynor (Llyod) James. The couple had ten children. Churchman was a surveyor by profession, and in 1750 he succeeded his father as clerk of Nottingham Monthly Meeting, and served as clerk for twenty years. Churchman was a pioneer in the promotion of schools for Friends, including Westtown School. George Churchman died on November 18, 1814 at West Nottingham, Pa. at the age of 84.

Scope and Content note

This collection is composed of ten volumes of George Churchman's original, handwritten diaries. Churchman frequently traveled throughout the Mid-Atlantic and New England regions and many of his entries describe his travels to visit various meetings and Quaker families from Pennsylvania to as far north as Massachusetts. Entries describe meetings attended and families visited in the various towns and cities that Churchman traveled to, as well as family news, and marriages and deaths within the Quaker community.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections July 2015

Use Restrictions

Standard Federal Copyright Law Applies (U.S. Title 17).

Acquisition

The George Churchman diaries were donated to Special Collections, Haverford College, in 1949 & 1955 by Henry J. Cadbury.

Processing Information
Related Materials

Related Materials

- MC 851 American Friends letters
- MC 950.061 Henry Drinker papers
- MC 1000 Gulielma M. Howland papers
- MC 1100 Scattergood family papers

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Diaries.
- Quakers -- Diaries
- Travel Writing

Subject(s)

- Quakers -- Social Life and Customs
- Quakers -- Travel
- Quakers--History
- Society of Friends -- Clergy -- Diaries
Collection Inventory

Vol 1 1769-1766

Scope and Content note
This volume describes the death of Churchman's grandmother, Hannah Churchman, concerns about war and conflict in the colonies, issues related to Quakers marrying out, and Churchman's attendance at the treaty at Lancaster with Indians from the Six Nations.

This volume also includes a copy of the Yearly Meeting Minutes for 1762, and a copy of "the Yearly Meeting Committee's Epistle to Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, containing a proposal of their dividing into two monthly meetings."

Vol 2 1766-1788

Scope and Content note
This volume includes a description of Churchman's illness with fever, his mother's death in 1770, visits from Friends from North Carolina, and an address discussing issues of "backsliding." Copies of correspondence are included at the back of this volume.

Vol 3 1777-1780

Scope and Content note
This volume focuses on issues faced by Churchman, his family, and his Quaker community during the American Revolutionary War. Entries describes military movements, and holding meetings within two miles of battle. Churchman describes how twelve members of his meeting were exiled to Virginia for
refusing to fight, and how the American army took possession of the meeting house for use as a hospital, and his how meeting began holding meetings in a barn instead.

Vol 4 1780-1781

**Scope and Content note**

This volume includes discussions of the Quaker's refusal to pay war taxes and John Pemberton's upcoming religious visit to Europe. Churchman describes his attendance at a "Meeting for black people" in Philadelphia, as well as descriptions of his visit to Nantucket. While in Nantucket, entries are related to Native populations in the area, the whaling business, and his visit with the Governor of Rhode Island during his time there.

Vol 5 1781-1785

**Scope and Content note**

This volume describes Churchman's visit to see Friends in prison for refusing the war taxes.

Vol 6 1785-1790

**Scope and Content note**

in this volume, Churchman discusses abstaining from buying, selling, or consuming "spiritous liquors."

Vol 7 1793-1796

Vol 8 1802-1804

Vol 9 1804-1808
Scope and Content note

This volume includes travel to visit meetings and Quaker meetings in New York and Churchman's attendance at Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

Vol 10 1808-1813