

Peter Collinson letters, [ca. 1740]-1770
1740-1770
Mss.B.C692

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Summary Information

Repository	American Philosophical Society
Creator	Collinson, Peter, 1694-1768
Title	Peter Collinson letters, [ca. 1740]-1770
Date [inclusive]	1740-1770
Call number	Mss.B.C692
Extent	0.25 Linear feet 200 items, photocopies
Extent	Photocopies of the circa 200 items.
Location	LH-MV-E-1
Language	English
Container	1
Abstract	This is a small group of letters written to Johann Ambrosius Beurer, J. von Sprehelson, and Christoph Jacob Trew.

Background note

Peter Collinson (1694 – 1768) was an English merchant and botanist.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

American Philosophical Society

Provenance

Acquisition Information

Presented by Edmund Berkeley, 1981; accessioned, 1982 (1982 604ms).

Original Location

Location of originals unknown.

Indexing Terms

Genre(s)

- General Correspondence
- Scientific Correspondence

Personal Name(s)

- Berkeley, Edmund, 1937-

Subject(s)

- Natural History
- Natural history.
- Science and Technology

Other Descriptive Information

The APS has a number of Collinson collections on microfilm. Its primary source holdings contain approximately thirty-seven letters written to Peter Collinson, a prominent figure in the eighteenth century British scientific community. Because of his networks in trade and science, he served as an important node in the conveyance of knowledge throughout the Atlantic World. The majority of the letters involve discussions of natural history. The letters offer a range of correspondence. There is a letter written about the culture of bathing in Wales in the 1730s to extended correspondence between Collinson and Lady Petre on the botanical gardens on the Petre's estate, and a series of letters from Spanish officials in the Caribbean relaying information to Collinson. There is also a notable amount of correspondence between Collinson and various nobility discussing horticultural issues.

The collection is listed as having a lot of Collinson-Bartram correspondence, but the majority of the collection involved correspondence from people other than Bartram to Collinson. Nonetheless, the collection offers insight on Peter Collinson's influence on horticulture and botany in the eighteenth century.