

Library Company of Philadelphia records (MSS00270)

instance noting when gifts to the Building Fund resulted in a share. The back of the register includes similar lists of each year's board of directors, including treasurers, secretaries, and librarians for that year, and notes about significant institutional happenings for many years. The share register was maintained until circa 2001, and the list of directors was maintained through 1994. The register also includes tipped-in correspondence to Librarian George M. Abbott regarding his article about former Librarian Lloyd P. Smith, as well as a copy of the printed article.

Share Record Books A through F (volumes 171-176) include notes about each share transfer during the listed time period. The text typically describes who sold to whom, sometimes noting occupations or family relationships; who witnessed the transaction; and which director recorded these notes in the record book. These share transfer records do not include share numbers; Library Company staff used the Chronological Share and Directors Register (volume 193) to identify the relevant share number for this finding aid.

Another item of interest in this series is the receipts for Samuel Coates estate dues payments for share #67, paid by widow and executrix Mary Langdale Coates (1713-1770). Mary maintained the share for her young son for twenty years, even though no women were named as shareholders until 1769. Mary's shop account book is now part of the Library Company's manuscripts collection (call # MSS Coates 12285.F (Limbo Room)).

For several decades in the 19th century, Library Company share certificates included an illustration that referenced elements from the Philadelphia and Pennsylvania seals, along with the Library Company's Latin motto. See Peter Cullen's 1841 share certificate in Box 16, Folder 17.

Photocopies of share records found in other repositories are arranged at the end of this series. The undated photocopies are grouped at the end and then arranged by date of the original for ease of use.

Title/Description	Instances	
James Morris share certificate (share #44) (12482.F.338), 1732-01-20-1733-01-20	box 14 (MSS00270)	folder 18
General		
Purchased from Joseph M. Posivak August 9, 1947. Labeled "[inventory #206]."		
Receipts for Samuel Coates dues payments (share #67) (2475.F.2, .4-.6, .8-.11, .13), 1736-1748	box 14 (MSS00270)	folder 19
General		
Does not include receipts for 1737, 1741, 1746, 1747.		
Receipt for Samuel Coates dues payments paid by Benjamin Franklin (share #67) (2475.F.3), 1737	box 14 (MSS00270)	folder 20
Receipt for Samuel Coates dues payment paid by George Emlin (share #67) (2475.F.7), 1741	box 14 (MSS00270)	folder 21
Share record book A (12489.F.29), 1742-1789	volume 171 (12489.F.29)	
General		
The earliest shareholder record book of the Library Company, with entries from 1742 to 1789. Includes		