Hastings Family Papers

circa 1100-1892
Descriptive Summary
Title: Hastings Family Papers
Dates: circa 1100-1892
Collection Number: mssHA
Creator/Collector: Hastings family
Extent: Approximately 50,000 pieces
Repository: Huntington Library. Manuscripts Department
Abstract: Family, estate, and manorial papers of the Hastings family.
Language of Material: English
Access
The collection is open to qualified researchers.
Preferred Citation
Hastings Family Papers. Huntington Library. Manuscripts Department
Acquisition Information
Purchased from Maggs Bros. of London, 1927. The collection had been sold to Maggs Bros. by Edith Maud Abney-Hastings, Countess of Loudoun.
Biography/Administrative History
For over four hundred years the Hastings family (variously barons Hastings, Botreaux, Hungerford, Loughborough and Moleyns, earls of Huntingdon, Pembroke, and Moira, and marquesses of Hastings) played a major role in English political life and exercised wide local influence in Leicestershire and other English counties. The Hastings family members were active in Parliament and at Court, and acted as Lords Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Rutland, and Warwickshire. Among the most notable members of the family are William Hastings, 1st Baron of Hastings (1430?-1483), a Yorkist executed for treason by Richard III, Henry Hastings, 3rd Earl of Huntingdon (ca. 1536-1595) and Sir Francis Hastings, active Puritan statesman, Theophilus Hastings, 7th Earl of Huntingdon (1650-1701), a staunch Tory and Royalist, Theophilus Hastings, the 9th Earl of Huntingdon, a noted Whig and his wife Selina, founder of a Methodist group known as "The Countess of Huntingdon Connection," and Francis Rawdon-Hastings, 1st Marquis of Hastigns, a British officer during the American Revolution and Governor General of Bengal in 1813-1822.
Scope and Content of Collection
Accounts, deeds, legal papers, court records, household books, inventories and catalogs of family papers, estate and manorial papers, and correspondence relating to the estates, personal and financial affairs of the Hastings family. Most of the materials deal with national and local politics during the reigns of Elizabeth I, James I, and Charles I and the Civil War (1641-1649), Protectorate, Restoration, and the American Revolution. Arranged in the following series: 1. Accounts and financial papers; 2. Correspondence; 3. Deeds; 4. Inventories and Lists; 5. Legal papers; 6. Manorial and local affairs papers; 7. Maps and plans; 8. Personal and family papers; 9. Irish papers (including Irish concealed lands papers); 10. Special subjects (Americana; Gentlemen pensioners; Indentured retainers; Literature; Military affairs; Parliamentary affairs, Religious and ecclesiastical affairs; Repton Charity School and Etwall Hospital, School exercises and education; Ship money; Transportation; Miscellaneous manuscripts).
Indexing Terms
Nobility -- Great Britain -- Archives
Hastings, Francis, Sir, -1610 -- Archives
Hastings, William Hastings, Lord, 1430?-1483 -- Archives
Huntingdon, Theophilus Hastings, Earl of, 1696-1745 -- Archives
Huntingdon, Theophilus Hastings, Earl of, 1650-1701 -- Archives
Great Britain -- History -- Lancaster and York, 1399-1485 -- Sources
Great Britain -- History -- Tudors, 1485-1603 -- Sources
Great Britain -- History -- Stuarts, 1603-1714 -- Sources
Great Britain -- History -- 18th century -- Sources
Great Britain -- History -- 19th century -- Sources