

**Benjamin Lincoln Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2009**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm75093773>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms009126>

Prepared by Patrick Kerwin

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009  
Revised 2010 April

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Benjamin Lincoln Papers

**Span Dates:** 1778-1806

**ID No.:** MSS93773

**Creator:** Lincoln, Benjamin, 1733-1810

**Extent:** 11 items

**Extent:** 1 container

**Extent:** 0.4 linear feet

**Extent:** 1 microfilm reel

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm75093773>

**Summary:** United States secretary of war, army officer, and lieutenant governor of Massachusetts. Journals, correspondence, certificates, receipt, petition, and extract relating to Lincoln's travels from New York to take command of the Southern Department, Continental Army, at Charleston, South Carolina, and the siege of Savannah, Georgia.

## 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

Estaing, Charles Henri, comte d', 1729-1794.

Lincoln, Benjamin, 1733-1810.

McIntosh, Lachlan, 1725-1806.

Pułaski, Kazimierz, 1747-1779.

### Organizations

United States. Continental Army. Southern Department.

### Places

Charleston (S.C.)--History--Revolution, 1775-1783.

Georgia--History--Revolution, 1775-1783.

New York (State)--History--Revolution, 1775-1783.

Savannah (Ga.)--History--Siege, 1779.

South Carolina--History--Revolution, 1775-1783.

United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783--Campaigns.

### Occupations

Army officers.

Cabinet officers.

Public officials--Massachusetts.

## Provenance

The papers of Benjamin Lincoln, United States secretary of war, army officer, and lieutenant governor of Massachusetts, were purchased by the Library of Congress in several installments between 1920 and 1931. A gift was received from Simon Gratz in 1924.

## Processing History

The papers of Benjamin Lincoln were arranged and described as separate collections in 1968 and 1977. The collections were combined and revised in 1999. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Benjamin Lincoln is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Benjamin Lincoln 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.

## Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on one reel. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition as available.

## Preferred Citation

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

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Benjamin Lincoln (1778-1806) span the years 1778-1806 and include journals, correspondence, certificates, a receipt, a petition, and an extract. Lincoln's journal of October 3 to December 1, 1778, chronicles his journey from Quaker Hill, New York, to Charleston, South Carolina, to take command of the Southern Department of the Continental Army. A journal dated September 3-October 19, 1779, is represented in the collection by the original and a copy. The copy contains eleven lines of text not found in the original. The journal describes the siege of Savannah, Georgia, and gives detailed accounts of military plans and operations. Persons mentioned in the journal include Charles Henri Estaing, comte d'Estaing, Lachlan McIntosh, and Kazimierz Pułaski.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

# Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 16,293

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
BOX 1 REEL 1	Journals
BOX 1 REEL 1	1778, Oct. 3-Dec. 1
BOX 1 REEL 1	1779, Sept. 3-Oct. 19 (2 vols.)
BOX 1 not filmed	Miscellany, 1780-1806