

**ARMSTRONG, EDWARD.**  
**Edward Armstrong papers, 1701-1877 (bulk 1759-1857)**

Emory University  
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### **Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Armstrong, Edward.  
**Title:** Edward Armstrong papers, 1701-1877 (bulk 1759-1857)  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 320  
**Extent:** .25 linear feet (1 box) and 1 oversized papers box (OP)  
**Abstract:** Papers of Pennsylvania Historical Society founder Edward Armstrong regarding Armstrong, his family, and the Pennsylvania Historical Society from 1701-1877.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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### **Administrative Information**

#### **Restrictions on Access**

Unrestricted access.

#### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

#### **Source**

Gift of D. H. Phillips and Jullian C. Bulluck, 1958.

#### **Citation**

[after identification of item(s)], Edward Armstrong papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

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### **Collection Description**

#### **Biographical Note**

Edward Armstrong was one of the founders of the Pennsylvania Historical Society and served as its recording secretary (1843-1853). He was the editor of Volume's 9 and 10 of the Society's papers.

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**Scope and Content Note**

The collection consists of papers of Edward Armstrong from 1701-1877. It includes correspondence from members of the Armstrong family in the United States and Ireland regarding genealogy; Philadelphia court documents (1700s) such as petitions, indentures, complaints and summons; various legal and financial papers which include deeds, land surveys and wills; and materials relating to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (1836-1877). The collection documents Armstrong's keen interest in family and local history.

**Arrangement Note**

Arranged by record type.

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## Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Correspondence, Armstrong family, 1759-1847, 18 items, 18 pieces. Concerned mainly with attempt to find out about the Armstrong family in Ireland and the Vastines, apparently a Flemish family - de le Woestine, or Dutch Van de Woestyne in the Netherlands, who apparently changed their name to Wilderness upon settling in Pennsylvania. There are letters from various Friends (Quakers) and other persons in Pennsylvania and two from Ireland; all addressed (1835-1847) to Edward Armstrong. Includes also the following three earlier letters: Copy of letter to John Armstrong from Joseph Shippen dated Fort Bedford, December 13, 1759, concerned with the disposition of Pennsylvania troops; James McCormick to David Miller (Philadelphia); January 2, 1791 inquiring about Thomas Armstrong's activities in collecting a debt; and Joseph Johnson (Pittsburgh) to Thomas Armstrong; March 10, 1825, giving Armstrong "full power to proceed" in collection of a debt.
OP1	1	Correspondence, original letter to John Armstrong from Joseph Shippen dated Fort Bedford, December 13, 1759, concerned with the disposition of Pennsylvania troops
1	2	Correspondence, 1848-1857, 27 items, 28 pieces. Similar to letters in Folder 1. Includes a letter by William McEwen (Beauhill, Newbliss, Ireland) May 27, 1848, who says he will come to America if he can sell his land; J. W. Armstrong (Ballycumber, Ireland) to Edward Armstrong; June 22, 1849, tells of hard times in Ireland and blames it on the "Free Trade system". Also includes copies of two letters by Edward Armstrong, one to the Secretary of Ardenburg, April 30, 1850 and the other to a Mrs. Buchanan, June 1857. Both are concerned with family genealogy.
1	3	Correspondence, miscellaneous, 1759-1812, 6 items, 6 pieces. Includes a letter concerning a location for barracks; June 16, 1759; a letter by Richard Hockley to Thomas Penn (London) about sending 800 pounds sterling and asking him "to hint to Mr. John Penn to write a few lines to Governor Morris his delay is taken unkind."
1	4	Genealogy of the Armstrong and Vastine families, 18 items, 18 pieces.
1	5	Petitions to Philadelphia Courts, 1722, 1747, 8 items, 8 pieces. Includes petitions for relief because of debt by a laborer with "a wife and eight small children"; by aged persons for the privilege of selling "spiritous liquors by small measures."
1	6	Wills. 2 items, 2 pieces.
1	7	Documents, Complaints, summons, etc. in Philadelphia courts, 16 items, 16 pieces.
1	8	Documents, Court of Common Pleas, Philadelphia, 7 items, 7 pieces.
1	9	Documents, miscellaneous, 9 items, 21 pieces. Includes copy of a letter by David Floyd, "Thy abused though reall Friend" to Governor Penn, May 19,

1705. This folder also contains a pamphlet, "The Speech of Samuel Chew, Esq., Chief Justice... Delivered...Newcastle, August 20, 1742..." Published, Philadelphia 17??, 16 p.
- 1 10 Deeds, survey descriptions, other land papers, 1741-1865, 17 items, 17 pieces.
- 1 11 Business papers, accounts, agreements, etc., 1760-1873, 13 items, 13 pieces.
- 1 12 Legal forms and drawings, probably practice forms, 7 items, 7 pieces.
- 1 13 Pennsylvania Historical Society, 1836-1877, 9 items, 9 pieces. Includes letter by John L. Watson (Germantown, Pennsylvania), to the Historical Society, May 26, 1836, concerning the family papers of Col. James Bund, active public agent for Braddock's Expedition; "Report of the Select Committee in relation to the Colonial records"; membership certificate of Miss Julia Armstrong, February 23., 1877; drawings of proposed arms and seal for the society, probably submitted in a contest to a committee of which Edward Armstrong was a member
- 1 14 Writ to the Sheriff of Pennsylvania County, June 3, 1701, 1 item, 1 piece.  
Commands the sheriff to call a meeting of free holders and freemen to elect Representatives to the Assembly. Signed Wm. Penn by the secretary, James Logan
- 1 15 Dr. Hay's Sermon, 7 p. ms., and a facsimile of a letter by Benjamin Franklin, London, to Mr. Humphrey Marshall (West Bradford, Pennsylvania); April 22, 1771, 2 items, 3 pieces.
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