



# Guide to the Thomas Carroll Papers, 1844-1914

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## Summary

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**Collection Title:**

Thomas Carroll papers, 1844-1914

**Creator:**

Carroll, Thomas

**Extent:**

0.4 Linear Feet  
approximately 155 items

**Language:**

English.

**Collection ID:**

RL.00192

**Permalink:**

<https://idn.duke.edu/ark:/87924/m1rs35>

**Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Thomas Carroll Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

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## Background

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**Scope and Content**

The papers of Thomas Carroll span the years 1844 to 1914 with the majority of the papers dating from 1844 to 1887. They consist primarily of correspondence and accounts relating to his plantation, general store, and guardianship of orphans.

Carroll owned a plantation in the antebellum, Civil War, and postwar periods. After the mid-1870s he lived in Virginia and elsewhere in North Carolina, renting his farm to tenants. The correspondence documents his plantation business, especially trade with commission merchants between Norfolk, Virginia, and New York City and in Liverpool, England. There are also references to enslaved persons, freedmen, tenant farmers, the cotton trade,

and the agricultural economy and Reconstruction in North Carolina and other Southern states where family members lived. The Account Book, 1844-1867, contains lists of enslaved persons and transactions involving the renting of enslaved laborer, overseers, workers, wages, midwives, a Petersburg merchant, educational expenses, and goods and services for numerous persons including architect Jacob W. Holt. The financial papers also document the financial aspects of enslavement: renting enslaved labor, paying overseers, and educational expenses.

Carroll was the guardian of several orphans who included children of Congressman Joel Holleman. Financial papers and the Account Book, 1844-1867, contain guardianship accounts.

Two volumes from Carroll's general store document his mercantile business before the Civil War. The ledgers include accounts of free Blacks, a shoe shop, Jacob W. Holt, and many enslaved persons. The other volume contains inventories of goods and debts.

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## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Statement**

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### **Access Restrictions**

Collection is open for research.

### **Use Restrictions**

For more information on the copyright interests involved in this collection, please consult a reference librarian.

## Acquisition Information

The papers of Thomas Carroll of Ridgeway, Warren County, North Carolina, were acquired by purchase in 1938 and donations in 1975 and 1985.

## Processing Information

Encoded by Alvin Pollock, Electronic Text Unit, UC Berkeley Library

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## Names and Subjects

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- Slaves -- North Carolina -- Warren County
- Agriculture -- Southern States
- Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877) -- Southern States
- Orphans -- North Carolina
- Guardian and ward -- North Carolina
- Education -- Costs -- Southern States
- Commission merchants
- Freedmen -- North Carolina
- Landlord and tenant -- North Carolina -- Warren County
- Agricultural laborers -- North Carolina -- Warren County
- Warren County (N.C.) -- Economic conditions
- General stores -- North Carolina -- Warren County
- Holleman, Joel, 1799-1844

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## Collection Inventory

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Correspondence, 1856-1914	Box 1
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Printed Material, 1867-1886	Box 1
Financial Papers, 1847-1900	Box 1
<b>Physical Description:</b> 2 folders	
Financial Papers: Thomas Carroll, Account Book, 1844-1867	Box 1

Financial Papers: Carroll and Cheatham, Ledger of General Store, 1856-1862 (online item available)

Box 1

**Digital Object:** [Carroll and Cheatham, Ledger of General Store, 1856-1862 \(bulk 1856-1859\)](#)

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Financial Papers: General Store Inventories and Accounts Receivable and Payable for Successive Firms of Carroll and Montgomery, Thomas Carroll, and Carroll and Cheatham, 1847-1858, 1888

Box 1