

Manuscript Summary

The subscription book is a record of contributors to the Battle Monument Construction fund. Originally located in the Department of Legislative Reference Library, the book was transferred to the Archives in 1978. About fifteen hundred subscribers are noted in the volume.

Series

1. Subscription Book. 1815. 1 lin. in. (1 vol.).
Arranged by order of contribution.

MS 4 Bouldin Family Survey Records (1659-1880)

History

The Bouldin family consisted of a long line of engineers and surveyors dating back to mid-seventeenth century Maryland. Jehu Bouldin set up a surveying firm in Baltimore in 1790 that passed to his son, Alexander J. Bouldin, and grandson, Augustus Bouldin. The company ceased to operate in 1912 shortly after the death of Augustus. This surveying and engineering firm was often employed by the Baltimore municipal government in the nineteenth-century; for example Jehu Bouldin assisted Thomas Poppleton in 1817-22 in an important survey of the city.

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This collection contains survey records for Baltimore County and City that were compiled or collected by the Bouldin family. These records were in the possession of Augustus Bouldin's daughters according to a Baltimore Sun article from 1912 and were given to the municipal government at an unknown date.

A portion of the collection covers the years 1659-1832 and generally represents the work of the Baltimore County deputy surveyors. The land system in Maryland was formed in 1641 with the appointment of a surveyor general and, starting in 1661, the appointment of deputy surveyors for each county. Whether these records are complete copies of the work of the deputy surveyors or selected copies to facilitate the projects of the Bouldins is difficult to determine. Several of the volumes are clearly marked as being the work of Baltimore County surveyors William Smith, 1764-68; George G. Presbury, 1782-90; and Thomas Gist, 1790-1804.