Breneman Family Collection of Early American Manuscripts
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

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Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2023

Contact information: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2015085973

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms016047

Prepared by the Manuscript Division staff
Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2016
Revised 2023 February
Collection Summary

Title: Breneman Family Collection of Early American Manuscripts
Inclusive Dates: 1755-1825
ID No.: MSS85973
Collector: Breneman, Franklin
Extent: 18 items
Extent: 1 container
Extent: .2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2015085973
Summary: Correspondence, oath of allegiance, notes, certificates, and other papers pertaining to early American and Pennsylvania history.

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
Braddock, Edward, 1695?-1755.
Breneman family.
Breneman, Franklin, Breneman family collection of early American manuscripts. 1755-1825.
Butler, Richard, 1743-1791.
George II, King of Great Britain, 1683-1760.
Harris, John, 1726-1791.
Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert Du Motier, marquis de, 1757-1834.
Marsteller, Phillip, 1742-1803.
Morris, Robert Hunter, approximately 1700-1764.
Morris, Samuel, 1734-1812.
Muhlenberg, Henry Melchior, 1711-1787.
Penn, Thomas, 1702-1775.
Pickering, Timothy, 1745-1829.
Porter, George B. (George Bryan), 1791-1834.
Reinick, Christian, -1777.
Smith, William, 1727-1803.
St. Clair, Arthur, 1734-1818.
Stiegel, Henry William, 1729-1785.
Washington, George, 1732-1799.

Subjects
German Americans--Pennsylvania.

Places
Pennsylvania--History--1775-1865.
Pennsylvania--History--Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775.
United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783.

Titles
Breneman Family Collection of Early American Manuscripts at the Library of Congress
Acquisition Information
The Breneman Family Collection of Early American Manuscripts was given to the Library of Congress by Margaret Hey, Helen Mallon, and Sylvia Ross in 2015.

Processing History
The Breneman Family Collection of Early American Manuscripts were arranged and described by Karen Linn Femia in 2016. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings in the Breneman Family Collection of Early American Manuscripts is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions
The Breneman Family Collection of Early American Manuscripts is 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.

Online Content

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Breneman Family Collection of Early American Manuscripts, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note
The Breneman Family Collection of Early American Manuscripts spans the years 1755-1825. The manuscripts were collected by Franklin Breneman of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, a late-nineteenth century ancestor of the donors. The documents pertain to colonial Pennsylvania, the American Revolution, and the experiences of German immigrants in the mid- to late-eighteenth century Pennsylvania.

The documents are arranged alphabetically, primarily by the name of the author of each document. Under the folder heading is a short description of each manuscript.

Arrangement of the Papers
This collection is arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent or by type of material.
Container List

Digital content online at http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000055.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| BOX 1     | Braddock, Edward, Mar. 10, 1755  
            Letter to Pennsylvania deputy governor Robert Hunter Morris from General Braddock, commander of the British forces in the colonies  
            Harris, John, Oct. 31, 1763  
            Letter to Edward Shippen, member of the Philadelphia Common Council, concerning the route of a new road  
            Lafayette, Georges Washington Louis Gilbert Du Motier, marquis de, Sept. 2, 1825  
            Letter to General Porter concerning a letter to be forwarded to Colonel John Jacob Lehmanowsky  
            Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert Du Mortier, marquis de, Sept. 21, 1824  
            Letter to adjutant general of the Pennsylvania militia, "J. P. Porter" [George B. Porter], concerning Lafayette's tour of the United States (1824-1825)  
            Morris, Samuel, circa 1776  
            Certificate concerning a sorrel horse on the night of the Battle of Trenton, N.J., signed by Morris, the captain of the Troop of Philadelphia Cavalry, 1st, Light Horse  
            Muhlenberg, Henry Melchior, Mar. 6, 1755  
            Muhlenberg, a leader of the Lutheran church in America, writes to William Smith, an Anglican clergyman in Philadelphia, concerning a conflict between Calvinist and Lutheran congregations in New Hanover, Pa., over a school for poor German immigrant children  
            Oath of allegiance to George II of England, circa 1757  
            Document with list of signatures renouncing allegiance to the "Pretender," James III of England and James VIII of Scotland (Prince of Wales, 1688-1766), and swearing fealty to George II  
            Penn, Thomas, Mar. 22, 1755  
            Letter from Penn, colonial proprietor of Pennsylvania, writing from London to lieutenant governor of Pennsylvania, Robert Hunter Morris, asking consideration of Peter Frazer for employment  
            Pickering, Timothy, Nov. 12, 1780  
            Letter from Pickering, quartermaster general of the Continental Army, to Phillip Marsteller, colonel in the 1st Battalion of Lancaster County militia, Camp Totowa, N.J.  
            Reinick, Christian, 1783(?)-1785  
            Five documents concerning Reinick's service as a surgeon's mate in the First Regiment of Pennsylvania Troops. Reinick, from Lancaster, Pa., was killed in the Battle of Paoli, Chester County, Pa., on September 21, 1777.  
            St. Clair, Arthur, Aug. 27, 1774  
            Letter to the governor, written from Ligonier, Pa., concerning the imprisonement of "Mr. Butler," probably Richard Butler (1743-1791), at Fort Pitt, charged with trading with Native Americans.  
            Stiegel, Henry William, Feb. 2, 1764  
            Letter written by Stiegel, a German immigrant ironmaster and glassmaker who went by "Baron von Stiegel," to Joseph Rose in Lancaster asking him to issue a writ for debt and defamation, Elizabeth Furnace in Pennsylvania |
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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Contents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turner, Francis, July 12, 1789</td>
<td>Letter to George Baynton of Philadelphia informing him that Turner will be traveling from his home in Cadiz to Ireland to settle his father's estate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington, George, Apr. 9, 1780</td>
<td>Letter to unidentified correspondent, sent from Morristown, N.J., concerning supplies for troops</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wrappings received with collection, undated</td>
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</tbody>
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