

Yale University Library
Lewis Walpole Library

Guide to the Thomas Walpole Family Papers

LWL MSS 16



by Sandra Markham

November 2021

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Collection Overview

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CALL NUMBER: LWL MSS 16

CREATOR: Erskine, Thomas Erskine, Baron, 1750-1823

TITLE: Thomas Walpole Family Papers

DATES: 1751-1972

BULK DATES: 1765-1835

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3.63 linear feet (10 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English (Latin script)

SUMMARY: The Thomas Walpole Family Papers contain approximately 400 letters and other papers, mostly dating from the 1760s through the 1830s, that document the commercial, financial, political, legal, and diplomatic ventures of four generations of one branch of the Walpole family in England, being Thomas Walpole (1727-1803), his sons Thomas Walpole (1755-1840) and Lambert Theodore Walpole (1757-1798), grandson Spencer Horatio Walpole (1806-1898), and great-grandson Sir Spencer Walpole (1839-1907).

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Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/lwl.mss.016>.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from John Wilson Manuscripts Ltd., 2012 and 2015.

Custodial History

The Thomas Walpole Family Papers descended through the family, from Thomas Walpole (1727–1803) to his son Thomas Walpole (1755–1840), then to his son Spencer Horatio Walpole (1806–1898) and to his son Sir Spencer Walpole (1839–1907). They were then inherited by his daughter Maud Constant Walpole (1870–1947) and her husband Francis Caldwell Holland (1865–1948). The Hollands had no children and the papers were left to their nephew David Cuthbert Lyall Holland (1915–2007), the son of Francis Holland's brother Michael James Holland (1870–1956). D. C. L. Holland joined the staff at the Library of the House of Commons in 1945, became the Librarian in 1967, and retired in 1976.

Conditions Governing Access

This material is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Thomas Walpole Family Papers. The Lewis Walpole Library, Yale University.

Thomas Walpole (1727–1803)

Thomas Walpole, a British merchant, banker, and politician, was born October 6, 1727, the third child and second son of Horatio Walpole of Wolterton (1678–1757) and Mary Magdalen Lombard Walpole (1695–1783). He was educated at Eton, and in 1750 married Elizabeth Vanneck, the eldest daughter of Sir Joshua Vanneck, a wealthy dealer in diamonds and tobacco. The couple had five children before Elizabeth Walpole's death at age 27 in 1760: Thomas (1753–1755), Thomas (1755–1840), Catherine (1756–1816), Lambert (1757–1798) and Elizabeth (1759–1842).

Walpole was a Member of Parliament for Sudbury (1754–1761), Ashburton (1761–1768), and King's Lynn (1768–1784), and amassed a fortune while in partnership with his father-in-law between 1750 and 1766; he was also a director of the East India Company from 1753 to 1754. In 1766 he formed a banking firm with Robert Ellison and in 1769 began a partnership with Samuel Wharton and Benjamin Franklin, among others, as the Grand Ohio Company (also known as the Vandalia Company or the Walpole Company) which sought to buy from the Crown a large tract of land in America to open for development.

A cascade of financial reversals began for Walpole in the early 1770s, including instability in the French tobacco monopoly that affected his contracts, the American Revolution which halted his American real estate prospects, and a series of credit and banking collapses that eventually ensnared the Edinburgh banking firm of William Alexander, whose paper was held by Walpole and Ellison. In 1780 Walpole moved to Paris and remained there for nearly ten years negotiating settlements and attempting to regain control of Alexander's estates in Grenada and Tobago which he had received as security. While there, with the backing of French finance minister Jacques Necker, he also endeavored to perform diplomatic work with the Americans and the French but did not meet with much success.

By 1782 Walpole was forced to sell his fine art and book collections, and in 1785, his homes at Carshalton in Surrey and in Lincoln's Inn Fields, London. In 1787 Walpole married Jeanne Marguerite Bataille de Montval, the Countess de Villegagnon (1730–1821) and was able to return with her to England in October 1789 supported by a small pension offered by the Bank of England. He bought a Tudor-era house (known since as Walpole House) on Chiswick Mall along the Thames River, where he died on March 21, 1803.

A comprehensive biographical profile of Thomas Walpole, written by his great-grandson Henry Spencer Wade-Walpole (1837–1913) and detailing his financial affairs, was published in *The Genealogical Magazine*, vol. 2, for January 1899 (p. 390-396) and February 1899 (p. 433-435). See also the biographical essays in Series V, Box 8, folders 11–15.

Thomas Walpole (1755–1840)

Thomas Walpole, a lawyer and diplomat, was the eldest son of Thomas and Elizabeth Vanneck Walpole. He was born on May 23, 1755, educated at Eton and at Trinity College, Cambridge. Walpole was appointed by Charles James Fox as the British minister to the Court of Bavaria, where he served from 1783 to 1797. During that time, he was also engaged in helping his father work through his financial entanglements and regularly traveled to Paris and England in his interest.

Soon after the death of his father in 1803, Walpole married Margaret Perceval (1769–1854), a sister of Prime Minister Spencer Perceval and the eighth and youngest daughter of John Perceval, Earl of Egmont, and his second wife Catherine Compton, Baroness Arden. The couple had seven children, Catherine (1804–1876), Thomas (1805–1881), Spencer (1806–1898), Sophia (1807–1900), Robert (1808–1876), John (1810–1892), and Charles (1813–1899), who were raised at Stagbury, near Banstead in Surrey, in a home Walpole had purchased in 1797. He died at Stagbury on November 3, 1840.

Lambert Theodore Walpole (1757–1798)

Lambert Theodore Walpole was born in London on December 28, 1757, to Thomas Walpole and Elizabeth Vanneck, and was named for his maternal great-uncle Lambert Vanneck. On April 11, 1780, he married Margaretta Charlotte Clive (1763–1814), the daughter of Robert Clive, Baron Clive; the couple had two children, Frances Margaretta Walpole (1788–1886) and Charlotte Louisa Walpole (1790–1887).

Walpole was educated at Lochee's Military Academy in Chelsea and entered the army as an ensign in 1775. He was promoted to lieutenant in 1778, lieutenant colonel in 1794, and full colonel on January 1, 1798. Walpole and his troop of foot soldiers died at the Battle of Toberanierin, on June 4, 1798, when they were ambushed by United Irish rebels. Their bodies were buried where they fell, but were subsequently disinterred and reinterred in the graveyard at the second Church of Ireland in Market Square at the center of Gorey, County Wexford, where a memorial tablet for Walpole was placed inside the church. The tablet was moved to the newly built Christ Church in 1861 when the Market Square church was demolished; the bodies remain in the Market Square Graveyard.

Spencer Horatio Walpole (1806–1898)

Spencer Horatio Walpole, British politician, was the second son of Thomas and Margaret Perceval Walpole. He was born at Epsom, Surrey, on September 11, 1806, and was named after his maternal uncle, Spencer Perceval, the Prime Minister assassinated in 1812. He was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge (BA 1828, MA 1831, Hon. LLD 1860), and in 1835 married his cousin Isabella Perceval (1801–1886), Spencer Perceval's fourth daughter.

Walpole had a career in law, and served as a Member of Parliament for Midhurst, Sussex, from 1846 to 1856, and for the University of Cambridge from 1856 to 1882. He was appointed Home Secretary three times, 1852, 1858–1859, 1866. He died on May 22, 1898.

Sir Spencer Walpole (1839–1907)

Sir Spencer Walpole, British historian, was the eldest son of Spencer Horatio Walpole and Isabella Perceval. He was born in London on February 2, 1839. After attending Eton, he began a career in civil service as a clerk in the War Office that culminated in appointments to Lieutenant Governor of the Isle of Man (1882–1893) and secretary to the Post Office (1893–1899). In 1867 he married Marion Jane Murray (1841–1912), the

daughter of Sir John Digby Murray and Frances Bold. The couple had a son, Spencer Digby (1869–1871), and a daughter, Maud Constance (1870–1947), who married Francis Caldwell Holland in 1897.

In addition to being the family historian, Walpole was the author of several books including two-volume biographies of his grandfather Spencer Perceval (1874) and Lord John Russell (1889), histories of England, and *Some Unpublished Letters of Horace Walpole* (London, New York, and Bombay: Longmans, Green, and Co., 1902), based on the correspondence in the Thomas Walpole Family Papers. Walpole died at Hartfield Grove, East Sussex, on July 7, 1907.

Scope and Contents

The Thomas Walpole Family Papers contain approximately 400 letters and other papers, mostly dating from the 1760s through the 1830s, that document the commercial, financial, political, legal, and diplomatic ventures of four generations of one branch of the British Walpole family, being Thomas Walpole (1727-1803), his sons Thomas Walpole (1755-1840) and Lambert Theodore Walpole (1757-1798), grandson Spencer Horatio Walpole (1806-1898), and great-grandson Sir Spencer Walpole (1839-1907). The papers of Thomas Walpole and his son Thomas predominate, revealing the details of the senior Walpole's financial misfortunes, as well as providing valuable insights into British perceptions of the American Revolutionary War. Walpole's diplomatic ambitions during peace negotiations between Britain and France in the early 1780s are reflected in the groups of letters sent by Jacques Necker, Charles James Fox, Lord North, and Lord Shelburne. Other important correspondents include his cousin Horace Walpole; the chemist and spy Edward Bancroft, and several political allies. The papers of Lambert Theodore Walpole document his involvement and death in the Irish Rebellion of 1798. The remainder of the collection consists of family letters of Spencer Horatio Walpole and papers related to the publishing efforts of his son Sir Spencer Walpole.

Arrangement

Organized into six series: I. Thomas Walpole (1727-1803) Papers, 1762–1801. II. Thomas Walpole (1755-1840) and Margaret Perceval Walpole (1769–1854) Papers, 1772-1838. III. Lambert Theodore Walpole (1757–1798) Papers, 1780-1798. IV. Spencer Horatio Walpole (1806-1898) Papers, 1822-1866. V. Sir Spencer Walpole (1839–1907) Family Papers, 1901-1972. VI. Other Papers, 1751-1830.

Collection Contents

Series I: Thomas Walpole (1727–1803) Papers, 1762–1801

0.84 linear feet (2 boxes)

The series contains more than two hundred fifty letters to and from Thomas Walpole, spanning nearly his adult life and with content encompassing his personal, business, financial activities. Among the correspondents most heavily represented are Walpole's political and personal friends Charles Pratt, Earl of Camden, and his daughter Frances Pratt Stewart, and William and Hester Pitt, the Earl and Countess of Chatham. A group of letters from the American entrepreneur/chemist/spy Edward Bancroft and his colleague André Limozin document Walpole's interest in trade and diplomacy. Significant letters from family members include those of Walpole's brother Robert, writing from his position as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary in Portugal, and their prominent cousin, the noted collector and antiquarian Horace Walpole. Thomas Walpole's letters to his son Thomas are in Series II, and letters to and from his son Lambert Theodore Walpole are in Series III.

Many of Walpole's political and diplomatic peers can be found in the series, including Jacques Necker, the Duke and Duchess of Newcastle, and Lord Frederick North. The fifteen letters from barrister John Mitford, later Baron Redesdale, primarily focus on Walpole family finances. A single letter at the end of the series, sent from an unidentified correspondent that may be Col. Thomas Aubrey, mentions the failed plan of British spy Major John André.

The subseries Documents and Personal Papers contains a printed argument for Walpole's American real estate plans, his notes on prospects of peace negotiations, and two annotated copies of a printed catalogue from the sale of his art collection in 1782.

Series I is organized into two subseries: Correspondence, and Documents and Personal Papers.

Correspondence

Bancroft, Edward, 1745–1821

Bancroft was an American physician, scientist, and author. After some years living in South America he moved to London in the 1760s and was elected a fellow of the Royal Society in 1773. He worked as a translator and a spy for both the Americans and the British during the American Revolution, and served as secretary to the American Commission in Paris. After the Revolution Bancroft became known for his work to formulate and promote quercitron dye made from the inner bark of American Eastern Black Oak trees. He died in Margate, Kent, in 1821.

The folders hold more than thirty letters to Walpole written between 1780 and 1793, with two replies from Walpole in June 1786. Bancroft's letter of June 28, 1780, is partly written in code, and his letter of February 19, 1785, contains fair copy of a letter Bancroft received from Lord Camden. Also present are printed and manuscript documents related to Bancroft's work with American oak bark for use in creating dye, and letters to Bancroft from André Limozin, the American commercial agent for Le Havre.

b. 1, f. 1-2	Letters to and from Thomas Walpole	1775–1793, undated
b. 1, f. 3	Letters from André Limozin	1785–1786
b. 1, f. 4	Berard & Co.	1786 June 5

Correspondence (continued)

b. 1, f. 5	Bunbury, Thomas Charles, Sir, 1740–1821 Letter expressing Bunbury's deep interest in the fate of Grenada and estates there.	1781 May 17
b. 1, f. 6–7	Camden, Charles Pratt, Earl, 1714–1794 In forty letters filed here, Camden discusses personal and political news, the American Declaration of Independence and Revolutionary War, Walpole's attempts to negotiate peace between Britain and France in 1782, the Vandalia project (1776), the Gordon Riots (1780), and Walpole's financial difficulties.	1766–1791
b. 1, f. 8	Castries, Charles Eugène Gabriel de La Croix, marquis de, 1727–1801 Translation of a letter from Castries, as Secretary of State to the Navy, to Walpole about reprisals against British West India merchants following the capture of St. Eustatius.	1781 April 19
b. 1, f. 9	Doret, Madame Doret was the sister of Walpole's second wife Jeanne Marguerite Bataille de Montval, Comtesse de Villegagnon (1730–1821).	1789 December 7
b. 1, f. 10	Fitzwilliam, William Wentworth Fitzwilliam, Earl, 1748–1833	1787 September 20
b. 1, f. 11	Fox, Charles James, 1749–1806 Four letters from Fox asking Walpole to negotiate with the Marquis de Castries on restitution to injured parties in Grenada, and discussing Walpole's role in peace negotiations.	1782
b. 1, f. 12	Kerrick, Thomas, 1748–1828	1801 December 26
b. 1, f. 13	Killett, William Letter regarding the sale of American Black Oak tree bark.	1786 May 19
b. 1, f. 14	Limozin, André Limozin was the American commercial agent for Le Havre. He also provided naval intelligence and information about American prisoners. Letters regarding Edward Bancroft and various shipments.	1786
b. 1, f. 15	Moore, William Moore was the steward for Walpole's cousin once removed, George Walpole, Lord Orford (1730–1791), and wrote with reports on Walpole's precarious health.	1773
b. 1, f. 16	Necker, Jacques, 1732–1804 In eight letters, Necker discusses the chances of French involvement in the American Revolution, and various issues of British and French diplomacy and finance. Also mentioned is the engagement of Necker's daughter Anne Louise (later Anne Louise Germaine de Staël–Holstein, 1766–1817).	1776–1792
b. 1, f. 17	Necker, Suzanne Curchod, 1737–1794	1789–1790
b. 1, f. 18	Newcastle, Henrietta Pelham-Holles, Duchess of, 1701–1776	1763 January 14

Correspondence (continued)

b. 1, f. 19	Newcastle, Thomas Pelham-Holles, Duke of, 1693–1768 In nine letters to his friend Walpole, the Duke of Newcastle speaks candidly of the Earl of Bute, Duke of Devonshire, Charles Townshend, liberty of speech, the end of Walpole's Gibraltar contract, and political alliances.	1762–1764
b. 1, f. 20	North, Frederick, Lord, 1732–1792 Three letters from Walpole to North and one reply from North regarding peace negotiations with France. Two pages of North's letter to Walpole, dated October 31, 1780, were redacted, and it is accompanied by a fair copy in another hand.	1780
b. 1, f. 21	Nuthall, Thomas, 1715–1775 Nuthall was solicitor to the East India Company, and to the Treasury (1765–1775).	1767 May 12
b. 1, f. 22	Pitt, Hester Grenville, Countess of Chatham, 1720–1803 Seventeen letters from Lady Chatham to Walpole, with two replies, primarily concerning the resale of Walpole's estate at Hayes back to the Chathams.	1767–1768
b. 1, f. 23	Pitt, William, Earl of Chatham, 1708–1778	1766–1778
b. 1, f. 24	Redesdale, John Mitford, Baron, 1748–1830 Mitford was a barrister and jurist; his wife was Frances (Fanny) Perceval (1767–1817), the daughter of John Perceval, Earl of Egmont. The fifteen letters filed here mainly concern legal and financial matters mostly related to Walpole's West Indies interests.	1786–1793
b. 1, f. 25	Richmond and Lennox, Charles Lennox, Duke of, 1735–1806	1780 July 16
b. 1, f. 26	Sackville, George Germain, Viscount, 1716–1785 A copy of a letter from Walpole to Sackville requesting the Marquis de Castries's case be considered to avoid reprisals against British West Indies merchants.	1781 April 20
b. 1, f. 27	Southampton, Charles Fitzroy, Baron, 1737–1797	1782 February 26
b. 2, f. 1–2	Stewart, Frances Pratt, 1750–1833 Frances Pratt was the daughter of Thomas Walpole's good friend Charles Pratt, Earl of Camden. In 1775 she married Robert Stewart (1739–1821), first Marquess of Londonderry, and lived at Bangor, County Down, in Northern Ireland. In 1781, they moved with their children to Mount Stewart, the family seat near Newtownards, County Down. In thirty-nine letters, Stewart writes about her life in Ireland, personal matters, and the death of her father in 1794.	1776–1795
b. 2, f. 3	Temple, Richard Grenville-Temple, Earl, 1711–1779	1764
b. 2, f. 4	Townshend, Charles, 1725–1767 Four letters about his political motives and various grievances.	1764
b. 2, f. 5	Walpole, Elizabeth, 1759–1842 Walpole was the youngest of Thomas Walpole's five children.	no year July 18

Correspondence (continued)

b. 2, f. 6–8	Walpole, Horace, 1717–1797 Walpole was a cousin of Thomas Walpole. The son of Robert Walpole (1676–1745), he was an antiquarian collector and author who lived in London and at Strawberry Hill in Twickenham, Middlesex. Twenty-six letters from Horace Walpole to his cousin Thomas Walpole, who was then living in Paris, with a draft of a reply (circa September 11, 1773). The letters discuss current political events in England and America, as well as personal affairs including family matters and book collecting. Thomas Walpole served as a communication link between Horace Walpole and his great Parisian friend Marie du Deffand, who was elderly and infirm. She died on September 23, 1780, leaving her papers to Horace Walpole, and letters after that time cover the negotiations concerning that bequest. Twenty-two of the letters were published by Sir Spencer Walpole in <i>Some Unpublished Letters of Horace Walpole</i> (1902) as numbers 1–18, 20–22, and 29.	1766–1790
b. 2, f. 9	Walpole, Horatio, 1723–1809 Walpole was the older brother of Thomas Walpole.	1768–1773
b. 2, f. 10	Walpole, Horatio, 1752–1822 Walpole was the son of Thomas Walpole's brother Horatio (1723–1809), and was helping his uncle sell his houses in London and at Carshalton, Surrey.	[1780s]
b. 2, f. 11–15	Walpole, Robert, 1736–1810 Walpole was the youngest brother of Thomas Walpole; he served as secretary of the British embassy in Paris, and afterwards envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary at Lisbon, Portugal (1768–1801). Fifty-seven letters from Robert Walpole to his brother, sent from Madrid, Aranjuez, Paris, and Lisbon, concerning government affairs, the British and French navies, and family matters.	1767–1769, 1780
b. 2, f. 16	Unidentified author to Walpole Unsigned letter sent to Walpole mentioning British Army Major John André (1751–1780), captured and hanged as a spy in Tappan, New York, on October 2, 1780. From the sender's wax seal, he may be a member of the Aubrey family, possibly Col. Thomas Aubrey (1740–1814).	1780 November 17
b. 2, f. 17	Walpole to an unidentified recipient In a draft undated letter, Walpole writes to someone who was in Jamaica during the Great Hurricane in October 1780, and comments about Grenada and the Marquis de Castries.	[1780 fall]
Documents and Personal Papers		
b. 2, f. 18	<i>Considerations on the Agreement of the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury</i> (London: 1774) Printed pamphlet regarding plans by Walpole and associates for the development of lands along the south bank of the Ohio River. Their Grand Ohio Company was also known as the Vandalia Company or the Walpole Company, and never achieved success.	1774

Documents and Personal Papers (continued)

b. 2, f. 19	Certificate of birth and parentage Autograph manuscript in French, signed and sealed by John Frederick Sackville, Duke of Dorset, ambassador to France (1784–1789), attesting to Walpole's birthdate and lineage.	1787 June 8
b. 2, f. 20	Paris notes Four pages of notes taken by Walpole upon his arrival in Paris about relations between America, France, and Spain, the role of John Adams and Benjamin Franklin, and conversations with Jacques Necker about Jean-Frédéric Phélypeaux, Comte de Maurepas, and peace negotiations.	1780 July
b. 2, f. 21	Catalogues for sale of Walpole's art collection Two copies of the catalogue describing art from his homes in Surrey and London, annotated with prices realized.	1782 March

Series II: Thomas Walpole (1755–1840) and Margaret Perceval Walpole (1769–1854) Papers, 1772–1838

1.04 linear feet (3 boxes)

The papers in the series cover the adult lives of Thomas and Margaret Perceval Walpole in more than one hundred fifty letters and a variety of diplomatic, legal, and personal documents. The Correspondence subseries holds letters to both Thomas and Margaret Walpole, with those to him largely concerning the financial and legal affairs of his father. A significant group of letters in the series are the nearly ninety that Walpole received from his father in the two decades after his financial troubles began in 1772. An important correspondent here, as in Series I, is John Mitford, a barrister, jurist, and later Baron Redesdale, who worked closely with the family, and whose wife's sister married Walpole in 1803. There are also several letters from longtime family friend Charles Pratt, Earl of Camden, and four from his son John Jeffreys Pratt, including one notifying Walpole of the death of his brother Lambert Theodore Walpole in Ireland in 1798. Letters from Lambert Walpole to Thomas Walpole are filed in Series III.

Other family writers are present: various Walpole siblings, cousins, children, and Thomas Walpole's great-uncle, the collector and antiquarian Horace Walpole. The three Horatio Walpoles are three generations of one family: an uncle, first cousin, and first cousin once removed. Also here are letters from several members of the Perceval family, including Margaret's siblings, her brother Spencer Perceval, and his widow Jane; letters from Jane are dated before and after she, against Thomas Walpole's advice, married Sir Henry Carr in 1815.

The second subseries, Documents and Personal Papers, contains three documents with diplomatic instructions issued by George III and Baron Grenville, and a memento from Walpole's school days in the form of a notebook that had belonged to Thomas Erskine, Baron Erskine, while he was a student at Trinity College. Walpole's concerns about his father's finances are shown in a small notebook where he recorded his thoughts on assets, values, and options for clearing family debt. Also here are documents related to the estates of his father (1803) and his aunt Henrietta Walpole (1824).

Series II is organized into two subseries: Correspondence, and Documents and Personal Papers.

Correspondence

b. 3, f. 1	Appleyard, Robert Langley, 1765–1843 In addition to letters from Appleyard, the folder holds a report from Walpole's agent in Grenada, John Berkeley, and a letter from Henry E. Sharpe in Grenada to Appleyard, both forwarded from Appleyard to Walpole.	1822–1829
b. 3, f. 2	Arden, Charles George Perceval, Baron, 1756–1840 Arden was the brother of Margaret Perceval Walpole.	1787–1835
b. 3, f. 3	Bancroft, Edward, 1745–1821	1781, 1793
b. 3, f. 4	Bicknell, Robert	undated
b. 3, f. 5	Biddulph, Charles, 1753–1821 Biddulph, of Burton Park, Chichester, was the son of Charles Biddulph of Biddulph, Staffordshire. He died unmarried in Antwerp, Belgium, on July 3, 1821. Biddulph writes from Bologna of several books he is buying in Italy and of affairs in Corsica.	1794 April 26
b. 3, f. 6	Camden, Charles Pratt, Earl, 1714–1794	1781–1787

Correspondence (continued)

b. 3, f. 7	Camden, John Jeffreys Pratt, Marquis of, 1759–1840 In two of the four letters present here, Camden informs Walpole of the death of his brother Lambert, and confirms that his body was likely buried by the rebels.	1795–1798
b. 3, f. 8	Carr, Jane Wilson Perceval, 1769–1844 Jane Wilson Perceval was the wife of Prime Minister Spencer Perceval (1762–1812), the brother of Walpole’s wife Margaret. As a widow, she married Lieut. Colonel Sir Henry William Carr, K.C.B. (1777–1821). In a series of eleven letters sent between Thomas Walpole and Jane Perceval, Walpole attempted to warn the widow against a marriage with Sir Henry Carr (1777–1821). In his last letter to her, Walpole asked for his letters to be returned; she obliged, and married Carr on January 12, 1815.	1806–1835
b. 3, f. 9	Drummond, Elizabeth	1805 October 2
b. 3, f. 10	Drummond, Mary Perceval, 1758–1839 Drummond was the sister of Margaret Perceval Walpole, and the wife of Andrew Berkeley Drummond (1755–1833).	1803–1830
b. 3, f. 11	Egmont, John Perceval, Earl of, 1738–1822 Egmont was the father of Margaret Walpole.	1805
b. 3, f. 12	Everest & Bell	1837 August 2
b. 3, f. 13	Gordon, Harriot	1811, 1825
b. 3, f. 14	Keith, Robert Murray, Sir, 1730–1795 Keith was the British envoy to Austria from 1772 to 1792, and writes from Vienna with matters of European intelligence.	1784, 1788
b. 3, f. 15	Keppel, Edward S.	1835, 1837
b. 3, f. 16	Mitford, William, 1744–1827 Mitford was the brother of John Mitford, Baron Redesdale, the husband of Margaret Walpole’s sister Frances (Fanny) Perceval.	1805 October 5
b. 3, f. 17	Morrison, G.	1803 November 5
b. 3, f. 18	Nevile, Caroline	1824 July 20
b. 3, f. 19	Northwick, John Rushout, Baron, 1770–1859	undated
b. 3, f. 20	Nustingfields	1818, undated
b. 3, f. 21	Perceval, Elizabeth, –1846 Perceval was the sister of Margaret Walpole.	1795–1817
b. 3, f. 22	Perceval, M. C. M. C. Perceval was likely Margaret Cecil Perceval (–1850), the daughter of Margaret Walpole’s older half-brother Edward Perceval (1744–1829),	1826 January 19

Correspondence (continued)

b. 3, f. 23	Perceval, Spencer, 1762–1812 Perceval was the brother of Margaret Walpole; he was a solicitor and served as attorney general and Chancellor of the Exchequer, before becoming Prime Minister (1809–1812).	1805
b. 3, f. 24	Redesdale, John Mitford, Baron, 1748–1830 Mitford was a barrister and jurist; his wife was Frances (Fanny) Perceval (1767–1817), the daughter of John Perceval, Earl of Egmont, and sister of Walpole’s wife Margaret Perceval. In twenty-one letters to Thomas Walpole, Redesdale discusses politics and family matters, including the estate of Walpole’s stepmother Jeanne Marguerite Bataille de Montval, Comtesse de Villegagnon, who died in 1821.	1791–1824
b. 3, f. 25	Townshend, A. One letter regarding the death of Charles Fox Townshend (1795–1817).	1817 April 2
b. 3, f. 26	Vade-Walpole, John, 1810–1892 Vade-Walpole was the son of Thomas and Margaret Walpole.	1830
b. 3, f. 27	Villiers, John Charles, 1757–1838 (?) Letter about the motion against Francis Burdett; signature may be that of J. C. Villiers.	1810 April 4
b. 3, f. 28	Walpole, Charlotte Louisa, 1790–1887 Letter from Margaret Walpole to her niece, the daughter of Theodore Lambert Walpole.	1837 July 16
b. 3, f. 29	Walpole children to their parents Letters written by two or more young children on the same letter sheet.	1824, undated
b. 3, f. 30	Walpole, Edward	1824
b. 3, f. 31	Walpole, Elizabeth, 1759–1842 Walpole was the youngest sister of Thomas Walpole. The letter was also signed by her sister-in-law Margaretta Clive Walpole (1763–1814), wife of Lambert Theodore Walpole.	1788 August 16
b. 3, f. 32	Walpole, George, 1758–1835 Walpole was a cousin of Thomas Walpole, and the son of his brother Horatio Walpole.	1812–1824
b. 3, f. 33	Walpole, Horace, 1717–1797 Seven of the eight letters here were published by Sir Spencer Walpole in <i>Some Unpublished Letters of Horace Walpole</i> (1902) as numbers 19, 23–26, 28, and 30.	1782–1792
b. 4, f. 1	Walpole, Horatio, 1723–1809	1798–1805
b. 4, f. 2	Walpole, Horatio, 1752–1822	1812, undated
b. 4, f. 3	Walpole, Horatio, 1783–1858	1812
b. 4, f. 4	Walpole, M. Two letters in different hands, both signed “M. Walpole.”	1805, undated

Correspondence (continued)

b. 4, f. 5	Walpole, Margaret Perceval, to her husband	1825 March 30
b. 4, f. 6	Walpole, Robert, 1736–1810	1805 October 17
b. 4, f. 7–10	Walpole, Spencer H. (Spencer Horatio), 1806–1898 Walpole was the third child, and second son, born to Thomas and Margaret Walpole.	1822–1838, undated
b. 4, f. 11–14	Walpole, Thomas, 1727–1803 In nearly ninety detailed letters to his eldest son, Thomas Walpole writes about his financial affairs, his estates in Grenada and Tobago, his work in Paris for peace negotiations, British and French politics, anecdotes about friends and colleagues, and many other topics, some regarding personal disappointments.	1772–1792
b. 4, f. 15	Walpole, Thomas, 1805–1881 Walpole was the second child, and first son, born to Thomas and Margaret Walpole. Also present is an 1835 letter from William Cockell, Attleburgh, to Rev. Walpole concerning the estate of his second cousin George Walpole (1758–1835) of Eccles.	1822–1837, undated
b. 5, f. 1	Windham, Charlotte	1805 October 6
b. 5, f. 2	Unidentified authors to Margaret Walpole	1817–1826, undated
b. 5, f. 3	Unidentified authors to Thomas Walpole	1827, 1828, undated
b. 5, f. 4	Unidentified recipient Letter marked "not sent" regarding the sale of the St. Georges estate in Grenada.	1829 August 15
Documents and Personal Papers		
Documents		
b. 5, f. 5	Instructions from King George III	1795 June 20
b. 5, f. 6	Instructions from William Wyndham Grenville, Baron Grenville	1795 July 6
b. 5, f. 7	Additional instructions from King George III	1792 January 27
Personal Papers		
b. 5, f. 8	Essay on the origin of the House of Commons, by Thomas Erskine, Baron Erskine, 1750–1823 A twenty-three page autograph manuscript, in marbled wrappers, written by Erskine as a student at Trinity College, and inscribed by him to the college master, Bishop John Hinchliffe. Thomas Walpole later inscribed his own name on the first page of the booklet.	1777 June

Documents and Personal Papers > Personal Papers (continued)

b. 5, f. 9	Notes on family finances and household values Small notebook with marbled wrappers in which Walpole noted arguments and options for clearing family debt related to the Alexanders and Ellison, with inventories of household goods and their values. The notes are undated but a loose card inside the front wrapper is dated May 15, 1781.	1780s
b. 5, f. 10	Handbills for real estate sales near Chipstead, Surrey Printed handbill for auction of freehold estate and Doghouse Farm near Chipstead (1799), and printed handbill and letter from Thomas Gale, of Gale and Son, regarding the sale of Stagbury House in Chipstead (1811).	1799, 1811
b. 5, f. 11	Legal opinion on distribution of Thomas Walpole's estate	1803
b. 5, f. 12	Inventory and correspondence regarding Henrietta Louise Walpole's estate Henrietta Walpole (1731–1824) was the aunt of Thomas Walpole.	1824
b. 5, f. 13	Lease of a field called Stackbury in Banstead Lease to Thomas Walpole from Henry and Elizabeth Spencer.	1829 February
b. 5, f. 14	<i>Letter of the Honourable Horace Walpole</i> (London: 1833) Two copies of a letter from Horace Walpole to his brother-in-law Charles Churchill (1720–1812) that was privately published by Thomas Walpole's cousin Robert Walpole (1781–1856).	1833

Series III: Lambert Theodore Walpole (1757–1798) Papers, 1780–1798

0.21 linear feet (1 box)

The series holds correspondence and documents related to the life and military career of Lambert Walpole, who died in battle at age forty. Due to their focused content, primarily related to Irish politics and military engagements, the material was kept together as it had arrived at the library. The correspondence subseries contains letters both to and from his father and brother; condolence letters sent to those men are filed in Series I and II.

Series III is organized into two subseries: Correspondence, and Documents and Personal Papers.

Correspondence

b. 6, f. 1	Walpole, Thomas, 1727–1803 Five letters to his father, with one reply.	1795–1797
b. 6, f. 2–3	Walpole, Thomas, 1755–1840 Of the twenty letters to his brother Thomas, eight were written from Dublin Castle, the last on May 22, 1798. Also present are three letters from Thomas, dated August 21, 1795, and January 3 and April 27, 1798.	1781–1798

Documents and Personal Papers

b. 6, f. 4	Marriage settlement with the Clive family	[1780]
b. 6, f. 5	“Statement of the Transactions at Naas” Manuscript account, signed by Walpole, of negotiations at Naas, County Kildare, between General Ralph Dundas and the Irish rebels over May 26 and 27, 1798.	1798
b. 6, f. 6	Untitled report on Ireland Seventeen-page autograph manuscript, unsigned, which appears to be a draft of a report on military strategy, topography, and other concerns related to the Irish Rebellion.	circa 1798

Series IV: Spencer Horatio Walpole (1806–1898) Papers, 1822–1866

0.21 linear feet (1 box)

The letters in this series are primarily from Walpole’s parents Thomas and Margaret Perceval Walpole, his aunt Elizabeth Walpole, and all of his siblings: brothers Charles, Henry, Robert, and Thomas, and sisters Sophia and Catherine. Also present is a folder of letters from a London solicitor, Timothy Tyrell, and his associates, regarding Walpole family real estate.

Series IV is organized into one subseries: Correspondence.

Correspondence

b. 7, f. 1	Behrens, Sophia Frances Walpole, 1807–1900	1825–1827, undated
b. 7, f. 2	De Tessier, Catherine Margaret Walpole, 1805–1876	1824–1826, undated
b. 7, f. 3	Perceval, C. M.	undated
b. 7, f. 4	Tyrell, Timothy	1837
b. 7, f. 5	Vade-Walpole, Charles, 1813–1899	1866, 1867
b. 7, f. 6	Vade-Walpole, John, 1810–1892 Letter from Spencer Horatio Walpole to his brother, discussing local politics.	1835 January 1
b. 7, f. 7	Walpole, Elizabeth, 1759–1842	1825 April 8
b. 7, f. 8	Walpole, Henry	undated
b. 7, f. 9	Walpole, Robert, 1808–1876	1825 May 24
b. 7, f. 10–11	Walpole, Thomas and Margaret Perceval Letters received from his parents when he was a student at Eton and Trinity College.	1822–1827
b. 7, f. 12	Walpole, Thomas, 1805–1881	1866 July 3
b. 7, f. 13	Unidentified author An unsigned letter from Balmoral on behalf of Queen Victoria, regarding the death of Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington.	1852 September 20

Series V: Sir Spencer Walpole (1839–1907) Family Papers, 1901–1972

0.21 linear feet (1 box)

The papers in here concern Sir Spencer Walpole and his descendants. Most of the material is related to Walpole's publication *Some Unpublished Letters of Horace Walpole* (London, New York, and Bombay: Longmans, Green, and Co., 1902), and range from correspondence to a set of unbound signatures of the printed volume. Also present are two literary manuscripts about the life of Thomas Walpole (1727–1803), and a letter from the American collector W. S. Lewis to David C. L. Holland, who had inherited the Walpole family papers from his uncle Francis Holland, the widower of Sir Spencer's daughter Maud Holland.

Series V is organized into three subseries: Correspondence, Documents and Personal Papers, and Writings.

Correspondence

b. 8, f. 1	Dobson, Austin, 1840–1921 Regarding a portrait of Marie du Deffand formerly in the collection of Horace Walpole at Strawberry Hill.	1901 November 28
b. 8, f. 2	Lewis, Wilmarth Sheldon, 1895–1979, to David C. L. Holland, 1915–2007	1953 June 20
b. 8, f. 3	Nevill, Dorothy, Lady, 1826–1913	undated
b. 8, f. 4	Rosebery, Archibald Philip Primrose, Earl of, 1847–1929	1902
b. 8, f. 5	Toynbee, Helen Wrigley (Mrs. Paget), 1868 or 1869–1910	1902 May 1
b. 8, f. 6	Vade-Walpole, Henry Spencer, 1837–1913 Vade-Walpole was a cousin, the son of the Rev. Thomas Walpole (1805–1881), and author of a set of family Walpole history articles published in <i>The Genealogical Magazine</i> (1898–1899). Letters regarding Thomas Walpole's second wife Jeanne M. Bataille de Montval, the Countess of Villegagnon (1730–1821).	1901

Documents and Personal Papers

b. 8, f. 7	Contract with Longmans, Green, and Co. Contract for <i>Some Unpublished Letters of Horace Walpole</i> , edited by Sir Spencer Walpole.	1901 November 14
b. 8, f. 8	Unbound signatures of uncorrected page proofs The thirty letters that Horace Walpole wrote to his grandfather and great-grandfather (both Thomas Walpole) published in 1902 are filed in Series I, Box 2, folders 6–8, and Series II, Box 3, folders 33. One letter, number 27, is not present, but a transcript of it is in the following folder.	1902
b. 8, f. 9	Transcript of Horace Walpole letter not in collection Manuscript transcript of letter number 27 (dated December 9, 1787, original now in the Lang Autograph Collection, Kelvin Smith Library, Case Western University), and an un-numbered letter dated July 1, 1792 (not printed in Sir Spencer Walpole's book, original now in LWL MSS 1, box 37, folder 19).	circa 1902
b. 8, f. 10	Transcripts of letters from Samuel Wharton to Thomas Walpole, April 1779 Typed transcripts of two letters from Wharton, April 4 and April 7, 1779; the original letters are not in the family papers.	undated

Documents and Personal Papers (continued)

b. 10	Album	circa 1875
	<p>A leather-bound blank-page album in which many of the earliest letters to Thomas Walpole (1727–1803) and documents signed by King George for Thomas Walpole (1755–1840) had been kept by a family member, likely Sir Spencer Walpole. The material was arranged in chronological order and the compiler annotated each page with the writer and date of each item; the album pages were numbered later in pencil. When the letters and documents were removed, the page number was noted on each verso.</p>	
<p>Writings</p> <p>The writings filed here were received with the family papers acquired by the library. The unsigned and undated literary manuscripts may have been written by Sir Spencer Walpole's daughter Maud Walpole Holland (1870–1947) or her husband Francis C. Holland (1865–1948), or perhaps their nephew D. C. L. Holland (1915–2007) who inherited the family papers; the latter would likely have clipped the 1972 Quartich catalogue leaves to the typescript in folder 15.</p> <p>Thomas Walpole biography</p> <p>Four chapters from a biographical study covering the final years of Thomas Walpole's life, written out in an unidentified hand with many quotes from letters in the family papers. The leaves were numbered 1–130 in pencil.</p>		
b. 8, f. 11	Chapter XVI, 1788–1789	undated
b. 8, f. 12	Chapter XVII, 1790–1791	undated
b. 8, f. 13	Chapter XVIII, 1792–1793	undated
b. 8, f. 14	Chapter XIX, 1795–1803	undated
b. 8, f. 15	<p>Essay on Thomas Walpole's support of Edward Bancroft in Parliament</p> <p>Unsigned and undated typescript, corrected, of an essay about Walpole's work on behalf of Bancroft to pass the act allowing him to trade with American colonies in 1785; the story is told largely in quotes from Walpole's letters to others. Clipped to the typescript were two leaves from Bernard Quaritch Ltd's catalogue number 922, "Science and Medicine," issued October 1972, which contains an item about Bancroft's peer inventor Richard Arkwright, who is briefly referred to in the essay.</p>	1972, undated

Series VI: Other Papers, 1751–1830*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

The series holds material that descended with the family papers but which could not be directly connected to items in the five series described above.

Series VI is organized into two subseries: Third-Party Correspondence, and Writings and Documents.

Third-Party Correspondence

Arranged in alphabetical order by author.

b. 9, f. 1	Buchan, David Stewart Erskine, Earl of, 1742–1829, to Mrs. Murphy David Erskine, Earl of Buchan and chief founder of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, writes from Dryburgh Abbey to “Mrs. Murphy, Painter in Enamels” in Edinburgh.	1803 October 16
b. 9, f. 2	Hardwicke, Philip Yorke, Earl of, 1690–1764, to Horatio Walpole, 1678–1757 Letter written as Lord Chancellor, justifying the Duke of Newcastle’s decision not to renew Thomas Walpole’s contract for victualling the regiments at Gibraltar.	1756 August 22
b. 9, f. 3	Hardinge, George, 1743–1816, to John Nichols, 1745–1826 Hardinge was a judge, writer, Member of Parliament, and a neighbor of Horace Walpole in Twickenham. Manuscript in an unknown hand, of a letter Hardinge wrote to Nichols giving a profile of Horace Walpole; Nichols printed the letter in volume 8 of his <i>Literary Anecdotes</i> (1812–1816), and W. S. Lewis reprinted it as Appendix 4 in volume 35 of the <i>Yale Edition of Horace Walpole’s Correspondence</i> (having been provided with a photostat of this manuscript in 1937 by Francis C. Holland).	1813 June 22
b. 9, f. 4	Lansdowne, William Petty, Marquis of, 1737–1805, to Richard Oswald, 1705–1784 Petty, as Lord Shelburne, writes to Oswald asking him to explain to Walpole that Charles Fox’s correspondence about peace negotiations was of a private nature and was not to be shared with the King.	1782 May 21
b. 9, f. 5	Malmesbury, James Harris, Earl of, 1746–1820, to George Hammond, 1763–1853	1797 July 1
b. 9, f. 6	Pitt, William, Earl of Chatham, 1708–1778, to Thomas Nuthall, 1715–1775 Nuthall was solicitor to the East India Company and the Treasury, and legal adviser to William Pitt the elder.	1762
b. 9, f. 7	Redesdale, John Mitford, Baron, 1748–1830, to Elizabeth Perceval Perceval was the sister of Redesdale’s wife Frances (Fanny) Perceval. Two letters from Redesdale are accompanied by an 1830 letter from his son informing Perceval of Redesdale’s death.	1805–1830
b. 9, f. 8	Sackville, George Germain, Viscount, 1716–1785, to “Hamilton”	1762 September 12

Third-Party Correspondence (continued)

b. 9, f. 9	Yorke, Joseph, Baron Dover, 1724–1792, to Sir John Goodricke, 1708–1789 Yorke was British Minister at The Hague from 1751 to 1761; Goodricke was Minister at Sweden from 1758 to 1773.	1759 August 18
Writings and Documents		
b. 9, f. 10	Francis Capper's statement on the Nicoll affair Francis Capper (1698–1764) was a London lawyer. Unsigned and undated manuscript regarding Margaret Nicoll (ca. 1735–1768), an heiress who was to marry George Walpole (1730–1791), Earl of Orford; the marriage was prevented by his great-uncle Horatio Walpole (1678–1757).	circa 1751 August
b. 9, f. 11	Stamp duty bill Unsigned manuscript titled "Observations upon the Bill respecting Bankers, as proposed by the Chancellor of Exchequer, in so far as it regards that part of the United Kingdoms - Scotland" and dated "Ayr, 21 April 1808."	1808 April 21
b. 9, f. 12	Family notes regarding George Walpole (1758–1835) and Mary Sayer, with a floor plan sketch	undated
b. 9, f. 13	"Histoire de la Princesse de Zell Espouse du Roy D'Angelterre Georges I et du Comte de Koenismark" Unsigned and undated manuscript in French, about the life of Sophia Dorothea of Brunswick-Lüneburg-Celle (1666–1726), the wife of King George I (1660–1727).	undated
b. 9, f. 14	"Copie d'une Lettre du Prince A. Cz---ky, à Sa Majesté l'Empereur, en date du 26 Juin 1808" Unsigned and undated manuscript in French, a copy of a letter from Adam Jerzy Czartoryski (1770–1861) to Alexander I of Russia.	undated
b. 9, f. 15	"Mémoire politique et militaire sur les circonstances actuelles, présenté à S. M. l'Empereur de Toutes les Russies, l'an 1811" Unsigned and undated manuscript in French, a political and military brief presented to Alexander I of Russia.	undated
b. 9, f. 16	"Proposed Memorial to the Queen" on duelling Unsigned and undated manuscript in English that begins "We the undersigned your Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects..."; it appears to be an incomplete draft.	undated
b. 9, f. 17	Memorandum on the discharge of public debt by granting life annuities Unsigned and undated manuscript in English.	undated
b. 9, f. 18	"Extract of Instructions from the Marquis Wellesley to His Majesty's Minister at Cadiz dated May 4, 1811" Unsigned and undated manuscript in English.	undated
b. 9, f. 19	Three poems by James Smith (1775–1839) Unsigned and undated manuscript in English, with three transcribed poems by Smith: "Written on Mr. Kemble's Double Window in Russell Street"; "Three Blind Deities"; and a stanza from "Grimm's Ghost."	undated

Writings and Documents (continued)

b. 9, f. 20	Notes on horses in Syria	undated
	Unsigned and undated manuscript in English, copied from <i>Notes on the Bedouins and Wahábys, Collected During his Travels in the East, by the late John Lewis Burckhardt</i> . (London: H. Colburn and R. Bentley, 1830).	

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.

Geographic Names

Ireland -- History -- Rebellion of 1798
United States -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783

Walpole, Spencer H. (Spencer Horatio), 1806-1898
Walpole, Thomas, 1727-1803
Walpole, Thomas, 1755-1840
Walpole, Thomas, 1805-1881
Yorke, Joseph, Baron Dover, 1724-1792

Subjects

Quercitron-bark

Families

Walpole family

Names

Arden, Charles George Perceval, Baron, 1756-1840
Bancroft, Edward, 1744-1821
Bunbury, Thomas Charles, Sir, 1740-1821
Camden, Charles Pratt, Earl, 1714-1794
Castris, Charles Eugène Gabriel de la Croix, marquis de, 1727-1801
Chatham, Hester Grenville Pitt, Countess of, 1720-1803
Czartoryski, Adam Jerzy, książę, 1770-1861
Dorset, John Frederick Sackville, Duke of, 1745-1799
Erskine, Thomas Erskine, Baron, 1750-1823
Fox, Charles James, 1749-1806
George, King of Great Britain, III, 1738-1820
Goodricke, John, Sir
Hardwicke, Philip Yorke, Earl of, 1690-1764
Lansdowne, William Petty, Marquis of, 1737-1805
Necker, Jacques, 1732-1804
Newcastle, Thomas Pelham-Holles, Duke of, 1693-1768
North, Frederick, Lord, 1732-1792
Pitt, William, Earl of Chatham, 1708-1778
Redesdale, John Mitford, Baron, 1748-1830
Sackville, George Germain, Viscount, 1716-1785
Stewart, Frances Pratt, 1750-1833
Temple, Richard Grenville-Temple, Earl, 1711-1779
Townshend, Charles, 1725-1767
Walpole, Horace, 1717-1797
Walpole, Lambert, -1798
Walpole, Margaret Perceval, 1769-1854
Walpole, Robert, 1736-1810
Walpole, Spencer, Sir, 1839-1907