GUIDE TO THE MICROFILM
OF THE
BAYNTON, WHARTON, AND MORGAN PAPERS

in the

Pennsylvania State Archives
(MANUSCRIPT GROUP 19)

10 Rolls

A Microfilm Project
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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
Harrisburg, 1966
This descriptive pamphlet and the accompanying microfilm reproduction of the Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers are the second in the series which the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission is producing under the auspices of the National Historical Publications Commission in order to make important source materials readily available for scholarly research. The Federal commission granted funds for microfilming and for some research and clerical assistance, and also provided technical guidance and standards for the work. Again, we thank Dr. Oliver W. Holmes, Executive Director of the National Historical Publications Commission, and his assistant, Fred Shelley, for understanding help and advice in many problems; and Dr. S. K. Stevens, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, and his deputy, William J. Wewer, for their interest and support in administrative and fiscal matters.

Most of the staff of the Bureau of Archives and History have been concerned, in one way or another, with the microfilm project. William H. Work, State Archivist, and Chief of the Division of Archives and Manuscripts, has taken a keen interest in the progress of this specialized archival program, and made professional and clerical assistance available from the regular Archives staff to assure its success. William A. Hunter, Chief of the Division of History, advised in the arrangement of the papers and in the preparation of the guide.

The basic arrangement and inventorying of the Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers were the work of Dr. Frank B. Evans, former State Archivist, now on the staff of the National Archives; and of Miss Martha
L. Simonetti, Associate Archivist. Miss Simonetti has served as assistant project director, overseeing the handling and final arrangement of the papers, answering innumerable questions, and checking and proofreading the guide. George R. Beyer, Assistant Archivist, has served as editor of the microfilm, setting up the records for filming, preparing targets and directions for the operator, carefully checking the finished film, and looking after any necessary re-takes. The work of operating the microfilm camera was begun by the late Paul A. Fickes and completed conscientiously by Mrs. Beatrice Sariano, of the clerical staff of the Division of History. Most of the final copy for the pamphlet was typed by Mrs. Betty Wilcox, of the clerical staff of the Archives; Harold L. Myers, Associate Historian, handled arrangements for publishing it; and Henry Bown, Assistant Archivist, assisted Miss Simonetti in proofreading. Much help in various routine details such as correspondence and purchase requests was also given by Mrs. Ruth Ann Myers, secretary to the Bureau.

The Series Title Inventory of the Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers prepared by Dr. Evans and Miss Simonetti was the basis for the present Guide to the Microfilm, but it has been extensively revised in content and considerably modified in arrangement to meet the present purpose.

DONALD H. KENT
Director
Bureau of Archives and History
The microfilm which this Guide accompanies reproduces in ten rolls the more important parts of the Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers, 1757-1787, omitting receipts, waste books, invoice books, blotters, and similar routine materials. In other words, it includes the papers of the business firm of Baynton and Wharton, 1757-1763, and of its successor firm, Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan, 1763-1787, which have been considered most useful to historians.

The Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers constitute one of the most important bodies of source material in the State Archives of Pennsylvania, although they are not—strictly speaking—in the category of public records or government archives. As a matter of archival definition, they fall in the shadowy dividing line between public records and private papers, for they came into the possession of the Commonwealth by sequestration in legal proceedings to settle the accounts and land transactions of Peter Baynton, State Treasurer, 1797-1799, and thus it would be possible to classify them as public records.

With the Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers proper, which extend from 1757 to 1787, the State Archives also has the related Peter Baynton Papers, 1725-1745, and Baynton Family Papers, 1770-1827; and the three are grouped together under the collective title of Sequestered Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers, Manuscript Group 19.

The Peter Baynton Papers, 1725-1745, and the Baynton Family Papers, 1770-1827, have not been included in this microfilm. The inventory in the Guide, however, covers the entire body of Sequestered Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers,

*Since all these papers appear to have been in the possession of the Baynton family when the Commonwealth acquired them, it would have been appropriate to call them the Sequestered Baynton Family Papers, if the title derived from its most famous component had not been used for generations in guides, bibliographies, and footnote citations.
in order to show clearly the relation of the major component to its lesser companions, and to give careful indication of what has been omitted. Facilities are available to provide microfilm or other photocopies of the omitted materials at moderate cost.

The Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers are the correspondence and business papers of a famous trading house of colonial Philadelphia which began about 1757 as Baynton and Wharton, a partnership of John Baynton and Samuel Wharton. Physically, they amount to twenty cubic feet and sixty-eight volumes of manuscript material. Since the firm was involved in trade with other colonies, with Europe, with the West Indies, and--increasingly--with Indians and settlers in the western country, its papers are rich in information on the movements of trade in the years between the French and Indian War and the American Revolution, on the early development of the Illinois country, on the fur trade, on the supply of provisions for military posts, and generally on the role of this Philadelphia business establishment in westward expansion.

Some of this story is told in Max Savelle's admirable biography of one of the partners, George Morgan: Colony Builder (New York, 1932), but this necessarily focuses on Morgan, the junior partner, rather than on the firm. The full story of Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan remains to be written, and it is to be hoped that this microfilm may lead to such a study. At appropriate places in the Guide there are brief sketches of the two firms and of some of the important persons, but these summaries are intended merely to help the researcher steer his way through the materials.
While the Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers came into the possession of the Commonwealth early in the nineteenth century, they reached the State Archives through various channels and at various times. In the course of the protracted litigation over the accounts and land dealings of Peter Baynton which led to their sequestration, it appears that many of them were placed in the State Land Office to be readily accessible for consultation, as mentioned in an Act of 1838-39 (P.L. 639), while others were in the hands of the commissioners reviewing the claims against the estates of Peter Baynton and John Nicholson. Later in the nineteenth century, most of the Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers in the Land Office were placed in the Pennsylvania State Library, passing in 1903 into its newly-created Division of Public Records. Others, perhaps those in the hands of the commissioners, seem to have gone to the Auditor General, for a "Report of the Public Archives of Pennsylvania" in the Annual Report of the American Historical Association for 1900 (Vol. II, p. 293) mentioned twenty volumes of these papers as in the care of the Auditor General's Department.

In 1945 the Division of Public Records (State Archives) was transferred from the State Library to the newly-created Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, and the Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers began to profit by the change. The professional archivists engaged by the Commission to improve the management of its records program looked at them systematically and undertook to gather up scattered bits and pieces. Some two hundred letters had been mistakenly removed from the Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers and filed with official papers of the Provincial Council and the Supreme Executive Council as "Provincial Papers" and "Revolutionary Papers." These were located and restored to their proper places. The late Henry H. Eddy, then the State Archivist, even found six items in the
basement of the South Office Building while searching for other material in November, 1955; and one lone item, a receipt book of John Baynton, came from the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. Most important of all, four cartons of Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers, which had apparently been overlooked in the earlier transfer, came from the State Land Office at the beginning of 1958. It is probable that a few other Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers in the possession of the Commonwealth have not yet reached the Archives, but it is certain that Manuscript Group 19 in the Pennsylvania State Archives now includes by far the greater part of these papers, and their really significant elements.

As might be expected of a business and of individuals whose activities had so many ramifications, there are many related materials in collections in other historical depositories. At the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, there is a George Morgan Letter Book, 1767-1768, containing his letters to Baynton and Wharton from Fort Chartres and Kaskaskia, with a journal of his journey from Philadelphia to the Mingo town on the Ohio, September 30-November 1, 1767, and a journal of a voyage down the Mississippi, November 21-December 18, 1766. That society's collection of account books also includes a ledger and letter book, 1721-1726, of Peter Baynton (1695-1743/4); and there is a Baynton and Wharton letter book of 1761 in the Wharton Papers.

At the University of Illinois, in the Illinois Historical Survey Collections, there are more than three hundred items in the George Morgan Papers, which relate to Morgan's activities in Illinois and to other phases of his career. These papers are, in part, transcripts; and they include correspondence in search of other Morgan materials. The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has three Letter Books of George Morgan, 1775-1779, the period when he was United States Indian agent and
deputy commissary general for purchases at Pittsburgh. More directly related to the company is the Fort Pitt Trading Post Day Book, 1765-1767, 1772, at the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, 4338 Bigelow Boulevard, Pittsburgh. There is also some material in the Pennsylvania Miscellaneous Collection at the New York Public Library.

As already indicated, Max Savelle's _George Morgan: Colony Builder_ (New York, 1932) is the only scholarly study to deal with Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan in any detail up to the present time, although it is mainly a biography of Morgan. The indexes to the _Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography_ and the _Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine_ give many references to the company and to the individuals involved. Lawrence Thurman's article on the Fort Pitt Trading Post Day Book in the _Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine_, Volume 29 (1946), pages 141-146, is of particular interest.

In the accompanying microfilm the Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan Papers are presented precisely in the order indicated in the Guide. The roll numbers are emphasized by italic capitals, and the frame numbers are given in parentheses following each entry and outside the period. Occasionally because of filing problems when one letter is written on the back of another, when one volume is used for more than one purpose, or similar overlapping occurs, there are cross-references given to other locations; in such cases roll and frame numbers are given in italics in parentheses and within the period. Careful notation is made of the materials omitted from the microfilm, and again it should be emphasized that, if anyone should want them, additional photocopies can be provided at moderate cost.
I. PETER BAYNTON PAPERS, 1725-1745. (microfilmed)

Peter Baynton (1695-1743/4), merchant, who engaged in business in Philadelphia in 1721. In the following year, he went for a time to the "Cherry Stones" and other places in Virginia, and later to Charleston, South Carolina. In Charleston he married a Miss Parris, who lived but a short time. His second wife was his cousin, Mary Budd, of New Jersey, a daughter of John and Rebecca (Baynton) Budd. On February 22, 1743/4, he was drowned in the Delaware near Burlington, New Jersey, his place of residence, and his remains were interred in the grounds of St. Mary's Church. His career was a prosperous one. The roofing and shingling of St. Mary's were done at his cost, and by his will he bequeathed his wife £640 per annum and left £250 toward erecting a new Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

Letter Book, 1729. 1 vol. Out-letters of Peter Baynton, Merchant, April 3-Nov. 10, 1729. Also four letters (July 17, Sept. 4, 11, 1729) signed by both Peter Baynton and Anthony Morris. A signature of 10 leaves.

General Correspondence, 1731-1745.


Moore, John, Jamaica, to Peter Baynton, April 3, 1744.

[Plackett ?], John, Kingston, to John Fallowfield, Merchant, Sept. 10, 1731.

Richard, Paul, New York, to Peter Baynton, Feb. 18, 1743/4.

Wallis, Josiah, London, to Peter Baynton, July 25, 1737.

Wright, Thomas, Portsmouth, to Peter Baynton, Feb. 17, 1744/4.

Wright, Thomas, to Maddox & Bourne, Merchants in Phila., Feb. 17, 1744/5.
Bills of Lading, 1730-1742. 3 vols.


Ledger C, 1728-1733. 1 vol. No index. Entries of sales from Feb. 24, 1728, to July 30, 1733. 159 pp., numbered on left-hand page only.

Ledger D, 1730-1734. 1 vol. Index. Entries of sales from Dec. 29, 1730, to Sept. 5, 1734. 225 pp., numbered on left-hand page only.

Receipts, 1725-1743.


Beginning of Microfilm

II. BAYNTON, WHARTON, AND MORGAN PAPERS, 1757-1787.

Letter Books, 1757-1776. 11 vols. Roll 1


Dec. 26, 1757-Feb. 17, 1761. 1 vol. Written in several hands. About 40 pp. (3-54)

Nov. 24, 1769-May 27, 1770. 1 vol. In John Baynton's hand and others. 141 pp. (55-126)

May 29, 1759-Jan. 20, 1760. 1 vol. (129-176)
Jan. 1-Apr. 3, 1762. 1 vol. (177-219)


Oct. 16, 1763-Feb. 21, 1766. 1 vol. (220-270)


Nov. 6, 1768-Sept. 10, 1770, Kaskaskia. 1 vol. 36 pp. In rear:
About 80 pp. (351-392)

54 pp. (393-524)

Jan. 13, 1772-June 15, 1775. In: Baynton, Wharton, and Morgan,

Letter Book A, 1763-1775, pp. 82-141 (frames 316-349).

May 14, 1773-Feb. 19, 1775. 1 vol. 35 pp. (526-564)
General Correspondence, 1758-1787.

Correspondence of John Baynton, 1758-1773.

John Baynton (1726-1773) was the son of Mary Budd and Peter Baynton (1695-1743/4), and married Elizabeth Chevalier on December 17, 1747. They had twelve children, and their daughter Mary married George Morgan. John Baynton was at various times a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly, Provincial Commissioner named in an Act of December, 1756, a member of the Board of Trustees for the State House, and Trustee of Province Island. With William Bard, he supplied goods for the Indian treaty at Easton in 1758. His contemporaries had high regard for his character and honesty.

Barclay and Sons, London, Dec. 9, 1758. (3)

Bard, William, Kingston, Jamaica, July 22, 1759. (4-6)

Beekman, Christopher, Lominton, Aug. 30, 1763. (7)

Boreman, John, Feb. 28, . . . (Chief assistant and secretary to George Morgan at Fort Pitt). (8-10)

Budd, John, Salem, London, 1759, 1760, 1766. (11-18)

Bulley, Robert, St. Johns, Newfoundland, 1758, 1767, 1770. (19-27)

Callender, Robert, Middlesex, 1763, 1771, 1772. (28-34)

Campbell, John, Pittsburgh, Dec. 20, 1769. (35-37)

Clark, Daniel, Clover Hill, Dec. 23, 1771. (38-39)


Cole, Edward, New Orleans, June 13, 1769. (160-161)

Croghan, George, July 29, 1772. (162-165)

Day, John, Halifax, March 14, 1759. (166-168)

Eldridge, Samuel, Sept. 19, . . . . (169)
ROLL 2 (cont.)

Field & Moors, Kingston, Jamaica, 1758-1759. (50-67)
Franklin, William, Phila., Sept. 11, 1767. (Copy). (68-70)
Gronow, Lewis, Chester County, 1767-1769. (71-77)
Hicks, William, April 3, 1772. (78-79)
Hollinshead, Joseph, Kaskaskia, April 24, 1769. (80-81)
Hooper, Robert Lettis, Jun., Ft. Pitt, May 14, 1772. (82-84)
Hubbart, [Jetheth ?], Boston, Nov. 24, 1769. (85-86)
Hughes, John, Walnut Grove, Dec., 1769. (87-88)
Hutchins, Thomas, Chartres Village, April 28, 1771. (89-91)
Jackson, Isaac, Dec. 5, 1766. (Cover only). (92-93)
James, Abel, London, Oct. 18, 1768, Jan. 17, 1770. (94-100)
Johnson, William, Jan. 5, 1766. (101-102)
Lawrence, John, Jun., Aug. 22, 1770. (103-104)
Leake, Andrew, Bromley, March 30, 1761. (105-106)
McCain, Hugh, Lemonton, Feb. 4, ...; 1759. On back: J. B.'s letter re horses running loose in Moravian Alley. (107-111)
McCloskry, William, Carlisle, 1764, 1768. (112-115)
Mathews, Hugh, Phila., Feb. 21, 1770. (118-119)
Morgan, George, Kaskaskia, Oct. 30, 1768. (Copy). (120-123)
Murray, William, Fort Chartres, 1769, 1771. (124-127)
Neave, Richard, London, March 15, 1759. (128-130)
Pollock, Mr., New Orleans, June 17, 1771. (Extract). (131-132)
ROLL 2 (cont.)

Rumsey, James, Kaskaskia, 1769, 1770, 1772. (133-140)
Sheed, George, Charleston, South Carolina, Sept. 5, 1770. (141-143)
Skelton, Joseph, Penns Neck, 1759, 1760, 1769. (144-153)
Stapleford, Elizabeth, Burlington, New Jersey, May 28, 1760. (154)
Sutfin, Gisbert, March 23, 1764. (155-158)
Tucker, Samuel, Jun., Trenton, New Jersey, Sept. 10, 1764. (159-160)
Wagle, John, Easton, 1772-1773. (161-164)
Whaller, John, Phila., July 4, 1766. (165-167)
Wharton, Samuel, New York, Ft. Pitt, etc., 1763-1767, 1769 and n.d. (168-231)
Wharton, Thomas, n.d. (235-236)
Wilkins, John, Col., Sept. 5, 1770. (237-241)
Williams, Daniel, Phila., Aug. 8, 1767. (254-256)
Wooley, Stephen, Burlington, New Jersey, April 10, 1759. (257-259)
Zane, Jonathan, Phila., Sept. 29, 1770. (260-261)
Unidentified, 1755, 1766, 1771. (262-274)

Correspondence of Baynton and Wharton, 1759-1763.

John Baynton (1726-1773) and Samuel Wharton (1732-1800) were partners in the firm of Baynton and Wharton which carried on a mercantile business in Philadelphia from 1757 to 1763. They dealt with farmers and others in Pennsylvania and neighboring colonies to obtain such products as hay, onions, cord wood, and lumber; and they engaged in extensive foreign trade to import such goods as sugar, rum, bottled beer, and gunpowder. Their trading ventures were extensive, reaching Quebec, Detroit, and Fort Pitt, as well as the West Indies, Portugal, and London.
Gradually, because it seemed most profitable, their interest turned toward trade with the Indians. At the outbreak of the Pontiac War in 1763, the firm had large consignments of goods in the hands of traders in the Indian country, and found itself in serious straits when the goods were captured or destroyed.

Allison, Patrick, Lancaster and "Canegogig," 1759, 1761. (276-283)


Arthur, Joseph, Kingston, Jamaica, Jan. 15, 1759. (287-288)

Ayroy, John & Co., Lisbon, 1759-1761. (289-316)

Barclay, David, & Sons, Oct. 20, 1763. (319-324)

Bard, William, Kingston, Jamaica, July 19, 1759. (325-327)

Bethune, Nathaniel & George, Boston, 1760-1763. (328-354)

Boyd, James and Augustus, Nov. 18, 1763. (355-357)

Brignall, Thomas, Martinico, 1761-1762. (358-426)

Budd & Test, Boston, July 30, 1763. (427-428)

Budd, E. . . , n.d. (429-431)

Budd, John, Salem, 1759-1763, and n.d. (432-575)

Bulley & Wharton, Phila., June 17, 1762. (576-577)

Bulley, Robert, Burlington, New Jersey; St. Johns, Newfoundland; Newport, 1759-1762. (578-599)

Callender, Robert, Dec. 1, 1762. (600-601)

Chalmers, John, Kingston, Jamaica, 1761-1762. (602-603)

Chancellor, Capt., Dec. [8 ?], 1759. (624-625)

Clayton, Edward, Queen Anne County, Md., 1759-1762. (626-674)

Collins & Govett, Montreal, Quebec, 1762-1763. (675-708)

Collins, John, Quebec, Montreal, 1760-1763. (709-796)

Daws, Edward, Phila., May 12, 1762. On back: George Morgan's order, Wilmington, May 28, 1762, for £50 to Edward Daws. (797-800)
Day, John, Halifax, 1760-1762. Several letters addressed to Baynton, Wharton, and McLean. (801-894)

Day, Sarah (per John Day), Halifax, Aug. 3, 11, 1761. (895-903)

Der Kinderen, Jacobus, New Providence, May 16, 1760. (904-905)

Duncan, Stephen, Carlisle, May 12, 1763. (906-907)

Eldridge, Samuel, & William Long, Quebec, June 27, 1762. (Copy). (908-916)

Field, Brignall & Graddock, St. Peters, Martinico, 1762. (917-925)


Govett, William, Montreal, Aug. 16, 1763. (961-964)

Harrod, John, New Providence, July 14, 1760. (965-966)

Hog, Richard, Mounta Christo, 1762. (967-970)

Hurd, John, Boston, 1760, 1763. (971-975)

Imlay, William, New York, Oct. 19, 1763. (976-978)

Jaquet, Joseph, Wetherspoons, Dec. 2, 1762. (979-980)

Kennedy, John, Quebec, Kingston, Jamaica, etc., 1760-1763. (981-1059)

Lamar, Hill & Bisset, Madeira, Nov. 6, 1760, June 26, 1762. (1060-1064)

Lempriere, Thos. & John, Faro, Portugal, 1761-1762. (1065-1069)

Livingston, Ph. Ph. per Henry Livingston, Kingston, Jamaica, 1763. (1070-1075)

Love, Ebenezer, New Providence, Boston, 1759-1763. (1076-1117)

Love, Mary, New Providence, 1760-1761. (1118-1123)

McCreery, William & Jane, [Ballybosey ?], May 21, 1763. (2)

Merry, Anthony, London, 1762-1763, and n.d. (3-39)
Moore & Cruger to Robert Field, Kingston, Jamaica, June 29, 1762.
(Duplicate). (40-42)
Murray, William, Chester Town, Md., May 30, 1763. (43-45)
Neave, Richard, March [16], 1762, 1763. (46-51)
Noble, John, Bristol, 1760, 1763. (52-80)
Parr, Thomas, & John Bulkeley, Lisbon, 1761-1763. (81-153)
Purvisance, Robert, Monte Christo, 1761-1762. (154-208)
Skelton, John, London, Oct. 8, 1760. (209-210)
Skelton, Joseph, 1759-1763. (211-231)
Smith, David, Monte Christo, 1762. (232-240)
Spear, Joseph, Detroit, Carlisle, 1762 and n.d. (241-244)
Spear, William, Carlisle, May 15, 1759. (245-247)
Steinmetz, John, Havana, 1762-1763. (248-261)
Tillotson, John, Queen Anne County, 1759-1763, and n.d. (262-351)
Wertz, Christian, Lancaster, 1762. (352-355)
Walke & Lindsay, Antigua, Aug. 15, 1761. (356-357)
Watson, John, Aug. 30, 1763. (358-361)
Wertz, see Wertz, above (frames 352-355)
Wharton, Samuel, New York, 1763. (362-369)
Wilkins, Andrew, Venango, Oct. 25, 1762. (370-371)
Williams, Gersham, New Providence, 1759-1760. (372-432)
Woolley, Stephen, Burlington, New Jersey, 1759-1761. (433-441)
Wright, William, London, per Anthony Merry, Nov. 11, 1762. (442-443)