NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LIBRARY

Manuscripts
No. 106

I. Title Arnold, Benedict, 1741-1801. Collection 1761-1794

II. The papers of Benedict Arnold

A gift.

III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 4"

Approximate number of items: 85 plus two bound volumes

IV. Restrictions: None

V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of

in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of

the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated
to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

VI. Press release was issued on

VII. Biographical note: Benedict Arnold was born in Norwich, Conn. in 1741,

the son of Benedict and Hannah Arnold. At 14 he ran away to join

the colonial troops in the French and Indian Wars and saw service

on Lake George and Lake Champlain. He later deserted and moved to

New Haven where he became a pharmacist and bookseller and invested

money in the West Indian trade.

He was married twice: to Margaret Mansfield in 1767 and to

Margaret Shippen in 1779. He became a captain in the Conn. Militia

and a colonel in 1775. His company captured Fort Ticonderoga in

1775, but failed to capture Quebec in an expedition to Canada in

the same year. In 1776 he twice stopped the British drive on Lake

Champlain and the next year he played a major role in the defeat

of General Burgoyne at Saratoga.

Arnold had been passed over for promotion twice, but in 1778

he became a major general and was made commander in Philadelphia,

where he married Margaret Shippen. In 1780 he was put in command

of the American post at West Point.

During this time he started a correspondence with Sir Henry

Clinton, British commander-in-chief in North America, and arranged

with Major John André of Clinton's staff to betray West Point.

André was captured and executed, and Arnold fled to the British

army. He was made a brigadier-general in the British army and took

part in raids in Connecticut and Virginia in 1781. After the war

he was granted land in Canada, but he lived in England and died in

London in 1801.

For a more complete biographical sketch and references, see


Processed by: Isabelle Gould
VIII: Analysis: The collection is housed in a half-box and one oversize volume containing correspondence (including autograph letters from Arnold) and accounts before 1775 in connection with Arnold's business activities in New Haven. They are valuable for research into this phase of his life.

Of special interest is the Waste (Account) Book which he kept through his career in Philadelphia. Also of interest is Samuel Barney's diary which throws light on an early phase of Arnold's military career. The personal papers also include inventories of Arnold's estates in Philadelphia and New Haven which were confiscated after his treachery.

The papers are arranged chronologically within each folder.

For Arnold memorabilia see MSS #48 (Mary H. Mitchell Papers), Box I:A. The Roger Sherman Collection, MSS #108, contains the orders to arrest Arnold in New Haven in 1766.

** plus six oversize items

See microfilm #179
# Benedect Arnold Collection 1761-1794

## Table of Contents

**Box I -**

**Folder A - Correspondence, Incoming**
- John Stevens, May 17, 1775
- Walter Spooner, June 26, 1775
- Extracts from letters from Peter Moon and Mrs. Arnold (Arnold's signature attesting that they are true copies)

**Folder B - Correspondence, Outgoing**
- Messrs. Daniel & Isaac Bourdeaux, Nov. 30, 1770
- Messrs. Campbell & McKenzie, Jan., 1771 (ALS)
- Dr. Peggy (fragment) April 8, 1772
- Capt. Shearman, July 20, 1774 (ALS)
- Capt. Isaac Sears (signature cut out), Sept. 5, 1774
- Major Skene (copy in Arnold's hand), May 11, 1775
- Josiah Blakely, Sept. 10, 1794 (ALS)

**Folder B1 - Correspondence re Arnold**
- ALS - Robert Morris to Thomas Mumford, Feb. 6, 1781

**Folder C - Correspondence - typed copies**
- Arnold to Messrs. Bourdeaux & Major Skene (see Folder B)
- William Kenyon to Josiah Blakely, ca. 1780 re Arnold (2 cc. plus envelope and note)

**Folder D - Accounts - Minute Book, June, 1768**
- MSS, 31 pp.

**Folder E - Accounts - Loose papers from Waste Book**
(see oversize item 1)

**Folder F - Promissory Notes, signed by Arnold**
1770-1775 (in mylar)

**Folder G - Miscellaneous Accounts 1761-1774**

**Folder H - Miscellaneous Accounts from Leffingwell Collection 1762-1786**
- includes receipts, bills, account for Brig Mansfield, agreement with Hezekiah Bassett re materials
- oversize

**Folder I - Commercial Papers 1767-1774**
- Indenture, sale of Sloop Sally, signed by Arnold, B. Lintot, Jared Ingersoll, 1767 (plus xerox)
BOX I - continued

Folder I - continued
- Manifest of cargo, Brig Mansfield, 1769
- Log of sailing trip, Oct., 1770 (1 leaf, 2 p.)
- Agreement with Job Smith re shares, 1772
- Expenses on horses bought for Polly and Peggy, 1774

Folder J - Pharmaceutical recipes, n.d. [3]
- for making and shipping soap, "marble balls," perfumes, tooth powder, corn salve, hair rinse, etc.

Folder K - Personal Accounts and Papers [3]
- description of work to be done on house, n.d. (MSS and 2 typed copies)
- list of debts claimed in Pennsylvania against Arnold, 1781
- amounts from sales of Arnold's estates in Pennsylvania, 1781-1786

Folder L - Facsimiles [11]
- photostat of broadside advertising wares for sale in Arnold's pharmacy
- arrest of Arnold, 1766 (typed copies of complaint; order to arrest Arnold signed by R. Sherman, J.P.; warrant; costs of complaint
  (originals in R. Sherman Collection, MSS #108)
- pass to John Anderson (Major Andre) signed by Arnold, 1780 (gift of Mrs. Ellen Downs, 1898)
- New Haven Probate Court Records, 1781-1782
  appointment of Pierpont Edwards as administrator of Arnold's estate; appointment of appraisers; inventory of estate, etc.

Folder M - Newspaper articles [2]
- clipping on talk by Erastus Brooks before NHCHS, n.d.
- New York Times, 1928, re Arnold's treachery
- typescript from N.Y. Times, n.d. "An Unrecorded Bit of History: Benedict Arnold's Narrow Escape from Death at the Hands of a Woman"
- photocopy N.Y. Daily Tribune, Sunday, June 1st, 1902

Folder N - Photographs re B.A.'s New Haven home. [3]
Arnold's birthplace; Lathrop drugstore, Norwich; Hannah Arnold's gravestone

Folder O - Diary of Samuel Barney, 40 pp. MSS. [1]
trip through Maine in expedition against Quebec under B. Arnold, 1775

Folder P - Copies of Barney Diary - photostats, typescript [2]
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<td>- Payroll of Officers and Seamen</td>
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<td>Employed on Lake Champlain, 1767</td>
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<td>Newspaper Articles, 1935</td>
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<td>Burlington Daily News, regarding raising of the Philadelphia Arnold’s sloop-of-war from Lake Champlain</td>
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<td>Oversized Item #5</td>
<td>a) Letter of Arnold to Josiah Blakley, 1794</td>
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<td>b) Account of the voyage of the Sloop Phenix to West Indies With Sam Mansfield</td>
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<td>c) Covenant with Hezekiah Bassett, Carpenter, 1772</td>
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