



# ArchivesSpace

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## Richard Harison papers4078865

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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>	Harison, Richard, 1747-1829
<b>Title:</b>	Richard Harison papers
<b>ID:</b>	4078865
<b>ID:</b>	MS#0554
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1734-1900
<b>Physical Description:</b>	.42 linear feet 1 document box
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Richard Harison papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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## Biographical Note

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Harison received his Columbia degrees in the same years as John Jay, and they each received an LL.D. from the University of Edinburgh, 1792. Harison was Secretary of the Regents of New York State, 1784-1790; vestryman, warden, and comptroller of Trinity Church, 1783, 1788-1827, where he is buried; Delegate to the New York Constitutional Convention; Member, New York Assembly, 1788-1789; Trustee, Columbia College, 1788-1829; U.S. District Attorney for New York State, appointed by George Washington, 1789-1801; Recorder, New York City, 1798-1801. His second wife, Frances, was daughter of George Ludlow, jurist and loyalist, and niece of Daniel Ludlow, merchant and banker.

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## Summary

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The correspondence consists of letters from Richard Harison to his wife, Frances, 1790-1794, from his trips to Albany and one to Philadelphia. There seem to be periodic meetings with various well-known legal figures including Egbert Benson, Josiah Ogden Hoffman, Abraham Ten Broeck, Morgan Lewis, and William North, who are mentioned in the letters. Two letters from Princeton and Philadelphia, Jan.-Feb. 1794, have interesting reference to Citizen Genet. Of his wife's letters to him, from New York, sixteen were while he was in Poughkeepsie at the Constitutional Convention in 1788, and three letters, 1783-1784, were sent to him in New Jersey while she was attending to family affairs in New York during his exile from the city. The manuscripts include his commonplace book, entitled "Extracts from various authors, upon several subjects" [after 1763]-1781, and ten genealogical and biographical records from his family papers.

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## Arrangement

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Cataloged.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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

### **Revision Description**

Content list published (JR) 2023-12-01

### **Restrictions on Access**

This collection is located on-site.

### **Restrictions on Access**

This collection has no restrictions.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Source of acquisition--Harison, Thomas L., Richard M., and George D. L. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1887. Accession number--M-87.

### **Processing Information**

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 06/--/89.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Archival Materials**

Collections related by provenance: The Columbia University Law School Library has a collection of Richard Harison's law books.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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- Practice of law -- New Jersey

- Practice of law -- New York (State)
- Constitutional history -- New York (State) -- New York
- New York (N.Y.) -- Genealogy
- United States -- History -- Confederation, 1783-1789
- United States -- History -- Constitutional period, 1789-1809
- Lawyers
- Legislators
- Ludlow, Daniel
- Ludlow, George D. (George Duncan), 1734-1808
- Harison, Frances
- Benson, Egbert, 1746-1833
- Hoffman, Ogden, 1793-1856
- Ten Broeck, Abraham, 1734-1810
- Lewis, Morgan, 1754-1844
- North, William
- Genet, Edmond Charles, 1763-1834
- Trinity Church (New York, N.Y.)
- University of the State of New York. Board of Regents
- New York (State). Convention of the Representatives (1776-1777)
- New York (State). Legislature. Assembly
- King's College (New York, N.Y.)
- Columbia College (New York, N.Y.)

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## Other Finding Aids

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[Legacy finding aid](#)

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series I: Richard Harison papers, 1734-1900

Title/Description	Instances
Harison Family. Genealogical papers, circa 1775-1885	box 1
Harison Family. Genealogical papers, circa 1775-1885	box 1
<b>Scope and Contents</b>	
Photocopy	
Harison Family. Genealogical and biographical records, circa 1870-1900	box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Letter ms. contains biographical material, notably about Francis Harison, who came to this country in 1708, and Richard Harison, his grandson.

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Harison Family. Genealogical and biographical records, circa 1870-1900 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Photocopy

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Harison, Francis. Last will and testament (copy), 1734 March 30 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Photocopy

---

Harison, Francis. Last will and testament (copy), 1734 March 30 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Transferred from Columbiana

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Harison, Richard. Biographical information, undated box 1

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Harison, Richard. Biographical information, undated box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Photocopy

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Harison, Richard. Extracts from various authors, upon several subjects, [1763]-1781 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Commonplace book, bound volume, with blank leaves throughout. Gift of Thomas L., Richard M., and George D.L. Harison, 1887.

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Harison, Richard. License to practice law in the Province of New Jersey, signed by William Franklin, with seal, 1771 November 13 box 1

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Harison, Richard. Licenses to practice law, 1771-1799 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Photocopy

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, [1783] box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, box 1  
[1784 March 22]

**Scope and Contents**

Manuscript note on the address leaf by [Daniel Ludlow?], on the sale of Harison's house to Walter Livingston. Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, box 1  
[1784 March 26]

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Richard. License to practice law before the box 1  
Supreme Court of Judicature, New York State, signed by  
Richard Morris, with seal, 1786 April 21

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Elizabeth Harison, 1948

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Harison, Richard. License to practice law in the Court of box 1  
Chancery, New York State, signed by Robert R. Livingston,  
with seal, 1786 April 21

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Elizabeth Harison, 1948

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Harison, Richard. Certificate of authority to practice as an box 1  
attorney and counsellor at law in the Mayor's Court, signed  
by James Duane, with seal, 1786 May 9

**Scope and Contents**

Transferred from Columbiana

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, box 1  
[1788 January]

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, box 1  
[1788 January]



**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, 1788 January 12 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Docketed by Richard Harison. Gift of Richard Harison, 1981.

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, 1788 January 19-20 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, 1788 January 21 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Docketed by Richard Harison. Gift of Richard Harison, 1981.

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, 1788 January 23 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, [1788] January 27 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, [1788] January 29 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, [1788] February 3 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, [1788] February 12-13 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Docketed by Richard Harison. Gift of Richard Harison, 1981.

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, 1788 February 24 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Docketed by Richard Harison. Gift of Richard Harison, 1981.

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, 1788 February 24 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Docketed by Richard Harison. Gift of Richard Harison, 1981.

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, 1788 March 1 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Docketed by Richard Harison. Gift of Richard Harison, 1981.

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, 1788 March 5 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Docketed by Richard Harison. Gift of Richard Harison, 1981.

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, 1788 March 9 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Docketed by Richard Harison. Gift of Richard Harison, 1981.

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Harison, Frances Ludlow (Mrs. Richard) to Richard Harison, [1788 March] 23 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

(a.n.s. added on a separate piece of paper, noted "this last" on the verso)

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Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), [1790-1791] box 1

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Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), [1790-1791] box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Pages torn, 1 piece missing

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Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1791 July 31

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1791 October 23

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1793 May 13

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1793 July 28

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1793 August 7

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1793 August 9

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1793 August 11

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1793 August 15

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1793 August 18

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1793 October 15

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1793 October 20

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1793 October 27

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1794 January 2

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1794 January 8

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

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Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1794 February 19

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1794 February 23

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1794 May 28

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Harison, Richard to Frances Ludlow Harison (Mrs. Richard), box 1  
1794 June 3

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Richard Harison, 1981

---

Trott, Benjamin. [Frances Duncan Ludlow Harison] box 1  
Watercolor, circa 1795-1797

**Scope and Contents**

Watercolor on oval ivory panel, 5 x 6 cm. In rose gold frame bordered by a braid of hair. Attributed to Benjamin Trott. From the collection of Richard Harison. Gift of Richard Harison, 1981.

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Harison, Richard. License to practice law in the District Court of the United States, new York District; signed by Edward Dunscombe, 1799 July 9 box 1

**Scope and Contents**

Gift of Elizabeth Harison, 1948

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Johnson, William to William Henry Harison, 1829 box 1  
December 8

**Scope and Contents**

Resolutions by the gentlemen of the Bar on the death of Richard Harison, by James Kent, Chairman, and William Johnson, Secretary. Gift of Elizabeth Harison, 1948.

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Johnson, William to William Henry Harison, 1829 box 1  
December 8

**Scope and Contents**

Photocopy

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