



## **Guide to the George Boyd and William Boyd Papers, 1773-1775; 1818-1821**

### Administrative Information

**Title and Dates:**

George Boyd and William Boyd Papers, 1773-1775; 1818-1821

**Repository:**

New Hampshire Historical Society  
30 Park Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-228-6688  
<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

**Collection Number:**

1974.075

**Author of Finding Aid:**

Unknown. Finding aid re-written and formatted by Sandra L. Wheeler

**Creators:**

Boyd, George, 1733-1787  
Boyd, William, 1773 – approximately 1821

**Language:**

The materials in this collection are in English.

**Extent:**

One box, one envelope

**Abstract:**

Papers, 1773-1821, include mostly letters dealing with the commercial activities of William and George Boyd.

## Access and Use

### **Acquisition Information and Provenance:**

Gift of William R. Corwine, 1974

### **Processing Information:**

This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date. The finding aid was written by an unknown person but was re-written and formatted by Sandra L. Wheeler in April, 2014. This finding aid follows the standards set-forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

### **Access Restrictions:**

Available for research.

### **Location:**

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

### **Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:**

This collection is on paper; there are no technical requirements for use.

### **Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:**

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Researchers are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

### **Preferred Citation:**

George Boyd and William Boyd Papers, 1974.075. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

## Collection Overview

### **Biographical Information**

George Boyd, 1733-1787, was a successful shipbuilder and merchant in Portsmouth, NH in the 1760's and early 1770's. He was reportedly the richest man in Portsmouth, NH in 1770. His principal business was shipbuilding, but in 1762, he purchased the mill of Peter Livius and began exporting lumbar. He was a Colonel in the militia but had loyalist leaning. He left Portsmouth at the beginning of the Revolution and died when he returned to the city in 1787.

William Boyd, son of George Boyd, was born in Portsmouth, NH in 1770. He left for England with is father in 1775 and did not return until 1787. He began a career as a shipping merchant and remained in Portsmouth until 1810-1815 when he moved to New Orleans and became a commission merchant. Little is known of Boyd after 1821 but it is assumed he remained there until his death.

**Collection Scope and Content Note:**

George Boyd's letter book (91 pages) was kept for his business; most were written between 1773 and 1775 and deal with his commercial activities: contracts, shipping schedules, construction, credit, accounts. There is some political comment and assessment of British commercial policy.

William Boyd's letter book (598 pages) was also kept for his business and covers the period April 27, 1818 to May 21, 1821. The letters deal almost exclusively with his commercial activities: contracts, prices, volumes, commodities, credit, the state of the New Orleans market and fluxes in the Mississippi trade in general. There are also accounts of several legal disputes, the yellow fever epidemic of 1819-1820, slave transactions, pirates, business failures in New Orleans, the Louisiana courts and some mentions of politics.

The collection includes some transcriptions.

**Arrangement:**

The books are bound and letters remain in the order in which they were written.

The pages of George Boyd's book are unnumbered; it contains 91 letters

William Boyd's book has 598 numbered pages containing 542 letters.

**Contents List**

The original cataloger prepared lists of some of the people listed in the books. These are transcribed below.

George Boyd letter book, 1773-1775

Barkley, Robert (Philadelphia)  
Curlett, John  
Curlett, Captain Thomas  
Coffin, Peter (Exeter)  
Crugar & Mallard (Bristol, England)  
Crugar, Harry  
Crugar, Henry (New York)  
Crugar, Nathaniel (St. Croix)  
Delany, Daniel (Boston and St. Christopher)  
Foster, John (Portsmouth)  
Fraser, Thomas (London)  
Geyer, Frederick William  
Good, John  
Graigie, George  
Groub, Samuel (London)  
Hambleton, John  
Howell, Jacob  
Howell, Joshua (Philadelphia)  
Jones, Mrs. Hanah  
Lane, Son & Fraser (London)

Langdon, John  
Latham & Pulsford  
Livius, Peter  
Meserve, George  
New, John  
Priddy, William (St. Kitts)  
Pringle, Hugh (Liverpool, England)  
Sherburne, Daniel  
Sherburne, Samuel  
Staples, John (London)  
Wendell, Edward (Antigua)  
Wentworth, John  
Wentworth, Joshua  
Whitwell, William

William Boyd Letter book, 1818-1821 [the original cataloger also listed page numbers upon which the letters appeared.]

Aigry, Thomas & Emmerson, Edward (Hallowell) 471, 533, 555, 565  
Bell, Andrew W. (Portsmouth) 426, 432, 454, 538, 571  
Binney, Colonel Amos (Boston) 79, 181, 261, 288, 463, 532, 535, 549, 477  
Blunt, Captain Robert (Portsmouth) 168  
Brierley, Benjamin (Portsmouth) 126, 130, 137, 159, 317, 328, 344, 350, 377, 444, 492  
Burroughs, Edward (Mobile) 169, 185, 410  
Calvill, John & son (New York) 68, 86, 92, 122, 161  
Cannon, Isaac & Jacob (Laurel, DL) 574  
Cartegril, Jaun (Havana) 526  
Chadwick, Samuel (Charlestown, SC) 135, 383, 401, 440, 458, 500, 519, 558, 575, 577, 589  
Clap, Asa (Portland, ME) 307, 508  
Eastman, Jonathan L. (Baltimore) 73, 184, 384, 385, 505  
Estes, Thomas (St. Louis) 313, 334, 419, 564  
Fine, Henry M. (Philadelphia) 79, 525  
Green, Charles B. (Natchez) 132, 153  
Haven, Nathaniel A. & John (Portsmouth) 286, 319, 329, 336, 360, 504  
Hickey, Philip (Baton Rouge) 142, 148, 153, 179, 183, 203, 220, 240, 263, 346, 353, 381, 388, 494  
Ingersoll, William (Mobile), 98, 99, 104, 108, 124, 177, 182, 224, 268, 340, 451, 512  
Ketchum, J. & Co. (Bayou Sara), 247, 408, 448, 464, 486  
Ladd, Eliphalet (Boston), 4, 12, 13, 23, 25, 29, 37, 42, 43, 73, 105, 106, 108, 109, 133, 150, 166, 176, 188, 202, 217, 235, 256, 280, 281, 283, 295, 297, 299, 325, 351, 363, 391, 398, 413, 414, 415, 416, 423, 456, 459, 462, 495, 501, 523, 529, 534, 543, 553, 570  
Langham, Major Angus L. (St. Louis), 201, 446, 550

Lewis, David (Philadelphia), 23, 27, 40, 44, 355, 389, 465, 474, 480, 503, 504, 508  
 Lewis, Haven, & Co. (Philadelphia), 31, 208, 420, 422, 431, 434, 435, 436, 448, 464, 489, 524,  
     539  
 Lord, John P. & Samuel (Portsmouth), 114, 171, 178, 181, 189, 204, 208, 274, 278, 294, 302,  
     359, 502  
 McIntire, William (New York), 357, 441, 468, 490, 520, 576  
 Mackay, John (Boston), 120, 174, 220, 282, 392, 396  
 March, Clement (St. Louis), 46, 56, 99, 110, 111, 165, 199, 206, 226, 246, 310, 323, 375, 423,  
     447, 481, 487, 513, 534, 562, 580  
 Milne, Richard (Philadelphia), 321, 382, 387  
 Nillen, Gov. James (New Orleans), 339  
 Northam, Stephen P. (Newport, RI), 541, 552, 556, 567, 584, 595  
 Packard & Gowan (Havana), 100, 101, 140, 145  
 Parker, John R. (Boston), 168, 218, 222  
 Paul, Gabriel (St. Louis), 164, 165, 230, 277  
 Perkins & Parker (Bangor, ME), 154, 289, 451  
 Potter, Capt. Robinson (Newport, RI), 516, 530, 533, 543, 572  
 Rice, John (Portsmouth), 203, 257, 333, 412, 453, 592  
 Ruggles, Nathaniel S. (Newport, RI), 483, 486, 496, 542, 569, 594  
 Rust, David (Mobile), 93, 183  
 Robinson, Philip (Charlestown, SC), 428, 520, 566, 568  
 Robinson, Jacob (Bath, ME), 540, 581  
 Rose, John (Charlestown), 599  
 Scribner, Eliphalet (Port au Prince), 141, 146  
 Smith, R.L. (Natchez), 248, 264, 266, 279, 337  
 Tenant, Thomas (Baltimore), 7, 14, 21, 35, 47, 75, 144, 366  
 Trafton, Gen. Mark (Boston and Bangor, ME), 216, 243, 255, 306, 365, 417, 451, 510, 528  
 Venables, Richard R. (St. Louis), 41, 89, 113, 253, 313, 335, 373, 423, 487  
 Whittelsey, Chauncey (Middletown, CT), 80, 119, 196  
 Wilkinson, Joseph B. (Washington, MI), 327, 543  
 Winter, James (Bath, ME), 544

## Subject Terms

[The person who did the original finding aid listed a few New Hampshire people as subjects; they are below. A complete list of names found in the correspondence, also done by the original cataloguer, is above under 'Contents List.']

## People:

Boyd, George, 1733-1787  
 Boyd, William 1770-ca. 1840  
 Foster, John  
 Graigie, George

Langdon, John  
Livius, Peter  
Meserve, George  
Sherburne, Daniel  
Sherburne, Samuel  
Wentworth, John  
Wentworth, Joshua  
Whitwell, William

**Organizations:**

United States – History – Revolution, 1775-1783

**Subjects:**

Colonial Currency  
Colonial Shipping and Commerce  
Commerce - New Orleans  
Judiciary – New Orleans  
Mississippi Valley Trade  
Piracy – New Orleans  
Politics – New Orleans  
Royalists – United States – Revolutionary War  
Slavery – New Orleans  
Slavery – United States  
Yellow Fever – New Orleans

**Locations:**

New Orleans, LA  
Portsmouth, NH

**Occupations:**

Merchants.  
Ship builders