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Overview of the Records

Repository: New York State Archives

Summary: These volumes contain a record of sales of land confiscated from loyalists in the Eastern and Western districts. Included are date of sale; name of purchaser; forfeiter (Eastern Division only); price; lot number and location; acreage (Eastern District only); and date of deed (Western District only). The series also includes accounts for Western District lands, which list purchaser's and forfeiter's names; lands purchased; date and amount of sale; and amounts and means of payments made by the purchaser.

Creator: New York (State). Commissioners of Forfeitures

Title: Lists of sales of and accounts of payments for confiscated lands

Quantity: 0.5 cubic feet

Quantity: 3 volumes; 1 disbound list

Inclusive Date: 1784-1788

Series: A4032

Arrangement

Arranged by district, then chronologically by date of sale or payment on account.

Administrative History

The governor was authorized to appoint commissioners of forfeitures in four districts by legislation of 1784 (7th session). The law specified that the commissioners were to sell forfeited lands at public auction; receive payments in the form of various bills of credit, treasurer's certificates, and currency; and issue deeds to purchasers upon full payment.
**Scope and Content Note**

These are records of sales by the Commissioners of Forfeitures of lands confiscated from Loyalists during the Revolution.

Two volumes record land sales in the Western District, 1784-1788, and one disbound list records sales in the Eastern District, 1784-1788, providing the following information: date of sale; name of purchaser; by whom forfeited (Eastern District only); price; lot number and location; acreage (Eastern District only); and date of deed (Western District only).

One additional volume contains accounts of persons purchasing forfeited lands. The heading of each account gives the purchasers’ and forfeitors’ names, lands purchased, date and amount of sale. The account then lists payments made giving the amount and description of the instrument used in payment (e.g. certificates issued by the state, interest due on certificates, currency, etc.).

**Use of Records**

**Access Restrictions**

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

**Alternate Formats Available**

**Items Online**

High resolution images of selected original documents in this series are available in State Archives Digital Collections.
Administrative Information

Custodial History

The two volumes of Western Division sales were deposited with the Surveyor General in 1827.

Access Terms

- Sales records
- United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783
- Selling
- American loyalists
- Real property
- Accounts
- New York (State)
- New York (State)--History--Revolution, 1775-1783
- New York (State). Surveyor General
- New York (State). Department of Transportation