Collection Name: Return of Interments
Collection #: MSS 167
Size: 0.25 cf (1 volumes and 1 copy)
Dates: 1820-1822
Processed: March 2008/SDH
Restrictions: None
Citation: Return of Interments, MSS 167, Waring Historical Library, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston

Organizational History:
In 1801, the Charleston City Council requested that the Medical Society of South Carolina constitute itself as a Board of Health. In 1808, the city established an official Board of Health with thirteen commissioners, one for each of the city’s thirteen districts. The commissioners were principally responsible for reporting on diseases and to “abate nuisances.” The Medical Society contributed three of its members to the Board’s joint committee on health.

Scope and Content Note:
The Return of Interments, 1820-1822, was recorded by the Board of Health and documents interments in the city’s cemeteries. The information recorded includes place of interment, name, sex, race, condition, marital status, place of nativity and number of years living in Carolina, place of residence, disease, physician and remarks.

Citation form: Return of Interments, MSS 167, Waring Historical Library, MUSC (Charleston).

Subject Headings:
Mortality—South Carolina—statistics.
Death—South Carolina—statistics.
Disease—South Carolina—statistics.
Public health—South Carolina—19th century.
Charleston County (S.C.) Board of Health.
Charleston County (S.C.) Health Dept.