



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Colonel William Augustine Washington Papers

NMAH.AC.0174

Grace M. Angle

1986

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	1
Administrative Information	1
Arrangement.....	2
Scope and Contents.....	2
Biographical / Historical.....	1
Names and Subjects	2
Container Listing	4
Series 1: Bills and Receipts, 1789 - 1810.....	4
Series 2: Correspondence, 1791 - 1809.....	5
Series 3: Land Deed.....	6
Series 4: Settlement of Estate.....	7

Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Colonel William Augustine Washington Papers
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0174
Date:	1789-1840
Extent:	0.33 Cubic feet (1 box)
Creator:	Washington, William Augustine, Colonel, 1757-1810
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Found in collections. Immediate source of acquisition is unknown.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Grace Angle, 1986

Preferred Citation

Colonel William Augustine Washington Papers, 1789-1840, Archives Center, National Museum of American History

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

Colonel William Augustine Washington was the sixth son of George Washington's older half-brother Augustine. He was born November 25, 1757 and died March 6, 1810 or October 2, 1810. He is buried at Mt. Vernon. Colonel Washington married three times – first in 1777 to Jane Washington, a first cousin by whom he had six children and then to another first cousin Mary Lee, who had no children. His third marriage on May 17, 1799 was to Sarah (Sally) Tayloe, born in 1765, the daughter of Col. John Tayloe of Mt. Airy, Virginia and his wife, Rebecca Plater. Sarah bore three children, one of whom died at birth.

Colonel Washington lived first at Wakefield, the estate where George Washington was born. This house was destroyed by fire during a party Col. Washington was giving on Christmas day, 1780. He then moved to Blenheim, Virginia.

Colonel Washington was commissioned a captain in the 3rd Virginia Regiment on February 25, 1776. He was wounded at Trenton in December of that year, received his majority in January 1777 and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on November 20, 1778. He was wounded again in the battle of Cowpens on January 17, 1781 and received a silver medal for his part in this battle on March 9, 1781. Taken prisoner at Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781 he remained a prisoner on parole until the end of the war. Made a Brigadier General in July 1798, he was honorably discharged on June 15, 1800.

There is a Charles Wilson Peale portrait of Colonel Washington at Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia and one by Rembrandt Peale "after" the Charles Wilson Peale portrait in the Maryland Historical Society. A copy of a drawing by Charles Balthazar St. Memin, from a private collection in Virginia was exhibited by the Corcoran in 1932 in an exhibit entitled "The George Washington bicentennial Historical Loan Exhibition of Portraits of George Washington and His Family." A copy of the St. Memin drawing appears in the catalogue of this exhibit.

Source *Heitman's Historical Register of U.S. Army, 1789-1903* Vol. 1 and *Burke's Presidential Families of the United States of America* 2nd edition, 1981.

Scope and Contents

These papers consist primarily of bills and receipts for a large and varied number of articles. They are for such commodities as blankets, hose, flannel, linen, tea, molasses, calico, muslin, shoes, sugar, ribbons, needles, wheat, oats, salt and silk. Some of the prices are in pounds, shillings and pence, others are in dollars. The papers include an accounting of the final settlement of Colonel Washington's estate.

All the items are handwritten in ink, most are legible with some effort. Many are in excellent condition, a few are not.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into four series. Bills and receipts are filed chronologically by years. Subject matter is filed alphabetically.

Series 1: Bills and receipts

Series 2: Correspondence

Series 3: Land Deed

Series 4: Settlement of Estate

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

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

Types of Materials:

Business records -- 18th century
Correspondence -- 18th century
Manuscripts -- 18th century
Manuscripts -- 19th century
Receipts -- 18th century

Names:

Bingman, Thomas
Con, John
Cox, John
Cunnin, Robert
Dave, Caow L.
Dougs, William
Dunlap, John
Fisher, Thomas
Hipkins, John
Kelly, Alexander
Kink, Daniel
Mitchell, John
Moore, John W.
Mounts, Mernkel P.
Norris, Benjamin
Payton, T.
Riddle, Joshua
Rigden, Burnett
Riggs, Elisha
Washington, Augustine
Washington, Sarah

Geographic Names:

Baltimore (Md.)
Georgetown (Washington, D.C.)

Container Listing

Series 1: Bills and Receipts, 1789 - 1810

Box 1 Bills and receipts, undated

Box 1, Folder 1-19 Bills and receipts

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 2: Correspondence, 1791 - 1809

- Box 1, Folder 21 Letter, January 9, 1791 to William Channing discussing case before Chancery Court of New York.
- Box 1, Folder 21 Letter, October 4, 1793 to William A. Washington discussing sale of land on the York Road in Baltimore.
- Box 1, Folder 21 Letter dated April 5, 1805 to William A. Washington discussing treatment of a Negro, and amounts due Col. Washington from settlement of an estate.
- Box 1, Folder 21 Letter, January 14, 1806 to William A. Washington threatening court action for over-due bill of 174.19 bounds or \$583.32.
- Box 1, Folder 21 Letter, December 11, 1809 listing articles on board schooner belonging to William Augustine Washington.
- Box 1, Folder 21 Letter dated June 6, (?) stating that notice to the Essex County court had not arrived on time and that case would have to be rescheduled.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 3: Land Deed

Box 1, Folder 22

Deed for sale of land in Pulaski County, Kentucky.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series 4: Settlement of Estate

Box 1, Folder 23

Settlement of Estate Final settlement of estate, 1840

[Return to Table of Contents](#)