

**Roger Sherman Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2016**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm82039792>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms016024>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2016

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Roger Sherman Papers

**Span Dates:** 1746-1827

**ID No.:** MSS37792

**Creator:** Sherman, Roger, 1721-1793

**Extent:** 125 items

**Extent:** 3 containers

**Extent:** .9 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm82039792>

**Summary:** Delegate to the Continental Congress, U.S. senator and representative, and jurist from Connecticut. Financial material, legal documents and agreements, correspondence, notebooks, and other items, including while Sherman was a member of the Continental Congress and a U.S. senator and representative.

## 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, John, 1735-1826--Correspondence.

Bache, Theophylact, 1735-1807--Correspondence.

Gates, Horatio, 1728-1806.

Mitchell, Justus, 1754-1806--Correspondence.

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques, 1712-1778.

Sherman family--Correspondence.

Sherman, Roger, 1721-1793.

Williams, William, 1731-1811--Correspondence.

### Organizations

United States. Congress.

United States. Constitution.

United States. Continental Army. Northern Department.

United States. Continental Congress.

### Subjects

Debts, Public--Great Britain.

### Places

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

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

United States--Politics and government--18th century.

### Occupations

Delegates, U.S. Continental Congress--Connecticut.

Judges.

Lawyers.

Representatives, U.S. Congress--Connecticut.

Senators, U.S. Congress--Connecticut.

## Provenance

The papers of Roger Sherman, delegate to the Continental Congress, U.S. senator and representative, and jurist from Connecticut, were obtained by gift of John Franklin Jameson, 1915, and purchases between 1908-1945.

## Processing History

The first volume of the Sherman Papers was bound by the Library of Congress in 1943. A second volume was bound in 1961, and additional loose material was processed subsequently. The finding aid was created in 2016.

## Copyright Status

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

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Roger Sherman 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, Roger Sherman Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1721, Apr.	Born, Newton, Mass.
1745	Surveyor, New Haven County, Conn.
1754	Admitted to the bar
1755-1761	Justice of the peace, Litchfield County, Conn.
1755	Elected to Connecticut assembly; served again from 1758 to 1761 and 1764 to 1766
1774-1781	Member, Continental Congress
1783-1784	Member, Continental Congress
1784-1793	Major, New Haven, Conn.
1789-1790	Member, U.S. House of Representative
1791-1793	Member, U.S. Senate
1793, July 23	Died, New Haven, Conn.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Roger Sherman (1721-1793) span the years 1746-1827 and consist mainly of bound financial material, legal documents and agreements, notebooks, and some correspondence. Two notebooks contain accounts of monies loaned the United States between September 1777 and August 1780, Sherman's expenses while attending the Continental Congress, June 7-Oct. 2 1777, the British national debt, 1740-1775, and extracts from the writings of Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Included is a notebook of a handwritten confession of faith and a 1776 almanac signed by Sherman containing personal accounts, 1775-1776. Also in the collection are a letter to William Williams, August 1777, regarding the appointment of General Horatio Gates to the Northern Department of the Continental Army, and photocopies of five letters between

Sherman and John Adams concerning the ratification of the Constitution, July 1789. Other correspondents include Justus Mitchell, Theophylact Bache, and Sherman family members.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged chronologically in two bound volumes of mostly financial and legal documents, with some correspondence, and a container of notebooks and other unbound material arranged by type.

## Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
BOX 1	Bound
BOX 1	Vol. 1, 1746-1827
BOX 2	Vol. 2, 1746-1810
BOX 3	Unbound
BOX 3	Letter to William Williams, regarding appointment of General Horatio Gates to the Northern Department, 1777, Aug.
BOX 3	Notebooks and almanacs
BOX 3	Pay statement, 1787
BOX 3	Photocopies of letters between Sherman and John Adams, 1789, July