

**Reference code(s):** GB 0214 DLY

**Title:** John Singleton Copley, Lord Lyndhurst, papers

**Creation date(s):** 1789-1937

**Level of description:** Fonds

**Extent:** 0.06 cubic metres (3 boxes)

**Name of creator(s):** John Singleton Copley (Lord Lyndhurst); Georgina Copley (Lady Lyndhurst)

## CONTEXT

**Administrative/Biographical history:** John Singleton Copley (1772-1863), Lord Lyndhurst, was the son of John Singleton Copley (1737-1815), the well known painter. J. S. Copley the younger was born in Boston, Massachusetts, and moved to England in 1785, where he studied at Trinity College, Cambridge, 1790, and became a barrister-at-law in 1804. He followed a celebrated and remarkable legal and political career, conducting a number of notable legal cases, including those of a Luddite rioter, Arthur Thistlewood (the Cato Street conspirator) and Queen Caroline, and serving as a Tory MP, 1818-1826, Solicitor-General, 1819, Master of the Rolls, 1826, and Lord Chancellor 1827-1830, 1834-1835 and 1841-1846. He was made Baron Lyndhurst in 1827. He corresponded widely with prominent politicians of the time. He died in 1863. His wife, Georgina (*née* Goldsmith), died in 1901. They had two daughters, Sophia, who married Hamilton Becket, and Sarah, who married Henry Selwin. The family was linked to the Bruces (Lords Aberdare).

## CONTENT

**Scope and content/abstract:** Letters and papers of Lord Lyndhurst and his family, 1789-1937, comprising: private coreespondence: letters from John Singleton to his parents; Lord Lyndhurst to daughter Sophia; Sarah Selwin (nee Copley), to sister Sophia, brother-in-law Hamilton Becket, and father Lord Lyndhurst; Henry Selwin to sister-in-law Sophia; Rev. J. S. Copley Greene to aunt Mary Copley; Mary Copley to niece Sophia; letters of condolence to Lady Lyndhurst on death of Sarah Selwin (nee Copley); Beckett family correspondence; papers relating to the painting of John Singleton Copley (Lord Lyndhurst's Father); family miscellanea; and political papers: candidature of Sir Frederick Pollock for a silk gown; Denman correspondence; Judges opinions on the Criminal Law Consolidation Bill; Lord Chancellor Lyndhurst and the bishops, concerning ecclesiastical patronage; Lord Chancellor Lyndhurst and members of the royal family, concerning ecclesiastical patronage; letters in response to Lord G. Bentinck's attack in the House of Commons on Lord Lyndhurst, July 1846; papers relating to William

Alexander's resignation of the office of Chief Baron of the Exchequer; general, political, legal and social correspondence, addressed to Lord Lyndhurst (and others); Lord Lyndhurst to Francis Barlow; Lord Lyndhurst to Brougham; Lord Lyndhurst to Perry; Lord Lyndhurst to George IV and Victoria; Lord Lyndhurst to miscellaneous and unidentified persons; Mr Barlow's papers; correspondence concerned with publication on the life of Lord Lyndhurst; and newspapers, printed booklets and notes: Lord Lyndhurst's speeches and political and legal activities; literary reviews; obituary notices; miscellaneous papers; and miscellanea. They contain a great deal of social and political detail relating to the late 18th and 19th centuries and includes matters concerning leading political individuals.

## ACCESS AND USE

**Language/scripts of material:** English

**System of arrangement:** Arranged into the following: private correspondence; political papers; and newspapers, printed booklets and notes.

**Conditions governing access:** No restrictions.

**Conditions governing reproduction:** Usual copyright regulations apply.

**Physical characteristics:** Good to fair condition

**Finding aids:** A handlist is available at the Glamorgan Record Office.

## ARCHIVAL INFORMATION

**Appraisal, destruction and scheduling information:** All records have been retained.

**Accruals:** Accruals are not expected.

**Archival history:** The papers were apparently arranged and collected together by Lady Lyndhurst after the death of Lord Lyndhurst, and by her successors and the family of Lord Aberdare.

**Immediate source of acquisition:** Deposited by a private individual on 7 June 1967.

## ALLIED MATERIALS

## DESCRIPTION NOTES

**Note:** Title supplied from contents of fonds.

**Archivist's note:** Compiled by Hayden Burns for the ANW project. The following source was used in the compilation of this description: Glamorgan Record Office, Catalogue of records for the Papers of John Singleton Copley, Lord Lyndhurst.

**Rules or conventions:** This description follows ANW guidelines based on ISAD(G) second edition, AACR2, and LCSH.

**Date(s) of descriptions:** February 2004

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