

A GUIDE TO THE MAJOR WILLIAM LAUDERDALE MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

Finding aid created by Kingsley Kerce

Fort Lauderdale Historical Society, Inc.

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Descriptive Summary

Provenance:	The Major William Lauderdale Manuscript Collection was loaned for copying to the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society by Cooper Kirk in 1978.
Title:	Major William Lauderdale Manuscript Collection
Dates:	1823, 1862, 1954, 1963-1964, 1976-1978
Abstract:	Correspondence, etc., of Dr. Cooper Kirk on the subject of Major William Lauderdale.
Extent:	One folder
Accession:	1978.0067

Biographical/Historical Note

Major William Lauderdale (circa 1780-1838) is the namesake of Fort Lauderdale. William Lauderdale was born in Virginia and in youth relocated with his family to Tennessee. One of the founders of the esteemed Tennessee Volunteers, Lauderdale was an associate of Andrew Jackson and served under the general in the War of 1812 and the Creek War. In 1838, during the Second Seminole War, Major Lauderdale commanded troops that constructed an outpost on Florida's New River in support of an attempt to remove Seminoles from the region. The fort was named in his honor. The troops failed to displace their adversaries and left New River to return home, the major suffering from a pulmonary ailment. Major Lauderdale, the planter-soldier, en route to Tennessee, died at the barracks in Baton Rouge.

Dr. Cooper C. Kirk (1920-1989)—Fort Lauderdale since 1926—was appointed Broward County's first official historian in 1972, coinciding with the formation of the Broward Historical Commission. Dr. Kirk's extensive research on Major Lauderdale is partially documented in this manuscript collection, and culminated in the 1982 publication of the book *William Lauderdale: General Andrew Jackson's Warrior*.

Scope and Content

The Major William Lauderdale Manuscript Collection includes Cooper Kirk's correspondence during the late-1970s with various historical societies, genealogists, archivists, librarians, officials, and Lauderdale relatives. The collection also contains drafts, receipts, and maps.

Access or Use Restrictions

Access

Collection is **open for research**.

Please contact collections@fortlauderdalehistorycenter.org to schedule an appointment.

Related or Separated Material

William Lauderdale: General Andrew Jackson's Warrior, Cooper Kirk
E353.I.L38K57

History Files: Biography L Lauderdale, Major William (pamphlets)

History Files: Biography Kirk, Cooper

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Major William Lauderdale Manuscript Collection, Fort Lauderdale Historical Society

Acquisition Information

Materials loaned for copying by Cooper Kirk, 1978

Contents List

Folder: Lauderdale, Major William (copies of Dr. Cooper Kirk's research notes) 1823, 1862, 1954, 1963-1964, 1976-1978