

Charles Guillaume Frédéric Dumas 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/mm82019091>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms016066>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2016

Collection Summary

Title: Charles Guillaume Frédéric Dumas Papers

Span Dates: 1775-1793

ID No.: MSS19091

Creator: Dumas, Charles Guillaume Frédéric, 1721-1796

Extent: 125 items

Extent: 2 containers

Extent: .4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and French

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm82019091>

Summary: Scholar, translator, and charge d'affaires for the United States in the Netherlands. Diplomatic correspondence from the Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary periods.

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.

Dumas, Charles Guillaume Frédéric, 1721-1796.

Franklin, Benjamin, 1706-1790--Correspondence.

Jones, John Paul, 1747-1792--Correspondence.

Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert Du Motier, marquis de, 1757-1834--Correspondence.

Lee, Arthur, 1740-1792--Correspondence.

Organizations

First League of Armed Neutrality.

United States. Continental Congress. Committee of Foreign Affairs--Correspondence.

Subjects

Neutrality, Armed--Europe.

Places

France--Foreign relations--United States.

Great Britain--Commerce--United States.

Netherlands--Foreign relations--United States.

United States--Commerce--Great Britain.

United States--Foreign relations--1775-1783.

United States--Foreign relations--1783-1815.

United States--Foreign relations--France.

United States--Foreign relations--Netherlands.

United States--History--1783-1815.

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

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

United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783--Prisoners and prisons.

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

Occupations

Diplomats.

Scholars.

Translators.

Provenance

The papers of Charles Guillaume Frédéric Dumas, scholar, translator, and charge d'affaires for the United States in the Netherlands, were obtained by the Library of Congress before 1918. Additional material was transferred from the Department of State in 1922.

Processing History

The Charles Guillaume Frédéric Dumas Papers were processed in bound volumes in 1922. The finding aid was created in 2016.

Additional Guides

The Dumas Papers are described in *Manuscript Sources in the Library of Congress for Research on the American Revolution* (Washington, 1975): 53.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Charles Guillaume Frédéric Dumas 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, Charles Guillaume Frédéric Dumas Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Charles Guillaume Frédéric Dumas (1721-1796) span the years 1775-1793 and consist of diplomatic correspondence from the Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary periods. Dumas was a native of Germany, born of French parents, who resided in the Netherlands as a man of letters before the Revolutionary War. In Holland, he befriended Benjamin Franklin and became a secret agent for the Continental Congress at the Hague. Later he served as secretary and translator to John Adams, and when Adams went to Paris, as United States chargé d'affaires at the Hague.

The papers contain contemporary copies of letters to and from Dumas concerning prisoners of war, the First League of Armed Neutrality, the French alliance, negotiations with Holland, peace negotiations, and a treaty of commerce with England. Correspondents include John Adams, the Committee for Foreign Affairs of the Continental Congress, Benjamin Franklin, John Paul Jones, Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert Du Motier, marquis de Lafayette, and Arthur Lee.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized chronologically in two bound volumes..

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Vol. 1, 1775, May 17-1784, Aug. 9
BOX 2	Vol. 2, 1784, Aug. 10-1793, Oct. 16