

# Guide to the Joseph Wheaton Papers

MS 631



compiled by Steven Hensen

March 1972

Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

---

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	4
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	4
Collection Contents .....	5
Selected Search Terms .....	9

---

## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 631

**CREATOR:** Wheaton, Joseph, 1755-1828

**TITLE:** Joseph Wheaton papers

**DATES:** 1797-1839

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence and documents between Major Joseph Wheaton, members of his family, and various government officials concerning attempts to secure reimbursement from the government for debts incurred while Wheaton was serving as Deputy Quarter Master General during the War of 1812. Correspondents of note include Joseph Bloomfield, William Eustis, Charles Gratiot, George Hay, Thomas Jefferson, Lafayette, Return Jonathan Meigs, James Monroe, Amos Stoddard, and Martin Van Buren.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0631>

---

## 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.0631>.

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

---

## Administrative Information

---

### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased in 1966.

---

## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

---

## 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.

---

## Preferred Citation

Joseph Wheaton Papers (MS 631). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

---

## Biographical / Historical

Joseph Wheaton: in 1775 enlisted in Second Rhode Island Line; in 1779 became a lieutenant in Olney's Rhode Island Brigade; served in the State Continental Battalion, 1781-1783; served in office of the Quarter Master General during the War of 1812; attained the rank of Major.

---

## Scope and Contents

The Joseph Wheaton Papers, 1797-1839, consist of correspondence and documents that passed between Major Wheaton, members of his family, and various government officials. The materials relate to attempts by Wheaton and his family to obtain reimbursement for debts incurred while he was serving as Deputy Quarter Master General during the War of 1812. Some of the later correspondence involves James Monroe Burke (1801-1859), a son-in-law of Joseph Wheaton, who was an official in the Treasury Department.

Joseph Wheaton was born in New York in 1755 of English parents. At the age of twenty he enlisted in the Second Rhode Island Line. In August of 1779 he became a lieutenant in the First Rhode Island Line, retained in Olney's Rhode Island Battalion. On the recommendation of General Washington, he then went to the State Continental Battalion where he served from January, 1781 to December, 1783. After this his activities are somewhat difficult to document, but it is obvious from the papers in this collection that he was serving in the office of the Quarter Master General during the War of 1812. Joseph Wheaton died November 23, 1828, probably in Washington, D. C.

---

## Arrangement

The papers are arranged alphabetically by the name of the correspondent with a group of documents and miscellany falling at the end of the arrangement.

---

## Collection Contents

### [Anderson, Joseph, \(1752-1837\)](#)

b. 1, f. 1	Recommendation for Joseph Wheaton (also signed by others)	1812 July 3
b. 1, f. 1	Autograph letter signed to President Jackson (3 pages)	1832 April 13
b. 1, f. 2	<a href="#">Bloomfield, Joseph (1753-1823), autograph letter signed to Wheaton</a> (2 pages) Includes a typed copy of the letter.	1813 November 7
b. 1, f. 3	Burke, Edmund (U.S.N.), invitation to Mrs. Wheaton	1797 June 30
b. 1, f. 4	<a href="#">Burke, John, autograph letter signed to Burke from Wheaton</a> (1 page)	1815 December 2
b. 1, f. 5	<a href="#">Chillicothe, Ohio. Merchants Bank, autograph letter signed to Joseph Wheaton signed by the President and directors</a> (2 pages)	1813 October 1
b. 1, f. 6	Crawford, William Harris (1772-1834), autograph letter signed to Crawford from Wheaton (2 pages)	1816 February 26
b. 1, f. 7	Cutts, Mrs. C., two invitations to James Burke	No year, April 6; no year, December 11

### [Eustis, William, \(1753-1825\)](#)

b. 1, f. 8	Autograph letter signed to Wheaton (2 pages)	1812 August 14
b. 1, f. 8	8 autograph letters signed to Eustis from Wheaton	1812 August 27 - October 6, 1823 February 20
b. 1, f. 9	<a href="#">Everett, C., autograph letter signed (true copy) to John C. Calhoun</a> (2 pages)	1823 August 25
b. 1, f. 10	<a href="#">Gooch, Claiborne W., 4 autograph letters signed to Wheaton</a>	1824 March 23 - November 16
b. 1, f. 11	<a href="#">Graham, George, autograph letter signed to Wheaton</a> (1 page)	1815 October 5

### [Gratiot, Charles, \(1788-1855\)](#)

b. 1, f. 12	3 autograph letters signed to Wheaton	1813 January 1 - April 7
b. 1, f. 12	Statement regarding Wheaton (2 pages)	1818 August 3

b. 1, f. 13	<a href="#">Green, Moses, autograph letter signed to Wheaton (written for Green by William W. Hening)</a> (1 page)	1831 December 21
b. 1, f. 14	<a href="#">Hay, George, (1765-1830), autograph letter signed to Hay from Wheaton</a> (2 pages)	1823 June (no day)
b. 1, f. 15	<a href="#">Jefferson, Thomas, President U.S., (1743-1826), autograph letter signed to Wheaton</a> (1 page)	1814 January 29
b. 1, f. 16	<a href="#">Lafayette, Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roche Gilbert du Matier, marquis de, (1757-1834), autograph letter signed to Wheaton</a> (1 page) Includes a typed copy of the letter.	[1825] January 19
b. 1, f. 17	<a href="#">Maurice, James, autograph letter signed to Wheaton</a> (1 page)	1814 October 10
b. 1, f. 18	<a href="#">Meigs, Return Jonathan (1764-1824), autograph letter signed to Wheaton</a> (1 page)	1815 February 13
b. 1, f. 19	<a href="#">Monroe, James, President U.S., (1758-1831)</a> 3 autograph letters signed to Wheaton	1814 November 29 - 1815 July 29, no year January 25
b. 1, f. 19	2 autograph letters signed to Monroe from Wheaton undated cover	1822 December 5, 1823 October 17
b. 1, f. 20	Phinney, Patience, autograph note to Miss Monroe	Undated
b. 1, f. 21	<a href="#">Piatt, W., 2 autograph letters signed to Wheaton</a>	1813 January 7, January 12
b. 1, f. 22	Rind, William A., autograph letter signed to James M. Burke (1 page) Includes cover and genealogical notes on back of letter.	1834 February 10
b. 1, f. 23	<a href="#">Stanard, [Robert, Conway?], autograph letter signed to Wheaton</a> (1 page)	1815 March 8
b. 1, f. 24	<a href="#">Stoddard, Amos (1762-1813), autograph letter signed to Wheaton</a> (1 page)	1812 August 15
b. 1, f. 25	<a href="#">Swan, William</a> Autograph letter signed to Wheaton (1 page)	1815 February 3
b. 1, f. 25	Autograph letter signed (copy) to James Monroe (1 page)	1815 February 6
b. 1, f. 26	<a href="#">U.S. Adjutant General's Office, extract of general order</a>	1815 May 17

b. 1, f. 27	<a href="#">U.S. House of Representatives, autograph letter signed (with Petition) to Speaker of the House of Representatives from Wheaton</a>	1821 January 1
b. 1, f. 28	U.S. War Department. Pension Office, autograph letter signed to Mrs. Samuel Handy regarding Joseph Wheaton's pension (1 page)	1837 July 26
Van Buren, John, (1810-1866)		
b. 1, f. 29	Autograph letter signed to James M. Burke (4 pages)	1839 August 15
b. 1, f. 29	Autograph letter signed to Mr. Vail (1 page)	1839 September 23
Van Buren, Martin, President U.S., (1782-1862)		
b. 1, f. 30	Autograph letter signed to Mrs. Mary Burke (5 pages)	1831 August 15
b. 1, f. 30	Autograph note to Sarah Burke (1 page)	1833 March 30
b. 1, f. 30	Autograph letter signed to James Burke (1 page)	[1841] January 5
b. 1, f. 30	Autograph letter signed, appointment, to James Burke (1 page)	1841 January 11
b. 1, f. 31	Van Buren, Martin, Jr., 3 autograph letters signed to James Burke undated cover	[1831] August 27- 1838 August 11
b. 1, f. 32	Van Buren, Smith Thompson, autograph letter signed to James Burke (1 page)	1836 March 29
Wheaton, Joseph, (1755-1828) documents regarding his claim		
b. 1, f. 33	Appeal to the House of Representatives	1820 November 5
b. 1, f. 33	Petition (22 pages)	1820 November 25?
b. 1, f. 33	Remarks on claim of Wheaton by Peter Hagner (auditor) "No. 4"	1819 March 11
b. 1, f. 33	Account of Wheaton (stated true amount due him) "A"	circa 1815-circa 1819
b. 1, f. 33	Copy of letter from Graham to Wheaton "B"	1815 August 19
b. 1, f. 33	Statement of differences in account settled "C"	1819 March 18
b. 1, f. 33	Wheaton - personal account "C"	1815 April-1817 November 19
b. 1, f. 33	Report of third auditor with autograph letter (copy) G.B. Cooke to Secretary of War	1815 October 18

b. 1, f. 33	Report of third auditor	1819 December 27
b. 1, f. 33	Statement no. 1, Accompanying report of third auditor dated 1819 Dec 27 on the petition of Joseph Wheaton	1819 March 12
b. 1, f. 33	Statement no. 3, Accompanying report of third auditor on petition on petition of Joseph Wheaton	1819 December 27
b. 1, f. 33	Miscellaneous documents regarding claim of Major Wheaton	
b. 1, f. 34	Williams, Lewis, autographed letter signed to Williams from Wheaton (2 pages)	1820 December 5
	Miscellaneous	
b. 1, f. 35	List of the governors of Maryland	Undated
b. 1, f. 36	Typed genealogical notes on Burke - Wheaton families	circa 1797-circa 1839



---

## 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

Armed Forces

### Geographic Names

United States -- History -- War of 1812

### Occupations

Soldiers

### Names

Bloomfield, Joseph, 1753-1823  
Burke, James Monroe, 1801-1859  
Crawford, William Harris, 1772-1834  
Eustis, William, 1753-1825  
Gratiot, Charles, 1786-1855  
Hay, George, 1765-1830  
Meigs, Return Jonathan, 1764-1825  
Monroe, James, 1758-1831  
Stoddard, Amos, 1762-1813  
Van Buren, John, 1810-1866  
Van Buren, Martin, 1782-1862  
Wheaton, Joseph, 1755-1828

### Families

Burke family