

# Guide to the Aaron Columbus Burr Papers

MS 116



compiled by Nancy L. Fappiano

July 1981

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 116

**CREATOR:** Burr, Aaron Columbus, ca. 1808-1882

**TITLE:** Aaron Columbus Burr papers

**DATES:** 1838-1871

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.25 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of correspondence and business papers of Aaron Columbus Burr, merchant of New York City and adopted son of Aaron Burr. The papers relate to an attempt by Burr and James Grant to establish a colony for freed American slaves in Honduras. There is also material relating to the American Honduras Company, a firm formed by Burr and Grant for the cutting and exporting of mahogany.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0116>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0116>.

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Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Conditions Governing Access

The entire collection is available on microfilm. Patrons must use HM 54 instead of the originals.

## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Aaron Columbus Burr Papers (MS 116). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Existence and Location of Copies

Entire collection also available on microfilm (1 reel, 35mm.) from Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library, at cost. Order no. HM54.

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## Scope and Contents

The Aaron Columbus Burr (circa 1808-1882) Papers, 1838-1871, consist of correspondence and business relating to an attempt by Aaron Columbus Burr and James Grant to purchase a tract of land known as Stand Creek in British Honduras. After purchasing this land they planned to sell it to the United States in the hope that it would be used for colonizing freed American blacks. When this scheme failed, the American Honduras Company was formed to cut and export mahogany.

The correspondence is concerned mainly with the attempt to establish a colony in British Honduras. Notable correspondents include Hamilton Fish, James Grant, and Anna Ella Carroll. Among the business papers are the proposal for the founding of a colony for freed American slaves, descriptions of the lands in British Honduras, and documents relating to the mahogany industry.

## Collection Contents

### Correspondence

|                   |   |                        |
|-------------------|---|------------------------|
| b. 1, f. 1reel 1U | 1840-1861<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.  | 1840-1861              |
| b. 1, f. 2reel 1U | 1862-1866<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.  | 1862-1866              |
| b. 1, f. 3reel 1U | 1867-1869<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.  | 1867-1869              |
| b. 1, f. 4reel 1U | 1869-1871, undated<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.   | 1869-1871,<br>undated  |
| b. 1, f. 5reel 1U | Proposals to found a colony in British Honduras for freed slaves, and other related papers<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy. | 1862                   |
| b. 1, f. 6reel 1U | Legal and financial papers relating to the American Honduras Company<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.                       | 1838-1870              |
| b. 1, f. 7reel 1U | Descriptions of land in British Honduras<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.   | Undated                |
| b. 1, f. 8reel 1U | Reports, estimates, sale announcements relating to the mahogany industry<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.                   | 1862, 1865             |
| b. 1, f. 9reel 1U | Miscellaneous notes, newspaper clippings, order for tools<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.                                  | 1860, 1862,<br>undated |

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Business  
Merchants  
Slavery -- United States

### **Geographic Names**

Honduras  
Latin America

### **Names**

Burr, Aaron Columbus, ca. 1808-1882  
Carroll, Anna Ella, 1815-1894  
Fish, Hamilton, 1808-1893  
Grant, James

### **Corporate Body**

American Honduras Company