

Sunbury (Ga.) Prisoners oath

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Great Britain. Army.
Title:	Sunbury (Ga.) Prisoners oath
Dates:	Circa 1779
Extent:	0.05 cubic feet (1 folder)
Identification:	MS 1340

Biographical/Historical Note

Sunbury was once the county seat of Liberty County, Georgia. It was founded in 1758 and was a thriving seaport, rivaling Savannah's port. In 1779 the town and the adjacent Fort Morris were attacked and captured by British soldiers led by Col. John Harris Cruger. Col. John McIntosh, leader of the Continental troops, surrendered the town and the fort; in total, seventeen commissioned officers and 195 non-commissioned officers and privates were taken as prisoners of war. The town and fort, renamed Fort George, remained under British control until the end of the Revolutionary War. At the time of the British evacuation, most of the town and fort had been burned. Sunbury failed to thrive after the war, and by 1878 was named one of the "dead towns" of Georgia.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains the oath of the Sunbury prisoners of war to their captors, promising they will not leave Sunbury or allow anyone to free them before they are legally exchanged. If they are freed, they will attempt to return to their captors; if return is impossible, the prisoners swear not to take up arms against King George until they are legally exchanged. The oath mentions Col. Cruger, leader of the British troops. The oath is marked "a copy" (contemporary).

Index Terms

Cruger, John Harris, 1738-1807.
Fort Morris (Ga.)
George, III, King of Great Britain, 1738-1820.
Georgia--History--Revolution, 1775-1783--Prisoners and prisons.
Great Britain. Army.
Lincoln County (Ga.)
McIntosh, John, 1755-1826.
Oaths.
Sunbury (Ga.)
United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783--Prisoners and prisons.
United States. Continental Army.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Unknown.

Preferred Citation

[item identification], Sunbury (Ga.) Prisoners oath, MS 1340, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.

Acquisition Information

Unknown.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

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Publication Note

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Sponsorship

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Container List

Fldr

- 1 Item 1: Oath of Continental and Militia officers and other prisoners of war at Sunbury that they will not leave Sunbury or allow themselves to be taken away while under the parole of honor, nor will they take up arms against King George until legally exchanged, undated (1.0 p.)
Unsigned. Marked "a copy" (contemporary).