

# Guide to the Washington Family Papers

MS 538



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

September 1981

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

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 538

**CREATOR:** Washington family

**TITLE:** Washington family papers

**DATES:** 1751-1870

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3.25 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection contains correspondence and other papers of President George Washington, Martha Dandridge Washington, and William Augustine Washington, half brother of George Washington.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0538>

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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.0538>.

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 various donors between 1929 and 1948.

## Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Washington Family Papers (MS 538). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Scope and Contents

The Washington Family Papers consists of correspondence and other papers of George Washington and various members of his family, in particular Martha (Dandridge) Washington and William Augustine Washington, half-brother of George. Letters from Alexander Hamilton, Nathaniel Greene, and George Clinton are also included. The bulk of the material relates to George and Martha Washington. As well as correspondence there are military papers and personal financial papers. Most of these items are photostatic copies or facsimiles; the few originals have been removed in the interests of security.

Other materials included in the papers are a number of ledgers belonging to William Augustine Washington and others, and several engraved portraits of George Washington dating from the 1800s.

These papers were given to Yale University by various donors over the period 1929 to 1948.

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## Collection Contents

### Inventory, 1751-1870

*.75 linear feet (2 boxes, 1 folio)*

Ashton, Burdett (1747-1814):		
b. 1, f. 1	ALS from Thomas Douglas	1777 December 2
b. 1, f. 2	Account of sales in the estate of his mother-in-law, Anne (Ayelett) Washington (Mrs. Augustus, Jr.)	1774-1775
b. 1, f. 3	Beverley, Robert, Jr.: Ledger of personal and farm accounts, "Blandfield," Essex County, Virginia	1791-1803
	Clinton, George (1739-1812): Draft letter to George Washington See: <a href="#">box 1, folder 7</a>	1778 October 28
b. 1, f. 4	Greene, Nathaniel (1742-1786): ALS to his wife	[ca. 1780 October 14]
Hamilton, Alexander (1757-1804):		
	ALS to Andrew Ward See: <a href="#">box 1, folder 7</a>	1777 March 14
	AN to George Washington See: <a href="#">box 1, folder 14</a>	[ca. 1794]
b. 1, f. 5	Harper, Robert Goodloe (1765-1825): ALS to Oliver Wolcott	1804 January 23
	Trumbull, Jonathan, Jr. (1740-1809): Discharge papers of Isaac Wilsey and Brister Baker; signed also by George Washington See: <a href="#">box 1, folder 14</a>	1783 June 4, 8
Washington, George (1732-1799):		
Correspondence:		
b. 1, f. 6	ALS to Robert Dinwiddie	1753 October 17
b. 1, f. 6	ALS to Moses Child	1775 November 24
b. 1, f. 6	ALS to the Secret Committee of the New York legislature	1776 July 21
b. 1, f. 6	3 ALS to Lund Washington See also: <a href="#">box 3</a>	1776 October 6, December 10, 17
b. 1, f. 7	ALS to Andrew Ward; ALS from Alexander Hamilton to Ward on verso	1777 March 14
b. 1, f. 7	ALS to Elisha Boudinot	1777 March 29
b. 1, f. 7	ALS to James M. Varnum	1777 November 4

## Washington, George (1732-1799): &gt; Correspondence: (continued)

b. 1, f. 7	ALS to Henry Lee	
b. 1, f. 7	ALS to George Clinton; draft reply from Clinton on verso	1778 October 24
b. 1, f. 7	ALS to John Sullivan	1779 October 8
b. 1, f. 7A	Facsimile to commander of French fleet	1780 September 12
b. 1, f. 8	ALS to George Mason	1780 October 22
b. 1, f. 8	ALS to William Greene	1781 January 5
b. 1, f. 8	ALS to George Clinton	1781 April 7
b. 1, f. 8	ALS to Lund Washington	1782 January 8
b. 1, f. 9	ALS to Henry Knox	1787 March 8
b. 1, f. 9	ALS to Jonathan Edwards, Jr.	1788 August 28
b. 1, f. 9	2 ALS to John Lewis	1791 August 8, 1792 July 20
b. 1, f. 9	ALS to John Francis Mercer	1792 July 23
b. 1, f. 9	ALS to Burwell Bassett	1793 March 4
b. 1, f. 9	AL to Dr. Anderson	1794 May 26
b. 1, f. 9	ALS to Alexander Spotswood	1794 November 23
b. 1, f. 10	ALS to William Pearce	1796 August 19
b. 1, f. 10	ALS to James McHenry	1798 May 6
b. 1, f. 10	ALS to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (facsimile)	undated
b. 1, f. 10	Autograph	undated
Other papers:		
b. 1, f. 11	Survey map made in Frederick County, Virginia	1751
b. 1, f. 11	Memorandum re: ownership of land known as "Northern Neck;" valuation of this land by jurors on verso	[1752?]; 1762, November 27
	Commission from Continental Congress See: <a href="#">box 3</a>	1775 June 19
b. 1, f. 12	Ledger (facsimile)	1775 June - 1783 June
b. 1, f. 13	"Plan of manoeuvres to be executed before Maj-Genl Gates at West Point" (not by G. W.) English	[post-1776]

## Washington, George (1732-1799): &gt; Other papers: (continued)

b. 1, f. 14	Discharge papers of Isaac Wilsey and Brister Baker; signed also by Jonathan Trumbull, Jr.	1783 July 4, 8
b. 1, f. 14	Notes: "From Post Vincennes to the Mouth of the Wabash,"	[ca. 1793]
b. 1, f. 14	Notes concerning a farm; AN from Alexander Hamilton on verso	[ca. 1794]
	Certificate of appointment of Solomon Porter as inspector of revenue, Hartford See: <a href="#">box 3</a>	1795 August 24
b. 1, f. 14	Memorandum re: Secretary at War Wilkenson	1796 May 17
b. 1, f. 14	"Sundries Bought on Account of A. W.," English	1796 June 6
b. 1, f. 14	"Memorandum of Stock in the banks of Alexandria and Columbia," English	[1796?]
b. 1, f. 14	Note re: shrubbery	1797 April 7
b. 1, f. 14	Notes re: farms	undated
b. 1, f. 15	Printed matter: Engraved portraits, with texts of Washington's Farewell Address and the Declaration of Independence See also: <a href="#">box 3</a>	[ca. 1820-1870]
Washington, Martha (1732-1802):		
b. 1, f. 16	ALS to a member of the family of Nathaniel Greene	1797 March 3
b. 1, f. 16	ALS to Mrs. Fitzsimmons	1797 April 30
b. 1, f. 16	ALS to Mrs. Powell	1797 May 1
b. 1, f. 16	ALS to Mrs. Elizabeth Powell	1797 May 20
Washington, William Augustine (1757-1810):		
b. 1, f. 17	Ledger of personal and farm accounts	1779-1783
b. 1, f. 18	"Memorandum Book, containing notes & memorandums of his Transactions for the Estate of Colo. Thomas Turner," English	1787-1795
b. 2, f. 19	"Index to Ledger B," estate of Thomas Turner English	[1787?]
b. 2, f. 20	"Accts & Transactions of the Executors [W. A. Washington and Burdett Ashton] of Richard Henry Lee, decd," English	1793-1796
b. 2, f. 21	Inventory and record of the settlement of the estate of W. A. Washington, by Robert Beverley, Jr.	1810-1813
b. 3	Oversize (Folio)	

## **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

### **Geographic Names**

Southern States

United States -- History -- 1783-1815

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

United States -- Politics and government

### **Occupations**

Presidents

### **Names**

Ashton, Burdett -- 1747-1814

Beverley, Robert

Greene, Nathanael, 1742-1786

Hamilton, Alexander, 1757-1804

Harper, Robert Goodloe, 1765-1825

Washington, George, 1732-1799

Washington, Martha, 1731-1802

Washington, William, 1752-1810

### **Families**

Washington family