

# Guide to the Samuel Blachley Webb papers

MS 539



July 2008

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 539

**CREATOR:** Webb, Samuel Blachley, 1753-1807

**TITLE:** Samuel Blachley Webb papers

**DATES:** 1756-1819

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 16.5 linear feet (15 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The Webb papers consist of letterbooks, correspondence, journals, notebooks, orderly books, papers, and military records documenting the personal life and military career of Samuel Blachley Webb, who served in the American Revolutionary forces under Israel Putnam and George Washington. Notable correspondents include: Joseph Barrell, Silas Deane, Nathanael Greene, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Morris, Samuel Otis, Timothy Pickering, Jonathan Trumbull, George Washington, and Catharine Hogeboom Webb.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0539>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0539>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Webb Papers were given to Yale University Library by Mrs. William Seward Webb, Col. G. Creighton Webb, F. Egerton Webb, and the children of General Alexander Stewart Webb in 1936. The papers were originally given as The Webb Papers. They have been divided into three collections: The Samuel Blachley Webb Papers, The Alexander Stewart Webb Papers. The James Watson Webb Papers.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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### Preferred Citation

Samuel Blachley Webb Papers (MS 539). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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### Existence and Location of Copies

Selected correspondence is published in *Family Letters of Samuel Blachley Webb* (1912).

Selected correspondence and journals are published in *Correspondence and Journals of Samuel Blachley Webb* (1893-1894), 3 vols.

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## Biographical / Historical

Samuel Blachley Webb was born in Wethersfield, Connecticut on December 15, 1753. His mother later married Silas Deane, whom Webb served as private secretary. In 1775 Webb was appointed aide to General Israel Putnam and in 1776 was made aide-de-camp to General George Washington, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He wrote the order making public the Declaration of Independence, was a prisoner of the British for three years (1777-1781), served as grand marshal at Washington's inauguration, and was a merchant from 1789 until his death in Claverack, New York on December 3, 1807.

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## Scope and Contents

The Samuel Blachley Webb Papers consist of letterbooks, correspondence, journals, notebooks, orderly books, papers, and military records documenting the personal life and military career of Samuel Blachley Webb, who served in the American Revolutionary forces under Israel Putnam and George Washington. Notable correspondents include Joseph Barrell, Silas Deane Nathanael Otis, Timothy Pickering, Jonathan Trumbull, George Washington, and Catharine Hogeboom Webb.

SERIES I, LETTERBOOKS, 1764-1807, consists of two sections: General and Webb, Catharine Hogeboom. General contains nine volumes of correspondence and papers relating to Samuel Webb, his family, military and mercantile career from 1764-1807. Volumes one through eight are arranged in chronological order (boxes 1-8). Volume nine (box nine) contains material spanning the years 1773-90. Webb, Catharine Hogeboom contains two volumes (boxes 10-11) of correspondence Webb and his second wife exchanged from 1787-1801.

SERIES II, CORRESPONDENCE AND PAPERS, 1756-1819, is arranged in two sections: General and Barrell, Joseph. General (box 12) consists of letters written to Webb, as well as his copies of selected outgoing correspondence. Barrell, Joseph (box 13) consists of correspondence and papers from Joseph Barrell to Samuel B. Webb, 1778-1801.

SERIES III, JOURNALS, NOTEBOOKS, AND MISCELLANEA, 1757-1805, is arranged in three sections: Webb, Samuel Blachley; Leslie, Alexander; and Lyman, Phineas. Webb, Samuel Blachley consists of a diary, journals and notebooks dating from 1775-1803. Diaries include the printed text for Stoddard's Diary (The Columbia ALMANACK) from 1796-1803 and Webb's personal entries for scattered periods throughout these same years. Descriptions of family life, including the untimely death of his eldest daughter, and his local participation in the presidential election of 1802 are included.

A journal (1776-77) maintained by Webb from March 1, 1776 to December, 1777 describes his military actions and that of the American Revolutionary forces during this period, and includes information on British troop activities. A journal of orders, June 21, 1776 - August 8, 1776, contains a detailed recording of military orders, practices, and observations while Webb was in the service of General George Washington. Notebooks :for the years 1775-1807 generally detail the personal expenses Webb incurred.

Leslie, Alexander contains an orderly book of the British army captured at some point in 1776, and apparently the property of Brigadier General Alexander Leslie.

Lyman, Phineas contains an order book of this Major General and Colonel of "the troops raised by the Colony of Connecticut to act in conjunction with his Majesty's Regular Troops, under the command of his Excellency the Earl of Londoun."

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## Arrangement

Arranged in three series: I. Letterbooks, 1764-1807. II. Correspondence and Papers, 1756-1819. III. Journals, Notebooks, and Miscellanea, 1757-1805.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: LETTERBOOKS, 1764-1807

*6 linear feet*

This series contains bound volumes of original letters arranged in two sections: General and Webb, Catharine Hogeboom.

General is arranged in chronological order, with the exception of volume 9, which contains material spanning the years 1733-90.

Webb, Catharine Hogeboom is arranged chronologically.

#### General

b. 1	1764-1777 See also: Box 9, Folder 1
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b. 2	1778 English
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b. 3	1779 English
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b. 4	1780-1781
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b. 5	1782-1783
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b. 6	1784-1786
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b. 7	1787-1789
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b. 8	1790-1807
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b. 9	1773-1790
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#### Webb, Catharine Hogeboom

b. 10	1787-1789
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b. 11	1790-1801
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**Series II: CORRESPONDENCE AND PAPERS, 1756-1819***0.75 linear feet*

This series is arranged in two sections: General and Barrell, Joseph. Each is arranged chronologically.

General		
b. 12, f. 1-34	1756-1819, undated	1756-1819, undated
b. 15, f. 1	Letter signed to Samuel B, Webb from George Washington	1782 November 11
b. 15, f. 2	Wasington, generalissime des États unis de l'Amérique [graphic] / dessiné par Bounieu ; d'après un tableau fourni par M.le Marquis de la Fayette ; gravé par Chevillet Portrait engraving of George Washington. Washington's name is misspelled.	circa 1800
b. 13, f. 35-41	Barrell, Joseph	1778-1801, undated

### **Series III: JOURNALS, NOTEBOOKS, AND MISCELLANEA, 1757-1807**

*0.25 linear feet*

This series is arranged in three sections: Webb, Samuel Blachley; Leslie, Alexander; and Lyman, Phineas. Each is arranged alphabetically by the type of material.

Webb, Samuel Blachley		
b. 14, f. 42-43	Diary	1796-1803
b. 14, f. 44	Journal	1776-77
b. 14, f. 45	Journal of orders	1776 June 21- August 8
b. 14, f. 46	Notebooks	1775-1807
b. 14, f. 47	Leslie, Alexander, orderly book	1776
b. 14, f. 48	Lyman, Phineas, orders	1757



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## Appendix: List of Correspondents

Alexander, William (Lord Stirling), 1726-1783  
Alsop, John, 1730-1794  
Ames, Fisher, 1758-1808  
Axtell, Willam, 1720-1795  
Babcock, Henry, 1736-1800  
Bache, Theopylact, 1734-1807  
Bancker, Sarah, 1731-1785  
Barrell, Joseph, 1740-1804  
Bard, Dr. Samuel, 1742-1821  
Baylor, George 1752-1784  
Bayard, James Isheton, 1767-1815  
Bayard, Nicholas, 1736-1802  
Beatty, John, 1749-1826  
Beekman, John, 1720-1774  
Beers, Nathan, 1753-1849  
Biddle, Clement, 1740-1814  
Broome, John, 1738-1810  
Bulfinch, Dr. Thomas, 1728-1802  
Burr, Aaron, 1756-1836  
Campbell, Sir Archibald, 1739-1791  
Charlton, John 1736-1806  
Chenevard, John, 1733-1805  
Clarkson, Matthew. 1759-1825  
Clinton, Gov. George, 1739-1812  
Cochran, Dr, John, 1730-1807  
Cogsvell, Thomas, 1740-1810  
Constable, William, 1752-1803  
Crevecoeur, Michel Guillaume St. Jean de,  
Dalton, Tristran, 1738-1817  
Deane, Silas, 1737-1789  
Dering, Sylvester, 1758-1820  
Dexter, John Singer, 1764-1844  
Duane, James, 1733-1797  
Duert William, 1747-1799  
Durkee, John, 1728-1782  
Duyckinck, James, 1741-1822  
Duyckinck, John, 1734-1812  
Fish, Nicholas, 1758-1833  
Flint, Royal, 1754-1797  
Freeman, Jonathan, 1745-1808  
Caine, Hugh, 1726-1807  
Gates, Gen. Horatio, 1728-1806  
Goodrich, Elihu Chauncey, 1764-1802  
Greene, Nathanael, 1742-1786  
Griffin, Cyrus, 1748-1810  
Hamilton, Alexander, 1757-1804  
Hand, Edward, 1744-1802  
Harrison, Richard, 1760-1841  
Harrison, Robert Hanson, 1745-1790  
Hazen, Moses, 1733-1802  
Heath, William, 1737-1814  
Hindman, William, 1743-1822  
Hodgden, Samuel d.1824  
Hogeboom Stephen, 1744-1814

Hosmer, Hezekiah Lord, 1765-1814  
Hosmer, Titus, 1736-1780  
Houstoun, Jolm, 1744-1796  
Howe, Major Gen. Robert, d.1785  
Hubbard, Nehemiah, 1732-1837  
Hwnphreys, David, 1752-1818  
Huntington, Ebenezer, 1754-1834  
Huntington, Jedidiah, 1743-1818  
Imley, William, 1743-1807  
Izard, Henry, 1771-1826  
Jackson, Henry, 1747-1809  
Jackson, James, 1757-1806  
Jay, Mary, 1736-1824  
Keen, John, 1756-1795  
Keese, John, 1755-1809  
King, Rufus, 1755-1827  
Lee, Henry, 1756-1818  
L'Enfant, Peter Charles, 1755-1825  
leonard, Rev. Abiel, 1740-1778  
Leslie, Alexander, 1740-1794  
Livingston, Catharine Ridley, 1751-1813  
Livingston, Edward, 1764-1836  
Livingston, Henry, 1752-1823  
Livingston, Henry Brockholst, 1757-1823  
Livingston, Henry Walter, 1768-1810  
Livingston, John R., 1755-1851  
Livingston, Philip, 1740-1810  
Livingston, Philip, 1741-1787  
Livingston, Chancellor Robert R., 1746-1813  
Livingston, Walter, 1740-1797  
Livingston, Gov. William, 1723-1790  
Livingston, William, Jr., 1754-1817  
Livingston, William Smith, 1755-1790  
Loudon, Samuel, 1727-1813  
Loring, Joshua, 1737-1789  
Ludlow, Daniel, 1750-1814  
McDougall, Alexander, 1731-1786  
McEvers, Charles, 1739-1809  
Middleton, Henry, 1770-1846  
Mifflin, Thomas, 1744-1800  
Moore, Benjamin, 1748-1816  
Morris, Jacob, 1755-1844  
Morris, Lewis, Jr., 1750-1824  
Morris, lewis Richard, 1760-1825  
Morris, Richard, 1730-1810  
Moustier, Eleonore Francois Elie, marquis de, 1751-1817  
Mumford, Thomas, 1728-1779  
Murray, Lindley, 1745-1826  
Olcott, George, 1751-1841  
Otis, Samuel Alleyne, 1740-1814  
Parsons, Samuel Holden, 1737-1789  
Philipse, Frederick, 1746-1785  
Phillips, William, 1731-1781  
Pickering Timothy, 1745-1829  
Pinckney, Charles, 1758-1824  
Pintard, Lewis, 1732-1818

Platt, Hiehard, 1764-1832  
Reed, Joseph, 1741-1785  
Remsen, Henry, 1736-1792  
Roosevelt, Isaac, 1726-1794  
Sands, Cornelia (Lott), 1761-1856  
Sage, Comfort, 1731-1799  
Sargent, Winthrop, 1753-1820  
Sehuyler, Philip Jeremias, 1768-1835  
Schuyler, Philip -John, 1733-1804  
Sears, Isaac, 1729-1786  
Simpson, John, 1730-1777  
Sitgreaves, John, 1740-1802  
Skinner, Abraham, 1750-1825  
Smith, Janet, 1730-1819  
Smith, Thoms, 1745-1809  
Smith, William, 1728-1793  
Smith, William Stephens, 1755-1816  
Splight, Richard obbs, 1758-1802  
Spencer, Ambrose, 1765-1848  
Steuben, Frederick William Augustus Henry Ferdinand von, 1730-1794  
Stevens, John, 1749-1838  
Stewart, Col. Walter, 1756-1796  
Sullivan, James, 1744-1808  
Suillvan, John, 1740-1795  
Swan, James, 1754-1881  
Swift, Heman, 1733-1814  
Tallmadge, Benjamin, 1754-1835  
Temple, Sir John, 1732-1798  
Tilghnnn, Tench, 1744-1786  
Thomas, David, 1762-1831  
Thompson, William, 1725-1781  
Trumbull, John, 1756-1843  
Trumbull, Jonathan, 1710-1785  
Trumbull, Jonathan, 1740-1809  
Tudor, Elihu, 1732-1826  
Van Cortlandt, Augustus, b.1728  
Varnum, James Mitchell, 1748-1789  
Verplanck, Guilan, 1750-1799  
Wadsworth, Jeremiah, 1743-1804  
Walker, Robert, 1745-1810  
Walton, Gerard, 1741-1821  
Waddington, Joshua, 1755-1844  
Walton, William, 1731-1796  
Washington, George, 1732-1799  
Washington, Martha Curtis, 1732-1802  
Watson, James, 1750-1806  
Watts, John, 1749-1836  
Webb, Catherine Hogeboom, 1765-1805  
Webb, Joseph, 1700-1791  
Webb, Mehitabel, 1757-1796  
Wignall, Thomas, 1753-1803  
Williams, Otho Holland, 1749-1794  
Williams, Samuel William, 1752-1812  
Wimple, Walter Vrooman, 1751-1798  
Winslow, John, 1753-1819

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## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### Subjects

Husband and wife  
Merchants

### Geographic Names

New York (State) -- Economic conditions  
Peekskill (N.Y.) -- History  
United States -- History -- Colonial period, ca.  
1600-1775  
United States -- History -- Revolution,  
1775-1783

### Genres / Formats

Account books  
Diaries

### Occupations

Soldiers

### Names

Ames, Fisher, 1758-1808  
Barrell, Joseph, 1739-1804  
Deane, Silas, 1737-1789  
Greene, Nathanael, 1742-1786  
Hamilton, Alexander, 1757-1804  
Heath, William, 1737-1814  
Livingston, Brockholst, 1757-1823  
Livingston, Edward, 1764-1836  
McDougall, Alexander, 1732-1786  
Morris, Lewis, 1754-1824  
Morris, Robert, 1734-1806  
Otis, Samuel Allyne, 1740-1814  
Pickering, Timothy, 1745-1829  
Pinckney, Charles, 1757-1824  
Pintard, Lewis, 1732-1818  
Spencer, Ambrose, 1765-1848  
Steuben, Friedrich Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard  
Augustin, Baron von, 1730-1794  
Trumbull, Jonathan, 1710-1785  
Wadsworth, Jeremiah, 1743-1804  
Washington, George, 1732-1799  
Webb, Samuel Blachley, 1753-1807