

The collection contains the papers of William John Burchell (1781-1865), artist, naturalist and traveller. With the exception of few original manuscripts and notebooks, most items consist of transcriptions made by Mrs H.M. McKay. Originals of these are at the University Museum, Oxford, Sir Edward Poulton.

PLEASE NOTE:

There are 16 boxes of sorted material of research and publications, collected and submitted by H.M. McKay. The material is relating to her extensive study of W.J. Burchell.

There is now an informal inventory of these items available, which can be downloaded in PDF format at the bottom of the inventory.

COLLECTION

1 CORRESPONDENCE
1795-1863, transcribed by H.M. McKay

- 1.1-1.4 Letters from W.J. Burchell
Father, 20.5.1795, Transcript
Father & mother, 15.8.1804, Transcript
Father, 18.9.1804, Transcript
Father, 20.8.1805, Transcript
Father, 27.8.1805, Transcript
Father, 24.3.1806, Transcript
Sister, Caroline, 10.4.1806, Transcript
Father, 8.6.1806, Transcript
Father, 5.6.1807, Transcript
Father, 23.6.1807, Transcript
Dr JE Smith, Pres. Linnean Society, 24.8.1807, Transcript
Mother, 26.10.1807, Transcript
Parents, 29.4.1808, Transcript
Parents, 5.5.1808, Transcript
Dr Tilesius, Herrn Loehe, Leipzig, 17.10.1808, Photostat of Transcript extract
Mother, 8.3.1809, Photostat of Transcript extract
Sister, Caroline, 14.7.1809, Photostat of Transcript extract
Mother, 16.7.1809, Photostat of Transcript extract
Caroline, 10.7.1810, Photostat of Transcript extract
Governor & Council, 17.8.1810, Photostat of Transcript extract
Governor, Earl of Caledon, 10.12.1810, Photostat of Transcript extract
Mother, 29.5.1811, Photostat of Transcript extract
Rev. Hesse, 14.1.1812, Photostat of Transcript extract
PH Polemann, 14.1.1812, Photostat of Transcript extract
Rev Hesse, Strand St., Cape Town, 25.5.1812, Photostat of Transcript extract
Rev Hesse, Strand St., Cape Town, 6.6.1812, Photostat of Transcript extract
Messrs Renkin & Scott, 6.6.1812, Photostat of Transcript extract
Mr Anderson, Klaarwater, 13.6.1812, Photostat of Transcript extract
Mr Anderson, Klaarwater, 27.7.1812, Photostat of Transcript extract
Rev Hesse, 27.7.1812, Transcript + Photocopy
Father, 27.7.1812, Transcript + Photocopy
Rev Hesse, 11.1.1813, Transcript + Photocopy
Henry Alexander, Colonial Secretary, Cape of Good Hope, 5.4.1813, Transcript + Photocopy

Rev Hesse, 7.4.1813, Transcript
Rev Hesse, 14.4.1813, Transcript
Rev Hesse, 10.5.1813, Transcript
Capt Andrews, 26.5.1813, Transcript
PH Polemann, 17.8.1813, Transcript
Rev. Hesse, 21.8.1813, Transcript
Lieut Ellert, Fort Louis, 7.9.1813, Transcript
JC Bergh or G Glaeser, Uitenhage, 7.9.1813, Transcript
Capt Lynch, not sent, 26.9.1813, Transcript
Lieut Garr, Lombard's role, 1.10.1813, Transcript
Ensign J Laycock, Blauw Kranz, 12.10.1813, Transcript
A Stockenstrom, Graaff Reinet, 27.11.1813, Transcript
Rev Hesse, 2.12.1813, Transcript
Bergh, 7.12.1813, Transcript
Messrs Rankin and Scott, 15.12.1813, Transcript
Col Vicars, Algoa Bay, 6.1.1814 , Transcript
Capt Andrews, HM Cape Regiment, Zuureveld, 8.1.1814, Transcript
Landdrost Fisher, Graaff Reinet, 8.1.1814, Transcript
Capt Fraser, Graham's Town, 8.1.1814, Transcript
Capt Evatt, 8.1.1814, Transcript
J.C. Bergh, 22.2.1814, Transcript
AG van Kervel, Landdrost, 20.9.1814, Transcript
Mynheer PH Nolemann, 22.9.1814, Transcript
Rev Hesse, 22.9.1814, Transcript
J.C. Bergh, Uitenhage, 14.10.1814, Transcript
Rev. Hesse, 7.1.1815, Transcript
J.C. Bergh, Uitenhage, 25.1.1815, Transcript
Rev. Hesse, 18.3.1815, Transcript
J.C. van der Graaff, Acting Sec. Tulbagh, 11.5.1815, Transcript
Lt-Col. Bird, Cape Town, 22.5.1815, Transcript
Major Fraser, Graham's Town, 26.5.1815, Transcript
Lt. Col. Bird, Cape Town, 29.5.1815, 1.6.1815, Transcript
Mr Hawkins, Loop Street, 22.7.1815, Transcript
Mr Hawkins, 24.7.1815, Transcript
Father, 5.8.1815, photocopy Transcript
Lord Charles Henry Somerset, 15.8.1815, Transcript
Mr Hawkins, 24.7.1815, Transcript
Father, 5.8.1815, photocopy Transcript
Lord Charles Henry Somerset, 15.8.1815, Transcript
J.C. Bergh, Sec. George, 21.8.1815, Transcript
Earl Bathurst, 4.10.1817, 30.9.1817, Transcript
Father, 30.1.1818, Transcript
Wm Swainson, Elm Grove, near Liverpool, 22.3.1819, Transcript
W.J. Hooker, Suffolk, 31.3.1819, Transcript
W Swainson, 27.9.1819, Transcript
Father, 19.5.1820 , Transcript
Mr. Turner, 19.2.1822 , ALS Original
RA Salisbury, 7.3.1822, 17.8.1824, Transcript
W Swainson, 11.12.1824 , Transcript
W Swainson, 8.2.1825, ALS Original
W Swainson, 15.2.1825, Transcript
W Swainson, 22.2.1825, Transcript
W Swainson, 5.3.1825, Transcript
Father , 13.3.1825, Transcript
Father, 15.3.1825, Transcript
Father, 19.5.1825, Transcript

RA Salisbury, 14.8.1825, Transcript
W Swainson, 31.8.1825, Transcript
Father, 6.9.1825, Transcript
Father, 25.11.1825, Transcript
Father, 7.1.1826, Transcript
Miss M Burchell, Fulham, 15.3.1826, Transcript
Dr Hooker, Prof of Botany, Glasgow University, 8.7.1826, Transcript
Father, 13.7.1826, Transcript
Father, 19.8.1826, Transcript
Miss M Burchell, 29.8.1826, Transcript
RA Salisbury, 5.9.1826, Transcript
Father, 29.11.1826, Transcript
Miss M Burchell, 13.3.1827, Transcript
Father, 12.4.1827, Transcript
Mother, 10.6.1827, Transcript
Prof. Hooker, Glasgow, 25.4.1828, Transcript
Father, 26.4.1828, Transcript
R.A. Salisbury (signed M. Burchell), 22.10.1828, Transcript
Mother, 15.10.1829, Transcript
Mother, 1.12.1827, Transcript
Prof Hooker, 18.4.1830, Transcript
JS Duncan, Bath, 31.5.1830, Transcript
W Swainson, 15.9.1830, Transcript
Prof Hooker, 4.10.1830, Transcript
W Swainson, 23.10.1830, Transcript
Prof Hooker, 1.11.1830, Transcript
W Swainson, 1.11.1830, Transcript
W Swainson, 11.11.1830, Transcript
W Swainson, 24.1.1831, Transcript
W Swainson, 28.2.1831, Transcript
W Swainson, 21.4.1831, Transcript
W Swainson, 25.4.1831, Transcript
Sister, Mary, 21.7.1831, Transcript
Sister, Mary, 19.6.1832, Transcript
W Swainson, 18.9.1832, Transcript
Prof. Hooker, 3.9.1832, Transcript
Sister, Mary, 13.9.1832, Transcript
Mother, 23.10.1832, Transcript
Mother, 31.10.1832, Transcript
Prof. Hooker, 5.12.1832, Transcript
Prof Meissner, Basel, 1.10.1833, Transcript
Sister, Mary, 7.12.1833, Transcript
Mother, Mary Anne, 14.2.1835, Transcript
Prof Hooker, 25.6.1835, Transcript
Mary, 27.8.1835, Transcript
Jane, 31.8.1837, Photocopy
Mary, 17.10.1837, Transcript
Mary, 20.11.1837, Transcript
Mary, 24.12.1837, Transcript
Mary, 13.2.1838, Transcript
Mary, 30.5.1838, Transcript
Mary, 4.6.1838, Transcript
W Swainson, 6.8.1838, Transcript
W Swainson, 29.1.1839, Transcript
W Swainson, 8.6.1839, Transcript
W Swainson, 23.8.1839, Transcript

W Swainson, 3.10.1839, Transcript
Sister - Sarah, 11.11.1839, Photocopy
W Swainson, 30.5.1840, Transcript
W Goddard Jackson, 10.8.1841 , ALS Copy
W Goddard Jackson, 16.9.1841, ALS Copy
W Goddard Jackson, 17.4.1843, ALS Copy
W Goddard Jackson, 7.8.1843, ALS Copy
W Goddard Jackson, 25.3.1844, ALS Copy
Dr JW Hooker, 26.8.1845, Transcript
Mrs SM Miers, 18.4.1849, Transcript
Dawson Turner, 19.3.1850, Transcript
Dawson Turner, 25.3.1850, Transcript
G Bentham, 3.7.1850 , Transcript
Sister, Sarah, 8.11.1855, Photocopy
Sister, Sarah, 20.10.1856, Photocopy
James (nephew), 2.3.1857, Transcript
W. Goddard Jackson, 1.11.1861, ALS Copy
Mrs. SA Burchell, 10.6.1852, Transcript
Miss MCH Sulwain, 9.2.1863, Transcript

1.5 Letters to Burchell

1803 February 7

Letter with note addressed to W.J. Burchell by J. Metritz saying: "I enclose you all I can get out of the several Proclamations relative to the boundaries of the districts, which I am sorry to say is very imperfectly defined by them.", relating to the divisions of the Cape Colony and the Tulbagh district in 1803. 2 items, ALS, original

1832 August 8 and August 22

Two letters by Lord Stuart de Rothesay to W.J. Burchell regarding drawing of Brazil. ALS, original

1832 August 10

Draft letter of reply by W.J.Burchell to Lord Stuart de Rothesay regarding his Brazilian scetches. ALS, original

1862 May 25

Letter by Jane Burchell (sister) to W.J. Burchell, Fulham. ALS, original

1.6 Correspondence related to Burchell

1863 April 16

Letter by James Burchell to W. Goddard Jackson, his brother-in-law, with envelope. ALS, original

1864 October 29

Letter by Prof J. Phillips to W. Goddard Jackson, with envelope. 2 items, ALS, original

1864 October 31

Letter by Prof J.O. Westwood to Miss Anna Burchell, with envelope. ALS, original

1864 November 23

Letter by W. Goddard Jackson to Prof J. Phillips. ALS, original

1865 March 27

Letter by W. Goddard Jackson to Miss Anna Burchell with Addendum, being a copy of W.J. Burchell's memorandum about his collections and what should happen to them after his death, dated 15 October 1860, which Goddard Jackson had found in one of Anna Burchell's pocket book, and of which had a copy made and sent to her

2 MISCELLANEOUS BURCHELL WRITINGS

- 2.1 1807 February 25
Poem "Address to Lot Rock in Island of St. Helena", with transcript done by Robin Castell, August 2009.
Manuscript, original
- 2.2 1810 October 16
St Helena Journal, 2pages . Photocopy
- 2.3 1811-1815
Catalogues Systematicus insectorum, Photocopy
- 2.4 1812 May 24 - 1812 September 2
Memo book, Handwritten copy by H. McKay, September 1935
- 2.5 1812 August 3 - 1812 September 2
Journal, Typescript
- 2.6 1817 June
"Notes sur une nouvelle espèce de Rhinoceros" - in Bulletin des Sciences de la Societe Philomathique de Paris,
Photocopy
- 2.7 Undated (?)
Memoranda Botanica, p.74/75, Photocopy
- 2.8 1820

"No. 737. The drawing of the inside of the waggon was finished in the following order" , Manuscript, original
- 2.9 1825
Description of *Malaconotus atro-coccineus* - extract from Zoological Journal, Volume I, pp461-462, 1825,
Typescript
- 2.10 1832 & 1850
"A Tour in 1832 Anna Burchell with WJ. Burchell"; "A Tour in France and Belgium with Mary Burchell in 1850
with W.J.Burchell", Manuscript, original
- 2.11 1837 November 1
Remarks written at Dresden (originally in Leipzig), from Sammlung Roemer, Photocopy
- 2.12 1844 August 29 - 1852 June 16
Register of thermometer, wind v weather, Fulham , Photocopy
- 2.13 1863 January 1-1863 March 21

Journal, with last entry on the 21 March, 2 days before he died on 23 March 1863, Manuscript, original
- 2.14 Undated (?)
Annotations in WJB'S own copy of 'Travels' which is in Hope Department of Oxford Museum, Handwritten
copy by H. McKay

3 BURCHELL'S ACCOUNT BOOKS

Received by H.M. McKay from Mr N. Goddard, Stanford Lines, England, June 1945

- 3.1 1834 - 1863
Sums received, Rents and dividends, Manuscript, original, lightblue cover
- 3.2 Various dates
Loose notes about stocks bought and taxes of tenants in churchfield properties, receipts, Manuscript, original, white cover
- 3.3 1857 - 1863
Paid bank notes, Manuscript, original, brown cover
- 3.4 1856 - 1863
Received bank notes, Manuscript, original, brown cover
- 3.5 1861 January 5 - 1863 March 19

Account book, with merchants bills, receipts, list of rates and taxes, Manuscript, original, darkblue cover
- 3.6 1815 November 10 - 1861 January 28
Record of expenditure, Hardcover accounts book, original, leather

4 BURCHELL FAMILY PAPERS

Received by H.M. McKay from Mr N. Goddard, Stanford Lines, England, June 1945

- 4.1 Notebook of W.J. Burchell, on administration of estates of Matthew Burchell (father), Jane Burchell (mother), Charles Burchell (brother), Bound, original, green leather
- 4.2 Notebook of W. Goddard Jackson, W.J. Burchell's brother-in-law, on W.J. Burchell's estate
Bound, original, blue leather
- 4.3 Copy made in 1841 of the Will of Matthew Burchell (father), proved 1830 June 2
- 4.4 Copy made in 1841 of the Will of Jane Burchell (mother), proved 1841 March 31
- 4.5 Copy made of the Will of Anna Burchell (sister), died 1865 October 2, proved 1865 November 10
Letter by Park Nelson & Co. relating to the above wills
- 4.6 Burchell Family tree, presented by A. Collett, 20 Marie Crescent, Lesmurdie, Western Australia

5 PHOTOGRAPHS AND POSTCARDS

The photographs and postcards have been submitted by H.M. McKay and are part of her Burchell studies, including photograph albums, loose photographs and glass slides.

Photographs of Pretoria, Botanical Gardens in Durban (?), Middleburg

Folio item: Panoramic view with aloes

Postcards: St. Helena, Orange River, Riversdale, Series on Mammals (Natal Museum)

Glass slides in wooden box:

- 1. Young Burchell
- 2. Map of the Cape Colony
- 3. Map of Southern Africa by Burchell
- 4. Cape Town in 1811
- 5. Wild chestnut at Constantia

6. Brandvlei
7. Rev. Anderson
- 8-15. Plants, birds, animals, reptiles
16. Reception by Mattivi
17. Map - location unclear
18. Mokala grove
19. Chue (?)
20. Natives hunting
- 21-3. Animals
24. Photo of W.J. Burchell
25. Crossing Gariep (Zak drift)
- 26-7. Catalogue of insects (?)
28. Snake
29. Plettenberg Bay
- 30-2. Plants
- 33-4. Interior of wagon
35. W.J. Burchell
- 36-50. Maps, mostly of the Cape (W and E)
- 51-54. Maps - these four slides are broken or cracked.

5a Mahutu, pencil sketch, 31 July 1912
Stored in Media room with photographs.