

**York County History Center
Manuscript Collection**

**American Revolution Era Documents
1775 – 1783**

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Object ID Number: No object ID number has been assigned to this collection
Title: American Revolution Era Documents
Creator: Various
Dates: 1775 – 1783
Media: Letters, documents, notes, books. Photocopies, microfilm and digital images of the original documents are available.
Quantity: 1 folder, 2 books

BACKGROUND OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA IN YORK COUNTY

York County played an important role in the Revolutionary War. The people of York County selected a committee to protest the British, and provided financial and military support for the War. In 1776, James Smith, a York resident, signed the Declaration of Independence. From September 30, 1777 to June 28, 1778, the Second Continental Congress relocated to York after British troops occupied Philadelphia. During its time in York, the Second Continental Congress adopted the Articles of Confederation, signed the French Alliance, and declared a day of national prayer and thanksgiving. The presence of the Continental Congress in York brought the first printing press to the County. This press was used to print military and legislative news, as well as Continental currency. The Conway Cabal, a group of senior Continental Army officers who sought to have General George Washington replaced as the commander-in-chief of the Army, occurred while the Continental Congress was in York.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

The American Revolution Era Documents are a collection of 101 miscellaneous items from the Revolutionary era in York County, primarily consisting of letters, documents and notes. Please note that this collection does not contain documents created by the Second Continental Congress or its delegates. Because these documents relate to the federal government, they are maintained by the Library of Congress.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COLLECTION

It is believed that items were added to this collection as they were discovered or received by the York County Heritage Trust (formerly the Historical Society of York County). They have not been arranged in any particular order. See the Detailed Description of the Collection at the end of this finding aid.

SEE ALSO

Manuscript files with general information on the following topics may also be of interest:

- American Revolution, MSS file 00734
- Continental Congress at York, MSS file 00839
- General Gates House and Golden Plough Tavern, MSS file 10430

- Second Pennsylvania Brigade, MSS file 14998
- Camp Security, MSS file 16140
- Articles of Confederation, MSS file 19678
- Revolutionary War, Local, MSS file 32792
- York Blues (York County Militia Company), MSS file 33836
- Minute Men of York County, 1775-1776, MSS file 39250
- Militia of York County, 1777-1783, MSS file 39251
- Conway Cabal, MSS file 39650
- Continental Courthouse, MSS file 00725

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Access: This collection is open under the rules and regulations of the York County Heritage Trust. The original documents have been photocopied, microfilmed and digitized. To help preserve the original documents, researchers are asked to utilize these copies. Access to the original documents is granted at the discretion of YCHT staff.

Preferred Citation: Researchers are requested to cite the collection name and the York County Heritage Trust in all footnotes and bibliographic references.

Property Rights: York County Heritage Trust owns the property rights to this collection.

Copyrights: York Country Heritage Trust holds the copyright to this collection.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Leather bound, hand stitched book, 20 pages: "Extracts From The Votes of the House of Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania, Containing Rules and Regulations for the better Government of the Military Association in Pennsylvania, the Articles of said Association, and, the Resolutions directing the Mode of levying Taxes on Non-Associators in Pennsylvania", published by order of the Committee of Safety. Printed by W. and T. Bradford, Philadelphia
2	Letter to the Committee of York County dated September 15, 1775
3A	Receipt from Peter Dinkle for 13 shot pouches dated July 16, 1776, signed by Captain John Wright
3B	Receipt from Michael Hahn for eight cartridge boxes dated July 22, 1776
3C	Receipt from Peter Dinkle for one cartridge box, signed by Captain Samuel Nelson
4	Account of Peter Dinkle dated 1776

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
5	Note concerning suspension of commissions for officers of the 5 th Battalion, undated
6	Public notice that persons employing prisoners of war must record the names of such prisoners with the nearest justice of the peace by order of the War Office, dated 1782. Inhabitants of York Town are directed to make their entries with Col. William Scott. Ordered in Council, Philadelphia, June 27, 1782, that all persons hawking or selling contrary to law be arrested, especially British prisoners and their dependents.
7	Blank enlistment form used by the Minute Men of the York County Battalion, 1775
8	Letter from the Committee of Safety to the York County Committee dated June 14, 1776, Philadelphia
9	Order from the War Office to deliver all prisoners to Captain Weaver, York Town, October 4, 1777 (said to be the first order issued by the Board of War after Congress came to York in 1777)
10	Letter from the War Office, York, concerning the treatment of sick prisoners, signed by Richard Peters, secretary to Colonel John Hay, dated November 15, 1777
11	Draft for Continental Army with a class list from York County, dated January 30, 1781
12	Letter to the Committee of York County concerning officers' commissions dated September 29, 1775, signed by Owen Biddle
13	Letter to the York County Committee regarding an order for powder and gear dated October 14, 1775
14	Letter to the Committees of York, Cumberland and Northampton Counties requesting them to furnish 56 firelocks, dated April 26, 1776
15	Receipt for hay, feed and stabling for horses for militia, signed Travers Nash, wagon master, dated November 12, 1777
16	Letter from York concerning the supply and price of salt dated March 13, 1778, signed by John Brown
17	Receipt for horse, saddle and bridle for William Walker, signed by Charles Lukens, dated May 13, 1778
18	Letter from W. Nichols at York to Colonel John Davis dated May 14, 1778
19	Receipt for \$720 signed by Alexander McDowell, dated May 29, 1778, Carlisle

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
20	Return of men employed at York by the Quartermaster, signed by D. Grier, dated June 2, 1778
21	Receipt for \$12,000 received by George Hacket and acknowledged by John McPherson and David Grier, dated August 25, 1778
22	Receipt for shingles, nails, etc. from John Davis, signed by John Pollock, dated September 1, 1778
23	Receipt for \$1100 signed by Alexander McDowell, dated November 2, 1778
24	Request for a wagon and horses signed by Charles Lukens, dated March 2, 1779
25	Letter from John McPherson at York, dated April 27, 1779
26	Letter from Alexander McDowell at Hanover concerning transportation and the condition of horses, dated April 30, 1779
27	Return of prisoners employed in the Forage Department at York Town, signed by David Grier, dated May 1, 1779
28	Letter from Alexander McDanell concerning teams to go to Fort Pitt, dated May 1, 1779
29	Letter from John McPherson at York to Samuel Postlethwaite, dated May 4, 1779
30	Letter from Carlisle concerning the movement of wagons dated May 14, 1779
31	Letter from John Davis at Carlisle concerning the procurement of transportation to Fort Pitt, dated May 28, 1779
32	Receipt for a horse signed by Charles Lukens, dated May 29, 1779
33	Receipt for a black mare dated June 4, 1779
34	Letter from Charles Lukens to Colonel Davis concerning the need for a team, dated June 4, 1779, Washingtonsburg
35	Letter from Charles Lukens to John Davis concerning the furnishing of a horse, dated June 28, 1779, Washingtonsburg
36	Letter from Joseph Mitchel to John Davis concerning gun blocks, dated July 7, 1779
37	Letter from Charles Lukens to John Davis concerning the provision of a horse, etc., dated July 12, 1779, Washingtonsburg

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
38	Letter from Charles Lukens to Colonel Davis concerning the provision of a team, dated July 26, 1779, Washingtonsburg
39	Letter from Alexander McDowell to Samuel Postlethwaite concerning financial matters, dated August 7, 1779, Hanover
40	Letter from Alexander McDowell to Samuel Postlethwaite concerning vouchers, dated August 12, 1779, Hanover
41	Letter from Alexander McDowell to Samuel Postlethwaite concerning the need for cash, dated August 22, 1779, Hanover
42	List for expenses for August 1779 at York Town
43	Expense list for August 1779 at Hanover Quartermaster Post
44	Letter from John McPherson to Samuel Postlethwaite concerning rope dated September 5, 1779, York
45	Letter from David Grier to John Davis concerning money dated October 21, 1779, York Town
46	List of supplies at York post dated November 1, 1779
47	List of expenses for November 1779 at Quartermaster post at York
48A	List of payment to employees in the Quartermaster post at York dated December 1, 1779, signed by David Grier
48B	List of payment to employees at York Forage Department dated December 1, 1779, signed by David Grier
49	List of supplies at York dated December 1, 1779, signed by David Grier
50	Letter from David Grier to John Davis concerning forage dated Dec. 5, 1779, York Town
51	Letter concerning two wagons dated December 22, 1779
52A	Letter to John Davis concerning four wagons dated April 7, 1780
52B	Promissory note signed by John McPherson dated Feb. 8, 1780
53	Letter from Miller to Samuel Postlethwaite concerning rum and whiskey dated May 24, 1780, York Town

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
54	Letter concerning wood dated February 28, 1781
55	Two receipts signed by William Scott dated March 6, 1781, York
56	Receipt for cartridges signed by Andrew Johnston dated March 20, 1781
57	Letter concerning wood dated March 29, 1781
58	Letter from Christopher Hays to George Stahr concerning ammunition dated May 3, 1781
59	Letter from Christopher Hays to John Hay concerning ammunition dated May 7, 1782, Hagers Town
60	Letter from John Hazelworth concerning Indians and Fort Pitt dated March 17, 1783, Philadelphia
61	Docket, Pennsylvania vs. John Miller et al., January Sessions 1780
62	Order for Major Bartholomas dated October 9, 1776, Fort Constitution
63	Letter from Thomas Wharton, Jr. to John Donaldson concerning participants in a riot dated August 19, 1777, Philadelphia
64	Muster roll of several companies of the First Battalion of the York County Militia dated April 11, 1778, comprising part of a return of three companies of the Second Battalion
65	Muster roll of the Second Battalion of the York County Militia dated April 17, 1778
66	List of Associators in Companies of Huntington, Reading, Dover, Monaghan and Warrington Townships, undated
67	Letter from the Committee of York County, including James Smith, concerning a company of riflemen and their officers dated July 1, 1775, York Town
68	Petition to the Pennsylvania General Assembly from the Commissioners of York County concerning muskets and ammunition, undated
69	Letter from Hugh Mercer to Colonels McAllister and Slagle and field officers of York recommending John Clark for Major in the Second Battalion dated September 8, 1776, Perth Amboy
70	List of Associators in the Lower End of Shrewsbury Township, Captain Gideon Bausley's Company, undated

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
71	List of Officers and Associators of Captain Charles Lukens' Company in York Town, of the First Battalion of York County Militia, undated
72	List of part of the inhabitants in York Town, Associators under Captain Rudolph Spangler, undated
73	List of Captain Hoover's Company in Codorus Township, undated
74	Captain Miller's Company and Captain Ament's Company, undated
75	List in German script containing 86 names, beginning with George Welsh, undated
76	Articles and list of Associators of a company in the First Battalion of York County Militia dated December 27, 1775
77	List of Associators in Captain Michael Ege's Company, March to June 1776
78	Return of Captain Bailey's Company in York Town dated June 14, 1776, York
79A	Note from Colonel Philip Albright concerning muskets dated August 10, 1778, York Town
79B	Note from Captain Perigrin Mercer to Colonel Davis concerning wagons for Albrite's battalion dated August 27, 1778
80	Letter from Charles Lukens to John Hay, Esquire dated November 4, 1779, Washington, received by George Cotter, November 5, 1779
81	John Hay's rough docket in German script dated 1780
82	Return of the third and fourth class of the Second Company and Sixth Regiment of the York County Militia commanded by Conrood Sherman, undated
83	Class return of Captain Daniel Dubs' Company dated 1795
84	List of third and fourth class of Hanover and Eighth Company dated November 27, 1797
85	Absentee return of Fourth Company, Sixth Regiment dated October 22, 1798
86	Absentee return of Fourth Company, Sixth Regiment dated October 1, 1798
87	Delinquent return of Eighth Company, Sixth Regiment dated October 22, 1798
88	Class list of Fourth Company, Third Regiment dated November 14, 1814

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>
89	Letter from Commercial Committee dated January 30, 1778, York
90	Letter dated September 14, 1777
91	Letter from Philip Livingston to Colonel Philip Schuyler dated March 13, 1769, New York
92	Letter from James Smith, undated
93	Warrant to the Sheriff of York County to take John Ross into custody dated April 26, 1759, signed by George Stevenson and endorsed by James Smith and Zach Shugart, Sheriff
94	Printed broadside muster roll of Captain Spangler's Company dated August 29, 1814
95	Broadside, words to the song "The Battle of Baltimore" and the chorus of "Yankee Doodle", undated
96	Certificate of service of John Fisher in 1794, dated March 26, 1803, Lancaster
97	Extract from contract for supplying provisions to the troops of the United States in 1791
98	Letter from Hugh Bradly to General Wayne, certification signed by Anthony Wayne, dated November 2, 1785
99	Broadside, "An Address of the Congress to the Inhabitants of the United States of America" dated, May 9, 1778, In Congress
100	Broadside, "Establishment of the American Army" which includes the organization of Continental Army officers and soldiers, dated May 27, 1778, In Congress
101	Payroll accounts of Captain Michael Quickel's militia company, Dover Township, York County, 1776