

Adams Family Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2000

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm74010199>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009043>

Prepared by Nan Thompson Ernst

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009
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Collection Summary

Title: Adams Family Papers

Span Dates: 1776-1948

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1794-1846)

ID No.: MSS10199

Creator: Adams family

Extent: 230 items

Extent: 2 containers

Extent: .8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm74010199>

Summary: Chiefly correspondence of John Quincy Adams dated 1801-1846. Also includes correspondence and miscellany relating to other family members.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Adams family.

Adams, Abigail, 1744-1818. Abigail Adams papers.

Adams, Charles Francis, 1807-1886. Charles Francis Adams papers.

Adams, Charles Francis, 1835-1915. Charles Francis Adams papers.

Adams, Henry, 1838-1918. Henry Adams papers.

Adams, Herbert B. (Herbert Baxter), 1850-1901--Correspondence.

Adams, John Quincy, 1767-1848. John Quincy Adams papers.

Adams, John, 1735-1826. John Adams papers.

Adams, Louisa Catherine, 1775-1852. Louisa Catherine Adams papers.

Adams, Samuel, 1722-1803. Samuel Adams papers.

Blunt, Joseph, 1792-1860--Correspondence.

Everett, Alexander Hill, 1790-1847--Correspondence.

Jefferson, Thomas 1743-1826--Correspondence.

Madison, James, 1751-1836--Correspondence.

Seward, William H. (William Henry), 1801-1872.

Welsh, Robert--Correspondence.

Organizations

American Historical Association.

Places

Great Britain--Foreign relations--United States.

Massachusetts--Politics and government.

Massachusetts--Social life and customs.

United States--Foreign relations--Great Britain.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Foreign public opinion, British.

United States--Politics and government--1775-1783.

United States--Politics and government--1783-1865.

Occupations

Authors.

Cabinet officers.

Diplomats.

Historians.
Presidents' spouses--United States.
Presidents--United States.
Representatives, U.S. Congress--Massachusetts.
Vice-Presidents--United States.

Provenance

The papers of the Adams Family were received by the Library of Congress through gift and purchase, 1901-2000.

Processing History

The Adams Family Papers were originally arranged in 1969. Material was added to the collection in 1974 and 2000 when a finding aid was created.

Additional Guides

An index to the correspondence of John Quincy Adams is available in the Manuscript Reading Room.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of members of the Adams family is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The records of the Adams family are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Adams Family Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The Adams Family Papers span the years 1776 to 1948 with the bulk dated 1794-1846. Chiefly comprising correspondence of John Quincy Adams, the collection also includes correspondence and other material relating to Abigail Adams, Charles Francis Adams (1807-1886), Charles Francis Adams (1835-1915), Henry Adams, John Adams, Louisa Catherine Adams, and Samuel Adams. Henry Adams included his address to the American Historical Association in a letter dated 1894 to Herbert Baxter Adams. Many of the items are transcripts, photocopies, and other reproductions. Some of the twentieth century items are explanatory cover letters or printed material. Other correspondents include Joseph Blunt, Alexander Hill Everett, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and Robert Welsh, Jr.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Adams, Abigail (1744-1818)
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1790, 1796, 1800, 1813-1815
BOX 1	Lock of hair, undated
BOX 1	Adams, Charles Francis (1807-1886)
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	Miscellaneous, 1851-1853, 1862, 1873
BOX 1	Seward, William H., to Adams, draft with notes, 1861
BOX 1	Adams, Charles Francis (1835-1915) , correspondence, 1899-1911 (3 folders)
BOX 1	Adams, Henry (1838-1918) , correspondence, 1863, 1894, 1914
BOX 1	Adams, John (1735-1826)
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1776-1817, 1826, 1948 (2 folders)
BOX 1	Miscellany
BOX 1	Commission to Seth Lewis, 1800
BOX 1	Facsimiles of Adams's signature, newspaper clipping, 1938
BOX 1	Will and tombstone inscription, undated
BOX 1	Adams, John Quincy (1767-1848)
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	1801-1830 (6 folders)
BOX 2	1831-1838, 1846, undated (3 folders)
BOX 2	Miscellany
BOX 2	Account of the debate on the annexation of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives, fragment, 1838
BOX 2	Deed to Richard Morsell and receipts for payment for land in Washington, D.C., 1840-1847
BOX 2	Land grants
BOX 2	Ormsby, Robert, 1826
BOX 2	Rood, William, 1826
BOX 2	Letter announcing release of Adams from post as resident minister to the Batavian Republic, signed by Timothy Pickering, 1797
BOX 2	“Livre d’or de la Bibliotheque de la Ville de Graned,” copy of page containing Adams’s signature, 1814
BOX 2	Print from engraved portrait, with signature, undated
BOX 2	Remarks to Congress at the death of William Soden Hastings, holograph, 1842 , with note by Mary Earle, 1864
BOX 2	Seal impression made by great-granddaughter, Abigail Adams, 1896
BOX 2	Sketches of Adams and other negotiators of the Treaty of Ghent, 1815
BOX 2	Adams, Louisa Catherine (1775-1852)
BOX 2	Correspondence, 1832-1836, 1848
BOX 2	Miscellany

Container List

Container

Contents

BOX 2	“The Indestructible Church,” leaflet concerning church where Louisa and John Quincy Adams were married, 1941
BOX 2	Poems, 1827, undated
BOX 2	Adams, Samuel (1722-1803) , correspondence, 1775-1789