



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Benjamin Walker correspondence

1782-1820

MssCol 4670

Compiled by swaide, 2014

Summary

Creator: Walker, Benjamin, 1753-1818

Title: Benjamin Walker correspondence

Date: 1782-1820

Size: .1 linear feet (1 folder)

Source: Donated by John S. Kennedy, 1896 as part of the Emmet Collection and J. Pierpont Morgan, 1899 as part of the Ford Collection, and purchase, 1941.

Abstract: Benjamin Walker (born 1753 in London) was an American soldier, land agent, and U.S. representative from New York, 1801-1803. He served as aide-de-camp to Friederich Wilhelm von Steuben and George Washington during the Revolutionary War, and was appointed Naval Officer of Customs for the port of New York in 1789. Walker also worked as a land agent for William Duer and for the Pulteney Estate. He moved to Utica, New York in 1797 where he died in 1818. Letters to and from Benjamin Walker, in chronological order, pertain mostly to land transactions and commissions. Correspondents include Patrick Colquhoun of London and William Duer, referring in part to funding German settlers for Genesee lands in New York. Wartime communications, 1782-1783, include two letters to Captain Pierre-Etienne Du Ponceau. An undated letter in French from Baron von Steuben asks Walker to write a letter in English to the Governor of New Jersey for his signature, and mentions efforts to influence Haring, probably Cornelius Haring, agent of confiscated land in Bergen County. Former Army officer William North advises Walker of the death of a friend, 1806, and an 1820 letter concerns Walker's estate. Other items include a certificate of customs duties paid by the Brig Caroline, signed by Walker in 1795, and a letter from Rufus King concerning the documentation of imports, 1796.

Preferred citation: Benjamin Walker correspondence, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Processing note: Compiled by swaide, 2014

Related Materials:

Forms part of [Emmet collection](#)

Patrick Colquhoun letters to Benjamin Walker. Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Certificates

Geographic Names

Germany -- Emigration and immigration. -- 18th century

New York (State) -- Emigration and immigration. -- 18th century

Subjects

Land speculation -- New York (State) -- 18th century

Real estate investment -- New York (State) -- 18th century

Real property -- New York (State) -- 18th century

Occupations

Landowners

Politicians

Soldiers

Speculators

Statesmen

Names

Colquhoun, Patrick, 1745-1820

Du Ponceau, Peter Stephen, 1760-1844

Duer, William, 1747-1799

King, Rufus, 1755-1827

North, William, 1755-1836

Steuben, Friedrich Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard Augustin, Baron von, 1730-1794

Walker, Benjamin, 1753-1818

Pulteney Estate