

# Guide to the Nathaniel Pendleton Family Papers

MS 392



compiled by Susan Grigg

December 1982

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**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>

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## 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](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

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

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

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

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### Preferred Citation

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

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## 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.

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## 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;<br>1798 December<br>28 |
| b. 1, f. 2                     | Louis LeGuen  | 1803 September<br>30; 1804 July 12      |
| b. 1, f. 3                     | William Rufus Putnam<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.       | 1803 January 17                         |
| b. 1, f. 3                     | Philip John Schuyler  | 1803 December<br>10                     |
| b. 1, f. 4                     | Legal and financial papers<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> 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<br>22; 1812 March<br>10   |
| b. 1, f. 6                     | Nathanael Greene  | 1789 November<br>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 &gt; 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<br>A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> 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"<br>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