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Finding aid for the Skipwith Revolutionary War Collection

MUM01728

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [Summary Information](#)
- [Scope and Content Note](#)
- [Arrangement](#)
- [Administrative Information](#)
- [Related Materials](#)
- [Controlled Access Headings](#)
- [Collection Inventory](#)

SUMMARY INFORMATION

Repository

University of Mississippi Libraries

Creator

Skipwith family

Title

Skipwith Revolutionary War Collection

ID

MUM01728

Date [inclusive]

circa 1776-1824

General Physical Description note

2 boxes (.834 linear feet)

Abstract:

Materials related to Major-General Nathanael Greene of the Continental Army, including correspondence from notable contemporary figures, including George Washington, John Hancock and Thadeus Kosciuszko.

Preferred Citation

Skipwith Revolutionary War Collection, Archives and Special Collections, J.D. Williams Library, The University of Mississippi

[Return to Table of Contents »](#)

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Skipwith Revolutionary War Collection consists primarily of the papers of Nathanael Greene, Major-

General of the Continental Army. During the latter years of the war, Greene commanded the Southern Army, which had suffered from weaker commanders.

Materials in this collection were donated by Kate Skipwith, a descendant of Greene. Primarily, materials include correspondence from important Revolutionary figures, such as George Washington, John Hancock, Thadeus Kosciuszko and others to General Greene. Topics in these letters include reports of Native American involvement in the War, troop morale, battle descriptions, troop movements and more. Other notable items in this collection include a sheet of Continental currency, a 1777 hand-drawn map of Philadelphia operations, and portraits of Revolutionary figures.

[Return to Table of Contents »](#)

ARRANGEMENT

Most original documents are housed prior their transcripts; however, Folder 1.53 contains an original document, prior to its typed counterpart.

[Return to Table of Contents »](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Publication Information

University of Mississippi Libraries

Access Restrictions

The Skipwith Revolutionary War Collection is open for research.

Copyright Restrictions

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship or research." If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use", that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

Additions

No further additions are expected to this collection.

Acquisition Information

Donated by Kate Skipwith, descendant of Major General Nathanael Greene.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Archives & Special Collections staff.

Alternative Formats

The Skipwith Revolutionary War Collection is available as a [digital collection](#).

[Return to Table of Contents »](#)

RELATED MATERIALS

Resources at the University of Mississippi

The Skipwith Revolutionary War Collection is available as a [digital collection](#).

For additional 18th-century political materials, see the [Politics and Government subject guide](#).

Separated Material

ADS. 1868, holograph version of lease of the Mississippi State Penitentiary to Edmund Richardson of Jackson, Mississippi. this folder was removed and is stored in Small Manuscripts 1992.1

Folders 1.32-1.35 have been removed to the collection folder as administrative materials concerning the collection's duplication for the Library of Congress.

[Return to Table of Contents »](#)

CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS

Format(s)

- Continental currency
- correspondence
- maps
- portraits

Geographic Name(s)

- United States -- Continental Army -- Management
- United States -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783

Personal Name(s)

- Campbell, Arthur, 1742-1811 -- Correspondence
- Greene, Nathanael, 1742-1786 -- Correspondence
- Hancock, John, 1737-1793 -- Correspondence
- Huger, Isaac, 1742 or 3-1797 -- Correspondence
- Kościuszko, Tadeusz, 1746-1817 -- Correspondence
- Lee, Henry, 1756-1818 -- Correspondence
- Livingston, Robert R., 1746-1813 -- Correspondence
- Rochambeau, Jean-Baptiste-Donatien de Vimeur, comte de, 1725-1807 -- Correspondence
- Washington, George, 1732-1799 -- Correspondence

Subject(s)

- Military maneuvers
- Military supplies
- Troop movements

[Return to Table of Contents »](#)

COLLECTION INVENTORY

Box 1

1.1 Typed versions of most of the letters in the collection, inventory prepared by the Library of Congress, inventory of entire collection prepared by University of Mississippi; this folder was removed and is stored in box 2

1.2 John Hancock, Pres. [Continental Congress] to Hon. Major General [Nathaniel] Greene, (Philadelphia) 15 November 1776

Scope and Contents note

Hancock acknowledges the receipt of an intelligence report from the General, and has passed along the information to Virginia and South Carolina.

1.3 Holograph Map, . "A Plan of the Operations of the British & Rebel Army in the Campaign 1777" 1777

1.4 List of Commissioned Officers in the 17 January 1781 Battle of Cowpens, signed by [Edward or Estis] Giles, Major and Acting Aid de camp, 19 January 1781

1.5 George Washington to Major General Greene, (Headquarters . Newburgh) 29 January 1783

Scope and Contents note

Washington discusses possible scenarios concerning British capture of territory; continues by discussing his interest in the upcoming discussion in between Parliament and King George III as well as Richard Oswald's use of the phrase "United States of America"

1.6 Col. Arthur Campbell to Gen. Nathaniel Greene, (Washington in Virg.) 8 February 1781

Scope and Contents note

Colonel Campbell reports the defection of Cherokee Indians from the American interests, and the conditions of the Cherokee camps. He also includes a copy of his attempts at a peace negotiation. Major [Joseph] Martin is cited as the Agent of Indian Affairs for Virginia.

1.7 Isaac Huger to General Greene, (Gilford Court House) 8 February 1781

Scope and Contents note

General Huger reports that the Army has arrived, but that Lt. Colonel [Henry] Lee is still en route. Due to a miscommunication, Captain Smith and a cargo of 600 shirts and 300 pair of shoes were sent away from camp. Colonel Kosciusko has arrived. General Lillington is on his way with hogs, as is General Marion, having just defeated the British at [Fort] Watson, (S.C.).

1.8 Henry Lee to Gen. Greene, 2 April 1781

Scope and Contents note

Lee sympathizes with Greene for having less-than-motivated troops, and suggests some improvements that could be made to increase morale among the men. He also suggests appealing to the public's sense of patriotism.

1.9 Arthur Campbell to General Greene, (Long Island, N.Y.) 2 August 1781

Scope and Contents note

Campbell reports a pacific disposition among those forming the treaty, and expects that the Mountain Militia will soon be able to redeploy their resources toward Greene's position. He suggests that Continental Garrisons be erected in Indian territory along with land transfer as punishment for their aggression.

1.10 Robert R. Livingston to Hon. Maj. Gen. Greene, (Philadelphia) 22 October 1781

Scope and Contents note

Livingston, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, opens a correspondence with Greene in order to hear first hand of Greene's victories on the battlefield which can be used in conversation & foreign affairs. He also reports that

twenty-six ships and 5000 land forces have left New York to attempt to relieve General Cornwallis.

1.11 David Ramsay to Sir. [General Greene],
(Philadelphia) 9 June 1782

Scope and Contents note

Ramsay acknowledges that Greene's unit would be in better spirits if they had more to keep them busy. He reports discussions from Congress about supplies, recent developments near Jamaica, and updates on various familiar names. He also mentions the popularity of George Washington.

1.12-13 Anthony Wayne to his Honor Major General Greene, (Sharon five miles from Savannah) 24 June 1782

Scope and Contents note

Wayne reports a battle between Col. Posey's battalion and a large number of Creek Indians who had combined forces with the British Army to conduct a surprise attack. The battalion held its own, and won several British trophies, mostly horses, but did lose a number of men in Cavalry, Infantry, and Artillery.

1.14 [Xerox copy of Folder 19] September 178[3] Speech by Nathaniel Greene to the inhabitants of Baltimore; also included is copy of an engraving of Nathaniel Greene with copy of signature

1.15 Count de Rochambeau to [Governor Garrison],
(Williamsburg) 26 June 1782

Scope and Contents note

Rochambeau relays the poor reception of Carleton's proposition to the Congress, discusses details of intelligence, and announces the intent of the French to join

1.16-17 Thad[eus] Kosciuszko to Honorable Major General Greene, 18 November 1782

Scope and Contents note

Kosciuszko recounts the Battle of James Island (S.C.) [referenced in the letter as John's Island] where the Patriots were outnumbered by the British, and where Capt. [William] Willmott was mortally wounded.

1.18 Resolution by Francis Sharp Honorable Major General Greene's Services, (In the Senate) 12 August 1783

Scope and Contents note

Resolution of the Senate of South Carolina commending Greene for his service in the Southern department, to be presented by the Governor, signed by Francis Sharp, President of the Senate of South Carolina.

1.19 Speech of Nathaniel Greene to the inhabitants of Baltimore, September 178[3]

Scope and Contents note

Greene is flattered by the kindness of the people of Baltimore upon his return from the front lines.

General note

Xerox copy of this speech in Folder 14

1.20 L. Tucker to Mrs. Cornelia L. Littlefield (his sister), (Williamsburg) 31 March 1824

Scope and Contents note

A woman, [possibly Louisa Catharine Greene, daughter of Nathanael Greene], writes to her sister, Cornelia L. Littlefield. Hers is a life with many medical hardships, both her own and those of her family and friends. She asks for news of other family members.

1.21 Wax impression of George Washington's Seal

1.22 Copy of Portrait of Brigadier General Isaac Huger

1.23 Money coupons in varying amounts, 11 April 1778

Scope and Contents note

Continental currency denominated in Spanish dollars by the United States in increments of forty dollars, thirty dollars, and seven dollars. Includes a serial number and official signature.

1.24 Portrait of Major General Nathaniel Greene with signature

General note

Copy of this portrait in Folder 14

1.25 Portrait of Robert R. Livingston with signature

1.26 Portrait of Thad[eus] Kosciuszko

1.27 Portrait of Henry Lee with signature

1.28 Portrait of George Washington

1.29 Portrait of John Hancock with signature

1.30 Portrait of Brigadier General Anthony Wayne

1.31 Portrait of David Ramsay, m.d

1.32-35 Administrative materials

Separated Materials note

Removed to collection folder

1.36 Typed version of letter in folder 1.2 : John Hancock, Pres. [Continental Congress] to Hon. Major General [Nathaniel] Greene, 15 November 1776

1.37-38 Typed version of item in folder 1.4 : List of Commissioned Officers in the 17 January 1781 Battle of Cowpens, signed by [Edward or Estis] Giles, Major and Acting Aid de camp, 19 January 1781

1.38 Typed version of item in folder 1.6 : Col. Arthur Campbell to Gen. N[athaniel] Greene, (Washington in Virg.) 8 February 1781

1.39 Typed version of item in folder 1.7 : Is[aac] Huger to General Greene, (Gilford Court House) 8 February 1781

1.40 Typed version of item in folder 1.8 : Henry Lee to Gen. Greene, 2 April 1781

1.41 Typed version of item in folder 1.9 : Arthur Campbell to General Greene, (Long Island, N.Y.) 2 August 1781

1.41 Typed version of item in folder 1.10 : Rob[ert] R. Livingston to Hon. Maj. Gen. Greene, (Philadelphia) 22 October 1781

1.42 Typed version of item in folder 1.11 : David Ramsay to Sir. [General Greene], (Philadelphia) 9 June 1782

1.43 Typed version of item in folder 1.12-13 : Anthony Wayne to his Honor Major General Greene (Sharon five miles from Savannah) 24 June 1782

1.44 Typed version of item in folder 1.15 : Count de Rochambeau to [Governor Garrison], (Williamsburg) 26 June 1782

1.45 Typed version of item in folder 1.16-17 : Thad[deus] Kosciuszko to Honorable Major General Greene, 18 November 1782

1.46 Typed version of item in folder 1.53 : Headquarters)Nath[aniel] Greene to Dr. Oliphant, Dept Director of the General Hospital for Army, 21 December 1782

1.47 Typed version of item in folder 1.5 : George Washington to Major General Greene, (Headquarters . Newburgh) 29 January 1783

1.48 Typed version of item in folder 1.18 : Resolution by Francis Sharp Honorable Major General Greene's Services,

(In the Senate) 12 August 1783

1.49 Typed version of item in folder 1.19 : Speech of Nathaniel Greene to the inhabitants of Baltimore, September 178[3]

1.50 Biographical Sketches of Individuals in this collection from *New Standard Encyclopedia Funk & Wagnalls*

1.51 Nath[aniel] Greene to Dr. Oliphant, Dept Director of the General Hospital for Army, (Headquarters) 21 December 1782

Scope and Contents note

Greene authorizes Oliphant to grant forage for the Army's General Hospital.

1.52 Typed versions of 9 of the letters and other documents within the collection

Box 2 User Copies of all items in Box 1
