

## Guide to the Waldron Papers, 1730-1753

### Administrative Information

**Title and Dates:**

Waldron Papers, 1730-1753

**Repository:**

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

**Collection Number:**

1833.002, 1977.004

**Author of Finding Aid:**

Harriet S. Lacy; reformatted by Korrena Cowing

**Creator:**

Waldron, Richard, 1693/4-1753

**Language:**

The materials in this collection are in English.

**Extent:**

2 boxes ; 0.63 linear feet

**Abstract:**

The Waldron Papers consist chiefly of correspondence between Richard Waldron and Jonathan Belcher, as well as copies of letters from Belcher to other persons.

## Access and Use

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

The Waldron Papers are one of the earliest acquisitions of the New Hampshire Historical Society, probably presented by Richard-Russell Waldron, a member removed from the state by 1833. The letters from Belcher to Waldron were bound in 1929. In December 1926, a volume containing 107 letters from Governor Belcher to Secretary Waldron dating from 1730 to 1733 was purchased by the New Hampshire Historical Society. The letters were removed from their binding in 1992. Accession 1977.004 was purchased on January 14, 1977 and consists of a single letter from Jonathan Belcher to Mr. Secretary Waldron dated June 18, 1733.

### **Processing Information:**

This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date. The finding aid was written by Harriet S. Lacy at an unknown date and reformatted by Korrena Cowing in March 2020. 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:**

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

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

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

### **Preferred Citation:**

Item title, Waldron Papers, 1883.002. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

## Collection Overview

### **Biographical Information:**

Richard Waldron III was born on February 21, 1693/4, graduated from Harvard in 1712, and was appointed king's attorney in 1715. He was appointed to his father's position as clerk of the Council in 1717, and at his father's death in 1730, succeeded him as province secretary and judge of common pleas. He was also appointed member of the council at this time, upon the resignation of his father-in-law Col. Thomas Westbrook. In 1737, he was made judge of probate. When Benning Wentworth became governor of New Hampshire in 1741, replacing Governor Belcher, Waldron was soon stripped of all his offices. Consequently, he spent the rest of his life

trying to get Wentworth dismissed. Waldron was elected representative by the town of Hampton, 1747-1753, and was chosen Speaker of the House. The governor rejected the choice, producing a deadlock which tied up all the business of the house for three years. Waldron died August 23, 1753.

Richard Waldron III was grandson of Major Richard (1615-1689); the son of Colonel Richard (1650-1730) and Eleanor (Vaughn) Waldron. Richard III married Elizabeth, born November 26, 1701, daughter of Colonel Thomas and Mary (Sherburne) Westbrook of Falmouth, ME, on December 31, 1718. Their eldest son, Richard (1719-1746), was lost at sea. The second son, Thomas Westbrook (1721-1785), managed his father's property and took over his affairs and papers at his death. There were two other sons, William (1723-1741) and George (1731-1805). Four children died at an early age.

**Collection Scope and Content Note:**

The correspondence with Jonathan Belcher (1682-1757), governor of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, 1730 to 1741, and of New Jersey, 1746 to 1757, gives a detailed account of all the affairs of the province. The first letter, written from England in 1730, tells of Belcher's appointment as governor. In subsequent letters there are official instructions to Waldron as secretary, combined with unofficial instructions to Waldron as friend and private agent, candid comments on events, and much vilification of everyone who opposed the governor.

From 1741 to 1743, there are comments on New Hampshire affairs and plans, which did not materialize, for Waldron to become agent for the new towns west of the Merrimack River, claimed by Massachusetts in the boundary dispute with New Hampshire. The correspondence dropped off when Belcher was in England and was resumed to some extent when he was made governor of New Jersey. Waldron hoped that Belcher could use his influence to have Governor Benning Wentworth dismissed.

Letters written by a clerk and signed by Governor Belcher. About half of these letters have been either printed in full or calendared. See *New Hampshire Provincial Papers*, IV: 866-880; and *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society*, 6<sup>th</sup> Series, Vols. VI & VII, Belcher Papers. There are 31 letters, February 6, 1729/30 to August 30, 1731; 115 letters, April 14, 1735 to September 17, 1739; and 18 letters August 8, 1743 to August 9, 1753, which have not been published.

The case of Governor Belcher (Volume 1, page 5), 7 pp. folio, is a statement of Governor Belcher's justification followed by a long refutation. See Library for photostat copy of Case of Andrew Wiggin vs. Jonathan Belcher, 11 November 1739; also for photostat copies of material on the Massachusetts-New Hampshire boundary dispute.

Transcripts of Governor Belcher's letters to the Board of Trade, 1731-1741. Copied from volumes in the Public Record Office, London. (977.8 G786bw) Note: 1883.001 and 1883.002 were once described in a single finding aid. The people field in the subject terms below represent both collections.

**Arrangement:**

The materials in this collection were bound in three volumes. The volumes were disbound in 1992 and the items placed in folders.

**Contents List****Box 1**

Folder 0	Finding aid
Folder 1	Volume 1: inside cover, seal, undated
Folder 2	Volume 1: pages 1-5, 1730
Folder 3	Volume 1: pages 9-43, 1730 January 18-December
Folder 4	Volume 1: pages 45-57, 1730/1 January-March
Folder 5	Volume 1: pages 59-71, 1730/1 March-1731 April
Folder 6	Volume 1: pages 73-83, 1731 May-June 14
Folder 7	Volume 1: pages 85-97, 1731 June 15-July 12
Folder 8	Volume 1: pages 99-107, 1731 July 13-August 16
Folder 9	Volume 1: pages 109-121, 1731 August 23-October 4
Folder 10	Volume 1: pages 123-135, 1731 October 11-November 9
Folder 11	Volume 1: pages 137-163, 1731 November 22-1731/2 January 10
Folder 12	Volume 1: pages 165-177, 1731/2 January 16-March 6
Folder 13	Volume 1: pages 179-191, 1731/2 March 13-1732 April 24
Folder 14	Volume 1: pages 193-203, 1732 May 29-June 26
Folder 15	Volume 1: pages 205-217, 1732 July 3-August 21
Folder 16	Volume 1: pages 219-231, 1732 August 29-October 30
Folder 17	Volume 1: pages 233-243, 1732 November 6-December 4
Folder 18	Volume 1: pages 245-271, 1732 December 18-1732/3 January 8
Folder 19	Volume 1: pages 273-283, 1732/3 January 8-29
Folder 20	Volume 1: pages 285-300, 1732/3 February 5-May 21
Folder 21	Volume 1: pages 301-311, 1733 June 11-July 9
Folder 22	Volume 1: pages 313-323, 1733 July 12-August 6
Folder 23	Volume 1: pages 325-337, 1733 August 13-September 17
Folder 24	Volume 1: pages 339-351, 1733 October 1-November 16
Folder 25	Volume 1: pages 353-361, 1733 November 19-December 6
Folder 26	Volume 1: pages 363-381, 1733 December 10-24
Folder 27	Volume 2: pages 1-11, 1733/4 February-1734 May 2
Folder 28	Volume 2: pages 13-21, 1734 May 13-30
Folder 29	Volume 2: pages 25-35, 1734 June 3-July 4
Folder 30	Volume 2: pages 37-51, 1734 August 1-29
Folder 31	Volume 2: pages 53-65, 1734 September
Folder 32	Volume 2: pages 67-77, 1734 November-December
Folder 33	Volume 2: pages 81-91, 1734/5 January 16-February 17
Folder 34	Volume 2: pages 93-107, 1734/5 March
Folder 35	Volume 2: pages 109-123, 1735 April-May
Folder 36	Volume 2: pages 125-139, 1735 June 2-11
Folder 37	Volume 2: pages 141-155, 1735 June 12-30
Folder 38	Volume 2: pages 157-165, 1735 July

Folder 39 Volume 2: pages 167-179, 1735 August  
Folder 40 Volume 2: pages 181-193, 1735 September  
Folder 41 Volume 2: pages 195-209, 1735 October  
Folder 42 Volume 2: pages 211-225, 1735 November  
Folder 43 Volume 2: pages 227-241, 1735 December

## **Box 2**

Folder 1 Volume 3: pages 2-5, 1735/6 January  
Folder 2 Volume 3: pages 6-8, 1735/6 February  
Folder 3 Volume 3: pages 9-13, 1736 March-July  
Folder 4 Volume 3: pages 14-19, 1736 August-December  
Folder 5 Volume 3: pages 20-23, 1737 January-May  
Folder 6 Volume 3: pages 24-28, 1737 June-September 2  
Folder 7 Volume 3: pages 29-33, 1737 September 3-December  
Folder 8 Volume 3: pages 34-38, 1738-1739 April 2  
Folder 9 Volume 3: pages 39-43, 1739 April 11-25  
Folder 10 Volume 3: pages 44-48, 1739 April 30-May 11  
Folder 11 Volume 3: pages 49-53, 1739 May 14-31  
Folder 12 Volume 3: pages 54-58, 1739 June  
Folder 13 Volume 3: pages 59-63, 1739 July  
Folder 14 Volume 3: pages 64-68, 1739 August  
Folder 15 Volume 3: pages 69-74, 1739 September-October 6  
Folder 16 Volume 3: pages 75-79, 1739 October 8-30  
Folder 17 Volume 3: pages 80-84, 1739 November  
Folder 18 Volume 3: pages 85-89, 1739 December  
Folder 19 Volume 3: pages 90-94, 1739/40 January  
Folder 20 Volume 3: pages 95-99, 1740 March-October  
Folder 21 Volume 3: pages 100-105, 1741 March-June 1  
Folder 22 Volume 3: pages 106-111, 1741 June 13-October  
Folder 23 Volume 3: pages 112-117, 1742 January-May 17  
Folder 24 Volume 3: pages 118-122, 1742 May 24-July  
Folder 25 Volume 3: pages 123-127, 1742 August-September  
Folder 26 Volume 3: pages 128-131, 1742 October-December  
Folder 27 Volume 3: pages 132-135, 1743 January-June  
Folder 28 Volume 3: pages 136-140, 1743 July-August 29  
Folder 29 Volume 3: pages 141-146, 1743 September-December 26  
Folder 30 Volume 3: pages 147-151, 1743 December 31-1743/4 February  
Folder 31 Volume 3: pages 152-156, 1749 August-1753 August

## **Subject Terms**

### **People:**

Adams, Hugh  
Allen, Jeremiah  
Amory, Thomas  
Atkinson, Theodore, 1697-1777

Belcher, Andrew, 1682-1757  
Belcher, Jonathan, 1682-1757  
Bethell, Slingsby  
Boutineau, Stephen  
Boyes, Robert  
Brown, John  
Brown, Mary  
Chambers, Margaret  
Christie, Capt. G.  
Cutt, Hannah  
Dudley, William  
Dunbar, David  
Fisher, William  
Fox, James  
Foye, John  
Gee, Rev. Mr.  
Gerrish, Elizabeth  
Gerrish, Paul  
Gorwood, Charles  
Jaffrey, George  
Jones, Phineas  
Kilby, Christopher  
Parker, William  
Partridge, Richard  
Peirce, Daniel  
Pepperell, William  
Phillips, John, 1719-1795  
Pullen, Ebenezer  
Rindge, John  
Rogers, Dr. N.  
Royall, Isaac  
Russell, Eleazer  
Rust, Rev. Henry  
Saltonstall, Richard  
Sherburne, Henry  
Sherburne, Joseph  
Sherburne, Sarah  
Shirley, William, 1694-1771  
Skillen, Simeon  
Sparhawk, N.  
Storke, Samuel  
Toogood, Edward  
Vaughan, William  
Waldron, George  
Waldron, Richard II  
Waldron, Richard, 1693/4-1753

Waldron, Richard, Jr.  
Waldron, Thomas W.  
Waldron, William  
Walton, Shadrach  
Wells, Ezekial  
Wentworth, Benning, 1696-1770  
Wentworth, John, 1671-1730  
Wentworth, Thomas  
Wiggin, Andrew  
Wilks, Francis  
Willard, Josiah  
Wood, John

**Organizations:**

Richard Wibird & Co.

**Subjects:**

Correspondence  
Massachusetts--History--Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775  
New Hampshire--History--Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775  
New Jersey--History--Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775  
Politics and government

**Locations:**

Maine  
Massachusetts  
New Hampshire  
New Jersey

**Occupations:**

Governors  
Politicians

**Related Materials**

Archives

Waldron Papers, 1833.001  
Moffatt and Whipple Family Papers, 1895.002  
Waldron Family Papers, 1925.001 (m)  
Letter from Richard Waldron to Andrew Wiggin, 1967.010 (m)  
Letter from Richard Waldron to Joshua Peirce, 1970.029 (m)  
Letter from Richard Waldron to James Jeffrey, 1975.002 (m)  
Ebenezer Stevens Papers, 1975.047 (m)  
Richard Waldron Correspondence, 1975.073 (m)  
Letter from Samuel Browne to Richard Waldron Jr., 1976.015 (m)  
Letter from David Dunbar to Richard Waldron, 1976.090 (m)  
Letter from Richard Waldron, 1987.011 (m)

Library

*Biographical notice of Major Richard Waldron.* Concord, N.H. : Jacob B. Moore, 1827. Call number: 977.8 N5321c V.2

Great Britain Board of Trade. *Transcripts of letters to the Board of Trade, 1741-1751; J. Belcher and B. Wentworth / copied from volumes in the Public Record Office of England* [by Benjamin Franklin Stevens]. Call number: 977.8 G786bw

*Letter of Matthew Thornton, 1775 and certificate of Richard Waldron.* Concord, N.H. : Asa McFarland, 1850. Call number: 977.8 N5321c V.7

Massachusetts Historical Society. *Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, 6<sup>th</sup> Series.* Cambridge, MA : Massachusetts Historical Society, 1792-1984. Call number: 977 M414c

New Hampshire. *[Provincial and State Papers]*. Concord, NH : Published by the authority of the legislature of New Hampshire, 1867-1943. Call number: 977.8 N532

Scales, John. *Major Richard Waldrene.* Call number: 920 W1676s