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 correspondence: 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 miscellaneous. 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