



# ArchivesSpace

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## John C. Hamilton papers4078859

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 15, 2025.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

### Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor  
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127  
535 W. 114th St.  
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

[rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu)

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Hamilton, John C (John Church), 1792-1882
<b>Title:</b>	John C. Hamilton papers
<b>ID:</b>	4078859
<b>ID:</b>	MS#0545
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1779-1851
<b>Physical Description:</b>	11 linear feet 24 boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); John C. Hamilton Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Historian. John C. Hamilton was the son of Alexander Hamilton.

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## Summary

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Papers of John Church Hamilton, consisting of transcripts of his father's letters and papers, and his own notes, drafts, and manuscripts of his biography of his father, THE LIFE OF ALEXANDER HAMILTON, and of his HISTORY OF THE REPUBLIC. The collection is of particular importance because it contains copies of letters for which the location of the originals is unknown since the time when John Church Hamilton made his transcripts. These

include letters from generals of the Continental Army, from the French Expeditionary forces, and from others who played important roles in the American Revolution and the period which followed.

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## Arrangement

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Arranged. Copies in part.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Revision Description

PDF replaced with encoded finding aid. kws 2022-07-06

### Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

### Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Swan, William H. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1969. Accession number--M-69.

## Reproduction Note

Type of reproduction--Copies in part

## Location of Originals Note

Holder of originals: Location of originals is unknown.

## Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 06/--/1989.

## Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- United States -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783 -- Participation, French
- United States -- History -- 1783-1815
- Historians
- Hamilton, Alexander, 1757-1804
- United States. Continental Army

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series I: John C. Hamilton papers

Title/Description	Instances
Washington transcriptions	box 1

**Scope and Contents**

A total of 414 foolscap pages, transcriptions of George Washington's correspondence in 1779 with John Jay and the Continental Congress, the Board of War, his staff, and foreign dignitaries. Some of the originals have disappeared since these transcripts were made; this material is therefore of equal importance to the Jared Sparks papers (at Harvard), for the history of this portion of the Revolution. The transcripts are clearly written on good paper; each is docketed. Hamilton at this time was Washington's aide-de-camp

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Washington transcriptions box 2

**Scope and Contents**

A total of 409 foolscap pages, transcriptions of George Washington's correspondence in 1780 with Congress, the Army, and others. Alexander Hamilton was Washington's aide-de-camp at the time

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Washington transcriptions box 3

**Scope and Contents**

A total of 145 foolscap pages, transcriptions of George Washington's correspondence in 1781 (Jan.-April); Hamilton was Washington's aide-de-camp at this time

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Washington transcriptions box 4

**Scope and Contents**

Transcripts (251 pp. foolscap) of Washington's correspondence in 177; 295 pp. for 1778 - a total of 546 pages. Hamilton was Washington's aide-de-camp at this time

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Hamilton transcriptions box 5

**Scope and Contents**

Alexander Hamilton's correspondence, transcripts, 1765-1783. 354 pieces, each docketed

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Hamilton transcriptions box 6

**Scope and Contents**

Alexander Hamilton's correspondence, transcripts, 1784-1792. 604 pieces, each docketed

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Hamilton transcriptions box 7

**Scope and Contents**

Alexander Hamilton's correspondence, transcripts, 1793-1797. 652 pieces, each docketed

Hamilton transcriptions box 8

**Scope and Contents**

Alexander Hamilton's correspondence, transcripts, 1793-1799. 533 pieces, each docketed

Hamilton transcriptions box 9

**Scope and Contents**

Alexander Hamilton's correspondence, transcripts, 1800-1804, and undated. 377 pieces, each docketed

"The Life of Alexander Hamilton" manuscript box 10

**Scope and Contents**

Ms. of John Church Hamilton's "The Life of Alexander Hamilton," (New York, 1840, 2 vols.). Chapters 2-29, each in a separate folder; J.C. Hamilton's original Ms., heavily corrected. Two volumes of the biography appeared as "The History of the Republic of the United States of America, as traced in the writings of Alexander Hamilton and His Contemporaries," (New York, 1857-60, 6 vols.)

"The Life of Alexander Hamilton" manuscript box 11

**Scope and Contents**

Chapters 30-49, each in a separate folder

"The Life of Alexander Hamilton" manuscript box 12

**Scope and Contents**

Chapters 50-59, each in a separate folder

"The Life of Alexander Hamilton" manuscript box 13

**Scope and Contents**

Chapters 60-79, each in a separate folder

"The Life of Alexander Hamilton" manuscript box 14

**Scope and Contents**

Chapters 80-99, each in a separate folder

"The Life of Alexander Hamilton" manuscript box 15

**Scope and Contents**

Chapters 100-129, each in a separate folder

"The Life of Alexander Hamilton" manuscript box 16

**Scope and Contents**

Chapters 130-167, each in a separate folder

"The History of the Republic" manuscript box 17

**Scope and Contents**

Eleven drafts of chapters in Vols. 3 and 4 of "The History of the Republic," each in a separate folder

"The History of the Republic" manuscript box 18

**Scope and Contents**

Unpaged Ms. of "The History," and also material for J.C. Hamilton's edition of Alexander Hamilton's "Works," (N.Y., 1850-51, 7 vols.)

"The History of the Republic" manuscript box 19

**Scope and Contents**

Unpaged Ms. of "The History." Some of this appears to be early drafts, and there are also notes for composition and queries about inclusion of material. A Number of handwritings are represented. There are also pages of J.C. Hamilton's "Life" revised for the later "History," and some corrected proof of the "History."

"The History of the Republic" manuscript box 20

**Scope and Contents**

Unpaged Ms. of the "History," (drafts), Ms. for Alexander Hamilton's "Works," and some of J.C. Hamilton's notes and working papers in his original wrappers.

"The History of the Republic" manuscript box 21

**Scope and Contents**

Unpaged Ms. of the "History," and Ms. for the "Works," with notes and some proof

Drafts and working papers box 22



**Scope and Contents**

Drafts and working papers for J.C. Hamilton's projects and some correspondence of his business papers; several newspapers (1840s)

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Hamilton transcriptions

box 23

**Scope and Contents**

Transcripts of Hamilton's correspondence, each docketed. (Used by J.C. Hamilton in his edition of the "Works")

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Hamilton transcriptions

box 24

**Scope and Contents**

Six folders of transcriptions of letters to and from Alexander Hamilton, copies of other Revolutionary or Federal materials, lists of correspondences, in J.C. Hamilton's hand.

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