

Proprietor of Pennsylvania accounts LCP.Proprietor.of.Penna

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Library Company of Philadelphia
2012 March 12

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Summary Information

Repository	Library Company of Philadelphia
Creator	Penn, William, 1644-1718
Title	Proprietor of Pennsylvania accounts
Date [inclusive]	1701-1704
Extent	1.0 volume
Language	English
Abstract	<p>The British colony of Pennsylvania was given to William Penn (1644-1718) in 1681 by Charles II of England in repayment of a debt owed his father, Sir Admiral William Penn (1621-1670). Under Penn's directive, Pennsylvania was settled by Quakers escaping religious torment in England and other European nations. Three generations of Penn descendents held proprietorship of the colony until the American Revolution, when the family was stripped of all but its privately held shares of land. This collection consists of a volume recording the transactions of William Penn's proprietary government of Pennsylvania, including date, name of seller or customer, item or service, and amount paid. This volume dates from 1701 to 1704.</p>

Preferred Citation note

[Description and date of item], Proprietor of Pennsylvania accounts, 1701-1704, Library Company of Philadelphia.

Biographical/Historical note

The British colony of Pennsylvania was given to William Penn (1644-1718) in 1681 by Charles II of England in repayment of a debt owed his father, Sir Admiral William Penn (1621-1670). Under Penn's directive, Pennsylvania was settled by Quakers escaping religious torment in England and other European nations. Three generations of Penn descendents held proprietorship of the colony until the American Revolution, when the family was stripped of all but its privately held shares of land.

As proprietor, William Penn had full governing rights and had "much control in how land was gained and dispersed, how the city was plotted and populated, [and] how it's government, laws, [and] public institutions were set up," (University of Virginia). In 1701, a new charter of privileges was signed, giving the Assembly the right to propose new laws, not just vote on them; and allowing the Province of Pennsylvania and Delaware, a territory, to maintain separate governments. William Penn left Pennsylvania in late 1701 and supervised the governance of Pennsylvania from England until his death in 1718. Under Penn as proprietor, government officials included an appointed Governor, a 72-member Provincial Council, and the Pennsylvania Provincial Assembly.

University of Virginia. "William Penn, Visionary Proprietor." <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~cap/penn/pnhome.html> (accessed March 12, 2012).

Scope and Contents note

This collection consists of a volume recording the transactions of William Penn's proprietary government of Pennsylvania, including date, name of seller or customer, item or service, and amount paid. This volume dates from 1701 to 1704.

William Penn left Pennsylvania for the last time in October 1701, but continued to serve as proprietor until his death in 1718; although Hannah Penn served as acting proprietor from 1712 to 1718. Between 1701 and 1704, Andrew Hamilton served as deputy governor from 1701 to 1703, Edward Shippen served as president of Council from 1703 to 1704, and John Evans served as deputy governor from 1704 until 1709.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Library Company of Philadelphia 2012 March 12

Conditions Governing Access note

This collection is open for research use, on deposit at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107. For access, please contact the Historical Society at 215-732-6200 or visit <http://www.hsp.org>.

Conditions Governing Use note

Copyright restrictions may apply. Please contact the Library Company of Philadelphia with requests for copying and for authorization to publish, quote or reproduce the material.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

Chester County Historical Society: Albert Cook Myers Historical Collection: William Penn papers, 1645-1960, MS.Coll.190

Historical Society of Pennsylvania: Logan family papers, 1638-1964, Collection 0379; and Penn family papers, 1592-1960, Collection 0485A

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Account books

Geographic Name(s)

- Pennsylvania

- Philadelphia (Pa.)

Subject(s)

- Pennsylvania--History--Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775

Collection Inventory

Volume

Accounts 1701-1704

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