



New York State Archives

**U.S. Customs Service Selected Documents Relating to
French Spoliation Claims B2025**

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Overview of the Records

Repository:	New York State Archives
Summary:	This series consists of documents containing evidence of the ownership and registry of vessels, most having their homeport at New York City, other places in New York, or in a nearby state. Documents include certificates of registry, bills of sale, and affidavits of ownership. They document claims from loss of vessels or cargoes to privateers acting for the governments of France, Spain, and the Netherlands. The United States government assumed such claims.
Creator:	U.S. Customs Service
Title:	Selected documents relating to French spoliation claims
Quantity:	0.1 cubic feet
Quantity:	1 microfilm roll 35mm
Inclusive Date:	1785-1803
Series:	B2025

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Arrangement

Arranged in two groups: "Miscellaneous certificates of registry, 1784-1802," 51 pp.; "Bonds and oaths of ownership, 1785-1803," 499 pp.

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Scope and Content Note

Microfilmed documents contain evidence of the ownership and registry of vessels, most having their home port at New York City or another place in New York or a nearby state. The documents pertain to the New York customs district and include certificates of registry, bills of sale, affidavits of ownership, etc. They provide information about numerous vessels and their owners and masters in the late eighteenth century. The documents were submitted to the U.S. government as evidence of claims arising from loss of vessels or cargoes to privateers acting

for the governments of France, Spain, and the Netherlands during the period 1797-1800. Those claims were assumed by the United States government in 1803, under a provision of the treaty by which France sold Louisiana.

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Use of Records

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding access to or use of this material.

Alternate Formats AvailableAlternate Formats Available

Microfilm: 1 roll; 35 mm.

Administrative Information

Existence and Location of Originals

Originals held by the National Archives.

Custodial History

The documents were selected for microfilming from the records of the customs district of New York (National Archives Record Group 36).

This microfilm reel was donated to the New York State Archives by George Damiano, ca. 1994.

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Access Terms

- Ships--Cargo
- Reviewing claims
- Certificates of registry
- Privateering
- Affidavits

- New York (State)
- New York (N.Y.)
- French spoliation claims
- Ships--New York (State)
- Bills of sale
- Government liability (International law)
- United States--Foreign relations--France
- Microfilms
- Claims
- United States. Department of the Treasury