

U.S. Office of Commissary General of Prisoners circular

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May 27, 1813

Title Statement

U.S. Office of Commissary General of Prisoners circular Guide to the U.S. Office of Commissary General of Prisoners circular MSS 16548

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Publication Statement

Publisher: Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

P.O. Box 400110

University of Virginia

Charlottesville, Virginia 22904-4110

URL: <https://small.library.virginia.edu/>

2 September 2021

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MSS 16548

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/repositories/3/resources/1070

Unit Date

May 27, 1813

Mixed Materials

BW 29 (box)

Container

1 (folder)

Language

English

Creator

Mason, John, 1766-1849

Extent

.04 Cubic Feet 1 legal sized folder

Repository

Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is minimally processed and open for research.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

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Preferred Citation

MSS 16548, U.S. Office of Commissary General of Prisoners circular, Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia.

Biographical / Historical

John Mason (1766-1849) was an American merchant, banker, soldier, planter, scion of the Mason family of Virginia, son of Founder George Mason. Mason was appointed by Thomas Jefferson as the first commanding general of the District of Columbia militia in 1802. He held that position until 1811., and through that role he became Commissioner General of Prisoners during the War of 1812. When the British invaded and burned Washington D.C., Mason helped President Madison and other officials escape to Virginia. Mason wrote to President Madison on March 23, 1816, resigning his post as Superintendent of Indian Trade, and offering to wind up the Office of Commissary General of Prisoners

Content Description

This collection contains a circular manuscript, single sheet - two pages, signed by John Mason, Commissioner General of Prisoners during the War of 1812, regarding returned American prisoners of war. The circular is written to to Joseph Whipple Esqr., Collector of the Customs, at Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Written from Washington D.C. on May 27, 1813.

Keywords

Prisoners of war -- United States

United States -- History -- War of 1812

Whipple, Joseph, 1738-1816