

A Guide to the John Graves Simcoe Papers, ca. 1776-1806

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Descriptive Summary

Manuscript number

MS 30.6

Language

English

Creator

John Graves Simcoe, 1752-1806.

Extent

49 items.

Repository

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Administrative Information

Access

There are no restrictions.

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Alternative Form

Also available on microfilm M-1552.

Biographical/Historical Information

Lt. Col. John Graves Simcoe (1752-1806) was commander of the Queen's Rangers in America during the Revolutionary War. Later, he served as the first lieutenant governor of Upper Canada.

Scope and Content Information

Papers of Lt. Col. John Graves Simcoe. Included are eighteen manuscript maps, many executed in watercolors, of military actions in Virginia; printed maps like those that also appear in Simcoe's book, *A Journal of the Operation of the Queen's Rangers*, (Exeter, 1787); diagram of the principal streets and buildings of Williamsburg, Va; a watercolor view of Yorktown, Va., during the siege; copies of letters regarding the book and political and military affairs; reminiscences and memorabilia on Simcoe and his father; and two watercolors of soldiers of the Queen's Rangers. The manuscript maps and drawings were probably made by a soldier under Simcoe's command.

Index Terms

Persons:

Simcoe, John Graves, 1752-1806.

Amherst, Jeffery Amherst, Baron, 1717-1797.

Clinton, Henry, Sir, 1738?- 1795.

Cornwallis, Charles Cornwallis, Marquis, 1738-1805.

Falladon, Charles Grey.

Howe, William Howe, Viscount, 1729-1814.

Simcoe, Elizabeth, 1762- 1850.

St. Vincent, John Jervis, Viscount, 1735- 1823.

Genre and Form Terms:

Manuscript Maps--Virginia--18th century.

Military Maps--Virginia--18th century.

Geographical Names:

United States-- History--Revolution, 1775- 1783-- Maps.

United States-- History--Revolution, 1775-1783--British forces.

Virginia--History--Revolution, 1775-1783.

Virginia--History--Revolution, 1775-1783--Maps.

Williamsburg (Va.)--Buildings, structures, etc.

Williamsburg (Va.)--Description and travel--Early works to 1800.

Yorktown (Va.)--History--Siege, 1781.

Organization

These papers have been organized into 2 series. Series 1 contains correspondence, memoirs, watercolors, etc.; Series 2 consists of manuscript and printed maps.

Contents List

Series 1: Correspondence and Papers, 1781-1806.

Folder 1-3 (Box-folder)

Extent 3 folders (25 items)

Scope and Content

Includes correspondence, memoirs, watercolors, etc.

Arrangement

Chronologically arranged.

[John Graves Simcoe] to [Sir William Howe], [1776-1777]

Folder 1

Cornwallis, York, to Henry Clinton, 30 October 1781.

Folder 1

Extent Copy.

J. G. Simcoe, Wolford Lodge, to General Grant, 2 December 1789.

Folder 1

J. G. Simcoe, Wolford Lodge, to the Bishop of Lichfield, 2 December 1789.

Folder 1

H. D. Vincent to [J. G. Simcoe], 12 August 1789.

Folder 1

[Jeffery, Lord] Amherst, Montreal, to [J. G. Simcoe], 8 December 1789.

Folder 1

C[harles] Grey, Falladon, to [J. G. Simcoe], 16 January 1790.

Folder 1

List of names of people to whom Simcoe sent copies of his Journal of the Queen's Rangers, 1789-1790.

Folder 1

Newspaper clipping, ca.3 September 1794.

Folder 1

Mrs. [Elizabeth] Simcoe, York [Toronto], to Mrs. Hunt, 28 February 1796.

Folder 1

J. G. Simcoe, Wolford Lodge, to Captain Mackham, Admiralty, 8 October 1800.

Folder 1

J. G. Simcoe, Wolford Lodge, to William Walcot, 11 August 1804.

Folder 1

Viscount Howick to Lord St. Vincent, 22 July 1806.

Folder 2

Memorandum, 15-24 August 1806.

Folder 2

Scope and Content

Concerns Simcoe's voyage to Portugal. Page 1, covering 15-19 August 1806, is on the verso of a sketch of Simcoe as Governor of Canada (#10 piece in this folder).

Memorandum re Simcoe's death, 1806.

Folder 2

Lord Nelson to General Simcoe, 18 April 1803.

Folder 2

Extent Copy.

Extract from the journal T. Bailey with an account of Simcoe's funeral, 1806.

Folder 2

Reminiscences about Captain John Simcoe & Lieutenant General John Graves Simcoe by H. D. Simcoe, n.d.

Folder 2

Extent 2 p.

Statement of H. Caldwell about John Graves Simcoe, May, 1803.

Folder 2

Extent 2 p.

Extract from Mr. Redhead Yorkes weekly Political Review No. 23, n.d.

Folder 2

Memoir of John Graves Simcoe, n.d.

Folder 2

Extent 5 p.

Scope and Content

Similar to the published memoir in the back of Simcoe's Journal, printed in New York by Bartlett & Welford, 1844.

Sketch of Simcoe as Governor of Canada, n.d.

Folder 2

Extent 2 p.

Scope and Content

Verso of page one contains the first page of a memorandum re Simcoe's voyage to Portugal 15-19 August 1806.

Memoir of John Graves Simcoe, n.d.

Folder 2

Watercolor of the Queen's Rangers, by Captain Mundy, n.d.

Folder 3

Extent Mounted.

Watercolor of a Rifleman of the Queen's Rangers, By Captain Mundy, n.d.

Folder 3

Extent Mounted.

Series 2: Maps.

Extent 24 items.

Physical Location 2X Oversize

Scope and Content

Includes manuscript and printed maps of military actions engaged in by the Queen's Rangers. All of the maps are of Virginia locations.

Maps and notes.

Page I

Extent 3 items.

Map of New Kent County, Virginia.

Map of Gloucester County, Virginia.

List of locations on the New Kent County and Gloucester County maps.

Map: "Action at Spencer's Ordinary."

Page II

Extent 2 copies.

Map: "Action at Spencer's Ordinary."

Page III

Extent Hand drawn map.

Map: "Action at Spencer's Plantation seven miles from Williamsburg ..."

Page IV

Extent 2 hand-drawn maps.

Maps of Great Bridge Post.

Page V

Extent 2 hand-drawn maps.

Map: "Great Bridge on Elizabeth River, Virginia."

Map: "Plan of the post at Great Bridge, on the south branch of the Elizabeth River in Virginia ..."

Extent Hand-drawn map.

Maps: "Skirmish at Richmond, 5 January, 1781."

Page VI

Extent 1 hand-drawn and 1 printed map.

Map of the skirmish at Richmond.

Page VII

Scope and Content

A sketch of the previous map.

Maps of Naval Action on the James River at Osburns.

Page VIII

Extent 2 hand-drawn maps.

Map: "Affair at Osburns."

Page IX

Extent Hand-drawn and colored map.

Maps of the action at Williamsburg Landing.

Page X

Extent 2 hand-drawn colored maps.

Map: "Rebels dislodged from Williamsburgh Landing."

Map of the action at Williamsburg Landing.

Map and sketch.

Page XI

Map: "City of Williamsburg, Virginia."

Scope and Content

Sketch map of the principal buildings of Williamsburg.

Sketch showing a view of Yorktown from Gloucester.

Scope and Content

Shows several vessels at anchor.

Map: "Attack of the rebels under Gen'l at the Point of Fork."

Page XII

Extent Hand-drawn map.

Scope and Content

Shows the military action at Point of Fork on the James River. This is near Columbia, Va. where the Rivanna River enters the James River.

Map: "Point Fork, Virginia."

Page XIII

Scope and Content

This is a larger map of the one above.

Map: "Sketch map of the Skirmish at Petersburg ..." 1784.

Page XIV

Extent Printed map.

Scope and Content

Map by I. Hills, Published in London by Wm. Faden.

Maps.

Page XV

Extent 9 maps mounted on one sheet.

Scope and Content

These maps illustrate the following battles: Osburns, Kingsbridge, Burrells, Spencers Ordinary, Point of

These maps illustrate the following battles: Osburn's, Kingsbridge, Burrell's, Spencer's Ordinary, Point of Fork, Richmond, North River, and Quintin's Bridge.

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