

Guide to the Nathaniel Pendleton Family Papers

MS 392



compiled by Susan Grigg

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P.O. Box 208240
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
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CALL NUMBER: MS 392

CREATOR: Pendleton, Nathaniel, 1756-1821

TITLE: Nathaniel Pendleton Family papers

DATES: 1716-1853

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.75 linear feet (1 box, 1 folio)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence and legal and financial papers reflecting Pendleton's service in the Revolutionary Army as aide-de-camp to General Nathanael Greene, and his close connection with Alexander Hamilton. The correspondence includes letters from Samuel Finley, Mrs. Nathanael Greene, Alexander von Humboldt and Otho Holland Williams. Legal and financial papers as well as correspondence of Alexander Hamilton are also included since Pendleton was executor of his estate. Also included are legal documents of the Bard family and papers of other members of the Pendleton family, among them Edmund H. Pendleton and Philip C. Pendleton. Other documents in the papers relate to Indian lands in Georgia (1788) and a summary of a treaty between the King of Spain and the Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Cherokee Indians, dated 1793.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0392>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0392>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Mrs. F. C. Rogers, 1953.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Nathaniel Pendleton Family Papers (MS 392). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

Nathaniel Pendleton (1756-1821) was born in Culpepper County, Virginia, and died in Hyde Park, New York. He served in the Revolutionary forces for eight years and five months and was in the last part aide-de-camp to General Nathanael Greene. An original member of the Society of the Cincinnati in South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, and New York, he was also a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1788. He acted as Alexander Hamilton's second in his duel with Aaron Burr, and was one of the executors of Hamilton's estate. He became a prominent jurist. He married Susan Bard, daughter of John Bard, a friend of Benjamin Franklin.

Scope and Contents

This is an exceedingly interesting group of papers, both in authorship and in content. Among the Nathaniel Pendleton papers are nine letters from Pendleton to General Otho Holland Williams and autograph drafts of letters to James Monroe, Justice Story, and George Washington; Pendleton's certificate of admission to the Supreme Court of New York is also present. There are letters to Pendleton from Samuel Finley, Nathanael Greene, John Laurance, R.S. Livingston, Catharine (Littlefield) Greene Miller, Edmund Pendleton (1721-1803), Timothy Pickering, and Otho Holland Williams. One letter is labelled Edmund Randolph but apparently written by someone else.

Papers and letters to, by, or relating to Alexander Hamilton and his estate include two bills and a bond to Louis LeGuen and a mortgage deed to the latter's trustees, all by Hamilton; letters to Hamilton from John Laurance, Louis LeGuen, William Rufus Putnam, Philip John Schuyler; one share in the "Company for Promoting the Cultivation of Vines"; a bill of exchange endorsed by Hamilton; two lists of land purchases apparently with John Barker Church, who was one of Hamilton's executors; letters and other papers dealing with Hamilton's estate; one letter from his wife to an unnamed person, and one paper by her.

Other Pendletons are also represented in the collection. Of Edmund Henry Pendleton there is a commission as judge in Dutchess County and a petition in a bill of information in chancery; of Philip Clayton Pendleton, Sr., one ALS; of Ann (Pendleton) Pierce, a will; and of Henry Pendleton (1750-1788), an inventory of his estate. Other letters and papers include the will of John Bard, Jr.; the signature of George Clarke (1676-1760) on a list of recognizances; an ALS from Baron Humboldt to Monsieur Pendleton; resolutions of Congress respecting cession of Indian lands in Georgia; a pew list of St. James Episcopal Church in Hyde Park; an ALS from Moses White to John Barker Church; a deed from Trinity Episcopal Church, New York, to Andrew Morris, and one from John Morrin Scott to Dr. John Bard; the marriage bond of Frederick H. Cossitt and Catharine Andrus; and an order concerning a bond of John Graham.

Collection Contents

Inventory, 1716-1853

Bard family		
b. 1, f. 1	John Bard: will	1800
b. 1, f. 1	Ann [(Bard)?] Pierce: estate papers	1833, 1835
Alexander Hamilton, 1757-1804		
Incoming letters		
b. 1, f. 2	John Laurance	1797 June 3, 17; 1798 December 28
b. 1, f. 2	Louis LeGuen	1803 September 30; 1804 July 12
b. 1, f. 3	William Rufus Putnam A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1803 January 17
b. 1, f. 3	Philip John Schuyler	1803 December 10
b. 1, f. 4	Legal and financial papers A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1801-1808
Edmund H. Pendleton, 1786-1862		
b. 1, f. 5	Pew list for St. James' Church, Hyde Park, N.Y.	1815
b. 1, f. 5	Certificate of appointment as First Judge of Dutchess County, N.Y.	1830
Nathaniel Pendleton, 1756-1821		
Incoming letters		
b. 1, f. 6	Samuel Finley	1810 February 22; 1812 March 10
b. 1, f. 6	Nathanael Greene	1789 November 22
b. 1, f. 6	Alexander von Humboldt	Undated
b. 1, f. 7	John Laurance	1807 August 29
b. 1, f. 7	R. S. Livingston	1815 February 27

Nathaniel Pendleton, 1756-1821 > Incoming letters (continued)

b. 1, f. 8	Catherine (Littlefield) Greene Miller	1790 May 3, July 27; 1792 May 25
b. 1, f. 9	Edmund Pendleton (1721-1803)	1787 October 10; 1788 November 25; 1794 February 3
b. 1, f. 10	Henry Pendleton	1782 June 1
b. 1, f. 10	Timothy Pickering	1810 January 6
b. 1, f. 11	Otho Holland Williams	1782 November 10
b. 1, f. 12	Unidentified (labelled "Edmund Randolph," but written by someone else)	Undated
b. 1, f. 13	ALS (draft) to James Monroe	1817 April 7
b. 1, f. 13	ALS (draft) to Joseph Story	1817 June 22
b. 1, f. 13	AL (draft) to George Washington	1789 May 12
b. 1, f. 14	9 ALS to Otho Holland Williams A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access to the digital copy.	1782-1784
b. 1, f. 15	Inventory of Henry Pendleton's personal estate (copy)	1790
b. 1, f. 15	Endorsement of an order concerning a bond of John Graham	1791
b. 1, f. 15	Certificate of admission to the New York State Supreme Court	1796
Philip C. Pendleton		
b. 1, f. 16	ALS to Nathaniel G. Pendleton	1841 December 10
b. 1, f. 17	"List of Recognizances for Excise made good to the Crown by Peter Fauconnier . . .," signed by George Clarke English	1716/17 March 19
b. 1, f. 18	Resolutions of Congress respecting the cession of Indian lands in Georgia	1788 July 15
b. 1, f. 19	"Heads of a Treaty between the King of Spain and the Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw, and Cherokee Indians, Dated at Walnut Hills October 28th, 1793. Containing 19 Articles" English	Undated
b. 1, f. 20	Certificate that Cromwell Catlin has completed a bridge across the North River, signed by William Butler	1828
b. 1, f. 21	Certificate of marriage between Frederick H. Cossitt and Catharine Andrus	1846
b. 1, f. 22	Account of a conversation with Mr. Beekman in the Ladies' Parlor, Congress Hall, Albany, about the creation of a park	[post-1853]

b. 1, f. 23	Notes on the Socinians	Undated
	Oversize	
b. 2	Deed from John Morin Scott to John Bard	1761
b. 2	Deed from Trinity Church, New York City, to Andrew Morris	1787
b. 2	Indenture between Edmund H. Pendleton and the trustees of Frances Maria (Jones) Pendleton	1811
b. 2	Unidentified account naming Alexander Hamilton among others	Undated

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Families
Indians of North America -- Treaties
Lawyers

Geographic Names

United States -- History -- Revolution,
1775-1783

Genres / Formats

Wills

Occupations

Soldiers

Names

Finley, Samuel, 1752-1829
Hamilton, Alexander, 1757-1804
Humboldt, Alexander von, 1769-1859
Laurance, John, 1750-1810
Le Guen, Louis
Livingston, Richard, 1744-1786
Miller, Catherine Littlefield Greene, 1755-1814
Pendleton, Edmund, 1721-1803
Pendleton, Henry, 1750-1788
Pendleton, Nathaniel, 1756-1821
Pendleton, Philip C., 1799-1863
Putnam, William Rufus, b. 1771
Schuyler, Philip John, 1733-1804
Williams, Otho Holland, 1747-1794

Families

Baird family
Pendleton family