

Guide to the Winterthur Library
The Joseph Downs Collection
and the Winterthur Archives

COMPILED BY
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Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library
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Dedication

This volume is dedicated to the five former Downs Collection librarians who were so instrumental in developing the collection over a period of nearly thirty-five years:

M. Elinor Betts, 1956–60
Elizabeth Ingerman Wood, 1960–66
Mary Norton Holt, 1967–69
Elizabeth Hamlin Hill, 1969–77
Beatrice K. Taylor, 1977–88

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Foreword

Winterthur is a unique national treasure. A du Pont family country estate in Delaware's scenic Brandywine Valley, Winterthur offers a rare combination of beauty, history, art, and learning. Winterthur's historic identity—as a great American country estate—is defined by five key cultural attractions of a great country house: its history, landscape and gardens, architecture, art collections, and library. The history of the library was explained by Frank H. Sommer, former Head of the Library Division at Winterthur, in 1964: "The collection of papers, drawings, photographs, books, and periodicals which today constitute the Winterthur libraries began to grow in 1839 as the private library of the creators of the estate. During the lifetime of Colonel Henry Algernon du Pont (1838–1926), substantial additions were made in the realms of genealogy, horticulture, and materials dealing with the history of the War between the States. It was, however, his son, Mr. Henry Francis du Pont (1880–1969), who was responsible for the creation of the present collection of Americana and for shifting the emphasis of the libraries to the fields of American art and its European background." The extraordinary library at Winterthur is today open to the public and renowned as a national research center for the study and appreciation of America's artistic, cultural, social, and intellectual history.

This guide to the Joseph Downs Collection of Manuscripts and Printed Ephemera and the Winterthur Archives has been published to make available to scholars an incredibly rich resource of original manuscript records assembled over more than forty years. In concert with our commitment to making the library's holdings available to a wide, international audience, this guide is Winterthur's first foray into the technology of online publishing. The text may be accessed along with other library and research resources, by visiting www.winterthur.org. We hope that this new accessibility will be a welcome convenience to our readers and will benefit students, professors, and practitioners of the study of American cultural history.

LESLIE GREENE BOWMAN
Director

Winterthur, An American Country Estate

Acknowledgements

This volume is the fourth in a line of bibliographies published to describe the holdings of the Winterthur Library. In 1984 Winterthur issued *Trade Catalogues at Winterthur: A Guide to the Literature of Merchandising, 1750 to 1980*; accompanying this book was a microfiche edition of the contents of the trade catalogue collection. Some years later both the book and fiche were updated with a supplement. In 1987 *The Edward Deming Andrews Memorial Shaker Collection* was published. This volume outlined the contents of an important Shaker library given to Winterthur by members of the Andrews family in memory of Edward Deming Andrews, America's pioneering scholar of the Shaker religious sect. In 1997 Winterthur published *Personal Accounts of Events, Travels, and Everyday Life in America: An Annotated Bibliography*, a listing of manuscript diaries and printed travel accounts held by the Winterthur Library. Unlike these earlier publications, this volume focuses on a broader range of materials, an incredibly rich resource of original manuscript records assembled over more than forty years in the Joseph Downs Collection of Manuscripts and Printed Ephemera.

As the compiler of this volume, I must acknowledge the fine assistance of colleagues in the Downs Collection. The entries herein are based on records created over the course of ten years by Heather A. Clewell, Kurt A. Bodling, Mary-Elise Haug, and Karen Rege. Their painstaking work in ferreting out information on the contents of the Downs Collection and Winterthur Archives has made it possible for me to proceed with this work. In addition, thanks are due to Katharine Martinez, former library division head, and Gary Kulik, deputy director for Library, Collections Management, and Academic Programs, for approving and encouraging the compilation of this volume.

Finally, words of appreciation are due to Winterthur's Publications Department, whose expertise I again acknowledge with thanks. Without the critical eyes and editorial skills of Jennifer Schaaf, Mary Ellen Wilson, and Stephen Deusner, this guide would not have been as good as the collections it represents.

Thank you one and all.

