

papers,” “Unattributed family papers,” “Scrapbook materials and related ephemera,” and “Hinkson family papers.” The materials date from 1734 to 1976 and consist of scrapbooks, ephemera, newspaper clippings, Common Prayer books, invitations, holiday cards, correspondence, business papers, and a variety of personal papers. The materials document the Stevens-Cogdell-Sanders-Venning families’ professional, family, and personal lives.

The series “Stevens family papers” consists of two of John Stevens’ letter books that date from October 20, 1768 to January 11, 1772. The series is arranged in chronological order. The letter books contain over 160 handwritten letters and depict his business activities and daily life at his Carolina Coffee House. Many of the letters are written to his son Jack, chastising him for his irresponsible move to Jamaica, or to other correspondents in Jamaica, including associates of his son. These letter books are an interesting glimpse into the relationship of the father and son. There are also a variety of letters to associates and family in Charleston, London, and Savannah.

The series “Cogdell family papers” is comprised of materials from John Steven’s daughter, Mary Anne Elizabeth Stevens and her husband George Cogdell, and two of their three sons, John Stephens Cogdell and Richard Walpole Cogdell. Most of the materials relate to Richard Walpole Cogdell. This series contains receipt books, indentures for land in Georgetown and South Carolina, militia papers, correspondence and wills. The series is arranged in chronological order. Of interest is the diary of Mary Anne Elizabeth Stevens, which contains quotations, poems and writing regarding the mixing of the races. The commonplace books with Richard Walpole Cogdell’s materials consist of business correspondence and Cogdell’s papers compiled by a future family member into a scrapbook volume that contains sheet music and engineering exercises. Included in the volumes are Richard Walpole Cogdell’s directions to the executors of his estate and his children after his death as well as a letter from his son Charles Stevens regarding money. The will of Richard Walpole Cogdell reflects the sentiment that he felt towards Sarah Martha Sanders, and shows the provisions and inheritance that he left for his second family after his death. There are also a number of letters that portray his affection to his children in the Sanders family.

The “Sanders family papers” series is comprised of papers relating to the Sanders family, the Chew family and the Saunders family. People documented within the series are Sarah Martha Sanders, Sarah Anne Sanders, Mary E. Saunders, and Georgine Saunders Rex. The papers date from 1852 to 1892 and are arranged in chronological order. The series contains account information, business papers, pew receipts, correspondence, visiting cards and newspaper clippings. There are numerous papers relating to Richard Walpole Cogdell’s death and assets. The papers reflect the business transactions of the family and their existence in the African American middle class community. The papers also show the community involvement of the family through their pew receipts and numerous music recital clippings regarding Mary E. Saunders.

The series “Venning family papers” contains papers from the Venning family, the Holden family, and the Capp family. The series dates from 1830 to 1976. The papers include religious documents, birth certificates, documents relating to education, correspondence, obituaries, financial records, broadsides, invitations, programs, pamphlets and Valentine’s Day cards. The series is arranged in chronological order. Of interest is Edward Y. Venning’s “freedom papers,” from 1830, in which a white Charlestonian vouches for his character in a letter of recommendation. An account book by Edward Y. Venning provides information on his construction activities in Philadelphia. The papers of Edward W. Venning include a military draft paper relating to the substitute he afforded to fight in his place in the Civil War, John Diggs. The papers of Miranda Venning include newspaper clippings relating to her education and