

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 41 M 83; 46 M 9; 84 M 48

Location Balcony D-upper level

Title New York Custom House. ~~Papers~~ Records

Approximate inclusive dates 1792-1896; bulk dates 1802-1854 (5"),

Date of receipt 11 May 1935

Received from

Wormser (bulk was purchased)
H.E. Pickzeosgill (gift)
Mrs. W.M. Sweeney
Hazelton

Volume on arrival _____

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 1 FB

Condition Fair. Oversize documents need mending

Restrictions n.a.

Description

see attached sheets

Special Formats ☐ Photographs ☐ Maps ☐ Audio Tapes ☐ Films ☐ Graphics
☐ Artifacts ☐ Machine-readable records
☐ Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries

see attached sheets

Accessioned by Valerie Wingfield

Date 5/26/1984

NEW YORK CUSTOM HOUSE

The New York Custom House was established in 1799 by the United States Government to regulate New York port and harbor activities. Custom houses raised revenues and controlled shipping, placed duties on imports, prevented smuggling and enforced the laws regulating exports and imports. Fifteen years later, the New York Custom House was destroyed by fire, so the Custom House moved to Federal Hall. During the years 1832-1842, a new custom house was built at the cost of \$985,000 dollars on Wall William and Pine Street. In 1852, the New York Custom House moved to another location and the building in which it had previously resided became the Sub-Treasury. However, in 1907 the New York Custom House moved to its new quarters on Bowling Green which were designed by Cass Gilbert (1859-1934). This building is registered as a New York landmark. Presently, this building stands vacant.

Organization: The records of the New York Custom House (1792-1854) are arranged in two series: 1) Letters and Documents 2) Vouchers and Receipts.

Description: The first series, 1792-1894, represents the bulk of the papers and consist of letters, certificates of registration for crews and vessels, returns of manifests, documents regarding imports and exports, and petitions for various positions and contracts. The second series, 1833-1840, consist of vouchers and receipts that were generated from the construction of a Custom House under commissioners Samuel Swartwout, Walter Bourne and Elisha Tibbits.

New York by President Grant, Governors Washington Hunt, Horatio Seymour and John A. Dix; Secretary of State Edward Livingston; Tench Coxe, Samuel Swartwout, Peter Gansevoort, Fernando Wood, James Madison and John Jacob Astor.

Documents^{partly} of interest are: April 25, 1809, D.S. James Madison; Dec. 17, 1831, Jos. Anderson to Samuel Swartwout re his decision that all books for Seminary training be exempt and Feb. 27, 1853 "St. Tammany" of Columbian Order endorsed Mr. Henry Liebeman for Weigher.

Please note: collections of interest to the researcher in the Mss. Division.

1. Gansevoort-Lansing Papers
2. Livingston Family Papers
3. ~~Mercantile Papers-Miscellaneous~~
4. ~~Personal Miscellaneous~~ (check individual names)
5. Presidential Papers
6. Robert Swartwout
7. Tammany Society or Columbian Order

NEW YORK CUSTOM HOUSE PAPERS

Box 1. Letters & Documents

- f.1. 1792-98
- 2. 1800-09
- 3. 1811-30
- 4. 1831-34
- 5. 1835-40
- 6. 1842-49
- 7. 1853
- 8. 1854-
- 9. Vouchers & receipts re: construction of Custom House 1833-34 Jan.-June
- 10. 1834 July - 1840