

The papers of Henry Laurens in the South Carolina Historical Society

Descriptive Summary

Repository:	Georgia Historical Society
Creator:	Laurens, Henry, 1724-1792.
Creator:	South Carolina Historical Society.
Title:	The papers of Henry Laurens in the South Carolina Historical Society
Dates:	1767-1771
Extent:	0.02 cubic feet (1 microfilm roll)
Identification:	MS 1746
Location:	Original letter books in the South Carolina Historical Society.

Biographical/Historical Note

Henry Laurens (1724-1792) was born in Charleston, South Carolina. He studied business in England from 1744 until 1747, when he returned to the United States. He served as a lieutenant colonel in a campaign against Cherokee Indians, 1757-1761. He was elected as a member of the commons house of assembly in 1757, a position he held until the Revolutionary War. Laurens held many political appointments, including member of the First Provincial Congress (1775); President of the Provincial Congress (1775); president of the general committee and the first council of safety (1775) member of the Second Provincial Congress (1775-1776); president of the second council of safety (1775, 1776); Vice President of South Carolina (1776-1777); delegate to the Continental Congress (1777-1780); and President of the Continental Congress (1777-1778). In 1779, Laurens was elected Minister to Holland by the Continental Congress. He was captured by the British during the 1780 voyage to this post and held prisoner in the Tower of London until December 31, 1781, when he was exchanged for Lord Cornwallis. He was a signed of the preliminary treaty of Paris on November 30, 1782. Laurens returned to his family plantation, "Mepkin," near Charleston, South Carolina, in 1784. He died at "Mepkin" in 1792.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of a microfilm copy of Henry Lauren's letter books, August 6, 1767-May 31, 1771. The letters concern South Carolina during the 18th century. The original books are in the South Carolina Historical Society and are designated as "No. 4" in that collection. This microfilm roll is "roll 3" in a set of 19 created by the SCHS.

These letter books were microfilmed by the South Carolina Historical Society in 1966.

Index Terms

Laurens, Henry, 1724-1792.
Letter books.
Microfilms.
South Carolina--History--Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775.
Statesmen--South Carolina.
United States--History--Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775.

Physical and Technical Access Restrictions

A microfilm reader is required to access this collection.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

Unknown.

Preferred Citation

[item identification], Papers of Henry Laurens in the South Carolina Historical Society, MS 1746, Georgia Historical Society, Savannah, Georgia.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Walter C. Hartridge, date unknown.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

Copyright has not been assigned to the Georgia Historical Society. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Division of Library and Archives. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Georgia Historical Society as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.

Sponsorship

Encoding funded by a 2012 Documenting Democracy grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

Container List

X-1746-01. Papers of Henry Laurens in the South Carolina Historical Society, 1767-1772
(Roll 3.)

Letter book is dated Aug. 6, 1767-May 31, 1772.