OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Title: Colonel William Augustine Washington Papers

Collection Dates: 1789-1840

Extent and Forms of Material: .33 cubic feet (1 document box)

Repository: Archives Center, national Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. archivescenter@si.edu 202-633-3270 www.americanhistory.si.edu/archives

Collection Number: AC0174

Administrative/Biographical History: 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.

Scope and Content: 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,

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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.

**System of Arrangement:** Bills and receipts are filed chronologically by years. Subject matter is filed alphabetically.

**Finding Aids:** Container list

**Acquisition Information:** Unknown. Telephone conversations with Rodris Roth and Barbara Smith, Domestic Life, Larry Bird and Marilyn Higgins, Political History and Donald Kloster, Military History indicate these Divisions have no knowledge of the Col. Washington Papers.

**Subject-Topical:**

Revolutions

United States – History – Revolution, 1775-1783

**Subject - Geographical:**

Baltimore (Md.)

Georgetown (Washington, D.C.)

**Subject – Name:**

Kink, Daniel

Washington, Augustine

Mounts, Mernkel P.

Cox, John

Dougs, William

Norris, Benjamin

Con, John

Kelly, Alexander

Mitchell, John
Dave, Caow L.
Hipkins, John
Riddle, Joshua
Payton, T.
Rigden, Burnett
Cunnin, Robert
Bingman, Thomas
Fisher, Thomas
Moore, John W.
Riggs, Elisha
Washington, Sarah
Dunlap, John

Form / Genre:
Manuscripts -- 19th century.
Manuscripts -- 18th century
Business records -- 18th century
Receipts -- 18th century.
Correspondence -- 18th century

Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Series 1: Bills and Receipts</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1-19</td>
<td>Bills and receipts, 1789-1810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bills and receipts, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Series 2: Correspondence, 1791-1809</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Letter, January 9, 1791 to William Channing discussing case before</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Deed for sale of land in Pulaski County, Kentucky.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Final settlement of estate, 1840</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Grace M. Angle  
March 1986

Rev. Amanda Loeb  
June 2010