

David Library of the American Revolution

Finding Aid on Georgia

including the

British Colonial Office Papers (CO5)—Georgia
DLAR Microfilm Set 701

Prepared by David Swain, Volunteer Researcher, June 2018

Summary Contents

Note: The CO5 British Colonial Office Papers for Georgia owned on microfilm by the David Library of the American Revolution include the documents contained in Volumes 648-665 and 676-680. Reel numbers refer to the microfilmed Georgia colonial papers owned by DLAR. Their general contents are as follows:

Volumes 648-652 (Reels 1, 2, 3 begin)	<u>Board of Trade</u> correspondence (incoming) 1760-1782 (BT numbers E through I in Volumes 648-652 respectively; for incoming correspondence from 1734 to 1760, see Volumes 636 to 647 below in list of microfilmed documents not owned by DLAR.)
Volume 653 (Reel 3 end)	Board of Trade correspondence (drafts of outgoing) 1754-1758 Note: The Board of Trade, unlike the Secretary of State office, did not distinguish "official" and other correspondence in its filing system. Many but not all of the documents in the Board of Trade incoming correspondence are what the Secretary of State office would file as "official." Board of Trade outgoing correspondence microfilmed here dates from only the years 1754 to 1758 and consists of drafts of official correspondence. For additional outgoing correspondence between 1752 and 1781, see Volumes 672 to 674 in list of microfilmed documents not owned by DLAR.
Volumes 654-665 (Reels 4 to 8)	<u>Secretary of State</u> official correspondence (incoming) 1735-1780 (except that Volume 657 contains other, mostly not official correspondence, including documents, memorials, etc., out of sequence with previous and next Volumes, dated 1733 to 1783)
Volumes 676-677 (Reel 9)	Secretary of State official correspondence (outgoing) 1766-1782 (copies in letterbooks)
Volumes 678-680 (Reel 10)	Secretary of State summaries of official 1767-1781 correspondence (incoming) in letterbooks, mostly summaries of incoming letters, mostly from the Governor of Georgia to the Secretary of State, letters that also (almost but not all) appear as original, copy, or duplicate documents elsewhere in the Colonial Georgia Papers Note: The Secretary of State office, unlike the Board of Trade, made a distinction between "official" and other, in both incoming and outgoing correspondence. In practice, " official " correspondence refers to letters by or to (especially between) colonial governors and secretaries of state, along with other correspondence from other governmental officials and from other Secretary of State officials, including attachments to such letters, which might be but were not necessarily "official" documents. Any correspondence not filed as "official" correspondence is identified

here as “**other**” correspondence.

The general contents of Volumes of Georgia Colonial Papers not owned on microfilm by the David Library are as follows:

Volumes 636-647	Board of Trade correspondence (incoming) (BT numbers A to D in Volumes 644 to 647 respectively)	1734-1760
Volumes 666-669	Letters from Trustees establishing the colony etc.	1732-1752
Volumes 670-671	Grants of land, instructions, petitions etc.	1732-1752
Volumes 672-674	Letters from Board of Trade (outgoing) (BT numbers A to C in Volumes 672 to 674 respectively)	1752-1781
Volume 675	Abstracts of grants of land	1760-1768
Volumes 681-685	Acts of Georgia colonial government	1732-1781
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Volumes 689-691	Sessional Papers: Minutes of Trustee Council	1732-1752
Volumes 692-708	Sessional Papers: Minutes of Council and Assembly	1741-1780
Volumes 709-710	Shipping Returns	1752-1767
Volume 711	Miscellaneous: Account of the progress of the colony	1732-1740
Volume 712	Miscellaneous: Answer to the charges against the Rev. T. Bosomworth concerning the Indian war in 1749	1756

Summary Contents of DLAR Microfilmed Papers by Reel and Volume

Reel 1

Volume 648

Board of Trade Correspondence (incoming), begin

May 29, 1749 to July 17, 1764

Documents 1 to 99

[Frames 1 to 315]

Reel 2

Volume 649

Board of Trade Correspondence (incoming), continued

March 25, 1764 to June 30, 1767

Documents 1 to 114

[Frames 1 to 285]

Volume 650

Board of Trade Correspondence (incoming), continued

November 18, 1765 to January 20, 1770

Documents 115 to 170

[Frames 1 to 139]

Reel 3

Volume 651

Board of Trade Correspondence (incoming), continued

August 15, 1769 to June 19, 1772 Documents 1 to 85 [Frames 1 to 215]

Volume 652

Board of Trade Correspondence (incoming), end

October 31, 1772 to December 7, 1782 Documents 86 to 105 [Frames 1 to 49]

Volume 653

Board of Trade Correspondence (outgoing), Drafts

June 21, 1754 to June 29, 1758 Documents 106 to 134 [Frames 1 to 115]

Reel 4

Volume 654 [not itemized in this finding aid]

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), begin

August 13, 1735 to December 12, 1741 Documents 1 to 217 [Frames 1 to 410]

Volume 655 [not itemized in this finding aid]

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

January 13, 1742 to May 18, 1747 Documents 218 to 399 [Frames 1 to 343]

Reel 5

Volume 656 [not itemized in this finding aid]

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

August 18, 1747 to August 28, 1751 Documents 1 to 178 [Frames 1 to 242]

Volume 657

Secretary of State Other Correspondence, (Board of Trade correspondence to Secretary of State and other, not official documents), continued

November 21, 1733 to February 2, 1785 Documents 179 to 279 [Frames 1 to 289]

Reel 6

Volume 658

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

October 17, 1761 to November 14, 1767 Documents 1 to 117 [Frames 1 to 282]

Volume 659

Secretary of State Official Correspondence, (incoming), continued

November 18, 1765 to December 10, 1768 Documents 118 to 161 [Frames 1 to 108]

Volume 660

Secretary of State Official Correspondence, (incoming), continued

November 15, 1768 to December 11, 1770 Documents 162 to 226 [Frames 1 to 153]

Volume 661

Secretary of State Official Correspondence, (incoming), continued

October 2, 1770 to December 12, 1772 Documents 227 to 287 [Frames 1 to 227]

Reel 7

Volume 662

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

December 16, 1772 to October 28, 1773 Documents 1 to 29 [Frames 1 to 78]

Volume 663

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

March 3, 1773 to December 10, 1774 Documents 30 to 112 [Frames 1 to 184]

Volume 664

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

September 14, 1774 to December 23, 1775 Documents 113 to 221 [Frames 1 to 251]

Reel 8

Volume 665

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), end

June 27, 1775 to December 7, 1780 Documents 1 to 146 [Frames 1 to 343]

Reel 9

Volume 676

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (outgoing), begin

August 8, 1766 to November 14, 1767 Document 1 [Frames 1 to 5]

Volume 677

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (outgoing), end

February 4, 1768 to June 27, 1782 Documents 2 to 5 [Frames –/1 to 107/218]

Reel 10

Volume 678

**Secretary of State Summaries of Official Correspondence (incoming),
begin**

February 15, 1762 to March 30, 1772 Documents 1 to 100 [Frames 1 to 132]

Volume 679

**Secretary of State Summaries of Official Correspondence (incoming),
continued**

April 24, 1772 to August 17, 1780 Documents 101 to 227 [Frames 1 to 178]

Volume 680

**Secretary of State Summaries of Official Correspondence (incoming),
end**

August 20, 1780 to December 31, 1781 Documents 228 to 265 [Frames 1 to 30]

Introduction

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This introduction is divided into two main parts, a **thematic timeline** of colonial Georgia history and a series of **thematic sections**. Both provide contextual information that goes beyond what is found in the Georgia Colonial Office papers as available microfilmed in the David Library of the American Revolution. The thematic timeline is organized around dates, while the thematic sections are organized around aspects of historical significance that relate to documents in the microfilmed papers. The themes tend, at the same time, to be both discreet and interconnected. This introduction is not a fully researched, academic article. Rather, it contains reactions to the documents—contextual observations, stories, and interpretation to help guide interested researchers in a few possibly fruitful directions for future inquiry.

Much of the specific information contained in this introduction is not found in detail in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia. The information selected provides context and helps to tell the larger historical story in which the microfilmed papers are embedded. Some of this information appears, in bits and pieces, in notes that follow specific document entries in the annotated contents. Where a useful connection can be made between the contextual information and particular microfilmed documents, references are included here.

The documents of colonial Georgia's government and governing naturally reflect the British perspective on the subject, including the use of terminology. To preserve this sense of perspective, the introduction uses British terminology in relation to the great conflict that led to creation of the United States of America. For the British, the conflict was a "rebellion" (not a "revolution"). And for them, the people involved on the two sides of the conflict were "loyalists" on the right side and "rebels" on the wrong side, (not "loyalists," or "royalists" on the wrong side and "patriots" on the right side).

In addition, the colonial British in North America referred to the Native Americans, whom they found when they arrived in Georgia and lived among in an uneasy relationship, Indians, reflecting the geographic confusion of Christopher Columbus in 1492. This introduction uses the persisting British (and latter-day American) term, despite the fact that it had been proven inaccurate long before Georgia was settled.

Also, organized groups of interrelated Indians are today commonly called tribes, based on the category of social and governing structure they are perceived to have maintained. The British also used the term "tribe." But they (and, later on, the U.S. Government) also used another term, "nation," when referring to a group of Indians as a legal entity. The British understood that Indian tribes were constitutionally nations, with a unique kind of sovereignty, which the British chose to recognize in establishing and maintaining official relations with the Indians. This Finding Aid seeks to use both terms, as appropriate.

The British also had a habit of calling Indians “savages.” This term was more culturally demeaning, expressing (perhaps unconsciously) the cultural prejudices of the English, as well as other Europeans. Perhaps realizing this, colonial Georgians tended not to use this term in formal documents or in the direct presence of Indians. Still, in official correspondence, the term “savage” is commonly, if not frequently used. The Finding Aid uses the term only to reflect its use in a document.

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Selected References

A Thematic Timeline of Georgia Colonial History

Initial British Proprietary Colony of Georgia with Trustees

- 1732 A **Proprietary Colony** of Georgia was founded by formation of a Board of Trustees. Most Trustees “ruled” from England and never set foot in Georgia. Their joint purposes were both philanthropic and idealistic, to establish an English colony that would prosper through individual family entrepreneurialism, while also acting as a buffer for the English colonies to Spanish-controlled territory to the south in Florida.
- 1733 **Savannah was founded and settled** by initial settlers led by Trustee George Oglethorpe. He was the only Trustee to live in Georgia and to play an active role in making the Colony a reality. As both philanthropic leader and a general, he sought personally both to support family-oriented settlement and enterprise and to protect the colony militarily from Spanish encroachment.
- 1739-1748 The European War of Jenkins’ Ear between Britain and Spain included **hostilities along the Georgia-Florida border**. In 1740, General Oglethorpe led two English offensive thrusts into Spanish Florida territory, without measurable success. In 1742, Spain retaliated with its own offensive, which was repulsed by the English. A final offensive attempt by Oglethorpe in 1743 against St. Augustine also failed. The entire war was a draw, and the 1748 Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle returned all boundaries to their former lines. For Georgia, this meant that the St. Johns River was recognized as its boundary with Spanish Florida.
- By 1743 Georgia’s **social-reform experiment in family-oriented settlement failed** to prosper, and the colony’s economy reestablished itself on the more familiar, proven-prosperous West Indian slave-plantation model.

This was not a pleasing outcome for the Trustees. Oglethorpe returned to England in 1743, and the transition to plantation agriculture was difficult and did not quickly yield prosperity.

1752 The King of England decided to take over governance of Georgia, recreating it as a **Royal Colony** with a Governor and government appointed by him. His purpose, given Georgia's early failures to prosper, was, through direct control, to reshape Georgia into a prosperous colony that would economically benefit England and the British Empire. This British colony existed for 30 years, from 1752 to 1782.

Early documents in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia date from the Trustee period of Georgia's governance. However, most of the papers document the official governance of the Royal Colony, from when it was established in 1752 until it ceased to exist in 1782.

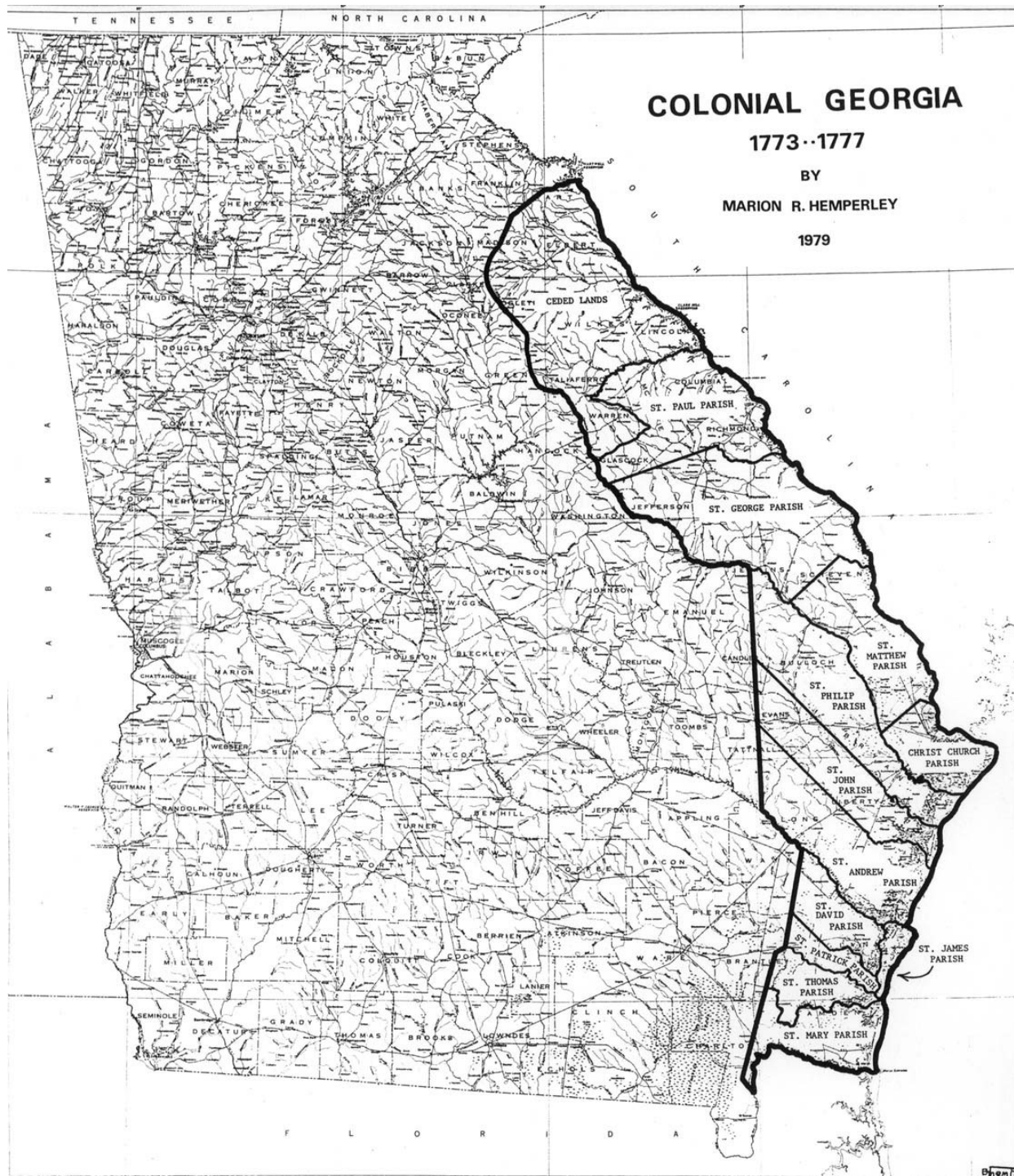
Subsequent British Royal Colony of Georgia with Governor and Government

Geography of British Royal Colonial Rule

As the British settled and organized life on the land in Georgia, they adapted the English system of Church of England Parishes, named usually for Christian saints, as a familiar way to divide the land for local rule. This was true for both the original proprietary and the subsequent royal colony of Georgia. A major difference was, of course, that in England parishes distinguished adjacent areas of long-settled, domesticated English life, while in Georgia, parishes were carved out what the English perceived to be wilderness, even though it was already populated by Native Americans.

As indicated on the map below, British colonial Georgia grew from a single parish (Christ Church Parish) at Savannah to 12 parishes, strung both along the Atlantic coastal area to the southwest from Savannah and up the Savannah River to the northwest from Savannah. A thirteenth "parish" is included on this map, representing the most recent addition of land on the edge of the frontier up the Savannah River. Called "Ceded Lands" on the map, these lands had, at the time represented on the map, just recently been ceded by the Cherokee Indian Nation in the so-called Cession Treaty of June 1, 1773, and thus had not yet become sufficiently settled and organized to be designated by a parish name.

For much of the colonial period, Georgia's frontier expanded along these two bands of settlement, southwest from and northwest from Savannah. By the end of the colonial period, as the Royal Proclamation Line of 1763 was increasingly being disregarded, Georgia's frontier began to be more westward from all 12 of the parishes. But the parish system did not spread westward. Instead, after the American Revolution, the



State of Georgia established a system of counties in the areas of newer settlement and consolidated the old parishes into counties in the areas of earlier colonial settlement.

Rhythms of British Royal Colonial Rule

The rhythms of the royal colonial ruling process tended to respond to various catalysts of change in personalities, policies, and/or power relations. Such catalysts might include a change of king, changes of Secretaries of State (which reflected changes in Prime Ministers and overall government policies), changes in power relations between

the Secretary of State and Board of Trade bureaucracies, changes in royal governors plus, of course, events both in England and in Georgia.

1727-1820 Only one change of **King of Britain** occurred during the time of Georgia's colonial history. Having ruled since 1727, King **George II** died in **October 1760** and was replaced by his grandson, **George III**. The third George ruled until 1820. Thus royal longevity during this period brought stability at the top. Even the one change of monarchs in 1760 did not cause significant alterations of policy or power relationships. It occurred in the same year that James Wright began his long tenure as Georgia's royal governor.

During the early years of Georgia's colonial history, the British government's focus was more on economic development. This emphasis is visible in the official correspondence, in which the relative importance of the **Board of Trade** to the Georgia colonial government appears to be greater than that of the Secretary of State. After 1768, the power relationship seems to shift toward the **Secretary of State**, reflecting organizational changes in London as well as changing events, with the rise of the American colonial protest movement and other matters of political and governance importance. The Board of Trade was governed by a group of commissioners, none of whom tended to exert individual influence or leadership. Single secretaries of state, by contrast, had considerable individual influence over policy (within a government led by a prime minister).

1727-1768 **Secretaries of State for the Southern Department** (which included the southern North American colonies plus the Caribbean and West Indian colonies), most of whom appear in the microfilmed papers:

The Duke of Newcastle	1727 to 1748
Thomas Robinson	1748 to 1751
The Earl of Holderness	1751 to 1754
Henry Fox	1755 to 1756
William Pitt (Elder)	1756 to 1761
The Earl of Egremont	October 1761 to August 1763
The Earl of Halifax	September 1763 to July 1765
Henry Seymour Conway	July 1765 to May 1766
The Duke of Richmond	May to July 1766
The Earl of Shelburne	July 1766 to October 1768

More than the others, Shelburne contributed considerably to organizing the archiving effort in the Secretary of State office, including the numbering of official letters.

In 1768, a reorganization in the Secretary of State office placed a single Secretary of State in charge of all the American colonies. This change reflected the changing emphasis, among colonial governance issues, toward political control over economic development. One result was to diminish the relative influence of the Board of Trade.

Another was to increase the influence, as well as the stability, of the Secretary of State position, since the days of the Duke of Newcastle

- 1768-1782 **Secretaries of State for the Colonies** who appear in the microfilmed papers include:
- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| The Earl of Hillsborough | February 1768 to August 1772 |
| Hillsborough previously had been a Board of Trade Commissioner. He chose to continue Shelburne's archiving and letter numbering system, which was also used subsequently by Dartmouth and Germain. | |
| The Earl of Dartmouth | August 1772 to November 1775 |
| Lord George Germain | November 1775 to July 1782 |

Germain was the last of the Secretaries of State for the Colonies. When Lord North's "war government" fell in mid-1782, Germain's term as Secretary of State ended. As Britain sought to move on from a failed war in America, the Secretary of State office again reorganized and changed terminology. What had been the colonial office now became the office of the Secretary of State for the Home Department (or Home Secretary). Political instability also returned temporarily.

- 1782-1789 **Secretaries of State for the Home Department** who appear in the microfilmed papers include:
- | | |
|---|---|
| The Earl of Shelburne | March to July 1782 |
| This is the same Shelburne who, in the late 1760s, had been Secretary of State for the Southern Department. He held the Home Secretary position so briefly because he became prime minister in July 1782. | |
| Thomas Townshend | July 1782 to April 1783 and, after a brief hiatus, again from December 1783 to 1789 |

The terms of service for Georgia's **Royal Governors** reflect both personal factors and political events. Only three men held the position, the third of them for the last 22 of the colony's 30 years:

- 1752-1758 **John Reynolds** was an unfortunate failure at administration. However, it took six years to replace him, which is not what the King had hoped for in establishing the Royal Colony of Georgia.
- 1758-1760 **Henry Ellis** was a better administrator, but his health soon failed. He requested to be replaced and left Georgia for England in November 1760. His influence on Georgia's colonial development and governance was thus limited. Before his planned departure, his successor, James Wright moved to Savannah from Charleston in the position of Lieutenant Governor of Georgia. Upon Ellis' departure, Wright was promptly appointed Governor.

1760-1782 **James Wright**, by most accounts a capable administrator and popular leader, was also a true believer in and rigid supporter of the King, the English governmental system, and the British Empire. This split the Georgia population when protests erupted, beginning in 1765. Despite the disruption of protests, Wright maintained colonial governmental control longer than any other royal governor among the 13 colonies that revolted in 1775; for all but three years—from 1776 to 1779, during which the British military occupied Savannah—Wright’s government continued to function, on-site, until he and his government were finally, permanently ousted by “rebel” military force—and officially ceased to exist—in July 1782. No other colonial government among the 13 retained control during the Revolutionary War, and no other returned to rule after having been ousted during the conflict.

1771-1773 **Governor Wright’s leave of absence:** During his long tenure as Governor of Georgia, Wright left Savannah only three times. Two of these were involuntary, during the Revolutionary War, when rebel forces occupied Savannah, first in March 1776, when Wright’s government went into English exile for three years before returning in July 1779, and second in July 1782, when Savannah and most of Georgia were under rebel control, the British had lost the war, and the colony of Georgia officially ceased to exist.

One other time (the first time chronologically) Wright left Savannah voluntarily in July 1771 on an official leave of absence he had requested to attend to personal matters in England. Such leaves were not uncommon, and, by the time Wright was granted his, he had been on duty as Governor of Georgia for 11 years. He did not return to Savannah until February 1773.

During his leave, Wright arranged, with royal approval, for a “**stand-in**” **governor, James Habersham**, who had served for some time as president of the governor’s Council. At Wright’s request, Habersham was never appointed Acting Governor but retained his title of President of the Council. He seems to have been a competent stand-in governor, communicating regularly with the Secretary of State and others, and managing the same sorts of economic-development and governance issues with which Wright contended.

American Protest Movement against British Colonial Authority—Colonial Georgia’s Experience

1765-1767 **Stamp Act—enforcement and protest:**
The Stamp Act was enacted by Parliament on March 22, 1765, based on the presumed fairness of taxing North American colonists to help pay off

the British military debt from the successful French and Indian War/Seven Years War, from which those colonists had directly benefited.

Governor Wright began enforcing the Stamp Act in Georgia in fall 1765 (Reel 2 documents 21 to 25) and continued doing so, despite protests, until sometime in mid-1766. Georgia was the only colony among the 13 that enforced the Stamp Act.

Between January and March and in November 1766, Wright reported to the Board of Trade and Secretary of State about opposition to and disturbances against enforcement of the Stamp Act (Reel 2 documents 58 to 69, 104 to 106, and Reel 6 documents 46, 52 to 60). Secretary of State Shelburne responded to Wright about this situation on September 22, 1766, encouraging enforcement of the law (Reel 9, in document 1).

Parliament repealed the Stamp Act on March 18, 1766, but reverberations of the colonial protest movement continued to appear in Wright's correspondence in early 1767 (Reel 2 document 98 and Reel 6 document 91)

1767-1768 **Townshend Acts—reaction to protests in other colonies**

The Townshend Acts, enacted by Parliament in June and July 1767, were mostly a set of import duties on selected goods the colonies had to import from England. Parliament justified these as indirect taxes over which its sovereign right of taxation could not be questioned and must be obeyed. Nevertheless, protests quickly arose in many colonies, and, by 1770, all of the duties had been repealed except for that on tea, which was retained to make the point about Parliament's power to tax.

Wright actively enforced collection of these import duties in Georgia and, in early 1768, reported Georgia's negative reactions to the protests elsewhere, especially in Massachusetts (Reel 6 document 149, 166-167). Secretary of State Hillsborough responded to Wright on February 23, 1768, encouraging enforcement of the duties (reel 9, in document 1).

1771-1773 During James Habersham's stand-in governance of Georgia, the colony's official policies and actions regarding taxation and parliamentary sovereignty changed little. During the same period, protests and tensions were accelerating among other colonies, especially in Massachusetts but also just across the Savannah River in South Carolina. Through 1773, Georgia might be considered to be the most (comparatively) loyal among the 13 colonies. However....

1774 By 1774, as protests were intensifying, even in Georgia, Wright looked back to 1765 and the Stamp Act as the beginning of a **dangerous slide toward protest that Wright felt was undermining British colonial authority**. In the 1760s he had feared the slide would accelerate. Now,

he felt it had gone so far as to endanger imminently the continuing existence of that authority (Reel 7 document 95, Wright's letter No. 26 dated August 24, 1774, to Secretary of State Dartmouth).

- Sept 1774 The **First Continental Congress** convened in Philadelphia. Georgia was not represented.
- Jan 1775 A **Provincial Assembly** convened as a first step toward a Georgia rebel government, with only five of Georgia's 12 parishes represented. It initially relied on an executive **Council of Safety** to rule.
- May 1775 The **Second Continental Congress** convened in Philadelphia. Although arriving late, Georgia representatives attended—and continued to attend—the last of the 13 colonies to join, thus setting Georgia on the path toward becoming a State in the United States of America. This Continental Congress met until 1781, when it evolved into the Congress under the Articles of Confederation, which met until superseded by the United States Congress in 1789, under the U.S. Constitution of 1787.

With hindsight, it appears that Wright's efforts to maintain British colonial authority in Georgia were essentially doomed by 1775. Yet neither the British government and military nor Governor Wright accepted this view at the time. Britain fought a war to force its authority on what it still defined as its colonies. And Wright made extraordinary and (mostly) undiminished efforts to maintain the functions of his colonial government in Georgia until the inevitability of its demise finally became evident to him in July 1782 and to the British government at about the same time.

American Revolutionary War—Colonial Georgia's Experience

The Revolutionary War began in Massachusetts and took some time to move southward. Between mid-1778 and mid-1782, Georgia endured repeated military actions, most of them fairly small in scale but a few significantly bloody. The war in the interior back country consisted of mostly brief, scattered encounters, while war in the Augusta and Savannah areas occasionally grew into sieges and battles of larger scale, longer duration, and greater bloodshed.

The fortunes of war ebbed and flowed in Georgia, as elsewhere. Until late 1778, the rebels appeared to be on the offensive. Then, in 1779 and 1780, the British gained the offensive, only to lose it again in 1781. After the British surrender at Yorktown, Virginia in October 1781, the British military never regained the advantage, and by July 1782, the shooting war in Georgia was over, the rebels had won, and the British colony of Georgia had ceased to exist.

Note: Throughout the war, the British officials in Georgia, as elsewhere, referred to their enemy as “**rebels**,” not as Americans or Continentals, and certainly not as the

military force of the United States. As would seem historically appropriate, the term “rebels” is used here as well.

British Loss of Savannah and Hiatus in British Colonial Rule

1775 The rebels did not wait for formal, organized military action. Beginning in May 1775, Wright began reporting to the Secretary of State instances in which armed civilians (which he tended to identify as both South Carolinians and Georgians) used force to steal arms and gunpowder. Some were stolen from colonial government magazines and stores. Others were seizures at sea or in port of vessels loaded with gunpowder (Reel 7, in particular documents 154, 175 to 181, 182, 183, 202, and 212).

1776 Arrival in January 1776 of a British fleet at the mouth of the Savannah River, on a mission to procure supplies of rice for British troops at Boston, led to the first military action in Georgia. As a precaution, the rebels who now controlled Savannah, placed Wright under house arrest. He managed to escape on February 11 and, with loyalist assistance, fled to Cockspur Island, where the supply fleet’s flagship *HMS Scarborough* was moored.

Negotiations to return Wright to his home and his office failed, so on March 1, the British sent several ships up the river to seize rice-laden vessels docked at Savannah. The resulting battle (later named the **Battle of the Rice Boats**) between Georgia (rebel) militia and British troops assigned to the supply fleet (commanded by James Grant, former royal governor of East Florida) was the first Revolutionary War military action in Georgia. Meanwhile, other top officials of Wright’s colonial government had been detained in Savannah. Negotiations followed for their release.

Departure and Hiatus: By the end of March, the remnants of Wright’s government were aboard the *Scarborough*, and hopes for their quick return to rule in Savannah had been dashed. So, the supply fleet sailed north. By the time they arrived at Boston, General Thomas Gage had already ordered the city’s evacuation by the British military. Wright and his fellow colonial officials sailed on, via Halifax, to England. Although they never capitulated and maintained the fiction of being the legitimate (British colonial) government of Georgia, they spent three years “in exile” in England before returning to re-establish their government in British controlled Savannah in February 1779.

Wright did not tell most of the military story in his reports to the Secretary of State. He did, however, inform Dartmouth about his forced move to live on the *Scarborough*, his failure to re-establish his government in Savannah, and his subsequent voyage back to England (via North Carolina, where he sought to rendezvous with British General Sir Henry

Clinton, whose army was headed south at the time, in a last-ditch effort to turn around the misfortunes of his government by obtaining military assistance in recapturing Savannah). The effort was in vein. Wright was unable to meet with Clinton, who may not have been interested in any case.

Relevant microfilmed documents, written by Wright, include: On board the warship *HMS Scarborough* at Cockspur Island (Reel 8 documents 29 to 39, dated between March 1 and March 27, 1776); On the *Scarborough* at sea to Sir Henry Clinton (Reel 8 document 42, dated April 2, 1776); At Halifax (Reel 8 document 41, dated April 26, 1776).

War During the Absence of British Colonial Government in Georgia

1776-1778 **Ineffectual Rebel Attacks on East Florida:** During the time the rebels controlled Savannah and Georgia, they ruled through a Committee of Safety plus a military organization based on the previous colonial militia. Before Britain shifted its military strategy southward in 1778, the American Continental Army was fully occupied far to the north, so rebel military activities in the south were limited mostly to militia actions. Rebel Georgia sought to mount three offensive thrusts of its militia into British East Florida territory, in August to October 1776, in April to May 1777, and in April to July 1778. None of these was successful, less because the East Florida militia was any stronger (which it may have been) than because Georgia's military efforts were inept as well as weak.

British Military "Southern Strategy"—Recapture of Savannah and Re-establishment of British Colonial Government in Georgia

1778 **British Recapture of Savannah:** By late 1778, the British strategic decision to shift operations toward the southern colonies was beginning to come into focus on the ground. A sizeable British army under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell sailed in early December from New York to a landing near Savannah. After disembarking on December 23, he attacked the city immediately and by December 29, Savannah's rebel defenders had surrendered. After the fight was over, Campbell's co-commander Brigadier General Augustine Prevost arrived with additional troops from St. Augustine, East Florida.

1779 In Savannah, Campbell exercised **British military rule of Georgia** from December 29, 1778 until July 1779, when he returned to England, leaving Prevost in command at Savannah. Although Wright arrived back in Savannah the same month and began the substantial task of re-establishing civil colonial government, Augustine Prevost's brother Lieutenant Colonel Jacques Marc Prevost acted as provisional military governor until the civil government became functional in September.

Meanwhile, in early January 1779, a British army, under Jacques Marc Prevost, had recaptured Georgia's second port, Sunbury, for the British.

Then, in late January 1779, J. M. Prevost's army had succeeded in recapturing Augusta. However, in this case, the rebels managed, in mid-February, to wrest it back again.

Georgia Colonial Government Hangs On as its Power Waxes, then Wanes, and then the Rebels Close In

Spring 1779 **Waxing power:** Given Britain's southern-strategy military successes in late 1778 and early 1779, the British government and its colonial government in Georgia were optimistic. Riding on this wave, the British government sent Governor Wright and his colonial government from London back to Savannah (Reel 8 documents 57, 58, 62, 64 dated in March and July 1779).

July 1779 Governor Wright and his government arrived at Savannah on July 14, 1779 (Reel 8 document 65, dated July 31, 1779) and began the process of **re-establishing British colonial civil government**.

Fall 1779 **Close Call:** Wright was just getting his re-established civil government operating when a major, dual military threat emerged from nowhere, intent upon returning Savannah and Georgia to rebel control. The combined forces of a French fleet and army commanded by the Comte d'Estaing and a rebel army of Continental soldiers commanded by General Benjamin Lincoln bore down on Savannah on September 16, 1779, blockading the river, and digging in for a siege. Once again, the war had come to Georgia, and once again Wright and his government had been trapped by it.

Some kind of rebel attack had been expected, and defensive preparations had been made. But the French fleet and army were unexpected (Reel 5 document 254, letter from Brigadier General Prevost to General Clinton dated September 9, 1779). Although this confrontation has become known as the **Siege of Savannah**, no lengthy siege ensued. Rather, the outcome was resolved in a single, massive assault by the French and rebels, attempted on October 9, 1779, in which the attackers were bloodily repulsed. The Polish patriot hero Casimir Pulaski was killed in the action, and rebel and French casualties were very high (Reel 8 documents 77, 78 include Wright's letter reporting the event to the Secretary of State and a "diary" Wright kept of the siege and its outcome).

May 1780 The **high point of British resurgence** through the Southern Strategy came when a very real and lengthy siege of Charleston led to surrender,

on May 12, 1780, of General Lincoln's large but soundly defeated Continental army. During the same month, British troops also recaptured Augusta.

Aug 1780 Continuing the string of British victories, General Cornwallis crushed General Horatio Gates' American army at Camden, South Carolina, consolidating British control in the Carolinas and isolating Georgia from the other rebelling colonies.

British optimism was high, and colonial Georgia dared hope that the war had finally passed them by. But these turned out to be the last significant British victories in the war. From here, Britain's military fortunes went downhill.

1780-1781 **Waning power:** A string of rebel military victories ensued in the interior south, including King's Mountain in October 1780 and Cowpens in January 1781, both in South Carolina, and then, in April and May 1781, back in Georgia, a siege of Augusta, including battles at Fort Dreadnought (which the rebels called Fort Galphin) and Fort Grierson, leading to the June 5 fall of Augusta to the rebels. This and British abandonment later in June of the upland South Carolina military camp the British called Ninety-Six opened the entire interior back country of Georgia to rebel control.

Fall 1781 As British control was disintegrating in the interior south, Cornwallis' large British army, in need of supplies, had headed toward Virginia's low country, attempting to connect with British supply ships. In the process, they managed to get bottled up on a peninsula where the Continental Army and a French fleet converged on them. The Siege of Yorktown, from mid-September to mid-October 1781, ended in defeat, surrender, and disaster for the British cause. For all practical purposes, the war ended, with American victory, at Yorktown. But the war went on anyway, and it did not pass Georgia by.

1782 **Demise of British Colonial Georgia:** In January 1782, American General "Mad" Anthony Wayne, his army freed from Yorktown siege duty, was sent south to recapture Savannah and ensure Georgia's inclusion in the new United States. Yet again, the war came to Savannah, and once again, Governor Wright was there, seeking to maintain his government and preserve British colonial sovereignty over Georgia. This time, his failure had no recourse.

Wayne headed for Savannah with a force too small for either an effective siege or a frontal attack, so he opted for a slow process of harassment and limiting supplies and reinforcements, especially Indians, from entering the city. The process took from January to late June but finally it **forced Wright, his government, and the remaining loyalist population to sue**

for peace, which meant surrender, evacuation, and, on July 11, 1782, the official end of the British colony of Georgia.

Selected Themes of Georgia Colonial History

Running an Empire on Sailing Time

A pervasive issue runs through the British Colonial Papers—and through similar records of British and other empires of the 18th Century or of any time in human history until very recently. This issue is variously contended with, but in general, it is accepted as a relatively fixed aspect of reality. The issue is the **time required for communication**, via sailing vessels, on a global scale.

From a 21st Century perspective of (almost) instantaneous, (almost) global, electronic communication, it is difficult to imagine the slow pace of communications between Governor James Wright of the British colonial Georgia in Savannah and his “bosses,” the Commissioners of the Board of Trade and Plantations and the Secretary of State for the Colonies in London.

As the official correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia reveals, the time required for a letter to travel by ship across the Atlantic Ocean, from Savannah to London or *vice versa*, was at least two months and usually longer. These transit times assumed that the “speedy” “packet-boat” service was running smoothly. It frequently was not, resulting usually from some combination of unpredictable and dangerous delays and disruptions caused by either severe storms at sea or by marine hostilities, whether by enemy ships, privateers, pirates, or even a mutiny. As a result, some official mail traveled on slower merchant ships, and some was sent on longer, divergent routes to avoid expected trouble areas. And, some encounters at sea led to politically motivated theft of mail pouches or even to the sinking of vessels.

The best, though imperfect, insurance available to those sending correspondence was to send multiple copies. The correspondence and other documents found in these microfilmed papers are often identified as originals or copies—or as intentional, often multiple, duplicates of the same correspondence, sent separately, by different conveyances, via different routes, in hopes that at least one would be delivered.

In addition, most official letters began with a recitation of what correspondence had (or had not) been recently received—to which the writer would proceed to respond. The habit of numbering official correspondence, initiated in these documents by Secretary of State for the Southern Department the Earl of Shelburne and used by colonial governors and secretaries of state starting in the late 1760s, also helped to identify what correspondence had been received and what had not.

Regardless of their attempts to make mail delivery more reliable, neither senders nor recipients could speed the time ordinarily necessary for delivery by sailing ship across the ocean. Since all involved understood the pace of correspondence, they sought to accommodate their actions and requests for actions accordingly. Still, the correspondence is filled with statements of frustration (or at least reluctant resignation) about the delays and disruptions. And the pace of running the British colonial system certainly was slowed down commensurately, causing instances in which decisions were made based on obsolete, incomplete, and/or inaccurate information.

A specific example of the slow pace of communication is documented in the microfilmed papers each time a secretary of state was replaced in London. The Georgia governor invariably learned of the change well after it had occurred and usually sent at least one letter to a secretary of state who had already been replaced by another. Usually this was not disastrous and was, in fact, anticipated and accommodated by the incoming secretaries of state. If, however, the relationships between colonial governors and secretaries of state had been less gentlemanly and more managerial, such transitions might have been more difficult.

Governor Wright's Steadfast Beliefs but Varying Opinions about Governing Colonial Georgia

The copious correspondence of James Wright, royal governor of colonial Georgia from 1760 until 1782, which is included in these microfilmed papers, is frequently matter-of-fact and businesslike. During the early years, he focused mostly on issues of **economic development**, which for colonial Georgia meant mostly slave/plantation agriculture (especially rice and sea-island cotton), and the silk culture (growing mulberry bushes, growing silkworms who like to eat mulberry bush leaves, and harvesting the silk the worms created to make their cocoons). The colonial government supported both, by adopting policies and laws to protect slaves as property and to control slaves as people, and by providing bounties to subsidize efforts of settlers in the silk culture. These bounties were discontinued when the silk culture was not thriving in 1769 but were reinstituted in 1773, not long before neglect during the war years ended silk culture in Georgia.

(Concerning Negro slaves: Regarding a 1760s law to "manage" Negroes, Reel 2, documents 91, 128, 142, 143, 163; Reel 3 document 4; Reel 6 several documents between 125 and 206; and Reel 9, October 8, 1767 in document 1; Regarding dealing with runaway slaves in 1779, Reel 8 documents 70, 76; Regarding a 1774 import tax on Negroes, Reel 3 document 90 and Reel 9, December 19, 1774 in document 4.)
(Concerning the silk culture, about 60 letters and other documents, dated between 1752 and 1772, scattered throughout Reels 1 through 3 [Board of Trade papers] and 5 through 6 [Secretary of State papers]; in particular 1752 Board of Trade reports on the silk culture, Reel 5, documents 211, 214).

In practice, over the thirty years of colonial Georgia's history, slave/plantation agriculture, located mostly on the sea islands and low-country mainland, prospered for the owner class. By contrast, the experiment in silk culture, which was encouraged in interior, upland areas, never really prospered, partly, apparently, because the kind of mulberry bush that was imported did not thrive in Georgia's climate and soil.

As the colonial economy was in its building phase, through the early 1760s, Wright's reports to the Board of Trade and Secretary of State mixed practical details with some booster optimism. At that time, the route to colonial success appeared to depend on economic prosperity.

Beginning soon after enactment of the Stamp Act by Parliament in 1765, as the American protest movement emerged out of opposition to "taxation without representation," **political and constitutional considerations** began to compete with economic ones and then to supersede them in defining colonial success.

Governor Wright appears personally to have been particularly sensitive to this shift. He took governing seriously, to the extent that fulfilling his duties as royal governor was for him a commitment founded on "**loyalist**" **fervor**, as expressed in numerous of his official letters. These expressions might be interpreted as "buttering up the boss," but their spontaneity and consistency suggest a set of deeply held beliefs that were very important to his concept of himself. Essentially, he was a die-hard loyalist, had been before the term was applied to those refusing to support the American protest movement and rebellion, and continued so consistently to the last day of his service as Georgia's governor and beyond. For him, loyalty to the King, the Parliament, and the institutions and practices of the British government was an inviolable concept, the essence of his self-concept as well as his career.

Much of Wright's correspondence from 1765 to 1782, in Reels 1 to 3 [Board of Trade papers] and Reels 6 to 8 [Secretary of State papers] (too voluminous to reference separately here) reflects his high ideals of loyalty to Britain. He expresses his own loyalty with feeling. He seeks approbation, from his "bosses" at the Board of Trade and especially the Secretaries of State, for trying hard to rule by these values in Georgia. He exhorts both individuals institutions in Georgia government and in private life to live and work by these values.

A single example (Reel 8 document 118) may help bring to life Wright's sense of loyalist expression, both to those who agree with him (his audience for this speech) and to those who did not agree with him:

On May 9, 1780, after the hiatus of British colonial government in Georgia between 1776 and 1779, and after Wright's rebuilding of that government in the latter half of 1779, Wright addressed a Georgia General Assembly (the Upper and Commons Houses jointly) for the first time in five years. The rhetoric is vintage Wright: He begins by lamenting the tyranny, hardships, and destruction of property during the time of rebel control. He

celebrates the return of “*peace and true liberty under just laws and his Majesty’s protection [and] the advantages of trade and commerce with the Mother Country,*” assuring his audience that “*The point of taxing America is wholly given up by the King and Parliament, and only a power reserved to impose such duties as may be expedient for the regulation of commerce [remains]...and the nett produce of those duties are, in every instance, to be applied to the use of the province.*” He proceeds to give thanks that “*we have been rescued from ruin and destruction by his Majesty’s arms...[and] are now under the protection of Great Britain.*” He urges the Assembly to embrace “*true and unfeigned loyalty*” to the King and to abhor “*treason and rebellion.*” He suggests that many tasks lie ahead for the civil government and encourages the Assembly to work with him toward “*the general good of the whole empire.*”

The **American protest movement** tended to ignite Wright’s sensitivities, precisely because its adherents questioned the loyalties which to him were unquestionable. For him, the protesters were both evil and dangerous.

Wright’s sense of the dangers of the protest movement grew as the movement did. His correspondence in these microfilmed papers raises questions about loyalty among American or Georgian inhabitants as he was observing and trying to counteract opposition to the Stamp Act. As many Americans defined their opposition to the Stamp Act in terms of taxation-related rights, which they believed were guaranteed in the British political system and constitution, Wright defined his support for the Stamp Act in terms of unquestionable authority of the King and the Parliament, which for him was the essence of the British political system and constitution. This and other constitutional conflicts were played out, between 1765 and 1772, in a series of constitutional confrontations within Georgia’s colonial government between “protesters” in the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly and “loyalists” led by Governor Wright (see the next section on constitutional conflicts).

By 1774 and 1775, the protest movements in the colonies to the north were beginning to tip toward what the British called rebellion and the Americans called revolution. In Georgia, Governor Wright was doing his best to resist pressures on and in his colony to tip with the others.

His resistance to rebellion was consistent with his constitutional position during the period of protests since 1765. Yet his perception of the current situation had changed considerably. Gone was his optimism about colonial economic development. Gone also was his former practical sense that the evil and dangers of the protest movement could be both resisted and defeated. Now, in certain of his letters to the secretary of state, he allowed himself to express a deep pessimism about the future of the British colonial system in North America and a deep personal anxiety about the future of the colony of Georgia and of his governorship of the colony.

In the midst of businesslike correspondence on many practical aspects of governing a colony, Wright's official correspondence occasionally turns quite personal and at times surprisingly emotional. Apart from his fervent expressions of loyalty, Wright's pessimistic thinking on paper to the Secretary of State, mostly in 1774 and 1775, as his colony and the values on which he felt it was founded appeared to be crumbling, seems most evidently to have brought Wright's own personal feelings to the surface.

As with Wright's idealistic loyalist expressions, an example (this time a few) of his pessimistic assessments of colonial Georgia's situation, as protest moved toward rebellion, will help bring Wright's thinking alive. Each of these examples comes from an official letter that Wright wrote to Secretary of State Dartmouth between August 1774 and October 1775:

On August 24, 1774, Wright wrote (Reel 7 document 95) a letter quite different from his day to day, month to month official communications, as well as different in tone than his previous letters assessing the situation in colonial Georgia. More personal than official, in this letter Wright allowed himself to express his deeper feelings about what was happening around him and in his colonial-Georgia world. He began with frustration that he had tried to prevent the "*Liberty People*" in Georgia from meeting and proclaiming their resolutions but that he had failed—and that similar groups in South Carolina, "*who have been Suffered to do whatever they pleased without the least mark of disapprobation or Attempt to Check them*", had made the situation in Georgia more difficult for him, a situation he compared with opposition to the Stamp Act [in 1766]. He had learned that standing up in such times as these with integrity for what is right can be costly. It had increased people's resentment of his power, and it made him feel like "*being set up as a mark to be shot at.*" Yet he had vowed to persevere. He reported knowing that another meeting would be held on August 30, which he felt would also be illegitimate, and which, he believed, would label his proclamation "*arbitrary & oppressive & an attempt to debar them from their natural and lawfull Rights & priviledges.*" He stated his belief that "*it will require the interposition of higher Authority to remedy the Evil, for the executive Powers of Government in the Colonies are too Weak to rectify such abuses, and Prosecutions would only be Laughed at and no Grand Jury would file a Bill of Indictment and the Persons ordered & carrying them on Probably Insulted and abused.*" He blamed the rise of a "*Licentious Spirit in America*" during the protests against the Stamp Act; believing that things has now gone so far that "*neither Coercive or Lenient measures will settle matters.*" He believes that, if the American spirit could be smothered for a time, it would appear again. Yet, he stated that British governmental authority could not ignore the protests but must react to preserve itself and British sovereignty.

On May 25, 1775, Wright wrote (Reel 7 document 157) that he had just learned double bad news—that “*things have taken a most Unhappy Turn, for hearing of the Engagement or Skirmish Between the Kings Troops & the Provincials near Boston*” [on April 19, 1775 at Lexington and Concord], and that efforts were being made in South Carolina “*to Liberate the Slaves & Encourage them to attack their masters.*” Expressing concern for the future of Georgia, Wright concluded that “*I see nothing but a Prospect of a General Rebellion throughout America, and unless the [Second] Continental Congress [which convened in May 1775] should have Prudence & Moderation Enough to put a Stop to these things, I apprehend Matters will go to the Utmost extremities.*”

On July 8, 1775, Wright summed up (Reel 7 document 175) the gathering storm of bad news, with a rebel Provincial Assembly meeting in Georgia, the Second Continental Congress convening in Philadelphia, and now a confrontation at the port of Sunbury, in which a Georgia customs collector was attacked, his vessel seized, and the contraband goods he had aboard stolen. Wright concluded almost fatalistically that he was now a governor in name only, such that “*the Powers of Government are wrested out of my Hands, [and] that Law & Government are nearly if not quite annihilated*”

On July 10, 1775, just two days later, Wright continued (Reel 7 document 182) on a more personal level, opining about the rising tide of rebel activities all around him, and anguishing that “*it being impossible My Lord for me to submit to these daily Insults I begin to think a King’s Governor has little or no business here.*” In this letter, he repeated a previous request for another leave of absence to escape (temporarily he hoped) to England.

On August 7, 1775, he railed (Reel 7 document 195) against “*the very illegal, Insolent, and Dangerous Transactions, of the Liberty People here.*”

On September 23, 1775, Wright issued (Reel 7 document 212) a strong warning to those trying to maintain the British colonial system from London that, without their quick action, the Georgia colonial government, already a “*wrecked state,*” would be “*totally annihilated, and assumed by Congresses, Councils, and Committees, and the greatest acts of Tyranny, oppression, gross Insults, &c &c &c Committed and not the least means of Protection, Support, or even Personal Safety. and these almost daily occurrences are too much my Lord.*”

On October 14, 1775, Wright commented extensively (Reel 8 document 1) on the situation and how bad it seemed to him—reporting that “*Back Country People*” had armed and seized a stockade fort in the frontier area of Georgia recently ceded by Indians and concluding that, in general, “*the Poison has Infected the whole Province,*” reporting the seizure of a slave

ship and its cargo and concluding that “*the King’s Port, and mens Property, are in the Absolute power of these People;*” stating that he was unable to receive letters from London because the shipping was controlled by these people and that some of his letters to London were being held by those in rebellion; repeating his plea for both ammunition and soldiers; reporting that the Continental Congress is in “*Talks*” with “*all the Indians upon the Continent;*” that similar talks are underway by Georgia’s [rebel] Council of Safety, and concluding again that “*all Powers are Assumed and taken from the Kings Governors and their Officers;*” stating that when the General Court met to swear in office holders, some of them “*Insolently*” refused to swear loyalty to the Crown, so that the court could not sit and do business properly; concluding that “*really My Lord there is hardly a Shadow of Government remaining*”—hoping that instructions were on the way to guide him in “*what course to take in every respect, to reduce this Province, and People to the Obedience to the Kings Authority, law, and Government.*”

Despite his pessimism and his anxiety, Wright’s **sense of duty** propelled him to continue doing his utmost to maintain British colonial government in Georgia. To fulfill his duty, he endured increasingly militant opposition and disloyalty from Georgians he now called “rebels.” As their opposition and disloyalty escalated into what for him were treasonous acts (stealing gunpowder, seizing ships, etc.), he endured during the spring of 1776 “arrest” and confinement by the rebels, followed by escape with the aid of Georgia loyalists, temporary sanctuary on board a British warship at the mouth of the Savannah River, and finally “exile” from Georgia to England. Through all of this, Wright never wavered in believing and acting as a royal governor whose colonial government remained a legitimate, legal reality, even during three years of inaction in England. The British government supported this fiction, consistent with its insistence that the colonies were merely rebelling and could be brought to heel and returned to colonial status.

Then, when the British military effort in the southern colonies “freed” Savannah from rebel occupation, Wright took his government back to Georgia, seeking to re-establish colonial governance in reality, still playing the role and doing the duty of a British colonial governor.

Most of Wright’s wartime correspondence is more pragmatic than idealistic. Now, his letters are full of dire warnings about what he felt was lack of adequate but deserved military protection for the territory and inhabitants of Georgia, along with suggestions about what should be done. For example,

On February 3, 1780, both Wright’s (temporary) wartime optimism over the possible British capture of Charleston and his pessimism about what might actually happen to South Carolina and Georgia if Charleston is not captured were on display, as he wrote to General Sir Henry Clinton, commander of the British on its way to capture Charleston (Reel 8 document 93). Wright was hopeful that British success at Charleston will

"give a Mortal Stab to the Rebellion and...in a Great Measure break the Spine of it." On the other hand, he predicted that if Carolina and Georgia are lost, *"it is much to be feared America will be lost."* He proceeded to offer Clinton a detailed plan for his idea for a successful campaign in the interior of South Carolina and Georgia.

When, after Charleston had fallen to Clinton's army, the September-October 1779 "Siege of Savannah" brought the war to Wright and his government, he wrote up the event, probably with double entendre—both to boast about the miraculous near-miss escape of British Savannah from combined rebel/French attack, and to prove the validity of his lament about inadequate military protection of Georgia and its people. The attack of October 9 could easily have gone the other way, and British Georgia would have been obliterated almost three years before it finally did succumb (Reel 5 document 250, 254, and Reel 8 document 78). For example:

The surrender of General Cornwallis' army at Yorktown in October 1781 was a crushing blow to the British cause in general. For Georgia, it represented yet another imminent threat, because, now that rebel/French troops were freed up from siege duty at Yorktown, Savannah might soon be attacked. Writing on December 18, 1781 to Secretary of State Germain (Reel 10 document 261, a Secretary of State letterbook "summary" [actually transcription] of a letter not otherwise microfilmed here as an original, copy, or duplicate letter), Wright summarized the situation as he saw it: British Colonial Georgia was still (or again) in great *"Danger and Distress"* from a *"formidable force"* of rebels, including armies under Generals St. Clair, Wayne, and Greene that were marching southward. There was also word that the Marquis de Lafayette might also be on his way with more troops, and that all these troops, plus possibly a Spanish force coming from Pensacola, were planning a direct attack on Savannah, after which they would move on to subdue East Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Wright concluded that all these pieces of bad news were the *"Consequences of not protecting and holding these two Provinces [Georgia and South Carolina],"* and reminding Germain that he (Wright) had predicted this result *"from the moment Lord Cornwallis went into Virginia."* He ended by exclaiming that *"God knows what will become of us; but without immediate Assistance, I think we shall not be able to stand it; and if we fall, I much fear that St. Augustine & Charles town will soon follow."*

In the end, the British army that came was smaller than Wright had imagined it would be, only a small rebel force under General Wayne. Nevertheless, by July 1782, that army did finally force Wright to relinquish his authority as a colonial governor and to acknowledge the demise of "his" British colony. At about the same time, Lord North's "war government" in London was voted out of office, Lord Germain lost his job as Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Britain acknowledged the fact of American independence from colonial status. As a loyalist, Wright had to accept this reality as

well. Back in England, he devoted considerable time and effort toward supporting the many claims against the British government for damages and losses suffered by both government officials and loyalist inhabitants of the Georgia colony, a few of which are found in the microfilmed papers.

Constitutional Conflicts within Georgia Colonial Government between the Governor and the Commons House of the Assembly

The Structure of Colonial Georgia Government

British royal colonies shared similar governmental structures across the empire. In Georgia, these were as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| * <u>Governor</u> | Individual gentleman, with standing and political connections; often from England; appointed by “the King”; served at pleasure of the King |
| * <u>Governor’s Council</u> | Gentlemen members appointed by “the King”; in practice usually friends or colleagues of the governor, suggested by the governor; served at pleasure of the governor and King |
| * <u>Commons House of Assembly</u> | Popular males of standing, elected by other male inhabitants to represent a local area; elections called by governor; sessions called by governor; assemblies can be dissolved by governor |
| * <u>Upper House of Assembly</u> | Gentlemen of standing, elected by other gentlemen of standing to represent the local area; elections called by governor; sessions called by governor; assemblies can be dissolved by governor. |
| * <u>Lieutenant Governor</u> | Other important colonial officials, generally appointed, officially, by the King or governor, but, in practice, based on suggestions from the governor. |
| * <u>Chief Justice</u> | |
| * Justices; various Judges | |
| * Justices of the Peace | |
| * <u>Provost Marshal</u> | |
| * <u>Attorney General</u> | |
| * <u>Customs Officers</u> | |
| * <u>Surveyor General</u> | |
| * <u>Commissary General</u> | |

Constitutional Conflicts between the Governor and Commons House in Georgia—1765 to 1776

Between 1754 and 1756, Georgia's first colonial governor, **John Reynolds**, had conflicts with Commons House, which set relational precedents for the future. However, these were caused more by Reynolds' inept administration and governance than by constitutional issues (Reel 3 documents 120, 121; Reel 5 documents 223, 232). Reynolds was recalled in early 1757 and replaced by Georgia's second colonial governor, Henry Ellis. He was more capable and smoothed relations with Commons House. However, illness led him to request replacement by 1760.

Georgia's third and last colonial governor, **James Wright**, was also its longest-serving governor, from 1760 until 1782. During this long period, the American protest movement sprang up, developed, and evolved into what the British termed a rebellion and the Americans, after 1776, called a revolution. Wright's inflexible sense of loyalty to the established royal and parliamentary governmental system in Britain, combined with the volatile events of American protest and rebellion, ignited many conflicts between him as royal governor and Commons House as the colonial governmental institution most attuned to protest and rebellion:

- 1765 Conflict over protesting and organizing in opposition to the established British colonial government, with Commons House asserting rights of English subjects, under the British constitution, to oppose the government by organizing and supporting a "Fire Company", aka, Sons of Liberty, which Wright opposed because to him such actions were both illegal and disloyal (Reel 2, documents 67 to 69).
- 1766-1768 • Conflict over enforcement of the Mutiny Act (actually its amendment, the Quartering Act), which required colonies to provide and pay for "necessaries," including accommodations and housing, to British troops stationed in the colony, which American protesters felt to be a financial imposition and an invasion of privacy, inconsistent with the British constitution, but which Governor Wright felt duty-bound to enforce, since it was a law (Reel 2 document 97, Reel 6 documents 90, 91, 116, 117, 125, 127, Reel 9 document 1 (secretary of state letters dated in July 1768).
- Conflict over enforcement of the Stamp Act of 1765, which American protesters felt was unjustified taxation without representation, inconsistent with the British constitution, but which Wright enforced because it was the law (Reel 2 documents 98, 99).
 - Conflict over enforcement of the Governor's power of appointment and power to control colonial finances, which the Commons House chose to dispute by seeking to appoint and pay its own colonial agent, Charles Garth, to represent financial interests of Georgia directly before the British government, which Wright understood to be a violation of his constitutional duties to appoint officials and to manage the finances of the colony, along with a cooperative Assembly to approve the funds necessary (Reel 2 documents 101 to 108, 159 to 161, Reel 6 documents 94-103, 123).

- 1768
- Conflict over control of the choice of a Speaker for Commons House, with the House insisting on its right to select its own leader, and Wright vetoing (“negating,” as it was called at this time) its choice, Alexander Wyly, because he was a “radical,” active in the protest movement (Reel 6 document 164). Over this issue, Wright dissolved the Assembly but soon patched things up and created a new one.
 - Conflict over the propriety of official communications with protesters in Massachusetts, which Commons House felt was in the best interest of the colony, but which Wright felt demonstrated illegal disloyalty to Georgia’s and Britain’s government (Reel 6 documents 166-168).

In late 1768, a brief “**honeymoon**” blossomed between Wright and Commons House, following the period of multiple conflicts since 1765 (Reel 6, documents 171, 174, 196). However, conflicts soon re-emerged in 1769:

- 1769-1771 Conflict over control of the election process, with Commons House pressing for elections to add representatives from four new parishes along Georgia’s southern coast, while Wright insisted on the letter of the law, which did not allow him to increase the size of the Assembly without specific instructions from the British government. After a long impasse, Wright received the instructions he needed and was happy to call the needed elections, under his own authority, but not before he had dissolved the uncooperative Assembly a second time in early 1771 (Reel 3 documents 15, 17, 18, 23, 24, 37-39; Reel 6 documents 207-210, 238-243).

In July 1771, shortly after resolving the election issue, Governor Wright left Savannah for an extended leave of absence in England. With royal consent, he placed Georgia’s colonial government in the hands of **James Habersham**, President of the Council. Although acting as governor, Habersham was not given the title of either Acting Governor or Lieutenant Governor. In practice, Habersham successfully filled in as Wright’s surrogate governor, including having to deal with ongoing conflicts with the Commons House.

- 1771-1772 Repeat conflict in early 1771 and again in early 1772 over control of selecting a speaker for Commons House, this time with Commons House selecting Noble Wimberly Jones, whom Habersham considered a “radical” in the same sense Wright had considered Alexander Wyly. Like Wright, Habersham first negated Commons House’s choice and, when its members resisted in 1772, he dissolved the Assembly (Reel 3 document 70, Reel 6 documents 244 to 246, 274 to 276).

In February 1773, Wright's return to Savannah from his leave of absence led to another brief **honeymoon** in relations between Wright and Commons House (Reel 7 documents 3, 6). But, once again, conflicts re-emerged:

Spring 1774 Repeat conflict over control of appointments and colonial finances. This time, Commons House sought to engage Benjamin Franklin as Georgia's independent agent to the British government. Once again, Wright objected on constitutional grounds, and once again, he eventually prevailed (Reel 7 documents 59 to 63). (Franklin had been Georgia's accepted official agent on and off since about 1768. By 1774, however, he had become too obviously supportive of the protest movement for Wright to be comfortable with him. When Commons House sought to appoint him independently, Wright intervened on constitutional grounds.)

Early 1775 As the American colonies slid from protest into rebellion, Wright tried unsuccessfully to impress on Commons House his firm belief in the constitutional limits of legitimate protest (Reel 7 documents 132-134).

By March 1776, after war had begun in the northern colonies, armed "rebels" took control of Georgia and its governing. Wright and his government were forced to escape from Savannah and return to England, where his colonial government existed only on paper as British policy, and in Wright's mind. The status of Georgia's colonial government did not change again until the British military successfully regained control over Savannah at the end of December 1778. Following this victory, the British government instructed Wright and his government to return to Savannah and to re-establish civil colonial government. Wright arrived back in Savannah in July 1779.

Wartime Georgia Loyalist Government without Internal Constitutional Conflicts—1779 to 1782

In September 1779, after a transition period, during which colonial Georgia was under **military rule** and during which Wright re-established the institutions of civil government, the colonial government of Georgia again began to function (at least in Savannah and the surrounding lowlands area controlled by the British military). By July 1780, official correspondence made clear that relations with the new Commons House were now regularly positive, without constitutional conflict.

The reason for the lack of conflict was that by now, the "rebels" in Georgia had established their own, parallel governmental institutions under a Georgia constitution adopted in 1777, during the absence of a British colonial government in Georgia. Until the outcome of the Revolutionary War ended British colonial rule in Georgia, Governor Wright's loyalist government functioned without constitutional conflicts about independence from the British crown, while the "rebel" (or "patriot") Georgia government functioned without constitutional conflicts based on loyalty to the British Crown.

Early State Government in Georgia

During the Revolutionary period, as Georgia's British colonial government was seeking to survive and control the political destiny of Georgia, a parallel set of government making and governing was under way by the leaders of the revolutionary movement straining to recreate Georgia politically as a sovereign state in a new union of American states. This is a story not told by the British colonial papers of Georgia but is summarized here for purposes of contextual understanding.

Both the American protest movement and the beginnings of alternative governmental bodies in what became the American states required public organizations. Those whom the British called "rebels" and the Americans called "Patriots" began organizing public bodies outside the British colonial system in the late 1760s and early 1770s. Many were working groups often called committees (Committees of Safety, Committees of Correspondence, etc.). Others, at various levels, were called congresses. Most were in some way representative bodies, reflecting their adherents' abhorrence of centralized power, meaning British, royal, colonial governmental power. A **Provincial Congress** for Georgia first convened in January 1775, with only five of 12 parishes represented. It established a sort of executive **Council of Safety** with a **president** appointed by the Congress.

Meanwhile, to help organize joint efforts among the protesting/rebelling colonies, a **Continental Congress** convened in Philadelphia in September 1774. Georgia did not send representatives to its first session. When it reconvened in May 1775, Georgia did send representatives, but late. In subsequent years, Georgia representatives remained active in the Continental Congress.

Soon after Governor Wright's colonial Georgia government had evacuated to England in April, Georgia joined the 12 British colonies to the north in declaring their independence from Britain in July 1776. Georgia's Provincial Congress followed up, in January 1777, to write and adopt a constitution, thus taking a large step toward statehood. In May of that year, the **1777 Georgia Constitution** went into effect when the **House of Assembly** first met and elected a **President**. An **Executive Council** was also established, and a **Governor** was elected by the Assembly.

This government continued to function until 1789, although its level of organization and the territory it ruled, especially after British re-conquest of Savannah between December 1778 and July 1781, were questionable. During 1779, a competing Supreme Executive Council emerged, but by early 1780, it and its actions had been nullified by a new Assembly, which created a new Executive Council and elected a new Governor.

In 1781, under the authority of this government, Georgia signed and ratified the **Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union**, and was represented in the first United States Congress.

After the British colonial government evacuated Savannah in July 1782, the Georgia government moved there, making Savannah the capital city of the State of Georgia. Under Governors Lyman Hall, John Houstoun, Samuel Elbert, Edward Telfair, and George Mathews, the State government matured and solidified its ties with the new Union. On January 2, 1788, it was the fourth state to ratify the **United States Constitution**, which finally reconstituted the British colonies into a sovereign nation.

Following ratification of the U.S. Constitution, Georgia rewrote its own constitution in the mold of the new national constitution. This **1789 Georgia Constitution** lasted until the Civil War, when new challenges and upheavals led to substantial rewriting.

General Clinton's 1778 Proclamation of Pardon and Governor Wright's 1780 Reaction to it

In 1780, after re-establishment of Georgia's civil colonial government, Governor Wright found himself in 1780 involved in a conflict with British General Sir Henry Clinton. More broadly, it was a jurisdictional conflict between British civil government and British military rule. More broadly yet, it was a conflict between policies relying hopefully for post-war reconciliation with rebels willing to give up their rebel cause and reconfirm their allegiance to the British King (which presumed British victory in the military conflict) and policies that insisted on unyielding retribution against those who had committed treason against the King and his lawful government.

As General Sir Henry Clinton was beginning his army's march southward with the goal of bringing the key city of Charleston under British control, he sought beforehand to weaken rebel resolve against his army and to offer a measure of reconciliation to rebels in general. To accomplish this, he issued a "manifesto and proclamation" in October 1778, which offered to rebels pardon (or amnesty, as some called it) from treason if they would renounce their allegiance to the rebel cause and swear allegiance to the King of England. Clinton perceived this to be an offensive strategy. However, after a lengthy siege of Charleston, followed by American General Lincoln's surrender of his entire army in May 1780, captured rebel prisoners of war began trying to use the declaration to their advantage, seeking parole, to be followed by pardon or amnesty, thus escaping charges of treason from British colonial governments.

Governor Wright of Georgia was not happy with Clinton's proclamation and opposed it strongly to the Secretary of State, who, after consideration, sided with Wright against the military generals. To enforce his view, Wright insisted that Clinton's proclamation had no standing in Georgia, which (unlike South Carolina, which was under military rule) had a functioning British civil government, with laws against treason that his government had a duty to enforce. To prove his determination, he pressed for prosecution of three rebels, former prisoners of war, who had requested and received amnesty in South Carolina and had then come openly to Savannah, expecting to be allowed to settle in Georgia as free men. Wright had had the three men arrested and imprisoned, which they protested as illegal under the terms of Clinton's declaration.

Clinton had also appointed a Commission for Restoring Peace (which shortly was renamed a Claims Commission to settle loyalist—and rebel-turned-loyalist—claims of losses suffered because of the military action. This Commission, when appealed to by the three accused men in Georgia, sided with Clinton, declaring that the three were free men. Wright refused to back down, and two of the men, John Glen and Dr. James Houstoun (both known rebel leaders) were tried in a Georgia court, but did avoid capital punishment, and did remain in Savannah after the war. The third was a common soldier who evidently had found himself in the wrong place at the wrong time and, despite having been imprisoned, was not prosecuted.

Once the British government's disapproval became known of the declaration's use where British civil governments were functioning, the declaration ceased to be used, except where South Carolina's military rule was in force. (Reel 8, documents 98-100, 123, 133, 134)

Georgia Colonial Relations with African Slaves and with Jewish People

Slavery in Colonial Georgia

By the time the colony of Georgia was established in 1733, slavery was a fact of life in many British colonies, in particular those in the West Indies and Jamaica. It was also prevalent in certain North American colonies, especially Virginia and the Carolinas, where a plantation economy developed early in coastal lowland areas. And, even where not prevalent in a plantation economy, slavery was legal in all of the British colonies, even Quaker-oriented Pennsylvania.

In early British colonial days, slavery was a somewhat fluid concept. Early efforts were made to enslave North American Indians (as the British called the Native Americans whose civilizations had existed in America long before Europeans arrived). This did not work well, as these Native Americans died rapidly from European diseases, and their cultures did not include the concept of permanent, racially defined, hereditary, economic-property slavery that England was developing in the West Indian colonies.

By 1733, the slavery that the idealistic Trustees of proprietary colonial Georgia sought to prohibit was African slavery as practiced in the West Indian plantation model. Yet, this was not an expression of toleration for racial differences. It reflected a prevalent social-reform value at the time in England—to help bootstrap English and other Europeans out of poverty and unemployment by recruiting them as labor for enlightened versions of plantation agriculture. The less advertised hoped-for value was that European colonial and imperial power would support African slavery less and opportunities for European labor more.

As a practical matter, in British Georgia as in British East Florida, where non-slave plantation labor was also tried, inducing “free” indentured European laborers to do “slave labor,” without the plantation owners being able to use the coercive tools of slavery, just didn’t work. In Georgia, economic pressure built up against social-reform ideals, and, in 1750, the Trustees of proprietary Georgia, having been pressured heavily to make their colony economically prosperous for England and the British Empire, decreed that slavery would henceforth be legal. There was full understanding then that a vote for slavery was a vote for the West Indian model of plantation slavery, which applied to only Africans and African Americans, which relegated black slaves to a status uniquely below that of free whites, and which thus accommodated white intolerance of racially different Africans and African Americans.

In Georgia at this time, slave work meant mostly growing rice and sea-island cotton, which, by some standards was easier than growing and processing indigo, as in East Florida, or growing and processing sugar cane, as in the West Indies. Yet, slavery was slavery, in all its inhuman aspects, regardless of a slave’s duties. And, in this sense, in 1750, Georgia (among other Southern colonies-soon-to-become-states) took a big humanitarian step backwards that persisted until the U.S. Civil War, which abolished slavery but not racial intolerance among white European inhabitants toward black African individuals and families.

History and these microfilmed papers corroborate the reality that humanitarian concerns about slavery were not on the minds of most colonial Georgians or in the policies of colonial Georgia’s government between 1750 and 1782, when the British colony of Georgia succumbed to the American Revolution. The opposite is more accurate. Colonial Georgia was very much concerned about African slavery, but from the perspective of:

- protecting the economic investments of slave owners,
- providing markets for slave importation, buying, and selling,
- giving slave owners legal means to control slave revolts and escapes and to force slaves to work harder and more efficiently, and
- protecting white inhabitants from potential violence at the hands of African slaves.

It is worth noting that most of the political leaders in Georgia, on both the loyalist and rebel sides, were slave-owning, plantation owning, wealthy, white males. Governor James Wright alone, among the very wealthy in Georgia, came to own about 19,000 acres of Georgia land, in multiple plantations, and owned over 500 slaves. Thus, for Georgia’s top leaders, seeking to promote policies consistent with the four-point perspective above was good both for the collective wellbeing of the colony and for the direct, personal wellbeing of most of its individual leaders.

As found in particular groups of documents among those microfilmed here, the British and Georgia colonial governments grappled with a number of issues relating to what they tended to call “Negro slavery” or, synonymously, just “slavery.” (The legal language was “Negroes and other slaves,” but in practice, no other groups of slaves

existed in Georgia except for African or African-American slaves.). These issues include the following:

Defining Slavery Legally

In May 1765, responding to a policy issue perceived to be of major importance, consistent with the prevailing view of slaves as valuable assets, productive labor, but also possibly dangerous property, Georgia's colonial government adopted a law regulating and "managing" slaves. When reviewed by an attorney under contract for this purpose to the Board of Trade (as was the case for all laws passed by colonial governments), this law was initially declared (officially by the King, of course) to be legal, in October 1766. However, controversy in England about this legal opinion led another attorney to review the law again, concluding this time, in late 1767, that it was not legal and was thus "disallowed" by the King.

The problem with the law in England concerned how slavery was defined. In Georgia, slavery was mostly agricultural, plantation slavery, and slaves were defined legally as property—actually "real estate" property under the law. But around the British Empire (even in Georgia, but less so), some slaves were personal servants, legally called "chattel slaves." Those in England who objected to Georgia's law wanted it changed to make an exception in the regulation and management of slaves for chattel slaves, which they considered to be at least personal property and possibly, at some level, both property and people.

With communications traveling slowly back and forth by sea during 1768 and 1769, Georgia and the British government negotiated terms of a redrafted Negro law. Governor Wright took the matter to the Georgia Assembly, which agreed to consider it. However, Wright's ongoing conflicts with the Commons House of the Assembly over constitutional issues disrupted and delayed its consideration.

So did a late second demand from the King—that not only did the new law have to exclude chattel slaves, it also had to contain a provision that the new regulations and management of slaves would not be put into effect until the King's explicit approval had been received. A new Georgia law, containing both required provisions, was adopted in Georgia in May 1770 and was (finally) accepted by the King in June 1771.

(Reel 2 documents 91, 128, 142-143, 163; Reel 3 documents 4, 27, 78, 80, 92; Reel 6 documents 125, 128-129, 130, 137, 156, 168-169, 176, 178, 192, 195, 206, 250; Reel 9 document 11, October 8, 1767.)

Taxing the Slave Trade

Beginning in 1765, taxation became a contentious issue between American protesters and British colonial authorities—and specifically between Georgia's Governor Wright and the Commons House. In 1774, as rebel protests were moving toward rebellion, Commons House adopted a law (which Governor Wright did not veto) placing Georgia

duties on a number of imported “Goods, Wares, and Merchandize” plus “Negroes and other Slaves.” It did not take the British government long to disallow these duties. Besides ratcheting up the taxation issue, for Commons House, this represented a way of attempting to obtain additional public revenue that could be controlled independently, within Georgia (Reel 3 document 92; Reel 6 document 125).

Economic Losses and Personal Dangers from Runaway or Confiscated Slaves

During the period between 1776 and 1779 when British colonial Government was in exile in London, rebels took advantage of the opportunity to confiscate loyalist property, including slaves, and slaves on abandoned plantations took advantage of opportunities to run away. When the British colonial government returned, one of its early concerns was to minimize the economic losses of planters, to regain control of the Negro population in Georgia, and to protect white Georgians from fugitive slaves (Reel 8, document 1, 51, 70, 76, 114).

Usefulness of Armed Slaves in War

During the Revolutionary War in Georgia, As documented in a number of the microfilmed papers, both sides used slaves extensively during the Revolutionary War in Georgia for manual labor, mostly to build fortifications. While this may have helped the two combating war efforts, it also tended to weaken the civilian economy and especially the families who relied on those slaves for their own livelihood.

When sufficiently threatened, each side also threatened back that they would, in different ways, arm Negro slaves to fight. Neither side did quite what it had threatened, but, on both sides, the contrast is remarkable between in long-time policies of controlling slave property with laws and violence, and the subsequent suggestion of trusting the same property/persons, in a dire crisis, with arms to fight not their owners but their owners’ enemies. One example for each side in the microfilmed papers makes the point:

As the military conflict was beginning, and as Governor Wright’s fears for the future became more pessimistic, he reported to Secretary of State Dartmouth (Reel 7 document 187) on a July 17, 1775 meeting of the Georgia Council, which recorded a sworn statement that a man in Augusta had made a public statement that “*In Case there should be Occasion for any Assistance from them, the Negroes, in Killing the King’s Troops Each Negroe for so doing should be entitled to or have his Freedom*”, which information the Council had referred to the Chief Justice and Attorney General.

Five years later, as Georgia’s future was hung more tangibly in the balance, Wright informed Secretary of State Germain, on December 1, 1780, (Reel 10 document 238, a letterbook summary document [but actually a full transcript] for which no original, copy, or duplicate letter is

found in these microfilmed papers) that Georgia had passed a new law giving Wright the authority to call up Negroes to defend Savannah with the militia, but "*only in time of Alarms actually fixed.*"

Savannah's Jewish Community

Among "outsider" groups in colonial Georgia, African slaves were at one extreme, considered almost but not quite sub-human. Near the opposite extreme, Jewish people were considered, and considered themselves to be outsiders, having fled to preserve lives and fortune from less tolerant Catholic Spanish rule. (Simultaneously, they lived as unique cultural-religious insiders within their own community.) Yet, in many ways, their move to more tolerant English Protestant rule (and initially at least to idealistic, social-reform-oriented proprietary colonial Georgia), offered them opportunities to be "almost English" within a familiar European class society and economic system. At the least, Jewish people were considered "white."

A Jewish community has existed in Savannah since 1733, when an organized group of mostly Sephardic (Spanish/Portuguese) Jews responded to the opportunity offered by the first Trustees of the proprietary colony to settle in Georgia. Between 1733 and 1735, about 350 Jewish people emigrated to Savannah. Early in the colony's history, this group was said to represent a third of the entire colonial population. Most of them had been living in London for a decade or more, after having fled from (probably) the Netherlands to escape the Spanish Inquisition (during the period when Spain ruled this country). This group organized a synagogue in Savannah (one of the first in British America) and settled in as inhabitants of the new British colony.

In 1742, when the European War of Jenkins' Ear spilled over into the American colonies, Spain staged an attack into Georgia territory (St. Simons Island) from its Colony of Florida. Although the attack was unsuccessful, it so scared the Sephardic Jews in Savannah that, on first news of the attack, they quickly dispersed, many to Charleston, leaving the Savannah Jewish community substantially reduced, led now by a few remaining Ashkenazi (Eastern Europe) Jewish families, one named Sheftall.

Several generations of Sheftalls (Benjamin, Mordecai, Levi, and later Moses) led the Jewish community from the 1740s until at least the 1830s. A second family named Nunes (one of the original Sephardic families, especially Daniel and Moses) also played leadership roles. The congregation gradually regained members after the 1742 scare, but during the Revolutionary War, the congregation did not meet regularly. After the war, starting in 1786, they began meeting again, in the home of Mordecai Sheftall. Four years later, the new state government of Georgia, officially recognizing the congregation's existence, granted it a charter in 1790, which remains in effect today. As the congregation grew and prospered, its next priority was to build a synagogue, which, under the leadership of Dr. Moses Sheftall and others, was accomplished in 1820. The current imposing, stone, Gothic Revival synagogue was built in 1876.

Little of this history is evident from the few relevant documents in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia. What documents are found relate to a few activities that Jewish people were visibly involved in at Savannah. For instance:

Between 1759 and 1761, the firm of Wood & Sheftall and three individuals were involved in a court case over a debt involving a Negro slave (Reel 1 document 55).

In 1769, Mr. Nunes, an Indian interpreter, was reported by Governor Wright to be working for the colonial government (Reel 2 document 167).

In February 1775, Moses Nunes was among those testifying about the theft of seized goods. The Georgia coastal and river schooner *St. John*, armed by the British Navy to capture vessels not paying customs duties at Savannah, had seized a vessel filled with trade goods and “King’s arms.” Armed rebels had subsequently stolen the arms, and the sworn statements pertain to that theft. Although not stated, the context suggests that Nunes was testifying favorably for the government (Reel 7 document 140).

In September 1775, a Captain Bissell of a vessel shipping goods, including molasses, from Jamaica to Savannah, testified to the colonial government that, when his vessel arrived at Savannah, he was told to appear before the Parochial Committee (perhaps a religiously oriented committee of the rebel protest movement). When he appeared there, a man named Mordecai Sheftall told him that he could not sell his molasses in Savannah and should return to Jamaica—apparently supporting rebel efforts to disrupt (loyalist) trade into Georgia (Reel 7 document 215).

Few conclusions can be suggested from this sparse correspondence. One is that Jewish people were visible in various ways in the public record of colonial government. Yet the interesting conclusion is not their presence in the record but the absence of their presence as members of a Jewish community and congregation. From these few examples, one might conclude that the Jewish population in Savannah at this time was not isolated or treated differently from the rest of the population.

At most, however, this would be a supposition looking for more evidence rather than a conclusion. We do know, centuries later, that the Jewish community in the “deep-south” city of Savannah has, for a long time, been an established, recognized, and accepted element in the overall (white) community, perhaps to a degree not found in some other American cities.

Georgia’s Colonial Relations with and Policies toward Indians and Indian Nations

From Coexistence to Competition to Conflict on the Georgia Frontier

Compared with African slaves and members of the Jewish community, the tribal communities of Native Americans living in colonial Georgia shared the status of being considered outsiders (although they themselves did not see it that way). Yet their communities, governance, cultures, and civilization as a whole were in fact uniquely different and separate. And, European Georgians considered the people they called Indians somewhere in the indeterminate middle, between slaves and Jews, on a scale of human value and toleration.

The Indians had a point, of course, about not being outsiders. They, after all, were the ultimate first insiders, the aboriginal people who had come to eastern North America long before Europeans dreamed there were American continents and had lived there, with their unique cultures, tribal organizations, and subsistence economies, for centuries and millennia.

When Europeans did come to the American continent—first exploring, then settling—they were perplexed, thankful, and hostile all at once. Like black Africans, Indians did not look “civilized,” so they must be some combination of inferior and exotic. In some early instances, Indian survival skills saved less clever European settlers from starvation. So, the Europeans tended to be curious, occasionally thankful, and at least tentatively friendly toward the Indians they encountered.

This lasted only until the Indians became competitors. The competition was for land and other natural resources. Early European perceptions included the fiction that the “New World” they had come to settle was essentially “empty” for the taking. Only as the European population grew and settlement expanded did the settlers discover that Indians also lived there, occupying land and using natural resources—increasingly, land and resources the settlers wanted for themselves.

Once Indians had been found to be competitors, the settlers in the British colonies up and down the Atlantic coast redefined their concept of Indians. Already understood to be culturally different and inferior, the Indians now became thought of as essentially hostile—occasionally otherwise in person or in tribal groups, but presumably and potentially hostile until proven otherwise.

For their part, many Native Americans initially were curious, tolerant, and friendly toward Europeans with whom they came into contact. Their own civilization had a highly developed set of expectations for interactions with other tribal groups, more so than Europeans were aware. These expectations included friendship and mutual toleration. But, if threatened, they also included warlike hostility. Indian tribal organization was based in many ways on a warrior-culture model that routinely expected and practiced intertribal warfare. As a result, European settlers whose presence, land use, and disregard for Indian ways and lives threatened the Indians, found themselves, initially unexpectedly, the victims of the warrior-culture’s hostile, violent response.

As in other British colonies, Georgia's territory, as drawn on a map, turned out to be relatively "full" of Indians. Four large and powerful nations lived in what became the southeastern U.S.—Creek, Chickasaw, Cherokee, and Choctaw. For them, Georgia's territory was home. But home had never meant a fixed place with a house and a fence. Instead, it was a shifting communal territory of land bounded organically by the limits of living by the nation. An Indian nation's territory shifted with the season, the climate, and the ever-shifting interactions among nations, some friendly and some hostile.

Regardless of how "full" Georgia was with Indians, the European people who emigrated, settled, and lived in colonial Georgia considered the frontier to be "empty" land waiting to be settled and developed by themselves. When settlers and Indians came into early contact on the land that was Georgia's frontier and the Indians' home, the Indians often responded initially by flexibly shifting their living areas, but the settlers responded by staking claims, defining land ownership, building houses, and surrounding themselves with fences and stockades. In the long run, these differing responses led to net losses of Indian territory and net increases of white man's territory. And, as both population and population density increased on the land, pressures mounted for more land, resulting in increased hostility and violence.

Role of Boundaries in Colonial Georgia Indian Relations

As competition and conflict came to dominate relations between Indians and colonial Georgia settlers, establishing and enforcing geographic boundary lines became important for colonial governments.

For the British, colonial boundaries had always been important to separate one colony's territory from another's. For Indian relations, the most important boundary was that between Indian lands and white settler lands.

For colonial governments to meet the goals of their charters for economic expansion and prosperity, they needed to be able to define and expand their colonial territories. Thus, they needed to be able to negotiate fixed boundaries with the Indians and enforce these boundaries based on European, not Indian, concepts of land ownership and property rights.

Lands in transition between Indian and white-settler occupation thus became potential hotspots for both competition and conflict. And thus, treaties between colonial governments and Indian Nations became the accepted way of determining and enforcing boundaries and of seeking to prevent or to settle conflicts.

Responses to Competition and Conflict on the Georgia Frontier

In colonial Georgia, various groups—in particular farmers, traders, and missionaries living on the frontier, and the colonial government in Savannah—responded differently to the rising pressure and hostility.

Many backwoods farmers hunkered down and sought to defend themselves and their families from external dangers while trying to make a subsistence living off the land through agriculture, hunting, and fishing. If necessary, they were prepared, when threatened, to use violence against Indians, and the same was true for many Indians when threatened by whites. Rather than resorting to violence, most people on both sides sought to maintain a reasonable level of peaceful interaction—or separation.

Some settlers became traders with the Indians, establishing trading posts and selling manufactured and other goods, including guns and ammunition. Some of these lived in the Indian village where they traded goods, and sometimes they married into an Indian family. An extraordinary few of them leveraged intermarriage and economic resources to rise to leadership positions within Indian tribal groups.

Some Christian missionaries mirrored the experience of Indian traders, selling salvation rather goods, living with the Indians, and becoming influential in their nations. Traders and missionaries both sought to avoid the use of violence and to promote peace and friendship, since they lived not in frontier separation but in the midst of settler-Indian interaction.

British colonial officials in Georgia, as elsewhere, sought to implement established policies for maintaining peaceful, friendly tribal relations. Government relations with Indian nations were premised on a concept of sovereignty. The two main tools of the relationship were Talks and Treaties. **Talks** were structured meetings of Indian chiefs and warriors with colonial government officials. Each side made alternating, formal, declaratory position statements that, as the process unfolded, allowed each side to respond to the other, leading to negotiated agreements, which, after a Talk, could be written up (by the colonial officials, in English) into a Treaty.

In the Talk-Treaty process, Indian chiefs were not recognized as equal to colonial officials, but their status was respected, in order to lubricate the process. The King of England was routinely invoked as the great head leader, to whom both colonial officials and Indian tribal chiefs owed allegiance. The colonial governor was a venerated mid-level leader, and the tribal chiefs were also leaders, but clearly subordinate to the English governor, who ambiguously tended in Talks to refer to Indians as either “brothers” or “children.”

Treaties served several purposes, often intermixed, such as:

- Establishing and enforcing behavioral norms for peaceful and friendly co-existence between Indians and white settlers, especially on the frontier.
- Establishing European-style, surveyed boundaries between Indian territory and colonial territory, to regularize the settlement process and minimize chances for violence.

- Establishing formal, cooperative alliances between British colonial governments and particular Indian nations. Some of these alliances sought to influence certain nations or alliances of nations to side with and fight with a colonial government or governments against an enemy, foreign nation, (e.g. France or Spain during this period), which was itself using treaties to amass its own alliances of Indian nations to fight against Britain.

Presents went hand-in-hand with Talks and Treaties. Large sums of British money were spent on shipping and distributing presents (cheap trinkets but also supply goods and even arms and ammunition) to Indians and Indian nations. These were in essence bribes, meant to keep the Indians peaceful, friendly, and perhaps fighting on the British side. If a treaty didn't work, presents might, and, if both of these failed, but only if they failed, colonial officials did not hesitate to threaten and to use military power. The present distribution process was intertwined with the Indian trading process. Colonial governments licensed Indian traders, in some cases granting them geographic monopolies, to regularize and control the combined processes of trading with and offering presents to Indians.

Indian nations usually responded to Talk-Treaties and Presents intelligently and flexibly, as they did to the actual settlement of colonial farmers, traders, missionaries, and others. However, a pattern of signing treaties eventually sucked tribal organizations into conducting relations in British ways, on British terms. This, of course, was not accidental on the colonial officials' part. Similarly, accepting presents tended to lead tribal organizations and individual Indians into increasing material dependency on the British, which, again, was not accidental on the part of colonial officials.

These microfilmed papers are full of documents demonstrating the importance, to Georgia colonial officials and the British government, of Britain's relations with the Indians. They also reveal how colonial Georgia handled the complexities of actual talk-treaty situations, the use of presents, occasional threats of military force, and a shifting web of alliances with Indian nations designed to enhance British military power and intelligence gathering during the Revolutionary War.

Among the colonial officials responsible for Georgia's relations with the Indians, the royal governor was one key player. So were the local British military commander and the colony's militia. Perhaps the most influential official was the royally appointed Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District (which included Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia—and, after 1763, the Floridas). From 1761 to 1779, when he died, **John Stuart** held this key position, focusing as needed on crises or treaty opportunities wherever they sprang up among the five most powerful Indian nations in his district, the Creek, Cherokee, Chickasaw, and Choctaw plus, in southern Florida, the Seminole. Stuart's long-time deputy and successor as Superintendent, **Alexander Cameron**, Stuart's long-time deputy and successor as Superintendent, worked primarily as deputy with the Cherokee. Another deputy, **John McIntosh**, worked with the Chickasaw.

Each of these men had extensive and intimate experience working and living with the Indians. They developed empathic views of Indians and their nations, which were valuable assets in Britain's efforts to keep the Indians peaceful and friendly, while also extracting from them additional lands for white-man settlement and alliances to support the British side—especially during the French and Indian War and later the Revolutionary War. Stuart and his deputies were largely successful in keeping the southern nations loyal to the British side during the Revolutionary War.

Relations with Indians as Documented in the Microfilmed Papers

Talks and Treaties

Much of colonial Georgia's relations with Indians has to do with boundaries, which were negotiated in treaties among European powers in Europe as well as in Talks and Treaties with Indian nations. This map offers a general idea of trends in Georgia's boundaries.

Georgia's initial 1732 western boundary theoretically went all the way to the Pacific Ocean. French control of the Mississippi River soon redrew this boundary. Georgia's 1732 proprietary charter created a dog-legged territory with only about 50 miles of Atlantic coast, between the Savannah and Altamaha Rivers. Before 1763, South Carolina contended for the coastal stretch between Georgia and Spanish Florida. After 1763, that coastal region went to Georgia when East Florida became a British colony and claimed the coast northward to the St. Marys River. West Florida and Georgia contended over the territory of what is now Mississippi and Alabama.



Also in 1763, King George III issued a Proclamation declaring the boundary between the British colonies and the Indian territories to be the watershed ridge of the Appalachian Mountains. This didn't last long, as colonies such as Georgia negotiated later treaties with the Indian Nations, in which the Indians invariably ceded additional territory for white colonial settlement.

Several formal treaties and agreements between colonial government and Indian nations are documented, as follows:

- April 22, 1758 Treaty signed at Savannah between the Creek Nation and the Georgia colonial government. British purpose: To reinforce the alliance between the Creeks and the British so that the Creek Nation will support Britain in the French and Indian War against France and its ally the Cherokee Nation (Reel 1 documents 1-4, 6, 8; treaty text in document 13).
- November 10, 1763 Treaty signed at Augusta between the Creek, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Cherokee, and Catawba Nations and by the British colonial governments of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia. British purpose: To obtain Indian approval to cede "Indian territory" and regularize new boundaries between colonial and Indian territory along a lengthy western frontier, including, in Georgia, the southern portion of the colony's Atlantic Ocean coast, opening it up for occupation by colonial settlers (Reel 1 documents 77-79, 85; Reel 5 document 179; Reel 6 document 25 [Reel 1 document 79 is a handwritten copy of the treaty; Reel 6 document 25 is a printed copy]).

Until 1763, Georgia's southern border had been with Spanish Florida. Since Spain was, during these times, a colonial competitor of Britain in America and a military/political enemy in Europe, the southern coastal area of Georgia had been a no-man's land. As a loser in the Seven Years War/French and Indian War, Spain was forced, at the 1763 Treaty of Versailles, to give Florida to the winner, Britain. Thus came into being the new British colonies of East Florida and West Florida. With the border area no longer hostile territory, it became valuable for colonial settlement.

Without Georgia's being able to intervene, British East Florida's first royal governor, James Grant, used his personal influence in London, before sailing for his colonial capital of St. Augustine, to obtain a piece of this territory for his new colony. Under the Spanish, the official boundary between Florida and Georgia had been the St. Johns River. Grant took advantage of the unsettled situation to persuade the British government to accept moving that boundary northward about 20 miles to the St. Marys River (where the state boundary has remained since). In practice, then, the 1763 treaty between the Creek Nation and colonial Georgia opened up new territory for settlement from the Altamaha River down to the St. Marys River.

Georgia was not the only British colony interested in the coastal lands between the Altamaha and St. Marys Rivers. South Carolina, although lacking a contiguous border with the area, made a concerted effort to settle South Carolinians there between early 1763 and 1767 (Reel 1 documents 63-66). Colonial Georgia officially objected to South Carolina and to the British government in London. The situation festered for some time, until the Board of Trade finally imposed a resolution in June 1767, invalidating the land grants of South Carolina settlers, thus requiring them to leave or to obtain new Georgia land grants (Reel 2 document 109).

The British government also technically dictated the western border of this piece of Georgia territory. In October 1763, the King drew a line on the map of North America that became known as the Royal Proclamation Line of 1763. It delineating a boundary between colonial lands open to settlement to the east, and Indian territory reserved for the Indians to the west. The King's purpose was to maintain both legal and economic control over an orderly process of colonial settlement and development. The boundary was not anticipated to be firm and unchangeable but rather firm at the moment and flexibly changeable, through royally approved treaties with the Indians that would gradually allow colonial expansion to move westward.

Since the initial line on the map was along the height of the Appalachian Mountains, it was not an immediate deterrent to settlement in Georgia's accessible frontier, which remained, in practice in 1763, east of the mountains. The close timing between treaty and proclamation suggests direct coordination between London and the colonies in drawing western frontier lines. However, the long delays in communication suggest that this was not the case.

In fact, the reality was the opposite of coordination. On June 28, 1766, Governor Wright wrote a letter to the Board of Trade (Reel 6 document 63) critical of the Proclamation, its boundary line, and the trade regulations that were imposed in conjunction with it. Stating that "*I think I pretty clearly see disturbances and mischief gathering and breaking out amongst the Indians*," he blamed the King's October 7, 1763 regulations of the Indian trade and concluded that "*I look upon the Hands of the governor to be tied up by His Majesty's Royal Proclamation*"

- November 18, 1765 Treaty signed at Picolata, East Florida (inland, up the St. Johns River) between the Creek Nation and the colonial government of East Florida. Britain's purpose: Following the examples of the Proclamation of 1763 and the Augusta Treaty of 1763, to establish similar boundaries in East Florida between colonial territory and Indian territory. Colonial Georgia had a particular interest in the outcome of this treaty, since aligning borders across colony lines would benefit both East Florida and Georgia. For this reason, the results of the 1763 treaty were consulted during negotiations of the Treaty of Picolata. However, detailed negotiation of the Georgia boundary line was delegated (see below) (Reel 2 documents 145, 146; Reel 6 document 145).
- January 10, 1766 Declaration of Agreement, signed by Governor Wright of Georgia and Creek Indian headman Captain Alleck (Reel 2 document 248; Reel 6 document 146). Britain's purpose: To settle the western boundary along the southern coastal area of Georgia between colonial lands and Indian lands. Although this line had been drawn before in the more general Treaty of Augusta in 1763, this specific redrawing of it coordinated with the boundary lines drawn for East Florida at Picolata. The signers at Picolata had designated that Captain Alleck, a respected Creek chief, should separately negotiate the details and sign this agreement with Wright. Captain Alleck lived near the Altamaha River, so he was negotiating about

known territory, and apparently he represented his own interests adequately, while agreeing to terms Governor Wright could accept.

- July 27, 1768 Talk at Savannah between Governor Wright and Superintendent of Indian Affairs John Stuart with several Creek chiefs and warriors (Reel 2 document 147). Britain's purpose: To discuss reconfirming and extending the western line between colonial Georgia land and Indian land in southern Georgia. Beginning with provisions of previous treaties and using a "*sketch on paper of the Line as we Propose it should be continued from Connochee to the Alatomaha and from thence to St Marys*", Wright and Stuart argued for an extended line also including the Oconee, Ogeechee, and Apalachee Rivers. Four of these rivers flow directly into the Atlantic Ocean. The Connochee is a tributary of the Oconee, and the Apalachee River flows into the Altamaha. The new lines represented a substantial new cession of what had been Indian lands to become colonial lands open for settlement. As colonial settlement moved farther into the frontier, the rivers acted as both boundaries and highways. Presumably this discussion culminated in a formal agreement, but this is not documented in the microfilmed papers.
- June 1, 1773 Treaty on a "Cession Plan" among colonial Georgia Government, the Cherokee Nation, and Georgia Indian traders. Britain's purpose: To support the expansion of orderly colonial settlement on the frontier by proposing and implementing a complex plan designed to induce the Cherokee Nation to cede for colonial settlement large expanses of Indian territory on the western Georgia frontier in a huge area associated with the Broad River (still on the Atlantic Ocean side of the Appalachian Mountains). This more inland Cherokee land had previously not figured in the border negotiations, the Cherokee had less experience than the Creeks in losing land by legal document, and colonial Georgians were not (yet) necessary eager to settle in the Cherokee uplands. So, the scheme was quite speculative.

To induce the Indians, colonial officials developed a complicated scheme with carrots all around and no sticks, at least in theory. To "bribe" the Indians and to finance the scheme, the colonial government agreed first to forgive the accumulated debts of Creek Indians to the licensed Indian traders. Once Indians had agreed to having their debts liquidated and had ceded their lands, colonial settlers would be invited in to buy frontier property from the colonial government. The government would then use the revenue from the land sales to pay off the Indian traders' debts. This scheme was initiated by Governor Wright, working with John Stuart, beginning in early 1771 (Reel 3 documents 140-149, 57, 61, 71) and remained in consideration and negotiation until near the end of 1772 (Reel 6 documents 269, 270, 273, 286, 287).

- Implementing the Cession Treaty in the Face of Frontier Violence: Seeking to Modify Indian Behavior by Curtailing the Indian Trade and Practicing Equal Justice: After British government approval for the scheme had been received, and the treaty had been signed, Georgia began implementing it (Reel 7 documents 1, 5, 7, 8, 10,

13-18). A first, predictable challenge was to accomplish a survey of the entire area of ceded territory, which the surveyor general estimated to contain 1,616,298 acres (Reel 7 document 24), so as to facilitate orderly settlement.

A second, unanticipated, and more serious challenge was a series of incidents of violence within Georgia's frontier territory during much of 1773 and 1774. The violence consisted of isolated, violent, murderous attacks in the newly ceded territory, each involving only a few individual Indian and colonial antagonists. Murderers and victims were found on each side in different incidents. Colonial officials and Cherokee leaders talked and talked about the need for peace and tranquility, blaming backwoods colonials and renegade Indians unconnected with and unresponsive to public policies, but the leaders seemed for some time unable to quell the bloodshed. Governor Wright worried about the imminent breakout of a full-scale Indian war (Reel 7 documents 26, 34, 45, 47, 66, 67, 68-73, 77, 80-85, 90).

Frontier violence was nothing new. The microfilmed papers reference nine reported instances of frontier murder in colonial Georgia scattered over eight years, between 1764 and 1772, prior to implementation of the Cession Plan. Among these, in seven instances, Indians murdered whites. In two cases, whites murdered Indians (documents are scattered from Reel 8 document 86 to Reel 7 document 21). During about a year between late 1773 and early 1774, three instances of murder are reported in the microfilmed papers, two of them white murders of Indians and one of Indians murdering whites (in which case, Wright suggests, the white family had failed to take normally expected precautions) (Reel 7 documents 21, 26, 45, 47, 70, 71, 82). Yet, On May 4, 1774, Wright reported to Dartmouth that the murder problem was mostly one of Indians killing settlers (Reel 7 document 82).

Curtailing Trading with Indians:

Because of the increasing violence and lack of control over settlement in the ceded territory, Governor Wright became worried about the possibility of a full-scale Indian War (Reel 7 documents 66, 67, 85). Still seeking to avoid using military force, Wright began considering, in January 1774, taking a less violent but still, for him, strong hurtful step of curtailing trading with the Indians. By late October 1774, he felt he had to take this step, authorizing at least a partial closure of Indian trading as, a lever to force the Indian leaders to gain control over their violent warriors and requiring Indian traders, who, Wright felt, were helping stoke the violence, to apply for new licenses (Reel 7 documents 47, 72, 73, 79, 82, 84, 102, 105, 106, 115).

Practicing Equal Justice:

At the same time that Wright was using the stick of curtailing Indian trading, he also was using a carrot by seeking to enforce the law fully and equally in the punishment of frontier murderers. He and his government took the initiative to apprehend, try, and punish white murderers of Indians.

After the colonial Georgia government had taken the initiative on equal justice, the British government concurred with the principle. A British legal opinion dated March

23, 1775 (Reel 3 document 91) stated that a Georgia act, which declared “*that to murder any free Indian in Amity within this Province is equally penal as the murdering of any White Person, and that to rescue a Prisoner committed for such offence is Felony*”, was legal under British law.

Wright also strongly urged the leaders of Indian nations to apply their own approach of equal justice, punishing those “renegade” Indians who had murdered settlers (Reel 7 documents 26, 82, 109). This approach led to another treaty.

- October 20, 1774 Treaty signed at Savannah between the colonial Georgia government and the Creek (but not the Cherokee) Nation. Britain’s purpose: to codify, cooperatively with the Indians, jointly agreed-on practices that would minimize frontier violence and reinforce equal justice. Although a major positive step, the absence of the Cherokee nation suggests that this treaty did not solve the violence problems in the former Cherokee lands of the 1773 cession treaty (Reel 7 documents 115-117).

Shift from Indian Relations to Rebellion Control

Before Wright’s carrot and stick approaches to reducing violence and establishing orderly frontier settlement had a chance to succeed, his other big worry, escalation of the British colonial protest movement into a full-scale rebellion, overwhelmed him and his government.

Indian affairs could not be ignored, but their priorities changed quite suddenly from managing Indian behavior and expanding colonial settlement to doing the utmost to maintain friendship with Indian nations and to recruit friendly Indians to be active combatants on the British side of the emerging Revolutionary War.

Perhaps inevitably, certain British policies from earlier times began to conflict with those being enacted as war measures. For instance, colonial Georgia’s interruption of the Indian trade in 1774 took a risk, in order to regulate Indian behavior to reduce frontier violence, of further increasing tensions between the colonial government and the Indian nations.

In spring 1776, the King issued an even stronger measure (Reel 8 document 32), prohibiting, as a war measure, all trade between Britain and the rebellious colonies. For Governor Wright and his loyalist colonial government, these two policies restricting trade for different reasons created a new problem, specifically in relation to the Indians, because he needed trade (and presents) to maintain friendly relations with the Indians, whom he now need, not just to be peaceful and friendly, but to take up arms on the British side in the war. Failure on his part to maintain friendly Indian allies during the war might well mean that, if alienated, the same Indians would ally with the rebels, against the British (Reel 8 documents 6, 39, 40).

A decade before, Wright had anticipated this problem in his June 28, 1766 letter to the Board of Trade (Reel 6 document 63), in which he complained about the trade regulations imposed in conjunction with the Proclamation of 1763. As he put it then, “*I think I pretty clearly see disturbances and mischief gathering and breaking out amongst the Indians.*” He turned out to be right, and, when Georgia had to deal with these disturbances and mischief, he was still there as governor.

In March 1776, colonial Georgia came apart. Armed rebels took control of Savannah, forcing Wright and his government to flee from Georgia all the way to England, leaving no British colonial government in Georgia for over three years. In July 1779, when Wright and his government returned to Savannah, one of several immediate concerns was how to regain the support of Indian nations as reliable allies, or at least as neutral noncombatants. After some time spent testing the waters of Indian Relations, Wright reported to Secretary of State for the Colonies Lord George Germain that, as of May 25, 1780, most of the Indians had “gone home” and didn’t seem to present a threat to Britain (Reel 8 document 122). This optimistic assessment may have been accurate at the time. In 1780, British military fortunes seemed to be improving. In September 1780, Wright reported that Indian allies had fought well side by side with Georgia militia at Augusta (Reel 8 document 146).

A major concern when Wright’s government returned to Savannah was management of slaves, many of whom had run away when loyalist plantations were abandoned between 1776 and 1779. One aspect of this concern was a feeling, with some evidence, that Indians were protecting fugitive slaves. In practice, the difficulties loyalist plantation owners were experiencing controlling their property, including slaves, and the perceived public-safety problem resulting from Indians protecting slaves were soon overshadowed by the dangers of rebel attack and the demise of colonial Britain in America.

The Bosomworth Story

This unique episode in colonial Georgia history combines issues of Indian/European relations and land speculation along Georgia’s sea islands south of Savannah, along with a character sporting an unpredictably delightful name.

Rev. Thomas Bosomworth was a man of the cloth, a Christian missionary, and a man of social standing. In 1742, he married a lady named Mary Griffin. Or perhaps she married him. Or maybe they each had designs on one other. At any rate, they together had designs on valuable Georgia real estate, as found in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia, in documents dated between 1749 and 1766 (Reel 1, documents 10-17, 73, 76, 107, 132).

Mary Griffin had been born about 1700 to an English trader father named Edward Griffin and a Creek Indian mother. She was brought up bilingual and bicultural somewhere in South Carolina. In 1717 she married English trader John Musgrove.

Using Mary's connections and influence, they established a successful trading post near the Savannah River. In 1734, Musgrove joined a group James Oglethorpe took to England to promote his new colony, resulting in the Trustees of Georgia granting him land four miles upstream from Savannah for his trading post. Musgrove died there in 1735.

Mary continued operating the trading post, began offering her services as an interpreter for the colonial government, and sought to promote peace between the colony and the Indians. In 1737 she remarried, to yet another English trader, Jacob Matthews, who had a trading post to the south, on the Altamaha River. After he too died, Mary remarried yet again in 1742, this time to the Rev. Thomas Bosomworth.

For Mary, this marriage differed from her previous ones because of the higher social standing of the reverend. She was able to use this higher standing in the white man's society to increase her influence as a member of the Creek Nation. Tribal chiefs rewarded her with several additional grants of land, especially grants of three of the Sea Islands, just south of Savannah—Ossabaw Island, Sapelo Island, and St. Catherine's Island—lands which had been granted to them by James Oglethorpe when Georgia was a proprietary colony.

When Mary sought to have her land claims approved by British colonial authorities, they refused, stating that lands owned by an (Indian) nation could be granted only to another (British) nation. With her husband's assistance, Mary pursued her claims from 1749 until 1760. In 1754, she traveled to England, where the Board of Trade heard her case. They simply referred the matter back to the Georgia courts. Finally, in 1760, Royal Governor Ellis negotiated a compromise, whereby Mary received ownership of St. Catherine's Island plus a cash payment of £2,100, while relinquishing claim to Ossabaw and Sapelo Islands.

In a letter dated June 27, 1760 (Reel 1 document 10), Governor Ellis of Georgia described to the Board of Trade how he had satisfactorily resolved "*pretensions* [by Thomas and Mary Bosomworth] *to certain lands which the Creek Indians had reserved to themselves by treaty with General Oglethorpe.*" He explained that, as Governor, he had negotiated a subsequent treaty with the Creek Indians on April 22, 1758 (Reel 1, document 13), which gave the English ownership of certain of those Indian lands near Savannah, including Ossabaw and Sapelo Islands, to be made available for auction for colonial settlement, and how he had used the two treaties to craft a compromise solution that was acceptable to both sides.

Soon after the deal had been consummated, two claimants came forward to challenge the result. Neither succeeded.

In July 1760, a man named Pickering Robinson petitioned the Board of Trade (Reel 1 document 17), claiming that since 1755, he had owned and made improvements on Ossabaw and Sapelo Islands. He therefore requested that these two islands be deeded

to him as land grants. The microfilmed papers do not include any response to this petition, but the evidence suggests that it may in practice have been ignored.

Another challenge was more serious but, ultimately also unsuccessful. In this case, the challenger claiming that he owned half the value of all three of the islands, resulting from a deal he had made with Bosomworth. **Isaac Levy** was a successful merchant and trader born early in the 1700s in New York City. He did business in both Philadelphia and London at different times. In 1754, according to his testimony, a speculative opportunity had brought him into contact with Thomas Bosomworth, who, through his Creek Indian wife Mary, had become owner of the Georgia Sea Islands of Ossabaw, Sapelo, and St. Catherines. In October 1754, Levy had bought one-half interest in the three islands from Bosomworth.

In 1758, Bosomworth, who then needed money more than islands, offered to sell Ossabaw and Sapelo to the British Crown. Georgia Governor Ellis arranged the deal in 1760, but not before Levy discovered the deal and began legal action, since Bosomworth had ignored Levy's interest. Fearing he would not prevail in the Georgia courts, Levy resorted to a strategy of petitioning the Crown. In an undated petition to the Board of Trade from sometime in 1763, Levy wrote, as a part of his legal efforts, *"desiring Copies of the Resolutions & matters that passed at a conference between the Creek Indians & the Gov^r of Georgia in 1755 relative to the Islands of S^t. Catherine &c & two papers respective the Claims of M^r. B. and his Wife"* (Reel 1 document 76; Reel 2, documents 129, 130).

Unfortunately for Levy, the Board of Trade referred the matter back to the Georgia courts. Levy persevered with legal appeals into the late 1760s but never prevailed. In the meantime, Bosomworth, still needing money, had sold St. Catherines Island to Button Gwinnett in 1765.

[**Button Gwinnet** is another colorful figure in Georgia history. A wealthy plantation owner and political leader on the rebel side of the rebellion, he was one of three Georgia signers of the Declaration of Independence. In 1777, he managed to become so deeply embroiled with his (also rebel) arch political rival **Lachlan McIntosh** that the two fought a duel, in which Gwinnet was killed. McIntosh came from a family that had settled New Inverness (now Darien) Georgia in 1736. In 1775, he chose to support the rebel cause in the military. As a colonel in the Georgia Militia and then Brigadier General in the Continental Army, he was put in charge of defending Georgia from British East Florida. His great political rival Button Gwinnett ordered McIntosh to lead the ill-conceived and disastrous Georgia invasion of East Florida in 1777 that led to the duel and Gwinnet's death. This has nothing to do with the Bosomworth story, but it helps illustrate, again, how intertwined the stories are of various colonial Georgia leaders.]

Lady Huntingdon's Orphan House and Complexities of Loyalist-Rebel Relations

The Lady Huntingdon Story

Beyond being interesting, with colorful characters, this story reveals either uncertainty about the identity of certain individuals and/or complexity in the practical relations of identified loyalists and rebels in Savannah in 1780-1781.

The Countess of Huntingdon, Selina Hastings, known as **Lady Huntingdon**, was a strong-willed English lady whose great mission in life was to promote and finance Christian missions and development of the Methodist movement in England, Wales, and several British colonies. In England and Wales, she financed 64 chapels plus a college to train Methodist ministers. In her foreign missions, located in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, South Carolina, and Georgia, she promoted religious writings by Indians, former slaves, and black loyalists. The mission in Georgia was an “**orphan house**” in Bethesda, now a suburban area of Savannah, south of the city, between tidal tributaries of the Little Ogeechee River.

[Lady Huntingdon’s “orphan house” had a prior history not revealed in these microfilmed papers. It had been founded in 1740 as the **Bethesda Orphanage** by the English, Methodist (and “Great Awakening”) evangelist preacher George Whitefield, while he was in America on a preaching tour. (James Habersham worked with Whitefield on the orphanage project in the 1740s; see below). Lady Huntingdon had been one of Whitefield’s major charitable donors for the orphanage.

In 1764, Whitefield was apparently thinking about adding a “college” to the orphanage. The one microfilmed document that reveals this thinking is identified as a “*Copy of an Address of both Houses of Assembly to the Gov^r in favour of the Rev^d M^r Whitefield’s Application for Lands in order to the endowment of a College*” (Reel 2 document 32). Lady Huntingdon’s correspondence refers to only an orphan house. Perhaps the college was never built. Or, perhaps, it did not become part of Lady Huntingdon’s property.

When Whitefield died in England in 1770, he bequeathed the orphanage to Lady Huntingdon, who then became responsible for trying to operate and manage it, long distance, from England. This cannot have been easy, especially after the orphanage building burned to the ground in 1773 (apparently not a politically influenced conflagration). The fire required rebuilding and establishing a new organization in Georgia to operate the orphanage. Whether the rebuilt orphanage was functioning by December 1780 is not clear.]

In December 1780, Lady Huntingdon’s problem appeared to revolve less around fundraising for or managing a functioning orphanage than around determining the status of the Bethesda property itself during the turmoil in Georgia concerning “abandoned estates” that had belonged to loyalists and had been taken over, perhaps plundered, and perhaps damaged or destroyed by the rebels. Lady Huntingdon had used her excellent contacts, and Secretary of State Germain had been happy to oblige her by writing to Governor Wright, asking him, in a letter dated December 7, 1780 (Reel 8

document 136), to honor her request to inform Messrs. Baillie and Telfair, who apparently had been put in charge of protecting and managing her property in Georgia, that *"they will Account to her for whatever has come to their hands of her Property."*

Mr. Baillie's identity is known. However, there is uncertainty about Mr. Telfair. He is most likely one of two well known brothers, businessmen **William** or **Edward Telfair**, who lived and worked in Savannah. William was a loyalist (In 1775, he was Commissary General of colonial Georgia.) Edward, on the other hand, was a rebel leader. (He represented Georgia in the Continental Congress and, in this capacity, signed the Articles of Confederation. After the war, he served as Governor of the State of Georgia in 1786-1787 and again, as the first governor under the state's new 1789 constitution, in 1790-1793). William appears the more likely possibility to be a protector of loyalist property. However, since rebels had taken over many loyalist properties, assistance from a well-connected rebel might also have been helpful. Which Telfair brother (or perhaps another member of the family) was supposed to be working with George Baillie to protect and manage Lady Huntingdon's orphan house and other property remains unclear.

On February 25, 1781, Wright responded to Germain about Lady Huntingdon's request (Reel 10 document 246, a Secretary of State letterbook "summary" [actually transcription] of a letter not otherwise microfilmed here as an original, copy, or duplicate letter). Rather than describing how he had conveyed her request to Messrs. Baillie and Telfair and how they had responded, he reported (with no mention of a Mr. Telfair) that he thought George Baillie had been given charge over Lady Huntingdon's property by Colonel Archibald Campbell (presumably when Campbell had briefly been military governor of Georgia in summer 1779), but that more recently that responsibility had been given to [perhaps Josiah] Tattnall and [?] Hall *"who have now the Management of it."* Wright recommended that these two men, who are *"(both very good Men)"* should be given full power of attorney *"to call M^r Baillie to an Account for his transactions &c in case he should refuse so to do."*

Again, the identity of those Wright says were the new property managers and "both very good Men" is unclear. The loyalist family of **Josiah Tattnall** had left Georgia for England in 1776. When a son, also Josiah Tattnall, returned to America late in the war, he chose to join the Continental Army under General Anthony Wayne. (After the war, this Josiah Tattnall served as a Georgia State Representative and as a U.S. Senator. His son, a third Josiah Tattnall, grew up to be a high-ranking career officer in the U.S. Navy from the War of 1812 through the Civil War.) Nevertheless, confusing the situation further, a Josiah Tattnall was a cosigner with loyalist Georgia government officials, probably in late 1778, of a petition to Secretary of State Germain (Reel 8, undated document 51) requesting that the British military do what it could to protect and return to their owners, any slave and other property belonging to the co-signers. The identity of **Mr. Hall** is also unclear. Dr. Lyman Hall is a prominent possibility, but he too supported the Revolution, represented Georgia in the Continental Congress, and signed the Declaration of Independence for Georgia. If these two rebel leaders actually were supposed to be protecting Lady Huntingdon's property, it suggests that control of

certain affairs, at least, in Georgia in 1781 was already in the hands of rebels, even though the British colonial government was still functioning.

[This correspondence provides no clues about the actual status of Lady Huntingdon's orphan-house property in 1780-1781. However, after the war, the Bethesda Orphanage was again functioning. As times changed during the 19th Century, its name was changed to Bethesda Home for Boys. During the 20th Century, it evolved from being a home into being a school. Today, it remains active as the religiously oriented Bethesda Academy, a private boarding and day school for boys in grades 6 through 12.]

Family Fissures Between Loyalists and Rebels

Another complexity in relations between loyalists and rebels was the division of allegiance within some families, usually between brothers or father and son. Two examples in prominent Georgia families are found in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia:

The Habersham Family

James Habersham came to Georgia in 1738 as a poor, Methodist schoolmaster. For several years after 1740, he worked with his friend George Whitefield (the "Great Awakening" evangelist) in the development and operation of Whitefield's Bethesda Orphanage near Savannah (see the Lady Huntingdon story above). Then, sometime in the 1740s, he decided to reinvent himself and soon became wealthy as a planter, producing both silk and cotton. He also studied and practiced law, and his business interests led him into lucrative commercial-trade ventures. By the mid-1750s, he had become active in colonial government, serving first as secretary of the colony and soon after for many years after 1759, as a member and then president of the Georgia Council. This leadership position put him in position, when Governor Wright took a leave of absence from 1771 to 1773, to serve as acting governor of Georgia. From 1773 until his death in 1775, he continued to serve under Governor Wright as President of the Council. As such, he was and remained until his death a devoted loyalist.

When the Revolution came in 1775, James Habersham's sons James Jr., John, and Joseph all sided with America and became leaders in rebel Georgia, while their father remained a determined loyalist—but died that same year, thus saving the family from lengthy internal strife. By 1774, **John** was directly involved in efforts to abscond with royal arms and gunpowder and to intimidate Savannah inhabitants to join the rebel cause. Both John and Joseph served in the Continental Army, while **James Jr.** managed the family businesses. The first U.S. President, George Washington, appointed **Joseph** to be the first Postmaster General and John to be Port Collector in Savannah. Although both John and James Jr. died in 1799, Joseph continued his career as Postmaster General under President Adams. In 1801, resigned as Postmaster General to serve as first president of the United States Bank branch in Savannah until his death in 1815.

The Jones Family

The family of **Noble Jones** was among those who settled Georgia early with James Oglethorpe in 1733, when Noble was 31 years old. Noble served in many public positions over many years, including constable, physician, surveyor, Indian agent, soldier, treasurer, senior justice, and member of the Georgia Council. As Americans began to split from each other in the 1760s, Noble Jones remained a dedicated loyalist until his death in 1775.

Noble's son, **Noble Wimberly Jones**, born in 1723, grew up in the colonial Georgia that his father helped shape. As a young man, he trained in and practiced medicine. In public life, he found his political base not with the Governor's Council but with the popularly elected Commons House of the Georgia Assembly. As he rose in stature as a political leader, he was repeatedly elected to serve the one-year term as President of the Commons House. Governor Wright liked neither the protest politics of Commons House, nor Noble Wimberly Jones, the body's perennial leader.

During apparently several years, Wright used both his powers to "negative" (veto) Commons House's choice of president and to dissolve the entire Assembly (until he called a new election) when he didn't like their choice of president or what they were doing. As documented in these microfilmed papers, this occurred in both 1771 and 1772 (Reel 3 documents 70, 74 and Reel 6 document 244, 274-276 and note after document 276), when Noble W. Jones was elected Commons House President. In 1771 Governor Wright did the negating and dissolving. In 1772, James Habersham, as acting governor, did both. In each case, the presidency issue was solved by Commons House after further deliberation, by electing a second-choice president, Archibald Bulloch, whom, in each case, the governor accepted. Bulloch was an attorney who, like Jones, shared the protest-movement political views of the Commons House. (During the war, Bulloch served in the Continental Army, was president of the Georgia Provincial Assembly and was a Georgia representative to the Continental Congress.)

Why each governor negated Jones as president of Commons House, but soon after accepted Bulloch, is not made clear. One possibility is that, since the elder Noble Jones was a close friend and loyalist political colleague of both Wright and Habersham, they may have found it too painful to contemplate facing Noble Jones' son, the young, radical Noble Wimberly Jones, as their adversary leader in Commons House.

During the hiatus of British colonial government in Georgia, Jones was active in establishing an alternative government and in writing its 1777 constitution. When the British captured Savannah at the end of 1777, he fled to Charleston, where in 1778, he was captured when it fell to the British. After being imprisoned at St. Augustine, he was exchanged in 1781 and sent to Philadelphia, where he promptly was elected to the Congress. Back in Savannah after the war, he practiced medicine, served as speaker of the Georgia State House. He died in 1805.

The Wright Family

Apparently, no loyalist-rebel conflict existed in the family of Governor **James Wright**, partly because he seems not to have had politically active offspring or other relatives in America, and partly, perhaps, because he himself was so intensely loyalist had no relative would have felt comfortable opposing him.

James Wright's father, attorney and judge **Robert Wright**, had come to South Carolina in 1730 to serve as Chief Justice for the colony of South Carolina, which he did until his death in 1739. James, who probably was educated in England, came to Charleston sometime near the date of his father's death and opened his own law practice there. In 1740, he married. During the next 23 years, James and his wife had nine children, of whom three were sons, **James**, **Alexander**, and **Charles**. In 1763, James' wife was drowned during a trip back to England. James never remarried, and none of his three sons became public figures.

James Wright also had two brothers, **Charles** and **Jermyn**, who also had initially come to South Carolina, and probably by the late 1760s had moved to British East Florida, where they were loyalist plantation owners. Apparently Jermyn and Charles knew how to build roads as well as manage plantations. In the mid-1770s, they built what became known as the King's Highway (Now U.S. 1) between St. Augustine and the Georgia boundary (at today's St. Marys, Georgia), via the St. Johns River ferry at Cowford (now Jacksonville). They also constructed a causeway across the wide area of salt marshes between coastal South Carolina and the main channel of the Savannah River, across the town of Savannah. Neither brother was a public figure, and both remained reliably loyalist.

The Colony of Georgia: Financial Benefactor or Tax Consumer?

The British colonial system was designed to provide financial gain to the mother country and, presumably, to its taxpayers. The Colony of Georgia existed for just about 50 years, 20 years as a proprietary colony and 30 years as a royal colony. A major contributing reason for King George II's decision to terminate the proprietary charter for Georgia in 1752 and to replace it with a royal charter is that he wanted it to become more profitable, after being placed under his royal-colony control. The private investment of Georgia's Trustees and other speculators does not seem to have yielded great financial rewards.

The Georgia Colonial Papers are more political-governance papers than economic papers, so they do not clearly document the economic gains and losses of the royal colonial enterprise. They do, however, contain many reports about and references to economic-development efforts, especially in the Board of Trade papers.

For instance, Georgia's difficulties trying to develop a silk industry that would accrue financial benefits to Britain are reported on extensively. Apparently this was an

experiment that did not pan out. The British taxpayers subsidized it for a while through bounties to settlers producing raw silk. But, when that didn't succeed, the bounties were withdrawn by the British government, to the dismay of Georgia's governor, who understood that the industry could not develop without bounties.

On the other hand, multiple Georgia plantation owners, some colonial-government officials (including especially Governor Wright) plus perhaps others, became quite wealthy by obtaining free or inexpensive land through the colonial government, developing large plantations, each purchasing hundreds of slaves, and each turning great profits growing and exporting rice and sea-island cotton. The extent to which these exports enriched the mother country is not recorded in these microfilmed papers.

With incomplete evidence, no definitive conclusion can be drawn from these papers alone about the overall profitability of Georgia as a colonial enterprise. But nothing in the microfilmed papers suggests that it was recognized at the time as a major success.

What the microfilmed papers do tell us more clearly is the magnitude of the annual amounts of British public funding that was appropriated in annual budgets for public support of the "civil establishment" of colonial Georgia. Since they were "official correspondence," notifications of many of the annual "estimates" are found in the microfilmed papers. The following table summarizes the estimate amounts documented by year:

Summary of Estimates for the Civil Establishment of Georgia colonial government
as found in the microfilmed papers, with notes:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Note</u>
1755-1756	£3,557	Amounts for 1755 through 1761 do not appear to be comparable to the estimate amounts reported consistently from 1764 through 1782.
1756-1757	£3,557	
1759-1760	£588	
1760-1761	£581	
1764-1765	£2,120	Following the French and Indian War, the amount may have dropped, perhaps a harbinger of tight finances, leading to the Stamp Act in 1765.
1767-1768	£3,086	The amount became constant from 1767 through 1776, except for one year.
1768-1769	£3,086	
1769-1770	£3,086	
1770-1771	£3,086	
1771-1772	£3,186	
		The amount was increased by £100 for this year alone, because of an added subsidy for producers of raw silk, which was not continued the following year.
1772-1773	£3,086	
1773-1774	£3,086	

1774-1775	£3,086	
1775-1776	£3,086	
1776-1777	£2,816	From 1776 to 1779, the Georgia colonial government was in “exile” in London, having been expelled by rebel armed force. Accordingly, the annual estimate was decreased in 1776-1777. However, the estimate was not discontinued, and it gradually increased until the government returned to Georgia in July 1779.
1777-1778	£2,866	
1778-1779	£2,900	
1779-1780	£2,866	In 1779-1780, the amount did not rebound to pre-war highs, but it did stabilize, until the colony ceased to exist in July 1782, at slightly more than the amount approved during the years of “exile.”
1780-1781	£2,986	
1781-1782	£2,986	

The value of these annual estimates was considerable. £3,000 in 1776 is equivalent to about \$500,000 in today’s U.S. dollars. Not a multi-million dollar budget, but, when multiplied by 13 rebellious colonies plus many more that remained loyal, a substantial tax burden for those who actually paid the taxes in Britain to keep the Empire going.

If the American colonies had not gone to revolutionary war especially and visibly over issues of taxation, this might not be a pertinent observation. The British population itself was split over the value of fighting—and paying for—another expensive war to keep the rebellious colonies in the Empire, and, by near the end of the war, a large enough proportion of the voting (and taxpaying) population had soured enough on the war to bring down Lord North’s “war government.” Perhaps by then, Georgia’s annual estimate had begun to rankle among many in England who recognized the irony of “The World Turned Upside Down” financially as well as politically and militarily.

Selected References

The following selected references suggest a few useful sources on particular aspects of the history of British Georgia.

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David Swain, Volunteer Researcher
David Library of the American Revolution
June 2018

Reel 1 (Volume 648)

Volume 648—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Board of Trade Correspondence (incoming), begin

May 29, 1749 to July 17, 1764

Documents 1 to 99

[Frames 1 to 315]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: DLAR microfilmed papers of Board of Trade incoming correspondence for colonial Georgia begin with Volume 648 of the Colonial Office Papers for Georgia. This Volume contains documents dated beginning in spring 1760 (including a few prior documents). At this time, Georgia had been a Royal Colony since 1752. Prior to that, it had been a proprietary Trustee Colony since its founding in 1732. Previous Volumes 636 through 647 (1734-1760) of this Board of Trade incoming correspondence are not included in DLAR’s microfilmed documents.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: Archivists (probably in the Board of Trade Office) wrote descriptive notes for many of the manuscript documents, which are microfilmed with the documents. On these notes, archivists provided their own numbers by manuscript Bundle or Volume. Where found, this Finding Aid reports these numbers as “BT numbers.” Volume 648 begins with E.1 and ends with E.106. Although all microfilmed documents are assigned a BT number, occasional gaps in counting suggest either that a few documents were lost or for other reasons were not microfilmed or that the BT numbering process was sloppy in its assignment of numbers. Documents in Volumes 644 through 647 (not included in the DLAR microfilmed papers) were also assigned BT numbers (A. through D. respectively).

Note: Georgia Governor Henry Ellis (perhaps as directed by the Board of Trade) followed the practice of numbering each letter he sent to the Board of Trade and Plantations. These numbers are included in this Finding Aid for Ellis letters No. 33 through No. 40, found in Reel 1, between DLAR document numbers 1 and 10. Georgia’s next governor, James Wright, did not number his letters to the Board of Trade.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

1. April 16, 1760 [1]
Letter No. 33 from Henry Ellis, governor of the British Colony of Georgia to the Lords of the Board of Trade and Plantations, reporting on efforts, both public and private, to engage the Creek Indians in a war against the Cherokee Indians [allied with the French], a task proving difficult "*as the French and Cherokees have great influence in that [Creek] Nation*"; describing the use of money and goods to entice the Creeks; stating that "*It is of the last importance that the Creeks should be induced to assist us, for otherwise the War with the Cherokees may prove a very tedious & expensive one*"; stating that "*I have already set the Chickasaws [Indians] upon the enemy, who will be serviceable but Expensive Auxiliaries*"; "*urging the Necessity of a fresh Supply of Presents [i.e. trading goods and gifts], in order to engage the Creeks to act against the Cherokees*" [BT number E.1]

[**Note:** The chronological sequence of microfilmed Board of Trade documents in Volumes 648 through 652 (Reels 1 through 3) runs from mid-1760 to 1782 (with a major gap between 1775 and 1781, mostly during a time between 1776 and 1779 when the colonial government of Georgia was in exile in England). Prior years of Board of Trade incoming correspondence (when Georgia was a proprietary colony, from 1734 to 1752, and subsequently a royal colony, from 1752 to 1760) are found in Volumes 636 to 647, which are not owned by DLAR. Volume 653 in Reel 3 contains a set of drafts of outgoing documents dated between 1754 and 1758, just as Governor Ellis was becoming governor. Thus, for instance, this document (Reel 1 document 1, the first microfilmed document in Volume 648) is the 33rd numbered letter Ellis sent to the Board of Trade. Ellis' letters No. 1 through No. 32 are not microfilmed here but may be found early in Volumes 672 to 674, which are not owned by DLAR.

[**Note:** **Henry Ellis** (1721-1806), after serving briefly as Lieutenant Governor, was Georgia's 2nd royal governor from 1758 to 1760. His predecessor, **John Reynolds** (governor from 1752-1758) had proven to be an administrative failure. Before Reynolds, the royal colony of Georgia had been governed, since its founding in 1732, by a group of royally appointed trustees, most of whom lived in England. Among the trustees, only **James Oglethorpe** had moved to Georgia and played an active leading role in designing and settling Savannah and in governing the new colony. Ellis had gone to sea young, sailing in his 20s on an explorer ship to Hudson's Bay in search of a Northwest Passage. From 1750 to 1755, he had operated a profitable (and reputedly relatively humane) slave-trading operation between West Africa and Jamaica. Connections in the Board of Trade got him appointed in 1757 as Lieutenant Governor, to act as governor while Reynolds was in England defending himself. By 1758, he had replaced Reynolds as governor. He proved his worth as a capable administrator in Georgia, as well as a skilled diplomat in relation to the Indian nations on the Georgia frontier. In particular, he negotiated a 1758 treaty with the Creeks and managed to maintain their neutrality, if not friendship, against the Cherokees (who were allied with the French during the French and Indian War/Seven Years War). However, ill health contracted in Georgia led Ellis to request replacement

in fall 1760. In November 1760, **James Wright** of South Carolina replaced him as governor. Back in England, Ellis became influential in crafting British policy in America, including helping to write the Royal Proclamation of 1763 that sought to define a boundary between European and Indian settlement areas in the frontier lands just vacated by the French. This document also defined Georgia's boundaries favorably for it, to the St Mary's River in the south and the Mississippi River to the west.]

[**Note:** The British **Board of Trade and Plantations** somewhat resembled a chamber of commerce in an age of royal mercantilism. It was governed by a group of Lords appointed by the Crown and thus was a part of government. Yet its purpose was to encourage settlement and economic development that would benefit the mother country's economy as well as the royal government. Until America became a political and military problem for England in the mid-1760s, British colonial governors looked to the Board of Trade for direction and financial support. Later, Secretaries of State for the Colonies would eclipse the Board of Trade's colonial powers.]

[**Note:** The interior of the southeastern North American continent had long been occupied by multiple tribes of **Native Americans** (who are identified here as Indians, as did 18th Century Europeans and American colonists). By the 1750s, four primary tribes (which the British recognized to be "nations" because of their sovereign status) had been recognized by the Spanish, French, and English Europeans who had settled around the coastal rim of the Indian interior. These included the **Choctaw**, **Chickasaw**, **Creek**, and **Cherokee** Nations. After generations of relations with one another, in war and in diplomacy, these tribes had developed complex ways of interacting based on mutually understood terms. The arrival of European settlers upset the intertribal status quo and injected new allies and enemies into the mix. In the 1750s and 1760s, colonial Georgia was seeking ways to accommodate the reality of Indian nations into its plans for an expanding European royal colony, while the Indian tribes were seeking ways to defend their lands and to dealing with European leaders who negotiated and fought in ways unfamiliar to and often dangerous to them.

Further complicating the situation, the Europeans themselves were split among warring nations, and Indian tribes had to learn how to ally themselves not only with one tribe or another but with one European nation over another. Between 1756 and 1763, these complex relationships were reshuffled by what the Americans called the French and Indian War and the English called the Seven Years War. In North America, England fought France to the northwest and Spain to the south, while each nation sought to ally with as many Indian tribes as possible. Georgia's problem was that the Cherokees allied with the French, forcing Georgia to do what it could to befriend or at least neutralize the other three tribes, especially their more immediate neighbors, the Creeks.]

2. May 15, 1760 [3]
Letter No. 34 from Ellis at Georgia to Board of Trade, stating that while efforts by Georgia Rangers and [friendly] Indians have prevented Cherokee Indian "outrages" against the inhabitants of Georgia, "*the Cherokees continue to do*

much mischief in the neighbouring Provinces"; stating that the Chickasaw Indians do not "*resent*" Cherokee hostilities, which makes it expensive to entice them to ally with the British against the Cherokee [and French]; stating that on an unnamed matter of internal unrest, the situation is quiet at the moment, mostly because of the external threats; requesting that, given "*the accumulated load of business and fatigue*," he be relieved as governor [BT number E.2] [Ellis' letter No. 35 is not microfilmed here]

3. June 7, 1760 [5]
3rd Copy of letter No. 36 from Ellis at Georgia to Board of Trade, reporting "*with very great Concern*" "*that the Endeavours of our Enemies, the French and Cherokees, seem to have been more prevalent with the Creeks, than those we have been employing*"; reporting that "*on the 4th Instant, I was by an Express from the Creek Nation informed, that several of our Traders in the Upper Towns were on the 16th Ult murdered, and their affects Seized, and divided amongst some of those Savages. This step is always lookd upon as a declaration of War.*"; reporting doing his best to respond by redoubling his efforts to retain the Creeks as allies; reporting that the colonial government of South Carolina is thinking and acting in similar ways; stressing the "*insecure state of this Colony, the weakest in itself*"; stating that "*my remonstrances* [to obtain support from London] *have not had sufficient effect*" [BT number E.3]
4. July 10, 1760 [8]
2nd Copy of letter No. 37 from Ellis at Georgia to Board of Trade, describing his successes "*so far*" in keeping the Creeks allied with Britain against the Cherokee [and French]; stating that a policy of making only generalized demands on the Creeks was "*the only course we could take with prudence*" because of the danger of being refused "*had we specified the Nature and Extend of the satisfaction we expected*"; followed by
July 13, 1760
Postscript reporting intelligence of how the French had met with the Creek headmen and "*used every Argument to persuade them to break with the English and join the Cherokees, but with no effect*" [BT number E.4]
5. August 25, 1760 [11]
Letter No. 38 from Ellis at Georgia to Board of Trade, concerning receipt of several new acts applying to Georgia, including two which appear to replace two repealed Georgia acts, one an act on juries and another on the recovery of small debts; stating that there are no objections to the jury act, but that the small debts act appears to put a hardship on the poor inhabitants of Georgia by making such debt payments more difficult and more expensive; reporting that the colony's General Assembly had completed its work, been dissolved, and a new one had met; reporting that steps were being taken for the colony's defense, including "*a very good Logg Fort*" at Sunbury, with others being built at Barrington, two on the Ogeechee River, and one on the northeast corner of "this Town" [Savannah] [BT number E.5]

[**Note: Sunbury**, now a ghost town but once a fortified port town, was located on the Medway River (now called Blackbeard's Creek), north of Sapelo Island. Barrington, not a town, was the site of a fort by that name on the Altamaha River, south of Sapelo Island. Ogeechee River flows into Ossabaw Sound, north of Ossabaw Island and south of Savannah. The location of forts up the tidal estuaries of the rivers that flow around the Sea Islands south of Savannah was strategic, since these estuaries could act as highways for waterborne invading military forces.]

6. September 5, 1760 [14]
Letter No. 39 from Ellis at Georgia to Board of Trade, observing no particular influence on Georgia of the news from South Carolina of "*the Retreat of the Army under Colonel Montgomery, and the Surrender of Fort Loudon and its Garrison to the Cherokees*"; stating that "*the Creeks still remain quiet*"; providing a more detailed description of the recent incident in which four traders had been murdered by Creek Indians and Ellis' efforts to re-establish friendly relations with the Creeks, while urging them to punish those who carried out the murders; reporting that the Choctaw Indians are generally friendly with the Creeks [and thus perhaps with Britain] [BT number E.6]
[**Note:** In 1756-1757, the British built a line of forts in Cherokee territory of northern Mississippi, Alabama, and South Carolina, in preparation for expected French incursions from the north and west. One of these was **Fort Loudon** (on the Little Tennessee River, actually in today's State of Tennessee). At this time, the Cherokee were considered allies of the British, but the British expedition in 1758 that succeeded in capturing Fort Duquesne changed Cherokee minds, and in 1759-1760 they began attacking British frontier settlements. They also laid siege to Fort Loudoun. **Colonel Archibald Montgomerie's** 77th Regiment of Foot (Montgomerie's Highlanders) was sent to relieve the fort but was beaten by the Cherokees and retreated before reaching the Fort. Soon after, the British garrison at fort Loudoun surrendered and the fort was abandoned.]
7. January 7, 1761 [17]
Letter from J. West, a secretary at Treasury Chambers to John Pownall, secretary to the Board of Trade, requesting that the Board of Trade prepare and submit to the House of Commons an estimate of expenses for the Province of Georgia from June 24, 1760 "*to Midsummer 1761*" [BT number E.7]
[**Note: John Pownall** held the position of Secretary to the Board of Trade and Plantations from 1758 to 1776. Between 1768 and 1776 he also held the position of Undersecretary of State. John's older brother **Thomas Pownall** was also active for some time in American affairs, serving in several capacities in the colonies, including Governor of Massachusetts from 1757 to 1760.]
[**Note:** While the British established and maintained "colonies" within the British Empire, during this period, they often referred to particular colonies as "provinces." In this Finding Aid, the two terms are considered to be synonymous.]

8. October 20, 1760 [19]
Letter No. 40 from Ellis at Georgia to Board of Trade, stating that the Creeks are still behaving with civility, but “that the French had instigated some Choctaws to murder a Pack-Horse man belonging to the Traders who went to that Country last Summer”, and that some Choctaws had killed two of the murderers of the traders; expressing “*surprise that his Majestys Southern Provinces should be suffered so long to continue exposed as they are*” to threats from the French and hostile Indians; stating that the Creeks had come down to [Savannah] for a “*National Talk*” to confirm friendship between them and the British [BT number E.8]
9. October 23, 1760 [22]
Letter from James Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, informing them that he had arrived at Savannah and had met with Governor Ellis prior to succeeding him as Governor of Georgia; stating his assessment of the danger Georgia was in and making his own plea for help from England [BT number E.9]
[**Note:** Unlike Governor Ellis, Governor Wright did not number his letters to the Board of Trade.]
[**Note:** Ellis left Georgia in November 1760, having requested to be replaced because of poor health. He returned to England, via New York, where he made another plea for more support from England for the southern colonies.]
[**Note:** **James Wright** (1716-1785) had come from England to South Carolina in 1730, where he became a prominent attorney and plantation owner. When Governor Ellis requested that he be replaced because of illness, Wright was already serving as Georgia’s Lieutenant Governor (appointed in May 1760 and arrived in Savannah from Charleston in October 1760). He served as Georgia’s 3rd and last royal governor, from 1760 until 1782, when he left for England, once the war against the rebellious colonies was lost. He was the only colonial governor among the rebellious 13 colonies to remain in office in America during the war. In Georgia, he encouraged the expansion of British settlement into Indian territories, negotiating successive agreements with the Indians that reduced Indian territory. Meanwhile, he developed for himself a network of 11 plantations, eventually owning more than 500 slaves. Before the Revolution, Wright’s capable administration dampened and delayed Georgians’ enthusiasm for rebellion against British rule. He was the only royal governor, among the 13, who actively enforced the Stamp Act of 1765. By 1776, however, Georgians were siding with the other 12 rebellious colonies. Wright was arrested by “rebels” but escaped to London. When the British Army captured Savannah in 1779, he returned to carry on British colonial rule in Georgia for three more years. In 1782, the tables were turned again when the British were forced to evacuate Savannah. This time, Wright left Georgia for England, never to return. After the war, he became head of an American loyalist group seeking British compensation for their wartime losses.]
10. June 27, 1760 [24]

Letter No. 36 from Ellis at Savannah to Board of Trade, describing how he had satisfactorily resolved “*pretensions* [by Thomas and Mary Bosomworth] *to certain lands which the Creek Indians had reserved to themselves by treaty with General Oglethorpe*”, describing how Ellis, as Governor, had negotiated a subsequent treaty with the Creek Indians on April 22, 1758, which gave the English ownership of certain of those Indian lands near Savannah, including Ossabaw and Sapelo Islands, to be made available for auction for colonial settlement; including details of Mary Bosomworth’s land ownership claims and actions taken to resolve them; including five microfilmed enclosures, identified as A, B, C (twice), and D [documents 11 to 15] [BT number E.10]

[**Note:** This letter appears to be an addition to Ellis’ previous Letter No. 36 (document 3), dated June 7, 1760.]

[**Note: Mary Griffin** (c. 1700-c. 1763) was born of an English trader father named Edward Griffin and a Creek Indian mother. She was brought up bilingual and bicultural somewhere in South Carolina. In 1717 she married English trader John Musgrove. Using Mary’s connections and influence, they established a successful trading post near the Savannah River. In 1734, Musgrove joined a group James Oglethorpe took to England to promote his new colony, resulting in the Trustees of Georgia granting him land four miles upstream from Savannah for his trading post. Musgrove died there in 1735. Mary continued operating the trading post, began offering her services as an interpreter for the colonial government, and sought to promote peace between the colony and the Indians. In 1737 she remarried to yet another English trader, Jacob Matthews, who had a trading post to the south, on the Altamaha River. After he too died, Mary remarried yet again in 1742, this time to the **Rev. Thomas Bosomworth**, a Christian missionary and man of social status. She used her new husband’s higher social standing to increase her influence in the colony and within the Indian tribe. Tribal chiefs rewarded her with several additional grants of land, especially grants of three of the Sea Islands, just south of Savannah, Ossabaw Island, Sapelo Island, and St. Catherines Island. When Mary sought to have her land claims approved by British colonial authorities, they refused, stating that lands owned by an (Indian) nation could be granted only to another (British) nation. With her husband’s assistance, Mary pursued her claims from 1749 until 1760. In 1754, she traveled to England, where the Board of Trade heard her case. They simply referred the matter back to the Georgia courts. Finally, in 1760, Royal Governor Ellis negotiated a compromise, whereby Mary received ownership of St. Catherines Island plus a cash payment of £2,100, while relinquishing claim to Ossabaw and Sapelo Islands.]

[**Note: Georgia’s Atlantic Coast Sea Islands** consist of a string of barrier islands with salt-marsh interior areas separated by tidal estuaries. Along Georgia’s approximately 100 miles of seacoast, its Sea Islands are strung from north to south as follows:

→Savannah River→ (Georgia-South Carolina Line)

Tybee Island

→Wilmington River→

Wassau Island

→Ogeechee River→

Ossabaw Island

→Medway River→ (Blackbeard Creek today, with multiple channels)

St. Catherines Island

→Medway River→ (Blackbeard Creek today, with multiple channels)

Sapelo Island

→Doboy Sound→

Wolf Island

→Altamaha River→

St. Simons Island

→Fancy Bluff Creek→ (multiple channels)

Jekyll Island

→Fancy Bluff Creek→ (multiple channels)

Cumberland Island

→St. Marys River→ (Georgia-Florida line)]

11. July 23, 1759 [28]
Statement by Thomas Bosomworth at Savannah to Ellis, concerning his wife's land ownership claim, going back to before Georgia's colonial charter, with details in 33 numbered points [BT number E.11] [enclosure A with Ellis' June 27, 1760 letter to Board of Trade, document 10]
12. May 29, 1749 [37]
Account of Mary Bosomworth in "*His Majesty's Service in the Province...of Georgia*"; describing services rendered in relation to the Creek Indians "*in the british Interest*" with debit and credit entries for years between 1740 and 1749 [BT number E.12] [enclosure B with Ellis' June 27, 1760 letter to Board of Trade, document 10]
13. April 22, 1758 [38]
Copy of the text of a treaty between the Province of Georgia and certain Indians, concerning land ownership, with the names of 57 Indians as "witnesses"; followed by
July 24, 1759
Copy of agreement between the Province of Georgia and Thomas Bosomworth, concerning his wife's claim, signed by Ellis plus 7 others plus Thomas and Mary Bosomworth
[part of BT number E.13] [part of enclosure C with Ellis' June 27, 1760 letter to Board of Trade, document 10]
14. April 19, 1760 [42]
Copy of indenture between Thomas and Mary Bosomworth and Henry Ellis, as Governor of Georgia, part of settlement of the Bosomworth land claim, acquiring St. Catherines Island and selling Ossabaw and Sapelo Islands; followed by
Copy of receipt with the same date for £2,050 in payment by the Province of Georgia to Mary Bosomworth.

[part of BT number E.13] [enclosure D with Ellis' June 27, 1760 letter to Board of Trade, document 10]

15. April 18, 1760 [48]
Copy of deed to Thomas Bosomworth for the Island of St. Catherines, part of the settlement between the Province of Georgia and the Bosomworths of Mary Bosomworth's land claims
[part of BT number E.13] [part of enclosure C with Ellis' June 27, 1760 letter to Board of Trade, document 10]
16. April 14, 1760 [51]
Account of sales of Ossabaw and Sapelo Islands by Province of Georgia to private owners, including £50 in costs for advertising and action of the properties, and [dated April 18, 1760] sales of the islands to Grey Elliott (£1,350 for Ossabaw and £700 for Sapelo); followed by
October 20, 1760
Account of sale by Province of Georgia of 146 acres south of Savannah for £638.10, including auction expense, to John Gordon and others [dated May 14, 1760]; followed by
Abstract account of the itemized three sales, with a total value of £2,656.10.3 [BT number E.14]
17. July 7, 1760 [54]
Petition to Board of Trade from Dickering Robinson, at Savannah, claiming that since 1755, he had owned and made improvements on the property (Ossabaw and Sapelo Islands) which Thomas Bosomworth has just sold to the Province of Georgia; asking that the Board of Trade direct the proper officials "*to cause his Majesties free Grants of the said tracts to be made out to your Petitioner*" [BT number E.15]
18. December 2, 1760 [56]
Opinion in point of law from Sir Matthew Lamb at Lincoln's Inn to the Board of Trade, as requested by Pownall, concerning laws passed by Georgia in 1759 and 1760, listing four acts, one concerning repair of the lighthouse on Tybee Island, two about property ownership and sale, and one concerning extraordinary courts of common pleas to hear cases "*arising between Merchants Strangers and Mariners*"; Lamb expressing no objections in point of law to any of these [BT number E.16]
[Note: **Sir Matthew Lamb** (1705-1768) was a distinguished barrister associated with the Lincoln's Inn, perhaps the most prestigious of the four private legal societies called the Inns of Court in London. He apparently was providing legal advice to the Board of Trade as a private attorney, not a government official.]
19. October 23, 1760 [58]

Letter from Lieutenant Governor James Wright to Board of Trade, concerning relations with the Creek Indians, need for more troops available in Georgia, and need for presents to ensure friendship of the Indians [BT number E.17]

[Note: The King's appointment of Wright as Governor of Georgia is dated March 21, 1761 (document 22), but he was already taking the lead in practice, as lieutenant governor, by October 1760. After Governor Ellis departed for England in November 1760, Wright was governor in every sense except for his royal appointment.]

[Note: James Wright, as Lieutenant Governor and Governor, did not number his letters to the Board of Trade.]

20. November 20, 1760 [64]
Address of the Commons House of Assembly of Georgia to Lieutenant Governor Wright, concerning the colony's inability to raise sufficient money to afford the fortifications necessary to be constructed; hoping for Board of Trade approval to sell new lands in the colony to help raise needed funds [BT number E.18]
21. January 16, 1761 [66]
Order of the King, concerning the status of certain lands between Savannah and Pipemakers Creek in Georgia, instructing the Board of Trade to open up these lands for sale to and settlement by English settlers [BT number E.19]
[Note: Pipemakers Creek was at this time a tributary creek flowing into the Savannah River on the Georgia side, about 10 miles north of Savannah. In the 19th Century it was dredged into a canal connecting to the Ogeechee River. Today, it is closed off by a raised railroad right-of-way running along the Savannah River. Parts of it are being developed into amenities for subdivisions.]
22. March 20, 1761 [68]
Order of the King, appointing James Wright to become Governor of Georgia [BT number E.20]
[Note: News of this royal order probably reached Savannah by about May 1761. Since October or November 1760, Lieutenant Governor Wright had been acting as governor.]
23. March 17, 1761 [70]
Order of the King, appointing William Grover Chief Justice of Georgia, William Clifton Attorney General, and James Habersham Secretary of the Colony [actually a reappointment under Wright's governance, since Grover had been Chief Justice of Georgia under Governor Ellis since 1759] [BT number E.21]
24. March 20, 1761 [72]
Order of the King, appointing Grey Elliott as a member of the Council in Georgia [BT number E.22]
25. February 20, 1761 [74]

Copy of letter from Wright to Board of Trade, concerning his having "*reprieved a person under sentence of Death for Murder, till His Majesty's pleasure should be known*" [BT number E.23]

26. [?] 1761 [78]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, enclosing address by Wright to the Georgia Council concerning the King's "*Recession*" to the crown [BT number E.24]
27. May 19, 1761 [80]
Legal opinion from Sir Matthew Lamb at Lincoln's Inn to Board of Trade, concerning 14 acts of the Province of Georgia passed in April through June 1760; Lamb expressing no objection in point of law to any of the first 12, concerning various issues of a governor's house, defense, courts, legal matters, and paper currency; raising objections about the last two, concerning qualification of jurors and the method of balloting, and concerning establishing a "*Court for Trial of Actions of Eight Pounds Sterling*" [BT number E.25]
28. June 19, 1761 [82]
Order from Secretary Samuel Martin at Treasury Chambers to [Board of Trade], conveying a memorial of Henry Ellis requesting money owed while serving as Governor, so that he can pay for accumulated expenses [BT number E.26]
29. April 15, 1761 [84]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, concerning the financial status of the colony and its paper currency; including an accounting with explanations of expenses totaling £4,422.16.¹/₂; also concerning Indian affairs and matters of the colonial government [BT number E.27]
30. April 13, 1761 [90]
Copy of summary of addresses of both houses of the Georgia Assembly to Wright, supporting the act adopted to restamp paper currency and issue £7,410 in paper bills of credit [BT number E.28] [no microfilmed documents are identified as BT number E.29 or E.30.]
31. May 16, 1761 [91]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, concerning various aspects of the status of the colony as he assumes his duties officially as Governor; making comparisons with South Carolina, where he previously lived and served [BT number E.31]
32. July 13, 1761 [95]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, concerning the seven laws he has had passed for Georgia and their efficacy, with details; seeking the Board of Trade's approbation [BT number E.32]

33. November 14, 1759 [103]
Copy of annual itemized estimate for funding of Georgia's colonial government from September 29, 1759 through September 29, 1760, totaling £588.6.2; signed at Savannah by Governor Henry Ellis [evidently provided by Wright for comparison] [BT number E.33]
34. March 27, 1761 [105]
Copy of annual itemized estimate for funding of Georgia's colonial government from September 29, 1760 through September 29, 1761, totaling £581.11.6; signed by Wright [BT number E.34]
35. April 14, 1761 [107]
Copy of "*Deductions Resolved to [be] made from the Estimate*", totaling £148.10.0 [based on the report in document 37] [BT number E.35]
36. June 9, 1761 [108]
Address from the Upper House of the Assembly to Wright, concerning questions of the "*Truth of the Facts on which*" the tax bill was based; having conducted a review of extracts from the Commons House Journals, submitting a corrected tax bill to be forwarded to the Board of Trade [BT number E.36]
37. [no date] [109]
"*Report from the Committee of the whole House appointed to take into Consideration the Extracts from the Journals of the Commons House of Assembly in the present Session of general Assembly*" [BT number E.37]
38. December 16, 1761 [118]
Order from Samuel Martin at Treasury Chambers to Pownall at the Board of Trade instructing him that an estimate of expenses should be prepared for Georgia from June 24, 1761 to Midsummer 1762 [BT number E.38]
39. September 15, 1761 [120]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing an account of the present State of the Colony, of the artifices used by the French at Mobile to excite the Creek Indians to Hostilities, & referring to the Consideration of the B^d. to make some further allowance to M^r Oglethorpe to induce him to instruct a person in the Silk Culture*" [BT number E.39]
40. October 17, 1761 [125]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*acquainting the B^d. that the persons who in 1758 settled themselves at New Hanover & were removed from thence by His late Majesty's [George II's] Order, have lately return'd to their Settlem^t. & that the[y] have transmitted an acc^t. of it to the Sec^y of State*" [BT number E.40]
41. January 22, 1762 [128]

Legal opinions from Sir Matthew Lamb at Lincolns Inn to Board of Trade, concerning seven laws passed by Georgia in June 1761, concerning various governance and funding issues; Lamb expressing no objections on points of law to any of them [BT number E.41]

42. December 28, 1761 [130]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, seeking direction on the use of "*a sum of money in his hands, which has arisen by the Sale of some forfeited Lots of Lands near the Town of Savannah*" [BT number E.42]
43. February 20, 1762 [133]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing an acc^t of the endeavours he had taken to put the province into a better state of Defence*"; including notification of the death of Sir Patrick Houstoun, a Council member; including "*the particulars of some negroes & Cattle escheated to His Majesty by the death of a half breed Indian with^t Heirs*"; including the appointment of a joint [crown] agent with Mr. [?] Martin for the affairs of Georgia [BT number E.43]
[Note: **Sir Patrick Houstoun**, 5th Baronet (1698-1762) came to Georgia from Scotland sometime before 1744 and settled at Waynesboro. He served the Georgia colony as registrar of land grants and collector of quit rents, as well as a member of Governor Wright's Council until his death in 1762. Several of his sons made overlapping contributions with their brothers as public leaders. **Sir Patrick Houstoun** (Jr.) became 6th Baronet. **John Houstoun** (1744-1796) was a Savannah attorney and statesman. Following his father, he too served on the Georgia Governor's Council under Governor Wright. However in 1774, he chose to follow the path to revolution, serving on Georgia's Committee of Safety and then its Provincial Congress in 1775-1776, in the Second Continental Congress (which convened in 1775 and continued until 1783; Georgia was not represented in the First Continental Congress in 1774), as Georgia's 2nd revolutionary governor in 1778-1779, as Georgia State Governor in 1784-1785, as Mayor of Savannah in 1790-1791, and as a justice of Georgia's Superior Court for several years starting in 1791. In early 1778, he led an ill-fated attempt by the Georgia militia to capture St. Augustine. Yet another son, **Sir George Houstoun** became 7th Baronet and was active with John on the Georgia Provincial Congress and Council of Safety. **James Houstoun** became a physician and served in the Continental Army as a surgeon for the Georgia Brigade. When Charleston was captured by the British, James became a prisoner of war. See Reel 8, documents 132, 133 for the unusual story of James as a prisoner of war accused of treason in British Savannah in August 1780.]
[Note: **Crown agents** for British colonies served primarily as financial go-betweens, advocating for funding requested by colonial governments, processing requests for funds, and allocating funds approved.]
44. April 26, 1762 [137]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*transmitting Journals of the Council & assembly* [not microfilmed here], *also such Acts passed there with*

[Wright's] *Observations upon them & upon a Bill passed by the Council and Assembly for better collecting His Maj^s Quit Rent*" [BT number E.45] [no microfilmed document is identified as BT number E.44]

45. June 10, 1762 [140]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*giving an Acc^t of the State of Affairs in his Gov^t with respect to the Indians, the Silk Culture &c*" [BT number E.47] [no microfilmed document is identified as BT number E.46]
46. [no date] [144]
Map of portion of Savannah River showing Cockspur Island and part of Tybee Island, along with a diagram of the British fort built on the island; including descriptions of the fortifications; stating "*projected & Directed by [John William Gerrard] De Brahm, Late Cap^t Ingeneer*" [BT number E.48]
[Note: Cockspur Island] separates the northern and southern channels of the Savannah River as it empties into the Atlantic Ocean. The Georgia-South Carolina boundary follows the northern channel, placing Cockspur Island in Georgia. Later, a more substantial fortification, named Fort Pulaski, was built on the mainland just south of the southern channel. While named for a Polish/American Revolutionary War hero, the fort saw its most important military action during the American Civil War.]
[Note: John William Gerrard de Brahm] (1718-c. 1799) was a talented German mapmaker and engineer. After serving as a "Captain Engineer" in the German military, he moved to Georgia and was appointed its Surveyor General in 1754. By 1764, he had been appointed to the equivalent position in newly British East Florida, but his increasingly negative views about European imperialism caused him to be relieved of his position by Governor James Grant of East Florida in 1770. After spending the Revolutionary War years in Europe, he returned in 1791 to live his later years in Philadelphia.]
47. July 26, 1762 [145]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*inclosing the Copy of a Bill for better collecting the Quit rents*" in Georgia [copy of bill microfilmed in document 48] [BT number E.49]
48. [no date] [147]
Copy of "*A Bill Intitled An Act more Easy and effectual collecting and securing the payment of His Majesty's Quit Rents*"; read and passed in the Assembly between February 18 and 26, 1762; read and passed in the "*Upper House*" between February 26 and March 2, 1762 [BT number E.50]
49. October 1, 1762 [152]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, concerning "*the State of the Silk Culture & other affairs*" in Georgia [BT number E.51]
50. [no date] [155]

Memorial of William Knox, Province [Crown] Agent for Georgia, to Board of Trade, *setting forth the advantages of the Silk Culture there & praying that the Encouragem^t given to it by the Publick might continue* [BT number E.52]

[**Note: William Knox** later served for a number of years as crown agent for East Florida.]

51. [no date] [157]
Petition of William Gray to Board of Trade, "*praying for a Copy of the Boards*" records on a piece of property now owned by a Mr. Reynolds but, Gray maintains, actually belonging to him; seeking clarification of his ownership [Reynolds was no longer Georgia's Governor but apparently still claimed ownership of land in Georgia; the location is not clear] [BT number E.53]
52. February 14, 1763 [159]
Letter from Samuel Martin at Treasury Chambers to Pownall, secretary to the Board of Trade, informing him that the Board of Trade is to "*prepare and lay before the House of Commons an Estimate of the expence attending the Colony of Georgia from 24th of June 1762 to 24th of June 1763*" [BT number E.54]
53. March 16, 1763 [161]
Order by the King, removing William Grover as Chief Justice and member of the Council of Georgia, as recommended by the Georgia Council, because of a dispute over the use of fees [BT number E.55]
[**Note: William Grover** served as Chief Justice in Georgia from 1759 to 1763. He did not get along well with Georgia's previous Governor, Henry Ellis, but his relations with the next Governor, James Wright, were worse. Wright, an attorney, felt that a number of Grover's judicial decisions did not constitute sound law. Beyond that, the issue that brought Grover down related to fees. He consistently asserted that his judicial instructions in 1759 had forbidden his approving the collection of fees in Georgia to support the salaries of public officials. When he sought to implement this instruction by vetoing certain items in Georgia's annual estimate of expenses, starting in 1761, he incurred the wrath of the colony's public officials, especially the Governor's. In response, Grover had angrily refused to attend Council meetings and later resigned from his Council membership, to which Wright had responded by rounding up sufficient political support from both the Council and the Assembly to suspend Grover in late 1762 as Chief Justice and request Royal action to remove him from office and to replace him. Wright made his case for suspending Grover in document 54. Documents 55 to 60 appear to be documentation for Wright's decision and may have been enclosed with Wright's letter. All were sent to and received by the Board of Trade. Some are difficult to read as microfilmed.]
54. November 8, 1762 [163]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*respecting the Behaviour of Mr. Grover Chief Justice & his Reasons for suspending him & transmitting*" [BT number E.56]

55. [no date] [169]
“*The Case of Wood [&] Shoftal [Sheftall] against Ephraim Alexander, Samuel Piles and Joseph Rumiére*”, including detailed information on the case with scattered dates from August 28, 1759 to October 13, 1761, concerning a debt owed by Sheftall to Alexander, involving a Negro slave, and more; signed by Wright [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 11; followed by June 11, 1761
Additional information about the same case; signed by both Chief Justice Grover and by Wright [BT number E.57]
56. March 1, 1762 [175]
“*Extract of a letter from Capt Brownie [?] Drake of [the vessel?] Indonesia*” [apparently at St. Augustine], to Samuel Pylos; evidently pertaining to the situation of Grover’s suspension; identified as [exhibit] “A” [BT number E.58]
57. November 22, 1762 [176]
Copy of sworn statement in a court case of a Captain Thomas Goldsmith before a justice of the peace from Berkeley County, South Carolina [BT number E.59] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 12]
[**Note:** this might be the **Captain Thomas Goldsmith** who later organized a company of Georgia Loyalists in 1779.]
58. [no date] [178]
A paper evidently concerning another court case [BT number E.60]
59. [no date] [179]
Address, apparently by Wright, to the [Commons] House of the Georgia Assembly, apparently relating apparently to the situation of Chief Justice Grover [BT number E.61]
60. September 21, 1762 [181]
Extract from minutes of a meeting of the Georgia Council, concerning “*Consideration of the Conduct and Behaviour of Mr. Grover the chief Justice*”, including documentation of that conduct and behavior, including extracts from other documents, such as petitions from a Captain Rivers, a John Luke (represented by attorney Alexander Wyly of Savannah); followed by October 5, 1762
Extract from minutes of a meeting of the Georgia Council, concerning continued consideration of the Grover situation, reconfirming their earlier unanimous advice that Grover be suspended [BT number E.62] [copies of both minutes in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 13]
61. February 22, 1763 [189]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*giving an Account of the flourishing state of the Province & other Affairs of Government*" [BT number E.63]

62. [no date] [191]
Memorial of Joseph Ottolinghe of Georgia to Board of Trade, concerning developing the silk culture in Georgia [BT number E.64]
63. March 30, 1763 [193]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Thomas Boone, Royal Governor of South Carolina, concerning the boundary between their two colonies and his unhappiness with South Carolina settlements being granted south of the Altamaha River to the East Florida boundary [BT number E.65]
[Note: Thomas Boone (c. 1736-1812) was an English gentleman with no preparation for politics or governing but strong family connections that led to his being appointed a colonial royal governor. Shortly after moving to South Carolina to possess his plantation inheritance, he was appointed to be Governor of New Jersey. He served here, from 1759 to 1761, too briefly to make much of an impression. From 1761 to 1764 he was Governor of his adopted colony, South Carolina. In this capacity, he appears to have exercised a skill for antagonizing important interests—first the Creek Indians (during the French and Indian War), next the Assembly of South Carolina, and finally, Governor Wright of Georgia, with his strangely conceived plan to sell land grants to speculators and wealthy friends in the strip of Atlantic coast south of the Altamaha River and north of the St. Marys River. At this time, the coastal lands between these rivers were still recognized as Creek Indian territory. In any case, they were geographically separated from the rest of South Carolina by the recognized colonial territory of Georgia, from the Savannah to the Altamaha River (south of the St. Marys River was about to become territory of the new British colony of East Florida). While Boone pressed his scheme in 1763, Wright complained to the Board of Trade (documents 64, 65) and also negotiated a new treaty with the Creek Indians, approved in November 1763, by which they ceded the coastal territory between the Altamaha and St. Marys Rivers to Georgia. By 1764, Boone was forced by the South Carolina Assembly to return to England to defend his policies before the Board of Trade—which sided with the Assembly and Wright, relieving Boone of his governorship. Boone remained in England for the remainder of his life. In 1782, his South Carolina property was confiscated by the victorious revolutionaries.]
64. April 20, 1763 [195]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, concerning the dispute over the boundary between Georgia and South Carolina and South Carolina grants being made south of the Altamaha River [BT number E.66] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 16]
65. March 30, 1763 [200]

"Protestation and Caveat" from Wright at Savannah to Thomas Boone, Governor of South Carolina, concerning South Carolina settlement south of the Altamaha River; [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 17]; followed by

April 20, 1763

Sworn statement of Grey Elliott, member of the Georgia Council, stating that, while in Charleston, he had personally seen Governor Boone's proclamation concerning making land grants south of the Altamaha River [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 18] [BT number E.67]

66. May 6, 1763 [203]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, *"respecting Gov granting Lands to the Southward of the Alatomaha [Altamaha] with the Names of several Persons & the numbers of acres granted"* [BT number E.69; no microfilmed document is identified as BT number E.68] [similar letter with same date sent to the Earl of Egremont in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 19]
67. June 3, 1763 [206]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, *"informing the Board of the uneasiness of the Creek Ind and upon the Grants of Land & enclosing note with Observations upon six of them"* [BT number E.70]
68. June 10, 1763 [210]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, *"respecting the advantage that arises by the Contribution of the Bounty on the [silkworm] Cocoons & congratulate their Lord^{ps} upon the great Advantage that will acruce to this Kingdom by the lessons of Louisiana & Florida"* [BT number E.72; no microfilmed document is identified as BT number E.71]
69. June 22, 1763 [212]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Pownall, *"acknowledging the receipt of... Instruction respecting Indian Land &c &c—No application was ever made to him for Grant of Indian Lands—The French & Spaniards [?] bad Notions [?] the Indians"* [BT number E.73]
70. [no date] [214]
Petition to Board of Trade from Denys Rolle and others *"relative to their Design of settling a Colony between the Rivers Apalachicola & Alatomaha; & inclosing Copy of a memorial presented to L^d Shelburne, stating their Intention & Proposals on that Subject"* [BT number E.74]
[Note: Denys Rolle (c. 1725-1797) was a wealthy member of Parliament, an idealistic dreamer, and an economic speculator. The expansion of British territory in Georgia and East and West Floridas after 1763 appeared to offer him a vast new opportunity. He looked first in the Apalachicola and Altamaha region. When the big concept of a new colony failed, he sought to focus on settling in the

St. Marks area, east of the Apalachicola River on the Gulf Coast. When that didn't pan out either, he gravitated after 1766 toward East Florida lands up the St. Johns River. Here, he acquired large land grants both to become wealthy from agricultural enterprise and to enhance social justice by settling and employing large numbers of England's poor, who worked as indentured servants on his plantations. During the late 1760s he amassed 78,000 acres in several plantations across the St. Johns River from present-day Palatka, an area still called Rollestown. His experiments with poor indentured servants soon failed, and he replaced them with African slaves, producing naval stores, beef, and citrus on his plantations. See document 63 and the note that follows it.]

[Note: A coastal colony between the Apalachicola and Altamaha Rivers would potentially include territory in the existing British Colonies of Georgia and East Florida—including most of British-settled East Florida. The only coastal territory in this area not clearly open for British settlement (except for the largely unsettled Atlantic and Gulf coasts of central and south Florida) was the strip between the Altamaha River and the St. Marys River, legally controlled by the Creek Indians, that South Carolina Governor Boone had his eye on [see document 63]. However Georgia Governor Wright was quick to squelch Boone's ploy by negotiating a treaty with the Creek [see document 79] in which they ceded the coastal strip of this territory to Georgia.]

[Note: William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne (1737-1805) was active in the higher levels of British politics by the early 1760s. In 1763, he was serving as the First Lord of Trade, the leading member of the Board of Trade. Between 1766 and 1768, and again in 1782, before becoming prime minister, he served as a secretary of state, initially for the Southern Department, thus exercising considerable influence over British colonial policy in Georgia and the other southern North America colonies.]

71. July 7, 1763 [218]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, informing them of receipt of several correspondences, including a proclamation removing Chief Justice Grover; and "*containing an Account of the Prosperous State of the Colony—the expediency of a Quit Rent Law—and the Produce of the Silk this Year*" [BT number E.75]
72. January 30, 1763 [222]
Petition to Board of Trade from Denys Rolle, at the Old Palace Yard, Westminster, and others, concerning "*his proposals for a Settlement on the Rivers Alatomaha & Apalachicola*" [BT number E.77; no microfilmed document is identified as BT number E.76]
73. [no date] [224]
Petition to Board of Trade from Isaac Levy, "*late of Philadelphia but now in London*", "*desiring Copies of the Resolutions & matters that passed at a conference between the Creek Indians & the Gov^t of Georgia in 1755 relative to*

the Islands of St. Catherine &c & two papers respective the Claims of M^r. B. and his Wife" [BT number E.78]

[**Note: Isaac Levy**, a successful merchant and trader born early in the 1700s in New York City, moved his business to London in 1752. Two years later, a speculative opportunity brought him in contact with Thomas Bosomworth, who, through his Creek Indian wife Mary, had become owner of the Georgia Sea Islands of Ossabaw, Sapelo, and St. Catherines. In October 1754, Levy bought one-half interest in the three islands. In 1756, Levy moved to Philadelphia. In 1758, Bosomworth, needing money more than islands, offered to sell Ossabaw and Sapelo to the British Crown. Georgia Governor Ellis arranged the deal in 1760, but not before Levy discovered the deal and began legal action, since Bosomworth had ignored Levy's interest. Fearing he would not prevail in the Georgia courts, Levy resorted to a strategy of petitioning the Crown. However, the Board of Trade referred the matter back to the Georgia courts. Levy persevered with legal appeals into the late 1760s but never prevailed. In the meantime, Bosomworth, still needing money, had sold St. Catherines Island to Button Gwinnett in 1765. See document 10 and the note after it for more detailed information about Mary (née) Griffin and Rev. Thomas Bosomworth.]

[**Note: Button Gwinnett** (1735-1777) was a prosperous Georgia plantation owner who became deeply involved in politics. He joined the patriot side during the Revolution, serving in the Second Continental Congress. He was one of three Georgia signers of the Declaration of Independence. In 1777, he became politically embroiled with his arch political rival Lachlan McIntosh. The two fought a duel (on one of Governor Wright's plantations), and Gwinnett was killed. The proximate issue that forced the dual concerned a blame game between the two for the failure of a patriot Georgia invasion of British East Florida.

Lachlan McIntosh (1725-1806) was one of many McIntoshes in a family who came to Georgia in 1736 and helped found the town of New Inverness, now Darien, at the mouth of the Altamaha River. In 1775, he joined the Revolutionary cause, but through the military, not directly in politics. As a colonel in the Georgia Militia and then Brigadier General in the Continental Army, he was put in charge of defending Georgia from British East Florida. His great political rival Button Gwinnett ordered McIntosh to lead the ill-conceived and disastrous Georgia invasion of East Florida that led to the Gwinnet-McIntosh duel and Gwinnet's death.]

74. May 25, 1764 [228]
Letter from C. Jenkinson at Treasury Chambers to Pownall, sending a copy of a letter sent to the Agents for Georgia and for East and West Florida; followed by May 24, 1764
Copy of letter from C. Jenkinson to the Agents for Georgia and for East and West Florida "*relative to their conduct in applying for the Grant of Parliament for the Service of those Colonies & containing directions thereupon*" [BT number E.79]
75. June 22, 1764 [230]

Memorial to Board of Trade from Charles Garth, Crown Agent for the Colony of Georgia, at the Inner Temple, concerning payment of salary for pilots "*for the Barr of Tybee and River of Savannah*" [BT number E.80]

76. [no date] [232]
Memorial to Board of Trade from Isaac Levy, concerning his prior interest in the three islands in Georgia owned by the Bosomworths, as agreed on with former Georgia Governor Henry Ellis; seeking redress [BT number E.81]
77. November 23, 1763 [234]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, informing the Board that "*the Creeks at the late congress made a voluntary Cession of a large Tract to the Westward, which includes all our Settlements, & other contiguous Lands claimed by the Indians*" [BT number E.82]
78. December 23, 1763 [236]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*respecting the Advantages arising from the Cession made by the Creeks; containing his Sentiments on the best methods of peopling the Colony*" [with enclosures, documents 79 to 85] [BT number E.83]
79. November 10, 1763 [238]
Copy of the treaty [enclosed with Wright's December 23, 1763 letter to Board of Trade, document 78] negotiated at a Congress held at Augusta, Georgia, between, on the British side, Governor Wright of Georgia, Governor Arthur Dobbs of North Carolina, Governor Boone of South Carolina, Lieutenant Governor Francis Fauquier of Virginia, and John Stuart, "*Agent and Superintendant of Southern Indian Affairs*", and, on the Indian side, "*the several Indian Chiefs*" of the Chickasaws, Upper and Lower Creeks, Choctaws, Cherokees, and Catawbias; containing 4 articles; defining the boundaries of the lands ceded by the Indians and stating that the King promises that "*none of his Subjects shall settle upon or disturb the Indians in the Grounds or Lands Westward of the Lines herein before described*"; signed by the 5 English leaders and 20 named Indian chiefs [BT number E.84] [printed copy of this treaty in Secretary of State document papers, Reel 5 document 179; cover letter for treaty from Governors and Stuart to Earl of Egremont dated November 10, 1763 in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 25; see also more complete manuscript proceedings, including quoted correspondence during the planning phase for the Congress starting on October 1, 1763 in the South Carolina Colonial Office Papers, DLAR Finding Aid, Reel 1 document 177—still in preparation]
[Note: John Stuart (1718-1779) was a Scottish native who moved in 1748 to South Carolina. In America, he became familiar with the southern tribes of Native Americans. From 1761 until 1779, he served as British Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District. In this capacity, he helped negotiate many treaties with Indian nations and otherwise sought to maintain positive

relations for the British with the Indians in southeastern North America. When the Revolution occurred, he left his long-time home in Charleston, first for Georgia and then to Pensacola, where he died in 1779.]

[**Note: Francis Fauquier** (1703-1768) was from a well-to-do French family who had emigrated to England. In 1758, he came to Virginia after having been appointed Lieutenant Governor. He never rose to the title of Governor, yet he acted as chief administrative officer (Governor in all but name) under two absentee Governors, the Earl of Loudon (1756-1763) and Jeffrey Amherst (1763-1768). Thus it was that he represented Virginia in negotiating this treaty, along with the other governors of southern British colonies.]

80. January 7, 1763 [243]
Accounts of "*Duty received...in Christmas Quarter ended the 5 Jan 1762* [apparently actually 1763]" for the Port of Sunbury; prepared by duty collector Thomas Carr, signed by Wright January 7, 1763; including duties on: "*Goods Emported to or imported from other Plantations*", "*Foreign Rum Spirits Malasses Syrup Sugar Panels*", "*His Majestys Share of Fines and forfeitures received*", "*Incidents paid [by the] Collector*", and the total of duties "*Currant for Christmas Quarter Ended*" [enclosed with Wright's December 23, 1763 letter to Board of Trade, document 78] [part of BT number E.85]
81. April 11, 1763 [249]
Accounts of "*Duty received...in Lady Day Quarter ended the 5 April 1763*" for the Port of Sunbury; prepared by duty collector Thomas Carr, signed by Wright April 11, 1763; including duties on: "*Goods Emported to or imported from other Plantations*"; "*Foreign Rum Spirits Malasses Syrup Sugar Panels*", "*His Majestys Share of Fines and forfeitures received*", "*Incidents paid [by the] Collector*", and the total of duties "*Currant for Lady Day Quarter Ended*" [enclosed with Wright's December 23, 1763 letter to Board of Trade, document 78] [part of BT number E.85]
82. July 30, 1763 [256]
Accounts of "*Duty received...in Midsummer Quarter ended the 18 July 1763*" for the Port of Sunbury; prepared by duty collector Thomas Carr, signed by Wright July 30, 1763; including duties on: "*Goods Emported to or imported from other Plantations*"; "*Foreign Rum Spirits Malasses Syrup Sugar Panels*", "*His Majestys Share of Fines and forfeitures received*", "*Incidents paid [by the] Collector*", and the total of duties "*Currant for Lady Day Quarter Ended*" [enclosed with Wright's December 23, 1763 letter to Board of Trade, document 78] [BT number E.86]
83. January 12, 1764 [264]
Accounts of "*Duty received...in Michaelmas Quarter ended the 10 October 1763*" for the Port of Sunbury; prepared by duty collector Thomas Carr, signed by Wright January 12, 1764; including duties on: "*Goods Emported to or imported from other Plantations*"; "*Foreign Rum Spirits Malasses Syrup Sugar Panels*", "*His Majestys Share of Fines and forfeitures received*", "*Incidents paid [by the]*"

Collector", and the total of duties "*Currant for Michaelmas Quarter Ended*" [enclosed with Wright's December 23, 1763 letter to Board of Trade, document 78] [BT number E.87]

Note from Public Record Office: "Folios [Frames] 269 to 273 are blank and have not been copied."

84. January 12, 1764 [275]
Accounts of "*Duty received...in Christmas Quarter ended the 5 January 1764*" for the Port of Sunbury; prepared by duty collector Thomas Carr, signed by Wright January 12, 1764; including duties on: "*Goods Emported to or imported from other Plantations*"; "*Foreign Rum Spirits Malasses Syrup Sugar Panels*", "*His Majestys Share of Fines and forfeitures received*", "*Incidents paid* [by the] *Collector*", and the total of duties "*Currant for Christmas Quarter Ended*" [enclosed with Wright's December 23, 1763 letter to Board of Trade, document 78] [BT number E.88]
85. [no date] [280]
"*Names of Persons Applying to Settle Altogether or Part of the Lands lately Ceded by the Creek Indians*"; list of male names, wife, number of children, and number of Negroes plus number of acres granted for a total of 22,800 acres settled by 19 families [enclosed with Wright's December 23, 1763 letter to Board of Trade, document 78] [BT number E.89]
86. January 17, 1764 [282]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing an Account of the murder of fourteen persons in South Carolina by some renegade Creek Indians, & of the Measures taken by him on this occasion*" [BT number E.90]
87. December 28, 1763 [284]
"*Copy of Arthur Coodey's Affidavit respecting the Murder of sev^l. persons by the Creeks*"; [enclosed with Wright's January 17, 1764 letter to Board of Trade, document 86] [Frame 285 microfilmed twice] [BT number E.91]
88. [no date] [286]
Additional page of testimony, apparently by Arthur Coodey, concerning the murder of several persons by Creeks [enclosed with Wright's January 17 letter to Board of Trade, document 86] [BT number E.92]
89. February 4, 1764 [287]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Silk Culture—purchases from the Spaniards—S^o Carolina Grants of Land to the S^o of the Alatomaha—...illicit Trade—and the murders lately committed by some of the Creeks*" [BT number E.93]
90. January 14, 1764 [291]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to the Commissioners of Customs, "*informing that Board of the measures he has taken to prevent illicit trade*" [BT number E.94; no microfilmed documents are identified as BT numbers E.95 through E.97]

91. March 27, 1764 [293]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the measures to be taken in the murders committed by the Indians, & expressing his fear for the Province in case of an Indian War—complaining of the attempt of S^o Carolina to distress Georgia—and containing a remark on the arrears of Quit Rents*" [BT number E.98]
92. February 22, 1764 [295]
"Extract out of my Letter to M^r Stuart the Supervisor of Indian Affairs"; followed by March 7, 1764
"Copy of a Letter sent from Gov^r Boone"; followed by March 21, 1764
"Copy of a letter from me to [?] Boone";
[all identified by Wright and enclosed with his March 27, 1764 letter to Board of Trade, document 91] [BT number E.99]
93. March 26, 1764 [299]
Audited account of parish tax collections to support the government of Georgia for the year 1761, balanced against court and other expenses, each totaling £1,326.13.2; signed by Grey Elliott, Deputy Auditor General [BT number E.100]
94. March 26, 1764 [300]
Audited account of parish tax collections to support the government of Georgia for the year 1762, balanced against court and other expenses, each totaling £1,833.14.10¾; signed by Grey Elliott, Deputy Auditor General [BT number E.101]
95. February 5, 1764 [301]
Legal opinion from Matthew Lamb at Lincolns Inn to Board of Trade concerning points of law on certain Georgia laws passed in April 1763 concerning: Two recommended not to be confirmed: Empowering the General Court of Pleas to grant "*Writs of Partition of Lands and Tenements*" and Concerning preventing fraudulent mortgages; 11 others with no objections to being confirmed [BT number E.102]
96. July 16, 1764 [303]
Memorial to Board of Trade from Georgia Agent Charles Garth at Inner Temple, concerning approval for a bill received from Georgia; followed by July 16, 1764
Copy of note from Pownall at Whitehall [to the Treasury] explaining that the Board of Trade had approved the Georgia bill for payment [BT number E.103]

97. July 16, 1764 [305]
Petition-like statement signed by Thomas LeBreton on behalf of himself and John Whiteside [attorneys representing Levy], at Sun Court Cornhill, to Pownall, concerning the claim of Isaac Levy; followed by:
January 9, 1761
Copy of letter from Pownall at Whitehall to Messrs. LeBreton and Whiteside at Sun Court Cornhill, requesting their attendance at a Board of Trade session to consider Isaac Levy's claim [see note after document 73]; [BT number E.104]
98. July 17, 1764 [309]
Statement by the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs [of the Board of Trade], referring the petition [probably that of Alexander, Earl of Eglinton] to the Board of Trade; followed by
[no date]
Petition to the King from Alexander, Earl of Eglinton with others, seeking support to obtain land for development in Georgia, East Florida, and West Florida [BT number E.105]
[Note: **Alexander Montgomerie, 10th Earl of Eglinton** (1723-1769), was a Scottish nobleman whose interest in land development was clearly speculative. Five years after the date of this letter, while still residing on his Scottish estate, Eglinton was mortally wounded in a shooting argument with another Scottish nobleman.]
99. June 2, 1764 [313]
Letter from Thomas Whately at Treasury Chambers to Pownall, concerning a bill received from Agent Garth for payment of former Chief Justice Grover's salary; referring it to Board of Trade for its consideration [BT number E.106]
[Note: **Thomas Whately** (1726-1772) was active in British politics. In 1764 and 1765 he was Secretary of the Treasury, during which time he wrote an influential (in England) piece justifying the Stamp Act. Before 1764, he had served as a Commissioner of the Board of Trade and Plantations.]

Reel 2 (Volumes 649, 650)

Volume 649—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Board of Trade Correspondence (incoming), continued

March 25, 1764 to June 30, 1767

Documents 1 to 114

[Frames 1 to 285]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 649 continues from Volume 648 the Board of Trade (mostly) incoming correspondence, in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: Archivists (probably in the Board of Trade) wrote descriptive notes for many of the manuscript documents, which are microfilmed with the documents. On these notes, archivists provided their own numbers by manuscript Bundle or Volume. Where found, this Finding Aid reports these numbers as “BT numbers.” Volume 649 begins with F.1 and ends with F.110. Documents 1 through 95 are all numbered, although occasional gaps exist in numbering, suggesting either that a few documents were lost or for other reasons were not microfilmed or that the BT numbering process was sloppy in its assignment of numbers. Documents 96 through 114 are intermittently numbered. The reason for the change in archival practice is not clear.

Note: Starting under the Earl of Shelburne, Secretaries of State used the practice (also used starting in the 1750s by the Board of Trade, as found in letters from Georgia Governor Henry Ellis in Volume 648) of numbering the Secretary of State’s outgoing letters and having colonial governors letter their incoming letters to the Secretary of State. Use of and reference to these letter numbers begins in Volume 649 with document 112. Where found, these numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

1. [no date] [2]
Memorial from Charles Garth, Crown Agent for the Colony of Georgia, to the Board of Trade and Plantations, conveying a bill for the Georgia Attorney General’s salary due in June 1763, for Board approval [see the note after Reel 1 document 1 for more on the **Board of Trade and Plantations**] [BT number F.1]
2. November 15, 1764 [4]
Memorial from Garth to Board of Trade, “*desiring the Board’s Directions with respect to the payment of the Salaries due to the officers of the Crown*” in Georgia [BT number F.2]
3. [no date] [6]
Memorial of Garth to Board of Trade, concerning a bill from the Georgia Governor for contingencies from Christmas 1763 to midsummer 1764; followed by
December 10, 1764

Note by John Pownall, Secretary to the Board of Trade, indicating that the Board had approved payment of the bill for the Governor's contingent expenses [BT number F.3] [see note after Reel 1 document 7 for more on **John Pownall**]

4. [no date] [8]
Memorial of Garth to Board of Trade, concerning payment of "*the exceedings on account of the Silk culture*" from midsummer 1763 to midsummer 1764, to be paid out of "*the amount of the Sale of Silk for 1763 & 1764*"; followed by December 10, 1764
Note by Pownall indicating that the Board had approved payment of the silk account expenses [BT number F.4.]
5. May 26, 1764 [10]
Copy of letter from James Wright, Governor of the Colony of Georgia, to Board of Trade, concerning Georgia acts recently passed, small pox in Savannah, trade with the Creeks, the merit of Georgia Surveyor General Henry Yonge, repairs needed at Fort Augusta, and other matters [BT number F.5] [documents 6 through 9 may have been enclosed with document 5, Wright's letter to the Board of Trade dated May 26, 1764]
6. April 4, 1764 [14]
Extract from minutes of a Georgia Council meeting at Savannah, "*relative to the State of Indian affairs*" [BT number F.6]
7. March 25, 1764 [16]
Table of "*Totals of Quit Rents Due to His Majesty*", reported by parish, including, for each, the number of acres, quit rent this year, arrears from last year, and sum due, for a total of £986.3.2½ due [BT number F.7]
8. May 25, 1764 [18]
Audited account of parish tax collections to support the government of Georgia for the year 1763, balanced against court and other expenses, each totaling £2,532.16.5¼; signed by Grey Elliott, Deputy Auditor General [BT number F.8 but not so identified]
9. April 4, 1764 [19]
Extract from minutes of a Georgia Council meeting at Savannah, "*relative to the Inexpediency of stopping the Trade to the Creek +s*" [BT number F.9]
10. July 5, 1764 [20]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to Gen^l Gage's Sentiments on the inexpediency of stopping the Trade with the Creek Indians; to the last Indian Talk—and desiring their Lordships directions with respect to those Grants*"; Indian "Talks" enclosed [document 11] [BT number F.12; no microfilmed documents are identified as F.10 or F.11]

[Note: **General Thomas Gage** (1718-1787) served in the British Army as commander in chief in North America from 1763 to 1775. After the American Revolution began, he was recalled to England and replaced by General William Howe.]

11. April 10, 1764 [23]
Summary of "*A meeting [talk] of [Creek Indian] headmen at Little Talsey*" [Tallassee lies westward from Savannah near present-day Montgomery, Alabama]; those listed as present include 6 traders and 15 Indians; includes several "Talks" by individual Indians, pertaining to issues of land and trade [enclosed with Wright's July 5, 1764 letter to the Board of Trade, document 10] [Frames 23 and 24 microfilmed twice] [BT number F.13]
12. July 5, 1764 [26]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, concerning various matters of trade [BT number F.14]
13. July 23, 1764 [28]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, reporting that "*the tranquility still subsisting in the Indian Country;—& the weather having been unfavourable to the Silk Culture*" [BT number F.15]
14. August 6, 1764 [30]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Silk of that Province*" [BT number F.16]
15. August 27, 1764 [32]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing his sentiments on the Indian Trade*" [BT number F.17]
16. August 13, 1764 [35]
"Copy of a Talk from [Creek leader] *the Mortar in his Creek* [?] *delivered at Fort Augusta*"; followed by
August 24, 1764
"My [Wright's] *Answer to the above*"; both concerning trade and British-Indian relations [BT number F.18]
17. September 13, 1764 [38]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, sending enclosures [not microfilmed here]. [Numbered BT number F.18 but actually F.19 in sequence]
18. September 26, 1764 [40]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Silk Culture*" [BT number F.20]
19. March 4, 1765 [42]

Order of the Privy Council, concerning the petition of William Knox, seeking a grant of 5,000 acres of land in Georgia; referring the petition to the Board of Trade; followed by

[no date]

Petition of William Knox to the Privy Council seeking a grant of 5,000 acres of land in Georgia [BT number F.21]

[Note: During the 1760s, the person filling the position of Crown Agent for Georgia seems to have changed frequently. William Knox had been Georgia's Agent in the early 1760s. Sometime apparently in 1765, John Campbell assumed the position (see document 20).]

20. [no date] [46]
Memorial of John Campbell, Crown Agent for Georgia, to the Board of Trade, seeking permission to pay certain bills received from Wright [BT number F.22]
21. November 9, 1765 [48]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Silk Culture, the contingent & Indian Expenses, the murder of three Creek Indians—and the difficulties [we?] labour under with respect to the execution of the Stamp Act*" [BT number F.23]
22. December 2, 1765 [50]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Stamp Act, & the settlement of Townships proposed by Persons from Ireland & Pennsylvania*" [with enclosures, documents 23 to 25] [BT number F.24]
23. October 31, 1765 [52]
Minutes of Georgia Council meeting at Savannah, concerning enforcement of the Stamp Act in Georgia [enclosed with Wright's December 2, 1765 letter to Board of Trade, document 22] [BT number F.25]
24. November 12, 1765 [53]
Minutes of Georgia Council meeting at Savannah, concerning how to effectively enforce the Stamp Act, avoiding the tumult and protests in adjoining colonies [enclosed with Wright's December 2, 1765 letter to Board of Trade, document 22] [BT number F.26]
25. November 22, 1765 [55]
Minutes of Georgia Council meeting at Savannah, concerning execution of the Stamp Act provisions in Georgia [enclosed with Wright's December 2, 1765 letter to Board of Trade, document 22] [BT number F.27]
26. December 4, 1764 [56]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to Grants of Land, & Quit Rents*" [BT number F.28] [no microfilmed documents are identified as F.29 or F.30]

27. December 10, 1764 [58]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the correspondence with the Agent for the receipt & payment of publick money granted by Parliament*" [BT number F.31]
28. December 10, 1764 [60]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, acknowledging receipt of Acts of Parliament pertaining to the American Colonies [BT number F.32]
29. December 11, 1764 [62]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, acknowledging receipt of a "*plan for regulating the Indian Trade & the Fees of the Officers of Government*" [BT number F.33]
30. December 14, 1764 [64]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Creek Indians;—the Grants to the Southward of the Altamaha;—and the Law for partition of Lands & register of Deeds, and containing an Extract of a Letter from Genl. Gage on Indian Affairs* [dated August 11, 1764]" [BT number F.34]
31. December 14, 1764 [66]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, acknowledging receipt of "*Estimate for the support of the civil Establishment of [Georgia];—and containing his Observations thereupon*" [BT number F.35]
32. December 20, 1764 [70]
"*Copy of an Address of both Houses of Assembly to the Gov^r in favour of the Rev^d M^r Whitefield's Application for Lands in order to the endowment of a College*" [BT number F.37] [no microfilmed document is identified as F.36]
33. February 20, 1765 [71]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, enclosing "*the Naval officers Accounts of Vessels Enter^d & Cleared at the Port of Sunbury*" from January [?] 5, 1764 to January 5, 1765 [accounts not microfilmed here] [BT number F.38]
34. February 20, 1765 [73]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, enclosing the "*Naval officers list of Vessels Enter^d & Clear^d of this Port [Savannah], from the 10th of October 1764 to the 5th of January 1765*" [list not microfilmed here] [Frame 73 microfilmed twice] [BT number F.39]
35. April 4, 1765 [75]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing remarks on an Act lately passed those respecting the Carolina Grants to the Southward of the Altamaha*" [with microfilmed enclosure, document 36] [BT number F.40]

36. March 30, 1765 [79]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Lieutenant Governor Bull of South Carolina, "*inclosing copy of an Act passed in Georgia relative to the Carolina Grants of Land to the Southward of the Altamaha*" [Act not microfilmed here] [enclosed with Wright's April 4, 1765 letter to Board of Trade, document 35] [BT number F.41] [no microfilmed document is identified as F.42]
[Note: William Bull II (1710-1791) served for a long time as Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina, from 1759 until 1775. Although never earning the title of Acting Governor, five times during his long tenure as Lieutenant Governor, he was called upon to rule the colony during the absence of a governor in the colony—a total combined time period of almost nine years. His father, William Bull I, had earlier served as King's Counsel for South Carolina. For more on Lieutenant Governor Bull, see note after document 64.]
37. April 10, 1765 [80]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, informing them of receipt of various correspondence from them "*& promising to comply with their Orders*" [BT number F.43]
38. April 10, 1765 [82]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Pownall, informing him of receipt of Treasury Board minutes "*respecting Governors drawing for money expended in the publick Service*" [BT number F.44]
39. April 23, 1765 [84]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Bounty to be allowed for encouraging the Silk Culture*" in Georgia [BT number F.45]
40. June 28, 1765 [88]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to his conduct with regard to Spanish Vessels coming into the Ports*" of Georgia [BT number F.46]
41. March 22, 1765 [91]
Petition of Don Gabriel Garcia Palenzualas, a Spanish citizen and ship owner, to Grey Ellicott, Judge Surrogate of the British Court of Vice Admiralty in Georgia, concerning the petitioner's complaint that his ship had been boarded on at least two occasions by a British ship of war, without any formal charges being filed afterwards; seeking relief and protection under international law [part of BT number F.47]
42. March 26, 1765 [93]
Copy of document of the Court of Vice Admiralty concerning the Don Gabriel Garcia Palenzualas case; the vessel involved being the brigantine *Neustra Senora de'l Rosario*, which had put into the port of Savannah "*in Distress*" and subsequently had been seized by Thomas Foley, commander of the British

frigate of war *Escorte* and remained in British possession; Palenzualas seeking relief in the Admiralty Court; the court therefore ordering that Foley be cited and admonished and that he appear at the Court's next session; followed by March 29, 1765

Copy of document of the Court of Vice Admiralty concerning the Palenzualas case, granting Foley time to prepare and deliver a statement of why he had seized and held the Spanish vessel; followed by April 1, 1765

Copy of Foley's statement that he had seized the vessel so that he could inquire into several matters: the vessel's commander "*had refused or not produced*" a proper "*Passport and other necessary Papers*"; a single handwritten paper had been offered, which did not appear valid; the pilot had said he was told the vessel was bound for Charleston, not to any Spanish port; the vessel was discovered to be armed with cannon "*and a very large Quantity of Warlike Stores*", perhaps for use in illicit trade; it also appeared that several parcels had been thrown overboard from the vessel; followed by June 25, 1765

Copy of document of the Court of Vice Admiralty concerning the Palenzualas case, making its decision to clear and discharge Palenzualas because the evidence presented was not sufficient to justify seizure and holding of the vessel [Frame 97 microfilmed twice because of a double-image on the first] [part of BT number F.47]

43. June 29, 1765 [100]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Acts lately passed;—the Silk Culture,—& some Gentlemen of Bermuda, who desire to settle in [Georgia] or East Florida*" [BT number F.48]
44. July 16, 1765 [106]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing remarks on the Act for partition of Lands & register of Deeds*" [BT number F.49]
45. August 12, 1765 [108]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, transmitting information [not microfilmed here] [BT number F.50]
46. August 19, 1765 [110]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the management of Indian Affairs*" [with enclosures, documents 47 to 52] [BT number F.51]
47. March 31, 1765 [112]
Copy of letter from John Stuart, British agent and Superintendent of Southern Indian Affairs, at Mobile [West Florida], to Wright, concerning West Florida Governor George Johnstone's trade and other relations with the Indians; [see more on West Florida and Governor Johnstone's relations with the Indians in DLAR's Finding Aid on the East and West Florida British Colonial Papers]

[enclosed with Wright's August 19, 1765 letter to Board of Trade, document 46]
[BT number F.52] [for more on **John Stuart**, see note after Reel 1 document 79]

48. July 25, 1765 [114]
Copy of letter from Stuart at Charleston to Wright, concerning Indian affairs
[enclosed with Wright's August 19, 1765 letter to Board of Trade, document 46]
[BT number F.53]
49. March 31, 1765 [120]
"Regulations Sett^d as necessary for the better Carrying on the trade with the Indian Nations Surrounding the Province of West Florida", drawn up in 18 itemized provisions by Stuart and Johnstone; plus lists of trade goods and proposed tariffs [enclosed with Wright's August 19, 1765 letter to Board of Trade, document 46] [BT number F.54]
50. [no date] [124]
Printed "*Instructions*," issued by Wright regulating the behavior and practices of traders to the Indians; followed by
Printed Indian trader's license form, dating from October 7, 1763, issued by Wright to regulate trading with the Indians
[enclosed with Wright's August 19, 1765 letter to Board of Trade, document 46]
[BT number F.55]
51. [no date] [126]
"Tariff on Price of foods as observed In the Creek Trade & other Indian Trade under Licenses from Georgia" [enclosed with Wright's August 19, 1765 letter to Board of Trade, document 46] [BT number F.56]
52. August 17, 1765 [127]
Copy of letter from Wright to Stuart, concerning Indian affairs [enclosed with Wright's August 19, 1765 letter to Board of Trade, document 46] [Frame 129 microfilmed twice] [BT number F.57]
53. August 21, 1765 [131]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*on his having rec^d the Repeal of two [Georgia] Laws relating to granting Writs of partition of Lands, &c.—and for preventing fraudulent Conveyances, &c.—& desiring their Lordships directions for passing other Laws for the same purposes, not liable to the same objections*" [BT number F.58]
54. September 2, 1765 [134]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, transmitting "*the Naval officers quarterly Account of Vessels Enterd & Cleard*" at Savannah from April 5 to July 5, 1765 [BT number F.59]
55. September 2, 1765 [136]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, reporting having received the estimate for the civil establishment of Georgia for June 24, 1764 through June 24, 1765, totaling £2,120 [BT number F.60]

56. October 5, 1765 [138]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, transmitting the Naval Officer's list of vessels entered and cleared at the port of Sunbury from January 5 to July 5, 1765 [BT number F.61]

57. October 18, 1765 [140]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the amount of the Silk culture this year,—the Act respecting the Carolina Grants;—& three Lads suspected to have been murdered by some Indians*" [BT number F.62]

58. January 15, 1766 [142]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the opposition made to the execution of the Stamp Act*" [whose execution he supported], which he describes as having been the result of "*mob or Tumult,*" with details [BT number F.64]

[Note: Parliament saw the **Stamp Act** as a fair way for American colonists to help pay for the considerable military cost of the Seven Years War/French and Indian War that had successfully defended the Americans against French, Spanish, and Indian incursions between 1754 and 1763. Many Americans saw the same act as a precedent-setting direct tax, imposed only on Americans, without direct American representation in voting on the tax. The King **approved** Parliament's Stamp Act on March 22, 1765, making it legally binding. Yet actually collecting tax revenue on paper transactions could not begin until official "stamps" could be printed and governmental distributors could be deployed throughout the colonies, a process that took months, while American protest movements organized and grew bellicose. In the meantime, the only purely legal strategy for colonial governors was to attempt to shut down businesses, newspapers, seaports, and the like so that they would not engage in illegal, non-taxed paper transactions.

In Georgia, an official distributor of stamps did not arrive in Savannah until January 1766. When he did arrive, the situation had deteriorated so far that the distributor's only official action was to resign his position. Governor Wright, however, remained a staunch advocate of full enforcement—the only colonial governor among the 13 rebellious colonies to do so (see documents 58, 60, 62, 63, and 65). In November, he defiantly closed the ports of Georgia. For a short time, some Savannah merchants paid for stamps to maintain their shipping businesses. In January 1766, incensed rural Georgians invaded Savannah, physically threatening the governor—who then joined the other colonial governors, suspending efforts to enforce the Stamp Act.

By February, northern and southern ports were all open and trading without stamps. By March 18, 1766, Parliament, having learned the lesson that the costs

of the Stamp Act were far greater than the revenues it generated, **repealed** the Act.]

59. January 14, 1766 [146]
Printed issue of "*The South Carolina and Country Gazette; Journal*", No. 5, whose top headline reads "*No STAMPED PAPER to be had.*" [four full pages of print microfilmed; fourth page microfilmed twice] [enclosed with Wright's January 15, 1766 letter to Board of Trade, document 58] [BT number F.65]
[**Note:** By January 1766, Georgia's Governor Wright had assumed the role of **colonial informer**, sending documentation to the Board of Trade in London incriminating other colonies—specifically South Carolina—that were violating or neglecting enforcement of the Stamp Act (see documents 59, 64, 66, 67, 68, and 69).]
60. January 22, 1766 [148]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, transmitting "*a Faithfull Account of all Occurrences in this Province*" of protests against enforcement of the Stamp Act [account not microfilmed here] [BT number F.66]
61. January 22, 1766 [150]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*promising compliance with their Lordships directions concerning the reservation of wood lands near Ports*" [BT number F.67]
62. February 1, 1766 [152]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to his securing the Stamped Papers*" [BT number F.68]
63. February 7, 1766 [154]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to Disturbances in [Georgia] on account of the Stamp Act*" [BT number F.69]
64. February 10, 1766 [156]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to L^t Gov^r Bull's opening the Port in S^o Carolina, under pretence that no stamped papers are to be had*" [BT number F.70]
[**Note:** **William Bull II** (1710-1791) served for a long time as Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina, from 1759 until 1775. During this long period, he repeatedly was called to serve as Acting Governor during times when the Governor was absent, resigned, or otherwise could not himself rule. One such period occurred between May 1764 and June 17, 1766, leaving Bull in charge during the height of the "Stamp Act Crisis" in South Carolina. Bull sought with little success to chart a complicated middle course between full official enforcement and total neglect of enforcement. When a supply of stamps arrived in Charleston, he had them locked up in Fort Johnson, arguing that if they were not accessible to be distributed properly, not using them was at least temporarily

justifiable, given the ugly mood of the local citizens against the stamp tax. When faced with the issue of closing South Carolina's ports, he balked, seeking to find a justifiable way to maintain the colony's valuable trade while waiting for a time when the stamps might more safely be used (see documents 66 to 69). He was still waiting for that time when the Stamp Act was repealed. See also note after document 36 above.]

65. March 10, 1766 [158]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the difficulty with which he has kept the people quiet*" as he has attempted to enforce the Stamp Act [enclosing several documents concerning neighboring South Carolina's protests against the Stamp Act, documents 66 to 69 [BT number F.71]
66. February 2, 3, 1766 [160]
Printed excerpts from the proceedings of the South Carolina House of Assembly, relative to the opening of the ports in South Carolina while not enforcing the Stamp Act; including:
February 2, 1766
Letter from Colonel Peter Randolph, Surveyor General of Customs in South Carolina, to William Bull, Lieutenant [actually Acting] Governor of South Carolina, not willing to open the ports of South Carolina without Bull's political leadership; followed by
[no date]
Letter from Bull to Randolph, telling Randolph that he had no authority to intervene in the port-opening decision making; followed by
February 2, 1766
Letter from Randolph to Bull, continuing the disagreement; followed by
February 3, 1766
Letter from Bull to Randolph, declining to continue the disagreement by face-to-face meeting or in writing; followed by
[no date]
Excerpt from "*his majesty's 49th INSTRUCTION, to governor Boone*", including the authority of the Surveyor General to appoint certain officials in order to fill vacancies; followed by
February 2, 1766
Letter from Bull to Randolph responding to the Assembly's reminder of the Surveyor-General's appointment authority, stating that, since stamps are not available, the ports will be opened without the requirement that stamps be issued [enclosed with Wright's March 10, 1766 letter to Board of Trade, document 65] [BT number F.72]
67. November 29, 1765 [164]
Printed resolution of the Commons House of Assembly of South Carolina, emphasizing the equal rights of Englishmen, both in England and in the Colonies, among which is the right against direct taxation without direct representation

[enclosed with Wright's March 10, 1766 letter to Board of Trade, document 65]
[BT number F.73]

68. January 22-28, 1766 [165]
Printed orders of the Commons House of Assembly of South Carolina, and messages documenting the House's attempt to ascertain, from Lieutenant [actually Acting] Governor Bull, whether or not the new Stamp Act text had actually been received from the government in England by the South Carolina government; Bull not responding definitively to the House's messages, the House concluded that the Stamp Act had not been officially received in South Carolina [and thus could not be either enforced or not enforced]; Bull concluded that he had indeed received the valid text, though from different sources, and had no reason to believe the text was not accurate [and thus felt justified in taking steps to reopen the ports] [see note after document 64] [enclosed with Wright's March 10, 1766 letter to Board of Trade, document 65] [BT number F.74]
69. March 1, 1766 [167a]
Extract from minutes of a "*meeting of the FIRE Company in Charleston*," acting as "*Sons of Liberty*," adopting resolutions favoring free trade [thus anti Stamp Act] and specifically forbidding any trading with Georgia [which was seeking to enforce the Stamp Act] [enclosed with Wright's March 10, 1766 letter to Board of Trade, document 65] [BT number F.75] [another copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 215]
[Note: The **Sons of Liberty** first sprang up as organized groups in the American colonies as a part of the emerging resistance movement against enforcement of the Stamp Act of 1765. Most of these emerged out of older civic organizations such as volunteer fire companies. In Charleston (and in Albany, New York) the Sons of Liberty called themselves a **Fire Company**, presumably evoking intentionally the sense of a dangerous emergency followed by an incendiary response. In Savannah, Georgia, a Sons of Liberty group organized early during the resistance period but was frustrated by Governor Wright's staunch loyalist position. The Charleston Fire Company experienced similar frustrations from South Carolina's Lieutenant Governor William Bull II. However, Wright seems to have exercised more control over the Georgia Government than Bull succeeded in doing over the South Carolina Government.]
70. April 28, 1766 [168a]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, transmitting documents [BT number F.76]
71. May 20, 1765 [169]
Legal opinions by Matthew Lamb, at Lincolns Inn, as requested by Board of Trade, concerning certain Georgia laws passed in January, February, and May 1764, including laws concerning lotteries, accounting by executors, Savannah market regulations, empowering surveyors, punishing vagabonds, rebuilding the Savannah courthouse, vessels not carrying persons in debt, appointing Crown

Agent for Georgia, approving Georgia's contribution to Crown for operating Georgia government, repairing Christ Church in Savannah, regulating the militia, controlling slaves; stating no objections to any of these [BT number F.78] [no microfilmed document is identified as F.77] [for more on Sir Matthew Lamb, see note after Reel 1 document 18]

72. November 20, 1765 [171]
Legal opinions of Matthew Lamb at Lincolns Inn to Board of Trade, concerning certain Georgia laws passed in March 1765, including an act concerning disposition by Georgia of grants made by South Carolina in Georgia territory and an ordinance "*appointing William Knox Esq^r. Agent to Solicit the Affairs of this Province in Great Britain*"; stating no objections to either of these [BT number F.79]
73. June 26, 1766 [173]
"*Proposals [to the Board of Trade] by Henry Kennan Esq^r. [at London] for carrying on the Silk Filature at Savannah in Georgia*" [BT number F.80]
[Note: Silk Filature is the process of reeling silk from silk-worm cocoons. **Silk Culture** is, more generally, the production of silk thread from the nurturing of silk worms among mulberry bushes to the harvesting of silkworm cocoons and their filature into threads.]
74. April 5, 1766 [175]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the apprehension & discharge of John Bishop, against whom a complaint had been made by the Spanish Ambassador; & the Sums, for which the Gov^r has given him & the Provost Marshall Certificates;—& to the certificates given other Officers of Government*" [BT number F.81]
75. May 5, 1766 [177]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing remarks on several Acts lately passed in*" Georgia [BT number F.82]
76. June 24, 1766 [181]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relating to the Silk Culture*" [BT number F.83]
77. June 28, 1766 [184]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Indian Trade, and the disturbances likely to arise in consequence thereof*" [BT number F.84]
[copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 63]
78. August 2, 1766 [186]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, transmitting various documents, including some Georgia Council minutes [not microfilmed here] [BT number F.85]

79. August 23, 1766 [188]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*expressing his hopes to receive directions in respect to the Silk Culture, & Indian Affairs*" [BT number F.86]
80. September 25, 1766 [190]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Silk Culture and the Act respecting the South Carolina Grants of Lands to the Southward of the*" Altamaha River [BT number F.87]
81. October 10, 1766 [192]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the State of the Silk Culture*" [with enclosures, documents 82, 83] [BT number F.88]
82. October 2, 1766 [194]
Letter from F. Holenghe to Wright [not to Governor Grant of East Florida, as stated in the archivist note], "*containing an Account of the Silk Culture*", which begins "*In answer to your Excellency's letter of this morning I shall give a true and just account of the Cause that so little silk is made from so large a quantity of cocoons*" [enclosed with Wright's October 10, 1766 letter to Board of Trade, document 81] [BT number F.89]
83. April 4, 1764 [196]
Copy of "*Articles of Agreement*" between Wright, Georgia Superintendent of Silk Culture Joseph Ottolenghe, and Isaac Baillou [Ballou?] of Savannah, concerning development of the silk culture in Georgia; [enclosed with Wright's October 10, 1766 letter to Board of Trade, document 81] [Frame 197 microfilmed twice] [BT number F.90]
[Note: Joseph Solomon Ottolenghi (1711-1775), a German/Jewish/American, served not only as Georgia's "superintendent" of silk culture but as a teacher of reading to African Americans.]
84. October 21, 1766 [198]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*informing their Lordships of his having given Certificates to two School masters for payments from June 24, 1765 to June 24, 1766*" [BT number F.92] [no microfilmed document is identified as F.91]
85. October 21, 1766 [200]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, concerning the silk culture efforts in Georgia, with details and financial figures [BT number F.93]

86. January 10, 1767 [206]
Letter from Charles Garth, Crown Agent to South Carolina, to Pownall, "*desiring him to move the Board, that the Hearing on the Georgia Act for Strengthening the Province* [and pertaining to disposition of South Carolina land grants in southern Georgia] & *appointed to be on the 22^d. instant, may be put off for a fortnight or three weeks*" [BT number F.94]
87. November 18, 1766 [208]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing an Account of the manufactures set up and carried on in* [Georgia]" [BT number F.95]
88. November 29, 1766 [210]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing remarks on the Laws for making partition of Lands—registering of deeds, and the Sth. Carolina Grants*" [with enclosures, documents 89, 90] [BT number F.96]
89. February 15, 1762 [214]
Copy of Wright's answer to inquiry from the Board of Trade dated October 1, 1761, with updated notes dated November 1766, including sections concerning: description of the lands along the southern coast of Georgia, running down toward Florida; boundaries of the Georgia colony; British and colonial destinations of trade from Georgia; British manufactures consumed by Georgia colonists; trade with foreign destinations (which is very limited); enforcement of trade regulations; Georgia's agricultural products; Georgia's population; Georgia militia, forts, and defense; Indians and trade and relations with them; the French in neighboring provinces; British military presence in Georgia; civil government in Georgia with positions and salaries; and the constitution of the colony [enclosed with Wright's November 29, 1766 letter to Board of Trade, document 88] [BT number F.97]
90. October 1766 [230]
"*A General State of the Trade* [of Georgia] *from Oct^r 1765 to Oct^r 1766*" with financial figures [enclosed with Wright's November 29, 1766 letter to Board of Trade, document 88] [BT number F.98]
91. October 29, 1766 [231]
Legal opinions of Matthew Lamb at Lincolns Inn to Board of Trade, concerning certain Georgia laws passed between December 1764 and March 1765, including acts pertaining to: preventing small pox; the better ordering of the militia; maintaining river channels; ordering and governing Negroes and other slaves; a tax to raise money to repair and rebuild the Tybee Island lighthouse and pilot house; extending enforcement of Georgia laws to newly annexed territory (Jekyll Island); continuing laws prohibiting transport of debtors on vessels, maintaining roads, and forbidding stealing horses and cattle; suppressing lotteries and gaming; building forts and barracks; permitting taxation by the King of trade with colonies north of South Carolina; prohibiting fraud and

abuses; prohibiting purchase of land from the Indians; appropriation of Georgia funds for 1765 for governing of the colony; appointments of several officials; stating no objections to any of these [BT number F.99]

92. February 12, 1767 [233]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the present state of the Province, and transmitting several publick Papers*" [with enclosures, documents 93, 94] [Frame 235 microfilmed twice] [BT number F.100]
93. February 6, 1767 [236]
"*Account of the Produce & Application of the Aid granted to his Majesty by Act of Assembly passed the 29th day of Feb^y 1764 for the support of Government for the year 1764, &c*" [enclosed with Wright's February 12, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 92] [BT number F.101]
94. February 6, 1767 [238]
"*Account of the Produce & Application of the Aid granted to his Majesty by Act of Assembly passed the 25th day of March 1765 for the support of Government for the year 1765, &c*" [enclosed with Wright's February 12, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 92] [BT number F.102]
95. April 6, 1767 [239]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, with note by Wright "*Copy of my letter to [Secretary of State] the Earl of Shelburne, 'relative to the conduct & principlly of the House of Assembly and inclosing several papers thereupon*" [with microfilmed documents 96 to 106 and 108] [BT number F.103] [copy to Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 88]
[Note: William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne, served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department from July 30, 1766 until October 20, 1768. For several months in 1782, he served as Secretary of State for the Home Department.]
96. January 20, 1767 [245]
"*Extract from the Journals of the upper House of [Georgia] Assembly*", including text of letter from Wright to Upper House concerning paying for certain "*Necessaries allowed by the Mutiny Act to Soldiers in America*"; including extract from letter dated January 6, 1767, from Captain Lieutenant Ralph Phillips at Charlestown, requesting provision of the necessities; including communication to Phillips of the Upper House's positive response at its January 20, 1767 meeting, to pay for and provide the necessities [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95] [no BT number assigned] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 89]
[Note: A **Mutiny Act** was a British law designed to control British soldiers' and sailors' behavior when living among civilians. A Mutiny Act was in force for just one year and had to be renewed annual. The issue that upset the American

colonies, and the Georgia Assembly, first emerged in the **Quartering Act** of 1765, which was an amendment to the Mutiny Act of that year. For that and subsequent years, it required civilians to provide and pay for “necessaries,” including accommodations and housing, when British soldiers were stationed within a British colony. Many Americans felt this to be a financial imposition and an invasion of privacy.]

97. January 10, 1767 [247]
Extract from journal of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, including text of letter from Wright to Commons House explaining request from Captain Lieutenant Phillips for provision of necessities for his soldiers; including text of Phillips’ request, dated at Charleston January 6, 1767; including relevant text from the Mutiny Act; followed by
February 10, 1767
Extract from journal of Commons House, including report of a committee appointed to consider Wright’s request to honor Phillips’ request and to prepare an address to Wright with the Commons House’s response; including the amended and approved text of the address, stating the House’s conclusion that *“complying with the Requisition contained in your Excellency’s message would be a Violation of the Trust reposed in them by their Constituents and founding a Precedent they by no Means think themselves justifiable in introducing”* [enclosed with Wright’s April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95] [no BT number assigned]
98. February 5, 1767 [249]
Extract from journal of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, including text of a petition from merchants of Georgia pleading against enforcement of the Stamp Act because of its many inconveniences and hardships; a joint committee with the Upper House was assigned to consider the petition; followed by
February 10, 1767
Report of the joint committee on the merchants’ petition, which had agreed that the Assembly should send a petition to the King and Parliament praying for repeal of the Act; followed by
February 13, 1767
Recommendation from the joint committee that the Assembly should also address the Governor, requesting that he report annually to the Assembly information such as the status of the militia, the slave population, and exports and imports; followed by
February 16, 1767
Report by those who delivered the address to the Governor, stating that he had agreed to prepare and provide the requested information [enclosed with Wright’s April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95] [no BT number assigned] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 91]
99. March 26, 1767 [251]

[Extracts from journal of Commons House], concerning a petition to the King and Parliament “*respecting the Scarcity of Paper Currency*” in Georgia, adopted by the Commons House to be delivered to Crown Agent Charles Garth with instructions; concerning seeking the King’s “*confirmation of an Act of the General Assembly of this Province passed the 22^d day of March 1765 intituled an Act for the better strengthening and settling of this Province by compelling*” provinces holding lands within boundaries of other provinces (e.g. South Carolina in Georgia) to relinquish the land grants in these areas; concerning seeking to enlist Charles Garth to act as agent for the Commons House and agreeing to pay his salary; concerning notice from the British Army commander in North America, General Gage, that troop levels in Georgia will be reduced, necessitating the closing of Fort George on Cockspur Island; addressing the Governor with the Commons House’s wish that he use his powers to replace the soldiers withdrawn from Fort George with other British troops “*now doing Duty in this Province*”; including text of the address to the Governor about the troops issue; including report with details from the Governor that he could not comply with the Commons House’s wishes concerning the assignment of British troops because insufficient other troops are available, but stating that he would use his influence with General Gage to try to get an officer and troops reassigned to Fort George; approving certain amounts of funding to pay for such troops as can be assigned to Fort George [enclosed with Wright’s April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95] [no BT number assigned] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 97]

[Note: Cockspur Island is located between the north and south channels of the Savannah River, at the river’s mouth into the Atlantic Ocean, a strategically important location for protecting Savannah up the river. **Fort George** was constructed there in the early 1760s. Besides a fort, the complex included a customs house and a Lazarette, a quarantine facility for persons seeking to enter Georgia who were suffering from possibly contagious diseases. British Fort George was abandoned by patriot Georgia early in the Revolutionary War because it was perceived to be too exposed. Instead, the isolated area became a haven for loyalists, and in March 1776, British Governor Wright escaped to this place from Savannah, before sailing to England, technically making Cockspur Island (or more accurately the British warship *HMS Scarborough* moored here that served as Wright’s home and the seat of Georgia’s government from at least March 1 through March 27, 1776) very briefly the colonial capital. In the 1790s, Fort George was rebuilt and renamed **Fort Greene** after American Revolutionary War General Nathanael Greene. Not long after, in 1804, it was completely destroyed by a hurricane. Many years passed before the fort structure still in place today was completed in 1847, this time renamed **Fort Pulaski** for the Polish military commander and American patriot of the Revolutionary War, Casimir Pulaski, who was killed during the unsuccessful French-Continental siege of and battle for British-occupied Savannah in October 1779. Vacated after the Civil War, it is now a National Monument.]

Copy of “An [itemized] *Estimate of the necessary Charges of Government in the Province of Georgia for one year commencing the 29th September 1766 and ending the 29th September 1767*” [probably enclosed with Wright’s April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95, although not so identified] [no BT number assigned] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 92]

101. March 20, 1767 [255]
Extract from journal of the Upper House of the Georgia Assembly, concerning approval and disapproval of money from Georgia, as adopted by the Commons House, to defray costs of government; objecting to an item to pay Agent Charles Garth’s salary and another item to reimburse certain expenses of Garth because they were “*irregular*” and not properly proposed previously and approved [enclosed with Wright’s April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95] [no BT number assigned] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 93]
102. March 20, 1767 [257]
Extract from journal of Commons House of the Georgia Assembly, including text of address to the Governor requesting that the General Assembly be dissolved and that a new election be held; followed by
March 20, 1767
Including text of message from the Governor, declining to dissolve the General Assembly and call a new election because he can see no benefit in doing so [enclosed with Wright’s April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95] [no BT number assigned] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 94]
103. March 26, 1767 [259]
Extract from Journal of Upper House of the Georgia Assembly, concerning the Commons House having taken on the power of appointment, in the case of Charles Garth, resolving that the Upper House will not recognize this appointment, and that William Knox is currently the recognized Crown Agent for Georgia; followed by text of address from Upper House to the Governor concerning the proper appointment power for a Crown Agent; reporting the Governor’s response, that he would look into the proceedings of the Commons House and seek to reverse any improper actions [enclosed with Wright’s April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95] [no BT number assigned] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 95]
104. [no date] [261]
Petition of the Commons House to the King, declaring the overall loyalty of Georgians but complaining about the Stamp Act as an aberration of the Crown’s benevolent rule [enclosed with Wright’s April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade,

document 95] [no BT number assigned] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 98]

105. [no date] [263]
Petition of the Commons House to House of Lords of Parliament, declaring overall loyalty but complaining about the Stamp Act and requesting redress from its hardships [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95] [no BT number assigned] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 99]
106. [no date] [264]
Petition of the Commons House to House of Commons of Parliament, declaring overall loyalty but complaining about the Stamp Act and requesting redress from its hardships [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95] [no BT number assigned] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 100]
107. [no date] [266]
Petition to the Board of Trade from Isaac Levy, in London, again seeking the Board of Trade's intervention in his dispute with the colony of Georgia over the legality of land grants to him through Thomas Bosomworth on certain Georgia islands; seeking an opportunity to meet with the Board of Trade and requesting that the Board of Trade report to the King Levy's case and request for redress [see the note after Reel 1 document 10 and subsequent documents for more on **Thomas Bosomworth**; see the note after Reel 1 document 73 for more on **Isaac Levy**] [BT number F.104]
108. November 10, 1766 [268]
Extract from minutes of the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly, authorizing payment to Charles Garth of £105 for services rendered as Crown Agent to Georgia [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 95] [no BT number assigned]
109. June 30, 1767 [269]
Recommendation of the Board of Trade's Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs to the Board of Trade, concerning the issue of South Carolina land grants for land within the boundaries of Georgia, that clear instructions be prepared and sent to the Governors of South Carolina and Georgia specifying how each is to resolve the situation; signed by Robert Walpole for the committee [BT number F.105]
110. May 15, 1767 [271]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the conduct of the Assembly*", with enclosures [not microfilmed here] [BT number F.106]
111. [no date] [273]

Legal opinion of Matthew Lamb concerning 17 acts passed in Georgia between November 1765 and March 1766, including acts concerning control of slaves, deserting seamen, requiring white males to carry firearms to increase safety, regulating taverns, surveying of public roads, relief of debtors, piloting of vessels, preventing fraud in sale of certain items, preventing theft of cattle, appointment of packers and inspectors for the ports of Savannah and Sunbury, establishing a new ferry across the Savannah River, giving a portion of the Savannah Common to a private person, appointment of a beadle for Christ Church in Savannah, encouraging new settlers in Georgia and constructing needed public buildings, preventing the absconding of slaves, authorizing local funding to support government in the Georgia colony; Lamb expressing no objections in point of law to any of these acts [BT number F.108] [no microfilmed document is identified as F.107]

[**Note:** A **beadle** was a minor official in English parish churches who ushered, kept order, and, in particular, was responsible for the parish's charity activities.]

112. June 15, 1767 [275]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing observations on several Laws lately passed [in Georgia], & respecting his tour through the Southern parts of that province*" [with enclosures, documents 113, 114] [BT number F.109] [similar letter with same date to Secretary of State Shelburne, Wright's letter No. 6, in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 103; extract from letter to Shelburne in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 125]

[**Note:** When Shelburne became Secretary of State for the Southern Department, he began numbering his letters to colonial governors and had them do the same in response. Most of the letters addressed by Wright to a Secretary of State but found in the Board of Trade incoming correspondence are copies or duplicates. The numerical sequence of these copy or duplicate letters is incomplete. Yet, between December 1768 and May 1771, Wright made a concerted effort to send to the Board of Trade copies or duplicates of his letters to Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Hillsborough. Most of Wright's letters from No. 24 through No. 58 are therefore included in the Board of Trade incoming correspondence.]

113. February 2, 1767 [281]

Address of Commons House of Georgia Assembly to Wright, concerning building a Lazarette to receive infected persons coming into the province; followed by February 5, 1767

Message from Wright supporting helping infected people and proposing use of money received from the public sale of gunpowder to build the needed Lazarette [enclosed with Wright's June 15, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 112] [BT number F.110] [copy to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 104]

[**Note:** In this context, a **Lazarette** is a quarantine station at a point of entry from abroad by sea, where people thought to be infected with contagious diseases

could be confined. More generally, a Lazarette was a shelter for “infected” people, from which, like Lazarus, they could hope to emerge well again.]

114. February 3, 1767 [283]
Extract from Georgia Council minutes, supporting building a Lazarette, with details on its proposed location and the use of gunpowder money to pay for it [enclosed with Wright’s June 15, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 112] [no BT number assigned]

Volume 650—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Board of Trade Correspondence (incoming), continued

November 18, 1765 to January 20, 1770 Documents 115 to 170 [Frames 1 to 139]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 650 continues from Volume 649 the Board of Trade incoming correspondence, in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: Archivists (probably in the Board of Trade) wrote descriptive notes for many of the manuscript documents, which are microfilmed with the documents. On these notes, archivists provided their own numbers by manuscript Bundle or Volume. Where found, this Finding Aid reports these numbers as “BT numbers.” Volume 650 begins with G.1 and ends with G.52. Almost all microfilmed documents in this Volume are assigned BT numbers. Occasional gaps exist in the numbering, suggesting either that a few documents were lost or for other reasons were not microfilmed or that the BT numbering process was sloppy in its assignment of numbers. One document (enclosure with a letter) was assigned no BT number.

Note: Starting under the Earl of Shelburne and following under the Earl of Hillsborough, Secretaries of State used the practice (also used starting in the 1750s by the Board of Trade, as found in letters from Georgia Governor Henry Ellis in Volume 648) of numbering the Secretary of State’s outgoing letters and having colonial governors letter their incoming letters to the Secretary of State. Use of and reference to these letter numbers began in Volume 649 with document 112 for Shelburne. Both use and references continue in Volume 650 for Hillsborough. Where found, these numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

115. October 9, 1767 [1]
Notice to the Board of Trade and Plantations, from its Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs, referring to the Board the memorial of Lieutenant John Pigott of the 62nd Regiment of Foot, requesting approval for a land grant in Georgia of 5,000 acres; followed by
Memorial of John Pigott requesting a land grant in Georgia of 5,000 acres [see the note after Reel 1 document 1 for more on the **Board of Trade and Plantations**] [BT number G.1]
116. April 15, 1767 [5]
Letter from Governor of Georgia James Wright, at Savannah, Georgia, to Board of Trade, "*relative to the State of defence of*" Georgia; with note stating that "*I have wrote to the Earl of Shelburne to the Same Effect*"
[see note after Reel 1 document 9 for more on **James Wright**; see notes after Reel 1 document 70 and Reel 2 document 95 for more on the **Earl of Shelburne**] [BT number G.2]
117. April 2, 1767 [7]
"*Extract or Substance of my Letter to General [Thomas] Gage*", British Commander of British Army forces in North America, concerning the reduced state of defense in Georgia, with details, especially concerning Augusta [similar or copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 109]; followed by
May 26, 1767
Extract from Gage's reply to Wright; followed by
July 4, 1767
Extract from letter from Wright to the commander of British troops in Georgia and South Carolina concerning troop levels; followed by
July 20, 1767
Extract from letter from Gage to Wright; followed by
August 6, 1767
Extract from letter from Wright to Gage; followed by
July 24, 1767
Note from Lord Charles Montagu to [?], concerning the number of troops available
[enclosed with Wright's April 15, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 116]
[no BT number assigned]
[**Note: General Thomas Gage** (1718-1787) served in the British Army as commander in chief in North America from 1763 to 1775. After the American Revolution began, he was recalled to England and replaced by General William Howe.]

[Note: Sir Charles Greville Montagu (1741-1784) served as South Carolina's colonial governor from 1766 until 1773 (with Lieutenant Governor William Bull II stepping into the governor's position as needed when Montagu was variously indisposed, in 1768 and again in 1769 to 1771). In the mid-1760s, Montagu sought, despite great unpopularity, to enforce the Stamp Act in South Carolina. The parallel with Governor Wright is evident.]

118. August 25, 1767 [11]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing an Account of the State of the Silk Culture*" in Georgia [BT number G.3]

119. September 16, 1767 [13]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, enclosing lists of Naval Officers lists of vessels entering and clearing the port of Sunbury from October 5, 1766 to July 5, 1767 and of the port of Savannah from April 5, 1767 to July 5, 1767 [lists not microfilmed here] [BT number G.4]

120. October 13, 1767 [15]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Sums expended for the service*" of Georgia [BT number G.5]

121. October 24, 1767 [17]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relating to the murder of two Inhabitants of East Florida by some Creek Indians; & including Copies of two affidavits on that subject*" [with two microfilmed enclosures, both part of document 122] [part of BT number G.6] [similar letter to Secretary of State Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 113]

122. October 21, 1767 [19]
Affidavit of William Clark of St. Marys Parish [East Florida], taken in St. Andrew Parish [Altamaha River area, Georgia], concerning the murder of two inhabitants of East Florida; followed by:
October 15, 1767
Affidavit of James Lemon, ferryman at Satilla, taken in St. Marys Parish, concerning the murder of two inhabitants of East Florida
[both enclosed with Wright's October 24, 1767 letter to Board of Trade, document 121] [part of BT number G.6] [copy of each in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 114]

123. October 24, 1767 [21]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Pownall, "*informing him that the Vessel on board which a [?] of 0 of the Province of Georgia was shipped, and also a Box of publick papers was shipped, was lost*" [BT number G.7]

124. November 14, 1767 [23]

Letter from [Secretary of State for the Southern Department the Earl of] Shelburne to Board of Trade, concerning "*the expediency of directing the Gov^r. Of Georgia to assent to a Law for the sale of such Gunpowder now in the Magazines of that province as may be in danger of perishing, and for the commutation of the Duty on that commodity into money*" [see notes after Reel 1 document 70 and Reel 2 document 95 for more on the **Earl of Shelburne**] [part of BT number G.8]

125. June 15, 1767 [25]
Extract from letter from Wright to Shelburne, concerning the act to erect a lazarette and keeper's house on Tybee Island to be paid for by money not exceeding £300 from the sale of gunpowder, to which Wright had consented because of lack of other money to accomplish this necessary purpose; including justification of the legality of this approach to funding [part of BT number G.8] [original letter No. 6 from Wright to Shelburne in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 103; similar letter with same date to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 112]
126. February 22, 1767 [27]
Extract from minutes of a meeting of the Commons House; containing the House's address to the Governor, suggesting use of gunpowder money to fund the lazarette and keeper's house; including Wright's response, dated February 5, 1767 (?) [enclosed in Wright's letter of June 15, 1767 to Shelburne, document 125]; [part of BT number G.8]
127. December 22, 1767 [30]
Account of John Campbell, Agent of Georgia, at London, with entries dating from 1764 to 1767 [BT number G.9]
128. June 26, 1767 [31]
Royal order disallowing a Georgia law concerning the "*ordering and governing*" of "*Negroes and other slaves*" and preventing the "*inseighing* [inciting] *or carrying away Slaves from their Masters or Employers*" [BT number G.10]
129. October 9, 1767 [33]
Report of the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs to the Board of Trade, "*referring to the Board [of Trade], for their report, the petition of Isaac Levy for the restitution of a moiety of two Islands on the Coast of Georgia, of which he alleges he was illegally dispossessed by the late Gov^r. of that province, or otherwise, for a Grand of Land in the Ceded Islands in the West Indies, or of a Coal mine in the Island of Caple Breton*"; followed by [no date]
Petition of Isaac Levy to the King on the above subject [both are parts of BT number G.11]

130. January [?], 1768 [39]
Memorial to the Board of Trade from Isaac Levy, concerning his unresolved petitions for relief regarding his ownership of islands on the Georgia coast, "*stating the inconveniences under which he labours*" [BT number G.12]
131. January 18, 1768 [41]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, enclosing the Naval Officers List of vessels entered and cleared the port of Savannah from July 5 to October 10, 1767 plus proceedings of the Georgia Council from October 7, 1766 to September 17, 1767 [these enclosures not microfilmed here] [BT number G.13]
132. [no date] [43]
Memorial to the Board of Trade from Isaac Levy, "*praying leave to compare some Copies of papers in this Office with the Originals, & to take Copies of others relative to the proceedings in Georgia relating to the Islands of Osabaw & S^t. Catherine & the transactions with M^r. Bosomworth thereupon*" [BT number G.14]
133. [no date] [45]
List of papers "*which M^r Levy craves to have compard with the Originals & Letters of which he craves extracts*" [BT number G.15]
134. June 8, 1768 [46]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing remarks on several Acts lately passed in [Georgia] and the flourishing State thereof*" [with microfilmed enclosure, document 135] [BT number G.16] [similar letter to Hillsborough, with same date, in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 138; copy of letter to Hillsborough in document 138 below]
135. February 18, 1768 [53]
Extract from minutes of meeting of the Georgia Council at Savannah, concerning payment to Charles Garth of his salary as Agent for Georgia, beginning June 1, 1767; the Governor seeking denial of payment because Garth was not appointed to be Georgia's Agent; denial unanimously upheld by the Council [enclosed with Wright's June 8, 1768 letter to Board of Trade, document 134] [BT number G.17] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 124]
136. June 10, 1768 [55]
"*An Abstract of all the Grants of Land registered in his Majesties province of Georgia from the 25th September 1767 to the 25th March 1768*"; a lengthy, ten-page list [no BT number is identified for this document, but sequentially it would be BT number G.18]
137. July 1, 1768 [60]

Copy of letter No. 9 from Wright at Savannah to the Earl of Hillsborough, Secretary of State for the Colonies, "*containing his Observations upon the return & effect of the bounties given for the Silk Culture*", including an annual list, from 1755 to 1767, of the feet of cocoons made and the feet of silk produced, the low year being 1758, when the cocoons were "*burnt*" but 258 feet of silk were still produced, and the high year being 1766, when 20,350 feet of cocoons were made, which produced 1,084 feet of silk [part of BT number G.19] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 139]

[Note: William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne, served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department from July 30, 1766 to October 20, 1768. **Wills Hill, 1st Earl of Hillsborough** was appointed to the new position of Secretary of State for the Colonies on February 27, 1768, a position he held until August 27, 1772.

This position superseded that of Secretary of State for the Southern Department, which continued to exist but was in less direct contact with colonial governors.

In addition, the Secretary of State for the Colonies was considered by colonial governors to have higher status than the Board of Trade, which was primarily an economic-development promoter and lacked the foreign-policy clout of the Secretaries of State. As the 13 American colonies evolved from being politically loyal colonies with economic agenda toward being cauldrons of human-rights agitation with rebellious political agendas, the politically oriented Secretaries of State became more important for royal governors than the economically oriented Board of Trade.]

[Note: The Earl of Hillsborough, as Secretary of State for the Colonies, made a practice, apparently continued from Shelburne, of numbering his outgoing letters and of having regular incoming correspondents such as colonial governors number their letters to him.]

138. June 8, 1768 [63]
Copy of letter No. 8 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*containing his Observat^{ns} upon some Laws of the Colony of Georgia lately passed*" [BT number G.20] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 138; similar letter to Board of Trade in document 134 above]
139. July 8, 1768 [68]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*informing the Board of his having given Certificates for the Year's expence of His Majesty's Guard or Scout Boat*" [BT number G.21]
140. [received December 9, 1768] [70]
"*M^r Delamar's proposals in order the more effectively to establish the Growth of raw Silk in America*" [Frame 70 microfilmed twice] [no BT number is identified for this document, but sequentially it would be BT number G.22]
141. [no date] [73]

"Memorial in relation to the Silk Culture in Georgia, presented by the Agent" for Georgia, at London [to the Board of Trade], including calculations of production and bounties paid [Frame 73 microfilmed twice] [BT number G.23]

142. December 22, 1768 [77]
Order of Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs to Board of Trade, referring to the Board a request from Hillsborough, based on a letter from Georgia Governor Wright, to clarify the legal definition of a [Negro] slave—solely real estate or some being real estate while others (*"chattels personal"* slaves) are not; seeking instructions on whether it is legal to disallow any colonial slave law unless it defines slaves as only real estate [part of BT number G.24]
143. October 5, 1768 [78]
Extract from letter from Wright to Hillsborough, stating his position that Georgia should have a law *"for the better Government of Negroes"* only *"provided such Slaves, be not thereby declared to be Chattels personal"*; but requesting clarification that such a limitation will be considered legal under English law [part of BT number G.24] [the full original of Wright's letter No. 20 to Hillsborough, dated October 5, 1768, is in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 156]
144. August 5, 1768 [81]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, containing copy of letter from Wright to Hillsborough concerning regulation of the Indian trade [with enclosures, documents 145 to 148] [BT number G.25] [Wright's letter of the same date to Hillsborough is in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 144]
145. November 18, 1765 [85]
Copy by Wright of minutes of the *"Congress held with Govr Grant at Picolata signed J[ohn] Stuart"* [enclosed with Wright's August 5, 1768 letter to Board of Trade, document 144] [BT number G.26] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 145]
[Note: This Congress concluded with the signing of the November 18, 1765 **Treaty of Picolata**, by which Governor James Grant of East Florida and Superintendent of Indian Affairs John Stuart negotiated successfully (for the British) a wide-ranging treaty with the Creek Indian Nation. It institutionalized in the American South the principals of division of lands between European and Indian territory and of drawing fixed boundaries between the two (until a treaty was violated by European settlers or until a new treaty renegotiated the boundaries, invariably to European advantage).]
146. [no date] [86]
Handwritten map of a portion of Georgia, showing what appear to be water trade routes and land boundaries in territories between the St. Marys River, Altamaha River, and Apalachee River, apparently pertaining to the November 18, 1765

Treaty of Picolata; identified as “*Copy of the Sketch of the Boundary line, sent to the Indians*” [enclosed with Wright’s August 5, 1768 letter to Board of Trade, document 144] [BT number G.27] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 148] [see note on rivers after document 147]

147. July 27, 1768 [87]
Copy of “Talk” by Wright and Stuart to several chiefs and warriors of the Lower Creek Nation, concerning verifying the land boundaries agreed to “*according to the several treaties and agreements Subsisting between us*”, and enclosing “*a sketch on paper of the Line as we Propose it should be continued from Conoochee to the Altamaha and from thence to St Marys*”; also including the Oconee, Ogeechee, and Apalachee Rivers [enclosed with Wright’s August 5, 1768 letter to Board of Trade, document 144] [Frame 88 microfilmed twice] [BT number G.28] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 147]
[**Note:** On the frontier, **rivers** served as highways as well as boundaries. The five rivers mentioned here were especially important in facilitating the migration of British settlers inland as they expanded their territory from the coast into the interior. Trading posts were located on rivers and at river junctions. And the rivers provided access for Indians to come to Savannah to meet and negotiate with Georgia colonial officials. At any one point in time, the rivers also provided convenient boundaries. However, because the frontier between Indians and British settlers was constantly shifting in practice, despite agreements and treaties, river boundaries were inherently unstable. Of the six rivers identified, four (St. Marys, Oconee, Ogeechee, and Altamaha) flow directly into the Atlantic Ocean along the Georgia coast, and two (Canoochee and Apalachee) are inland rivers, tributaries of the Ogeechee and Altamaha respectively.]
148. January 10, 1766 [89]
Copy of declaration of agreement between Wright and Creek Indian headman Captain Alleck, concerning settlement of the “*Lower [boundary] Line*” [enclosed with Wright’s August 5, 1768 letter to Board of Trade, document 144] [BT number G.29] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 146] [see note on rivers after document 147]
[**Note:** **Captain Alleck** was a Creek Indian chief with considerable personal influence. He chose to live apart from the Lower Creek Villages farther to the west. Making his home on an inland tributary of the Altamaha River, he apparently intentionally located himself in the border area between European and Indian territory. At the Picolata Treaty Assembly in November 1765, the Creek Indians apparently granted to him authority to negotiate with Governor Wright the details of a boundary in Georgia between European and Indian lands. Although this may have made Captain Alleck appear a stooge of the Europeans, he apparently played a much more devious, crafty game for what he judged to be his own personal gain.]
149. August 6, 1768 [91]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, containing copy of letter from Wright to Hillsborough, "*relative to the temper and Sentiments of the Colonies in North America with respect to the Authority of the Par^t of Great Britain*" [BT number G.30] [Wright's letter #12 to Hillsborough, August 6, 1768, is in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 149] [Note: In this letter, Wright leaves behind the economic issues he had initially raised with Hillsborough [see document 137] and focuses on political issues.]

150. November 1, 1768 [93]
Duplicate of letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the Expen^{ce} of the Silk Culture*" [BT number G.31]
[Note: Letters from colonial governors were often sent multiple times on separate ships, in hopes that one of the letters would get through or get through faster to England. Thus, an "**original**" letter would be sent plus perhaps several "**duplicate**" letters. A "**copy**" was usually the copy of a letter sent possibly at a later time and usually to another recipient. Use of these terminology conventions was usually but not always observed. Thus, a document identified as a "duplicate" might in fact be a "copy" or vice versa.]
151. January 14, 1769 [95]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, transmitting the just-completed survey of the boundary from the Ogeechee River to the Canoochee River and on to the St. Marys River [see note after document 147] [survey map not microfilmed here] [BT number G.32] [original letter (No. 28) in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 173]
152. April 14, 1769 [97]
Letter from Grey Cooper, Secretary for the Treasury to Pownall, conveying a report from the Customs Commission, concerning the proper procedures for "*giving Bounties upon the importation of raw Silk from America*" [BT number G.33]
[Note: **Grey Cooper** (c. 1726-1801) trained and practiced as an attorney. In 1765, he interrupted his legal career to serve as Secretary for the Treasury until 1782.]
153. November 24, 1768 [99]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, transmitting copies of proceedings of the Georgia Council from April 5 to September 6, 1768 and abstract of land grants from March 25 to September 25, 1768 [enclosures not microfilmed here]; stating that Georgia is in a "*flourishing state*" [BT number G.34]
154. August 6, 1768 [101]
Duplicate of letter No. 13 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, acknowledging receipt of the Solicitor General's report about a New Jersey law; stating that he will act in Georgia consistent with this report [no document is

identified as BT number G.35] [BT number G.36] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 150]

155. August 6, 1768 [103]
Duplicate of letter No. 14 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning murder of a public official and Wright's statement to improve his colony's law enforcement [BT number G.37] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 151]
156. December 13, 1768 [105]
Copy of Letter No. 24 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning making certain communications from the Secretaries of State public [BT number G.38] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 163]
157. December 14, 1768 [107]
Copy of letter No. 25 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning the silk culture and possibility the King will discontinue bounties; concerning parliamentary politics [BT number G.39] [duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 164]
158. December 24, 1768 [109]
Duplicate of letter No. 26 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning Georgia's finances and related matters [with enclosures, documents 159, 160] [BT number G.40] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 165]
159. December 24, 1768 [111]
Copy of address by Wright to Commons House, concerning the Assembly's failure to deal with the most important matter from the King, which relates to loyalty and support for Parliament's and the King's policies; deploring the direction the Assembly has taken to support disloyal activities going on in other colonies; disagreeing that the inhabitants of the American colonies are inadequately represented for purposes of taxation; as a result, dissolving the Assembly [Frame 112 microfilmed twice] [enclosed with Wright's December 24, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 158] [BT number G.41] [another copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 167]
160. December 24, 1768 [113]
Extract from minutes of the Georgia Commons House, supporting efforts in other colonies demanding "*redress of Grievances a Right allowed & Confirmed by the Act of William and Mary*"; including texts of supportive resolutions to be sent to the representative bodies in Massachusetts and Virginia [enclosed with Wright's December 24, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 158] [BT number G.42] [another copy of extract in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 166]

161. December 26, 1768 [115]
Copy of letter No. 27 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, describing with details plans he has made to restructure the Assembly with fewer members; also seeking to control election to minimize election of "Sons of Liberty"; also giving himself more authority over spending decisions; also adjusting requirements for property ownership; justifying his proposed actions in relation to numerous specific instructions from the Crown [Frame 116 microfilmed twice] [BT number G.43] [duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 172]
162. January 30, 1769 [119]
Copy of letter No. 29 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, declaring his loyalty to the British system and his enthusiasm for the happy circumstances of colonial life, as he sees it, under British rule [BT number G.44] [duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 175]
163. March 8, 1769 [121]
Duplicate of letter No. 30 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating that he has been doing his best to rule well; wishing to revise the present Negro Law, which is "*short and defective as it is*", but being unable to do so since the Assembly is not meeting; stating that things are currently quiet, within the colony and between the colony and Indians; concerning other issues in the rule of Georgia [BT number G.45] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 178]
164. June 26, 1769 [123]
Copy of letter No. 32 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting expectation to re-establish the Assembly in fall 1769; acknowledging receipt of the new estimate for the Georgia colony's government; concerning keeping the current silk culture healthy and producing; concerning Indian affairs; sharing intelligence about Indian and Spanish activities with governors of both Floridas [BT number G.46] [duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 181]
165. February 10, 1769 [125]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing his observations on several Acts passed in that Colony in Dec^r. Last*" [with microfilmed enclosure, document 166] [BT number G.47]
166. December 9, 1768 [129]
Extract from minutes of Georgia Council at Savannah, concerning arrival of 107 "protestant" settlers from Ireland who apparently came at the financial encouragement of the Assembly, although the money had not been approved nor the settlers granted entry; given the changed circumstances, suggesting that

money now be found to welcome these settlers [enclosed with Wright's February 10, 1769 letter to Board of Trade, document 165] [BT number G.48]

167. July 5, 1769 [131]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to the contingent & Indian Expenses from midsummer 1768 to midsummer 1769, & the certificates he has given to M^r. Nunes, as Indian Interpreter, & to others*" [no microfilmed document is identified as G.49] [BT number G.50]
168. January 20, 1770 [133]
Order of the Committee of Council for Plantation Affairs, referring to the Board of Trade a petition of Henry Yonge of Georgia, requesting a land grant of 5,000 acres [part of BT number G.51]
169. [no date] [134]
Petition of Henry Yonge, surveyor general of Georgia, requesting a land grant of 5,000 acres [part of BT number G.51]
170. September 28, 1769 [137]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*relative to Noble Jones Esq^r. having acted as Chief Justice of the Province from the 20th of Sept^r. 1760 to the 1st pf Sep^r. 1769*" [BT number G.52]
[**Note:** William Grover was not actually removed from the position of Chief Justice until July 1763 (Reel 1 documents 53, 71; see also note after document 53). However, Grover was suspended in 1762 (documents 54 to 60 above) and was not getting along well with either Governor Ellis or Governor Wright, going back to 1760 or 1761. So, at this later date, Wright appears to be making the case that his attorney friend and political ally Noble Jones had actually been doing the Chief Justice job well before Grover's ouster. For more on **Noble Jones** and his son **Noble Wimberly Jones**, see note after Reel 3 document 70. See also the note after Reel 6 document 161 showing that Noble Jones had served as Chief Justice more than once and not continuously during the period 1760 to 1769.]

Reel 3 (Volumes 651, 652, 653)

Volume 651—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Board of Trade Correspondence (incoming), continued

August 15, 1769 to June 19, 1772

Documents 1 to 85

[Frames 1 to 215]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 651 continues from Volume 650 the Board of Trade incoming correspondence, in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: Archivists (probably in the Board of Trade) wrote descriptive notes for many of the manuscript documents, which are microfilmed with the documents. On these notes, archivists provided their own numbers by manuscript Bundle or Volume. Where found, this Finding Aid reports these numbers as “BT numbers.” Volume 651 begins with H.1 and ends with H.46. A fair number of documents in this Volume, for reasons not clear, have been assigned no BT number. Occasional gaps exist in the numbering, suggesting either that a few documents were lost or for other reasons were not microfilmed or that the BT numbering process was sloppy in its assignment of numbers.

Note: The practice continued in Volume 651, under the Earl of Hillsborough, Secretary of State for the Colonies, to number the Secretary of State’s outgoing letters and to have colonial governors letter their incoming letters to the Secretary of State . Where found, these numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

1. August 15, 1769 [1]
Duplicate of letter No. 34 from Governor James Wright of Georgia at Savannah to the Earl of Hillsborough, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in London, “*stating the general sentiments of the Americans & his own with regard to the authority of the Parliament of Great Britain to impose Taxes on the Colonies*” [BT number H.1] [see Reel 1, note after document 9 for more on Wright; see Reel 2,

note after document 137 for more on the **Earl of Hillsborough**] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 184]

[**Note:** Letters from colonial governors were often sent multiple times on separate ships, in hopes that one of the letters would get through or get through faster to England. Thus, an “**original**” letter would be sent plus perhaps several “**duplicate**” letters. A “**copy**” was usually the copy of a letter sent possibly at a later time and usually to another recipient. Use of these terminology conventions was usually but not always observed. Thus, a document identified as a “duplicate” might in fact be a “copy” or vice versa.]

2. August 15, 1769 [3]
Duplicate of letter No. 35 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, “*on the beneficial consequences likely to arise from the encouragement given by Parliament to the culture of raw Silk, and other productions of the American Colonies*” [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 185]

Note: Documents between 2 and 21 are not identified with a BT number.

3. November 8, 1769 [5]
Duplicate of letter No. 38 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, “*relative to the harmony subsisting between the three branches of the [Georgia] Legislature*” [with enclosures, documents 4 to 7] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 191]
4. [no date] [7]
Copy of message from Wright [at the beginning of the legislative session] to the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly, summarizing his plans for new legislative efforts, including calling for them to adopt an act “*to Prevent Incroachment and trespasses being Committed on the Lands and Hunting Grounds of the Indians*”; another to address “*the Present Confused and Disorderly State of the trade carried on with the Indians*”; expressing fear for a violent crisis with the Indians, without having sufficient troop protection in Georgia and the other southern colonies; intending to put before the Assembly a new “*Negro Law*” acceptable to British law; expressing the need to improve the functioning of “*the Wright Patrol, or Town Guard Duty*”; anticipating sending additional laws for consideration, several of which “*must clearly shew and Convince us beyond Doubt of the beneficent Disposition of the Crown and Parliament towards the Colonies*” [enclosed with Wright’s November 8, 1769 letter to Hillsborough, document 3] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 192]
5. [no date] [9]
Copy of address by the upper house of the Assembly to Wright, responding positively to Wright’s legislative proposals and hoping for an increase of harmony in Georgia’s public affairs [enclosed with Wright’s November 8, 1769 letter to

Hillsborough, document 3] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 193]

6. November 2, 1769 [11]
Extract from minutes of the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly, concurring with Wright's legislative proposals and the sentiment of positive relations between Parliament and the colonies and on harmony throughout the British Empire; along with Wright's response thanking the Commons House for the assurances given him [enclosed with Wright's November 8, 1769 letter to Hillsborough, document 3] [extract also in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 195]
7. [no date] [13]
Copy of Wright's message of thanks to the Commons House for its address to him [enclosed with Wright's November 8, 1769 letter to Hillsborough, document 3] [included in copy of November 2, 1769 extract, in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 195]
8. September 20, 1769 [14]
Duplicate letter No. 37 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to Laws against Lotteries; & the sentiments of the Inhabitants with regard to Duty Acts*" [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 188]
9. January 20, 1770 [16]
Duplicate letter No. 39 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to his leave of absence, & the Character of Mr. Habersham*" [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 198]
[Note: James Habersham (1712-1775) came to Georgia in 1738 as a poor, Methodist schoolmaster. He tried establishing an orphanage but failed financially, whereupon he began to reinvent himself as a wealthy and influential Georgian. During the 1750s, he prospered as a planter, commissioned to start Georgia's silk culture and the first to grow cotton in the colony. In the 1760s, he moved to Savannah, practiced law (he was involved in the long-drawn-out Bosomworth lawsuits) and focused on expanding lucrative commercial trade ventures he had begun in the 1740s. In 1754 [see documents 110, 111 below] he was serving as Secretary for the Colony of Georgia, a position he held until at least the early 1760s. By 1759, Governor Henry Ellis had drawn him into colonial politics, appointing him to the Georgia Council, where he served for many years. In 1771, when Governor James Wright was granted a leave of absence (leaving for England on July 10, 1771), Habersham was appointed from the ranks of the Council to serve as **acting governor, although his official title was **President of the Georgia Council**. In practice, he fulfilled these dual responsibilities until Wright returned to Georgia, in February 1773. When the Revolution came in 1775, James Habersham's sons John and Joseph both sided with America and became leaders in Georgia, while their father**

remained a determined loyalist—but died that same year. Joseph Habersham went on to serve as Postmaster General under Presidents Washington, Adams, and Jefferson.]

10. February 1, 1770 [18]
Duplicate letter No. 40 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, “*relative to the resignation of Mr. Grame Attorney General & the appointment of Mr. James Hume to that office*” [copy of original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 199]
[Note: **William Grame** served as Attorney General of Georgia in the late 1760s, acting for Charles Pryce while Pryce was on extended leave in England due to poor health. Other sources suggest that he did not resign but died in 1769 and was replaced by attorney **James Hume**. In either case, Hume also was an acting Attorney General until Pryce returned from England. Pryce remained the official Attorney General until 1776. In 1772, he was also appointed to the Georgia Council (document 84 below). In 1776, he fled revolutionary Georgia and rebuilt his fortunes as a loyalist refugee and wealthy planter on the St. Johns River in British East Florida, purchasing half of a plantation originally developed by American botanist William Bartram. In East Florida, he served as Chief Justice and as a member of the colony’s Council. In 1785, he evacuated East Florida with Britain’s other ruling elite there, as Spain prepared to reoccupy Florida.]
11. March 1, 1770 [20]
Duplicate letter No. 41 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, “*relative to combinations against importing British Commodities into the Colonies, & the removal of M^r. [Jonathan] Bryan from his Seat of the Council Board*” [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 201; for other documents pertaining to Bryan, see Reel 6 document 190 (copy in Reel 9 document 3) and Reel 7 documents 117, 118, 120, 121, 125.]
[Note: **Jonathan Bryan** (1708-1788) had come to Georgia in 1733 with James Oglethorpe but moved on to settle in South Carolina. In 1740, he returned to settle as a rice planter near Savannah. Starting when Georgia became a royal colony in 1754, he served on the Georgia Council. By 1770, he had become out of favor in Governor Wright’s Council because of his leaning toward the patriot movement, so, he was removed from the Council. Later, Bryan proved to be a grand schemer/speculator. Between 1774 and 1776, he sought to obtain lands from Indian tribes, convincing them to sign “indenture” documents giving him use of Indian lands not yet legally open for white settlement. A big thinker, he claimed access to between four and five million acres in the interior of Georgia and East Florida. The governments of both Georgia and East Florida sought to discredit this obvious scam artist, refusing to recognize any of the deeds resulting from his land dealings. During the Revolutionary War, Bryan was captured and imprisoned by the British. As a result, he was financially ruined.]
12. April 12, 1770 [22]

Duplicate letter No. 42 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, acknowledging receipt of the King's speech to Parliament; stating that Georgians remain positive toward the King, with "*nothing further about any Resolutions*" [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 202]

13. May 10, 1770 [24]
Duplicate letter No. 43 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to the resolutions of several inhabitants against importing British Commodities*" [another duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 205]
14. May 11, 1770 [26]
Duplicate of letter No. 44 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*containing an account of the proceedings of the Assembly in their last Session*", which he perceived to be dysfunctional in relation its duties and its attitude toward the colony's government, with details [with enclosures, documents 15 to 18] [another duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 206]
15. November 16, 1769 [30]
Extract from minutes of the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly, concerning the need for an immediate election to elect representatives for four parishes currently without representation, including Wright's response, agreeing with the principle that all inhabitants should be represented; stating that his instructions limit him in increasing or decreasing the number of representatives elected to the Assembly; but agreeing to seek a way to address the problem [enclosed with Wright's letter dated May 11, 1770 to Hillsborough, document 14] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 207]
[Note: The four parishes, all in southern, coastal Georgia, were then known as **St. David, St. Patrick, St. Thomas, and St. Mary Parishes**. These were all in the area between and near the Altamaha and St. Marys Rivers that, in 1763, was claimed by both South Carolina and Georgia. Conflicting land claims in this area were still being settled in 1767. By 1769, Georgia became confident enough to begin the process of organizing the area by parishes for political representation. By 1770-1771, the area became a political football, with the more "patriot" oriented Commons House of the Assembly calling for elections to bring representation to the area, the Governor and Council used a narrow interpretation of royal instructions to prohibit increase the total number of representatives, thus barring the four parishes from representation. When the Commons House perpetrated a political crisis over popular v. royal control of colonial government, Governor Wright finally found he had (or received from London) the authority to call the needed elections. See Reel 1 document 63 and following for more on this Georgia-South Carolina boundary dispute, which first placed this area in political limbo, and from which it was still trying to emerge in

1771. See document 37 and following below concerning the political crisis that blew up in 1770-1771.]

16. November 27, 1769 [32]
Extract from minutes of the Georgia Council at Savannah, including a recommendation for Wright to seek a solution to the representation issue, possibly through a change in his instructions [enclosed with Wrights letter dated May 11, 1770 to Hillsborough, document 14] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 208]
17. February 20, 21, 1770 [34]
Extract from minutes of the Georgia Commons House, including an address from the Commons House to Wright, suggesting that a better course to resolve the representation issue would be to follow the clear policy of the King "*that American Governors shall cause the Settlers of the new acceded Parts of America to be represented*"; including Wright's written response, reiterating his position that he was not sure of his authority to make changes to the existing representation structure and was seeking clarification; stating his opinion that British governors did not have flexible power to change either laws or instructions [enclosed with Wrights letter dated May 11, 1770 to Hillsborough, document 14] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 209]
18. March 12, 1770 [36]
Address of the Georgia Council to Wright, considering the Commons House and Wright's communications following the Council meeting of February 27, 1770 [document 16]; hoping that their advice concerning the representation issue has not hindered rather than helped the governor in resolving the issue; denying the Commons House's assertion of the governor's overall authority to alter the representation structure, with details from the royal proclamation in question [enclosed with Wrights letter dated May 11, 1770 to Hillsborough, document 14] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 210]
19. July 23, 1770 [38]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, concerning enclosure of and observations about several bills and ordinances approved in Georgia between February 27 and May 10, 1770 [possibly with enclosures, documents 23, 24; but these were more likely enclosed with document 22]
20. July 20, 1770 [40]
Duplicate of letter No. 46 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*on the temper of the Indians & of the Inhabitants of Georgia & South Carolina*" [with enclosure, document 21] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 214]

21. July 11-18, 1770 [43]
Printed issue of the *South Carolina General and American Gazette*, including articles [front page] about reducing troop strength in West Florida, [page 36] about disruption of colonial trade because of differing policies among the colonies on trade with Britain, [page 38] about the growing liberty movement; the specific reason that this particular issue of the *Gazette* was sent to Hillsborough is not clear [enclosed with Wright's July 20, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 20] [Frame 45 microfilmed twice]
22. July 23, 1770 [45]
Incomplete letter from Wright to the Board of Trade, missing first page; transmitting Council minutes from July 4 to December [?] 1769; "*containing remarks on Acts passed in the last Session of Assembly, and a Bill which he [Wright] rejected*" [with probable microfilmed enclosures, documents 23, 24] [BT number H.2; this is the first document having a BT number since document 1]
23. [no date] [47]
Address of both houses of the Georgia Assembly to Wright, concerning a bill changing the process of elections, which Wright had declared a violation of his instructions; notwithstanding this, requesting that Wright use all his powers as governor to obtain altered instructions because of the desirability of the bill's being enacted; followed by Wright's response that he will give the address "*full and due weight*" and will send it to the Secretary of State [enclosed with Wright's July 23, 1770 letter to Board of Trade, probably document 22 rather than document 19] [BT number H.3]
24. [no date] [49]
Copy of record of consideration by the two houses of the Georgia Assembly of a bill entitled "*An Act To Amend An Act, Intitled 'An Act to ascertain the manner and form of Electing Members to Represent the Inhabitants of this province in the Commons House of Assembly'*", which had passed both houses of the Assembly, on February 16, 1770 for the Commons House and April 12 for the Upper House, but was rejected by Wright; followed by
[no date]
Copy of text of the referenced act
[both enclosed with Wright's July 23, 1770 letter to Board of Trade, probably document 22 rather than document 19] [BT number H.4]
25. December 18, 1770 [54]
Letter from John Campbell, Crown Agent for Georgia, at Queen Square [London] to [Board of Trade], reporting on "*the Balance remaining in his hands of former agents of Parliament*" [BT number H.5]
26. [no date] [56]
Petition to Board of Trade from Charles William Mackinnen of Georgia, seeking approval of a 5,000 acre grant of land in Georgia [BT number H.6]

27. February 21, 1771 [58]
Report to Board of Trade from Richard Jackson stating that, in his opinion, the Georgia act “*for ordering and governing Slaves &c*” passed in May 1770 is legally proper [BT number H.7]
[Note: **Richard Jackson** (c. 1721-1787) was an English attorney and politician. As a King’s Counsel, he served as counsel for the Board of Trade, perhaps as an independent attorney. In the 1780s, he served as one of the Lords of Treasury. His predecessor as counsel to review acts was Matthew Lamb. For more on **Matthew Lamb**, see note before Reel 1 document 18.]
28. January 8, 1771 [60]
Report to Board of Trade from Richard Jackson stating that, in his opinion, several Georgia acts passed in 1768, including those pertaining to inspecting tanned leather, the assize on bread, preventing the spread of small pox, preventing frauds and deceits, preventing fraudulent mortgages and conveyances; encouraging cultivation of hemp, flax, and wheat, are legally proper [BT number H.8]
29. June 20, 1771 [62]
Report to Board of Trade from Richard Jackson stating that, in his opinion, several Georgia acts passed in 1770, including those pertaining to preventing malignant and contagious distemper, regulating wharfage rates, raising watchmen for Savannah, reappointing Benjamin Franklin agent of Georgia in England; appointing packers and inspectors for ports of Sunbury and Savannah; appointing harbor masters for Savannah, are legally proper; stating his opinion that an act identifying colonial funding to support Georgia government in 1770 is flawed because one proposed Georgia tax on debts, which appears illegal under British law; also questioning an act proposing another Georgia tax to pay for providing a town watch in Savannah [BT number H.9]
30. October 8, 1770 [64]
Duplicate of letter No. 49 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, “*relative to writs of election for four southern parishes;—to the murder of two white men by Indians;—to the burning of some Indian Huts on the Oconee River; & proposing M^r. Yonge to be of the Council*” [BT number H.10] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 224]
31. December 8, 1770 [66]
Duplicate of letter No. 50 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, “*relating to his proceedings with regard to the murder of two white men at the Oconee, & the burning of the Indian Huts there*” [with enclosures, documents 32, 33] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 227]

Note: Documents 31 to 39 are not identified with BT numbers.

32. October 2, 1770 [68]
Copy of Talk by Wright to the Lower Creek headmen concerning the murder of white men and the burning of Indian huts [enclosed with Wright's letter of December 8, 1770 to Hillsborough, document 31] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 228]
33. [no date] [70]
Copy of Talk by Lower Creek headmen to Wright, responding to his Talk, acknowledging its justice; signed by seven named headmen with their signs [enclosed with Wright's letter of December 8, 1770 to Hillsborough, document 31] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 229]
34. December 13, 1770 [72]
Duplicate of letter No. 51 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*containing an account of what he judges necessary for the security of the province of Georgia, in case of a War*" [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 230]
35. February 28, 1771 [76]
Duplicate of letter No. 54 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to raising of Recruits in Georgia*" [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 237]
36. February 28 and March 2, 1771 [78]
Duplicate of letter No. 55 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to the claims of the Assembly and the temper of certain Indian Nations*" [with enclosures, documents 37 to 39] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 238]
37. October 24, 26, 1770 [82]
Copy of address and extracts from minutes of Commons House of Georgia Assembly to Wright, urging Wright to hold elections in four southern parishes; followed by
October 25, 1770
Wright's reply to Commons House, reiterating that the election laws are dictated by the King, not the province; followed by
January 25 and February 2, 1771
Extracts from journal of Commons House authorizing another address to Wright asking whether any new instructions have been received concerning elections, to which Wright responded that he was still awaiting new instructions [enclosed with Wright's Letter of February 28 and March 2, 1771 to Hillsborough, document 36] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 239]

38. January 30, 1771 [84]
Extract from journal of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, concerning its investigation into the state of the “*several Courts of Justice*” and also the “*Publick Offices*”; followed by
February 18, 1771
Extract from journal of Commons House, concerning a complaint against the deputy surveyor general “*for exacting double Fees of several Persons for their Precepts [receipts?] for Lands*”, and refusal of Deputy Secretary of Georgia Mr. Moodie to take the oath before testifying about this complaint, for which act he was to be imprisoned; followed by
February 20, 1771
Extract from journal of Commons House, concerning the tax bill for the present year, which was debated and not adopted because the four southern parishes were not properly represented [enclosed with Wright’s Letter of February 28 and March 2, 1771 to Hillsborough, document 36] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 240]
39. February 22, 1771 [86]
Extract from minutes of Georgia Council meeting, concerning the Commons House’s recent actions, which Wright contends are “*extraordinary*” and extend beyond the authority of the House; providing details of these actions, and justifying his actions in relation to theirs, including announcing that the King has permitted him to proceed himself with elections in the four southern parishes; expressing his firm opinion that his duty requires him “*to put a stop to such extraordinary and intemperate proceedings*”; stating that he had conveyed his position to the Speaker of the House and that he intended to dissolve the Assembly “*at one o’clock unless they re-considered their proceedings of this week and removed my objections thereto*” [which they evidently had not done]; the Council, therefore, supporting Wright, unanimously calling for the Assembly to be dissolved; including the text of Wright’s communication to the Upper House, apologizing to them for dissolving the Assembly because of the actions of the Commons House; including the Council’s address to Wright, dated February 22, 1771, stating its position supporting the Governor over the Commons House, including congratulations for the Governor’s proceeding with elections in the four southern parishes; including the text of Wright’s thanks for the Council’s address, dated February 25, 1771 [enclosed with Wright’s Letter of February 28 and March 2, 1771 to Hillsborough, document 36] [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 241]
40. [no date] [90]
Memorial to Hillsborough from Wright, requesting, since treaties with the Indians in and around Georgia have not brought peace and security to the Georgian population, and since currently available security forces are insufficient in case of an Indian-Georgia conflict, that additional steps be taken to circumscribe Indian lands and to severely restrict Indian trade in all colonies; suggesting lands in the interior area of the Broad River as a proposed more remote area to which Indians

could be moved for settlement, hoping to move both Creek and Cherokee Indians farther northwest opening valuable new lands for English settlement; proposing that new lands opened by the Crown for English settlement should be allotted in grants of 50 acres or less, to white settlers with a maximum of one black slave per white settler [in contrast to the coastal land grants in thousands of acres to be developed into plantations with a few white settler/slave owners and numerous slaves]; describing the benefits that would accrue from implementing his proposals, painting a rosy future [with enclosures, documents 41 to 48] [BT number H.11] [copy in Board of Trade Report on cession of lands in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix]

[Note: The **Broad River** begins in the Appalachian highlands south of today's Asheville, North Carolina and flows southward, emptying into the Congaree River at Columbia, South Carolina, which flows on southward to the Atlantic Ocean. The upper reaches of the Broad River valley were, and still are, Cherokee Indian territory. The Creek Indians had once lived along the coast but had been moved inland as English settlement took over the barrier islands and coastal lowlands. Now, the English idea was to move both the Creeks and Cherokees into the highlands, leaving the piedmont territory for the English.]

[Note: **Wright's plan to expand lands for white settlement** through session of land by Cherokee Indians in the interior area of Georgia in the area of the Broad River was bold in itself. More bold was his financial plan to pay for the sweet deal he proposed: For Indian agreement to cede their designated lands, they would be rewarded by having their debts voided on trade goods with the white Indian traders licensed by the British government. Then, once the Indian lands became available for white settlement, the Colony of Georgia, as the new sovereign owner of these lands, would sell them at low prices to settlers and use the proceeds to pay off the trader debts. Documents listed below reveal pieces of this plan as it gradually unfolded and then failed to achieve its goals (see especially Reel 3, besides this document, documents 41 through 49, 57, 58, 61, 71, and 73 (1771 and 1772—beginning efforts to get the plan adopted); Reel 6 documents 273, 281, 285 to 287 (1772—further efforts to get the plan adopted); Reel 7 documents 5, 7 to 10, 13 to 15, 20, 22, 23, 26, 34 (1772-1773—Cherokees agree to negotiated cession deal on June 16, 1773; beginning difficulties to implement the deal in peaceful, orderly manner); Reel 7 document 102 (September 1774—violence by both Indians (to retain “their” lands) and whites (to obtain the lands they want), prevents Georgia government from controlling the settlement process on ceded lands in a peaceful and orderly manner); Reel 8 document 139 (July 1780—because frontier white settlers in ceded land areas have been frustrated in their wish for free land expansion without government intervention, they have tended to side with the rebels against the British in the revolutionary conflict).]

Note: Documents between 41 and 49 are not identified with BT numbers.

"List of Papers Relative to my Memorial about Indian Affairs with Some Notes and Remarks thereon" by Wright [enclosed with Wright's undated memorial, document 40] [copy in Board of Trade report on cession of land in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix B]

42. February 22, 1771 [108]
Document signed by Cherokee Indians of the town of Chotee [a Cherokee town somewhere in the Southeast interior], delivering certain lands near the Broad River to their Indian traders in payment of debts; signed by eight headmen; witnessed by three Englishmen [enclosed with Wright's undated memorial, document 40] [copy in Board of Trade Report on cession of land in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix B No. 1]
43. March 7, 1771 [109]
Copy of an Indian Talk at a convention of the Over Hills Cherokee chiefs at Toogoolie [possibly Tugaloo, Georgia, now a rural state park on the upper Savannah River], supporting the exchange of land to pay debts to the Indian traders, which had been negotiated with John Stuart's assistance [enclosed with Wright's undated memorial, document 40] [copy in Board of Trade Report in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix B No. 2]
44. May 3, 1771 [111]
Copy of an Indian Talk by Upper Cherokee Indians at Chotee to Wright, requesting that he allow the exchange of land for debts being paid off [enclosed with Wright's undated memorial, document 40] [copy in Board of Trade Report in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix B No. 3]
45. May 23, 1771 [113]
Copy of Wright's response to the Upper Cherokee Indians' request to him [document 44], stating that he will "*represent this matter to the Great King and intercede on your behalf*"; asking that the Cherokees convince the Creeks to join with the Cherokees in the "*surrender*" of land and move to new western lands "*in South Carolina or Elsewhere*" [enclosed with Wright's undated memorial, document 40] [copy in Board of Trade Report in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix B No. 4]
46. June 8, 1771 [115]
Copy of letter from Philemon Kemp, clerk to Messrs Robert Mackay & Co. [evidently Indian traders] at Augusta, to Wright, enclosing a Talk of Upper Creek Indians [text copied into letter, dated May 1, 1771] relating their view of relations with white people in South Carolina and Georgia, which had led to whites settling more and more land, regardless of treaty boundaries; hoping to settle this situation fairly; having heard about the deal between the Cherokee and Indian traders, the Creeks are concerned [enclosed with Wright's undated memorial,

document 40] [copy in Board of Trade Report in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix B No. 5]

47. June 25, 1771 [121]
Copy of Talk from Wright to a Creek chief named Emistesego, who was among those conveying the Talk of Upper Creek Indians [document 46], seeking to convince him to support the Cherokee-traders land deal [enclosed with Wright's undated memorial, document 40] [copy in Board of Trade Report in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix B No. 6]
48. June 8, 1771 [123]
Copy of record of several Talks during a meeting of Cherokee chiefs and Cherokee traders at Fort Charlotte [probably the Fort Charlotte once located on the South Carolina banks of the middle Savannah River, northwest of Augusta, now under the waters of modern Lake Strom Thurmond], supporting the land-for-paying-off-debts deal [enclosed with Wright's undated memorial, document 40] [copy in Board of Trade Report in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix B No. 7]
49. June 8, 1771 [127]
Memorial to Wright from the "*principal Traders to the Creek & Cherokee Nations*", after relating some history of Indian-English relations, favoring the land-for-debts deal as in the best interest of the Indians [copy in Board of Trade Report in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix B No. 8]
50. November 15, 1771 [129]
Petition to Board of Trade from Lewis Dumesnil de St. Pierre, justice of the peace for Granville County, South Carolina, living in a French settlement called New Bordeaux [Granville County no longer exists. New Bordeaux was located probably in today's McCormick County, South Carolina, on the middle Savannah River, northwest of Augusta], seeking to obtain a part of a 40,000 acre grant of land he says he was promised by the Earl of Shelburne in Nova Scotia in 1767; now seeking a 20,000 acre grant in Georgia [BT number H.12]
51. April 30, 1771 [131]
Duplicate of Letter No. 56 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to the claims of the Assembly, and his having dissolved them*" [BT number H.13] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 243]
52. May 8, 1771 [133]
Duplicate of letter No. 57 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, thanking Hillsborough for information on promotions in the King's service and other news [BT number H.14] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 247]

53. May 8, 1771 [135]
Duplicate of letter No. 58 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to the Creeks, and the state of Indian Trade*" [BT number H.15] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 248]
54. August 3, 1771 [137]
Duplicate of letter No. 1 from [Council] "President" [or acting governor] James Habersham, at Savannah, to Hillsborough, notifying Hillsborough that Wright had left for England on July 10, 1771; acknowledging receipt of various news by letter from Hillsborough; stating that Wright had received Hillsborough's letter No. 37 before leaving; stating his intention to follow Wright's policies concerning "*the unwarrantable claims of the [Georgia] Assembly*" [BT number H.16] [for more on **James Habersham**, see the note after document 9 above] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 252]
[**Note:** While acting as governor, Habersham followed Hillsborough's practice of having colonial governors number their letters to him. He also followed Wright's practice of sending duplicates of these letters to the Board of Trade. A full duplicate set of Habersham's letters from No. 1 through No. 14, dated between August 1771 and August 1772 is found in the Board of Trade incoming correspondence.]
55. May 1, 1771 [139]
Order of the King concerning a petition from "*several Inhabitants of the province of Georgia*" concerning the legitimacy of their landownership of several tracts of land in Georgia; stating that because of their "*poverty and Indigence, they are not able to defend their Titles*" to the tracts even though these are "*Legal and Equitable*"; seeking relief; the King referring the petition to the Board of Trade [petition is document 56] [part of BT number H.17]
56. May 1, 1771 [140]
Petition of several inhabitants of Georgia to the King, requesting relief in defending their titles to certain tracts of land in Georgia, which because of poverty, they have not been able to defend [part of BT number H.17]
57. September 26, 1771 [143]
Duplicate of letter No. 2 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to not calling an Assembly, and a proposal of the Cherokees to give up some of their Lands*" [with microfilmed enclosure, document 58] [BT number H.18]
[concerning the proposed swap of Cherokee lands for payoff of their debts to Indian traders, see documents 42 and following above and several documents below] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 254]
58. August 20, 1771 [146]

Copy of Talk at Cussiters by headmen of Lower Creek Indians, responding to a proposal from the British and Cherokees to pay off Cherokee debts by giving land to Britain; stating that the Lower Creeks intend to pay off their debts with “skins” rather than land [enclosed with Habersham’s letter of September 26, 1771 to Hillsborough, document 57] [BT number H.19] [Another copy of this Talk in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 255]

[**Note:** Cussiters, a major Creek Indian village, was located on the site of modern **Cusseta**, Georgia, a small town in Chattahoochee County, southeast of Columbus, near the Alabama border. Other early spellings for the name of this place were Cussetuh and Kashita.]

59. September 30, 1771 [148]
Duplicate of letter No. 3 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, “*relative to the state of the Culture of raw Silk at Ebenezer* [Georgia] [BT number H.20] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 256]
[**Note:** **Ebenezer**, Georgia was a small settlement 25 miles up the Savannah River from Savannah. Besides being a key defense location for Savannah, it was initially settled by a group of Austrian Salzburger. They successfully developed a town and introduced silk production by the 1730s. Silk mills prospered into the 1770s, but military action during the Revolutionary War left the town in ruins. It never recovered and gradually dwindled into a ghost town, which it remains today.]
60. January 15, 1772 [150]
Order of the King “*disallowing an Act & four Ordinances passed in Georgia in 1770 for the appointment of persons to various executive Offices in that Colony; & directing this Board [of Trade] to prepare and lay before His Majesty a draught of an additional Instruction to the Gov’. Not to give his assent for the future to any laws of the like nature*” [BT number H.21]
61. [no date] [152]
Petition to Board of Trade from “*the Merchants trading to and interested in the Province of Georgia*”, requesting that the King approve a plan Governor Wright had placed before the Board of Trade concerning lands expected to be ceded by the Indians to Britain [see related letter in document 73 below and in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 273] [BT number H.22] [copy in Board of Trade Report on cession of lands, in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix C, along with copies of Reel 3 documents 41 to 49; see also related documents 57, 58 above]
62. December 27, 1771 [153]
Letter from Wright at Berners Street [London] to Board of Trade, “*relative to the inexpediency of making Grants of Large Tracts of Land in America*” [BT number H.23]

63. October 23, 1771 [155]
Duplicate of letter No. 4 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to the produce of Georgia, & the temper of the Inhabitants; & of the death of M^r. Harris one of the Council*" [BT number H.24] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 257]
[**Note:** Besides being a long-time Georgia Council member, **Francis Harris** was a merchant and business partner of James Habersham in what was the largest merchant firm in Georgia.]
64. October 31, 1771 [157]
Duplicate of letter No. 5 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to the murder of a Creek Indian; & the state of the Colony with respect to Indian Affairs, and the culture of Indigo*" [with enclosure, document 65] [BT number H.25] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 258]
65. October 29, 1771 [161]
Extract from minutes of the Georgia Council, concerning the violence of "*eleven white men*" against Creek Indians who apparently had stolen some horses, including one murder, as reported in a letter (contents summarized) from [Justice of the Peace] Edward Barnard at Augusta; including text of affidavit, taken at Parish St. Paul [in Wilkes County, northwest of Augusta], of Martin Weatherford, who was Barnard's source of information; the Council advising Habersham to send a Talk to the Lower Creeks, expressing concern over the incident; and advising Habersham to make some effort to identify and punish the perpetrators; including text of Habersham's Talk, dated the same day [enclosed in Habersham's letter of October 29, 1771 to Hillsborough, document 64] BT number H.26] [copy of extracts also in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 documents 259, 260 (Habersham's Talk)]
66. November 27, 1771 [165]
Duplicate of letter No. 6 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to proceedings in consequence of the Murder of a Creek Indian*" [BT number H.27] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 262]
67. December 30, 1771 [167]
Duplicate of letter No. 7 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to the murder of an English Settler by a Creek Indian; and to Indian Affairs in general*" [with microfilmed enclosure, document 68] [BT number H.28] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 263]
68. December 9, 1771 [169]

Extract from minutes of Georgia Council, including texts of several communications received from George Galphin about violence with Lower Creek Indians; including text of a Talk to Galphin on November 2, 1771, by Lower Creek headmen at "*Chickasaw Square*" concerning violence with white people; letter from Galphin, dated December 2, 1771, to Lower Creek Indians; the Council advising Habersham to seek immediate satisfaction for the murder of the white settler; text of Talk by Habersham to the Creek Indian headmen and warriors, dated December 9, 1771 concerning murder of the white settler [enclosed with Habersham's letter of December 30, 1771 to Hillsborough, document 67] [BT number H.29] [another copy of extract in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 264]

[Note: George Galphin of Georgia and South Carolina was a frontier Indian trader especially to the Lower Creek Indians and, thus also, a trader in information useful to the British authorities. After the American Revolution began, he sided with the "rebels" and served as the American Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the South during most of the war. He died in 1782.]

[Note: Where **Chickasaw Square** is located is not clear. Most Chickasaw villages had central squares, so this might have been any number of Chickasaw villages. From this document, it is also not clear why Creek Indians were engaging in Talks in a Chickasaw village, since the two tribes were generally not friendly.]

69. January 16, 1772 [172]
Duplicate of letter No. 8 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to the importation of 250 passengers from Ireland into Georgia; & the flourishing state of the province*" [BT number H.30] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 267]

70. March 30, 1772 [174]
Duplicate of letter No. 9 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to his purpose of negating the Speaker of the Assembly; the temper of the Creeks and Cherokees; and the state of the Silk Culture*" [BT number H.31] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 269]

[Note: The Speaker of the Assembly being "*negated*" was **Noble Wimberly Jones** (c. 1723-1805). He was the son of **Noble Jones** (1702-1775), one of the early settlers of Georgia with James Oglethorpe in 1733. The elder Jones served in many positions, as constable, physician, surveyor, Indian agent, soldier, treasurer, senior justice, and member of the Council for many years. By contrast, the younger Jones found his political base in the Assembly, after practicing medicine as a young man. By the late 1760s, the Council and Assembly were at political odds over taxation and governmental control issues that were also leading 12 other colonies to the north toward revolution. Two established Georgia families split generationally over this conflict. James Habersham and Noble Jones remained staunch loyalists. Their offspring, Noble W. Jones, and John Habersham, Joseph, and James Habersham Jr sided with the Revolution.

In 1771, Governor Wright had sought to deny Noble W. Jones the speakership of the Commons House because of his “radical” views. Habersham continued Wright’s policy after Wright’s departure.]

71. April 24, 1772 [176]
Duplicate of letter No. 10 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, “*relative to an Indian put to death for murder; the proposed cession of Land from the Indians; and the advantage of prosecuting the Silk Culture in the back Country*” [with enclosures, documents 72, 73] [BT number H.32] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 271]
72. April 20, 1772 [180]
Extract from minutes of a Georgia Council meeting, with text of a Lower Creek Talk held at Chickasaw Square on March 17, 1772, concerning the murder of a white settler and other matters, in response to Habersham’s Talk [in document 68]; followed by text of Habersham’s response dated April 20, 1772 [enclosed with Habersham’s letter of April 24, 1772 to Hillsborough, document 71] [BT number H.33] [another copy of extract in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 272] [see also copies of related extracts from minutes of the Upper House and Commons House of the Georgia Assembly in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6, documents 275, 276]
73. April 16, 1772 [182]
Copy of letter from “*some of the principal Merchants concerned in the Indian Trade from Augusta*” to Habersham, “*relative to a proposed cession of Lands from the Indians*” [enclosed with Habersham’s letter of April 24, 1772 to Hillsborough, document 71] [BT number H.34] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 273; see copies of related petition from traders with the Indians in Georgia in document 61 above and in Board of Trade Report on cession of lands, in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 286, Appendix B No. 8]
74. April 30, 1772 [185]
Duplicate of letter No. 11 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, “*relative to negating a Speaker of the Assembly; his reasons for dissolving the Assembly; the ruinous state of the Goal, & workhouse; and the Character of M^r. Jones*” [Noble W. Jones; see note after document 70] [BT number H.35] [original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 274]
75. June 16, 1772 [192]
Letter from Habersham at Savannah to Board of Trade, in answer to a letter from the Board, “*respecting two Acts passed in Georgia in 1770, one for granting a Sum for the support of Government, & the other for assessing the Inhabitants of*

the Town of Savannah" [see document 29 for 1771 legal opinion on these two acts] [BT number H.36]

76. June 15, 1772 [195]
Duplicate of letter No. 12 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to detaining publick letters;—taking care to avoid giving offence to the Indians;—and the mourning for the Princess Dowager of Wales*" [BT number H.37]
[original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 277]
77. June 15, 1772 [197]
Duplicate of letter No. 13 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, "*relative to the tranquillity & improving state of the Colony of Georgia*" [BT number H.38]
[Note: This is the last of Habersham's letters to Hillsborough to be recorded in the microfilmed Board of Trade incoming correspondence in Reels 2 and 3 of the Georgia Colonial Office Papers. One additional Letter No. 14, dated August 12, 1772, is found in the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 282. This is also the last copy or duplicate of Secretary of State official correspondence that is included in the Board of Trade papers. The proximate reason for the change appears to be the replacement, on August 27, 1772, of Hillsborough as Secretary of State for the Colonies by the Earl of Dartmouth. In a more general sense, as James Wright returned to Savannah in February 1773, seeking to resume his full duties as British Governor of Colonial Georgia, and as British-American relations deteriorated into 1775 from protest into rebellion and then into revolution, the Board of Trade was becoming less relevant. Its goals of making the colonies prosperous for British settlers and for the mother country seemed less important in a changed context saturated with political and military conflict. See also the note after document 98 below.]
78. March 6, 1769 [199]
Order of the King, concerning Governor Wright's proposal for a law declaring all slaves to be chattel; stating that the Governor of Georgia may assent to such a law, but it cannot go into effect "*until His Majesty's Royal pleasure shall be known thereupon*" [BT number H.39]
79. March 1, 1771 [201]
Order of the King, approving the appointment of Henry Yonge and Anthony Stokes as members of the Georgia Council [BT number H.40]
80. June 7, 1771 [203]
Order of the King, approving Georgia's act concerning the governing of slaves [defining slaves as chattel] [BT number H.41]
81. June 7, 1771 [205]

Order of the King, disapproving Georgia's act concerning a duty on "*Raw Meat Hides Exported from this province and for preventing the Exportation of unmerchantable Tanned Leather*" [BT number H.42]

82. February 3, 1772 [207]
Copy of order of the King, approving additional instructions for Georgia and appointment of certain Georgia officials [BT number H.43]
83. January 15, 1772 [209]
Copy of order of the King, disallowing one act and four ordinances passed in February and May 1770, including: ordinance appointing inspectors of hemp, flax, and wheat flour for the ports of Savannah and Sunbury; ordinance appointing James Kitchen collector and comptroller at Sunbury; act regulating wharfage and storage rates at Savannah; ordinance appointing packers and inspectors at Savannah and Sunbury; and ordinance appointing Andrew Elton Wells harbormaster at Savannah [BT number H.44]
[**Note:** **Andrew Elton Wells Sr.** (1755 [or maybe 1744]-1834) was the son of Francis Elton Wells, an English merchant who settled in Boston. Although Andrew's own merchant career took him south to Georgia, his sister Elizabeth (1735-1808) remained in Boston, marrying the revolutionary leader Samuel Adams in 1764.]
84. March 16, 1772 [211]
Copy of order of the King, approving appointment of James Hume to replace the deceased Francis Harris as a member of the Georgia Council [BT number H.45]
85. June 19, 1772 [213]
Copy of order of the King, concerning the petition to the Board of Trade by "several Inhabitants" of Georgia relating to a conflict over ownership of several tracts of land, dismissing the petition, concurring with the Board of Trade's recommendation [BT number H.46]

Volume 652—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Board of Trade Correspondence (incoming), end

October 31, 1772 to December 7, 1782 Documents 86 to 105 [Frames 1 to 49]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between "official" and "other" correspondence.

Note: Volume 652 concludes the Board of Trade's incoming correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia. The correspondence dwindles significantly after 1772, is nonexistent from December 1775 to April 1781, and concludes with scattered

documents dated in 1781 and 1782. See the note after document 97 for possible reasons to explain what appears to be a large quantity of missing documents.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: Archivists (probably in the Board of Trade) wrote descriptive notes for many of the manuscript documents, which are microfilmed with the documents. On these notes, archivists provided their own numbers by manuscript Bundle or Volume. Where found, this Finding Aid reports these numbers as “BT numbers.” Volume 652 begins with I.1 and ends with I.21. Every microfilmed document in this narrow Volume was assigned a BT number, although a numbering gap exists with no microfilmed document having been assigned the number I.10.

Note: No numbered letters appear in Volume 652 with numbers assigned by either the secretary of state or the colonial governor.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

86. December 5, 1772 [1]
Letter from James Habersham, President of the Georgia Council [and acting governor of the colony of Georgia], at Savannah, Georgia, to the Board of Trade and Plantations at London, “*respecting a Clause proposed to be inserted in all future draughts of Commissions to Governors with regard to the custody of Idiots & Lunaticks*” [with enclosure, document 88] [BT number I.1] [for more on **James Habersham**, see note after document 9 above]
87. October 31, 1772 [3]
Letter from Anthony Stokes [Chief Justice] and James Hume [Attorney General] at Savannah to Habersham, stating that nothing in Georgia laws will conflict with the proposed clause to regarding the custody of idiots and lunatics [enclosed with Habersham’s December 5, 1772 letter to Board of Trade, document 86] [BT number I.2] [for more on **James Hume**, see note after document 10 above]
88. December 30, 1773 [5]
Letter from Georgia Governor James Wright [back from leave in England] at Savannah, to Board of Trade, “*containing remarks on the Acts passed in [Georgia] in September [1772]*” [BT number I.3]
89. August 13, 1774 [9]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, transmitting copy of legal opinion on an act passed in June 1773 and copies of minutes of both houses of the Georgia Assembly [with enclosure(s), document 90 and probably also documents 91 to 93, although these are not identified as such] [BT number I.4]

90. June 11, 1774 [11]
Legal opinions of Richard Jackson, concerning 15 acts and 1 ordinance of Georgia, passed in September 1773, including an act "*to enforce the payment of the Arrears of Taxes due to this Province from Persons under Grants Signed by the Governor of South Carolina in 1768*", which he finds improperly drawn; an act "*requiring taxes on the import of 'Negros and other Slaves, Goods, Wares and Merchandize'*", which he also finds improper; and, 13 acts relating to prevention of damages from dams and banks, prevention of stealing horses and cattle, setting certain fees, a duty on raw hides exported, issue of stamped and signed paper bills of credit, prevention of counterfeiting of paper money, continuing certain acts, and establishing several ferries, plus one ordinance appointing Grey Elliott the colony's agent in England, all of which he finds to be proper in law [BT number I.5] [for more on **Richard Jackson**, see note after document 27 above]
91. March 23, 1775 [14]
Legal opinion of Richard Jackson concerning an act of Georgia "*declaring that to murder any free Indian in Amity with this Province is equally penal as the murdering of any White Person, and that to rescue a Prisoner committed for such offence is Felony*", finding this act to be proper in law [BT number I.6]
92. May 25, 1775 [16]
Legal opinion of Richard Jackson concerning five Georgia acts passed in March 1774, including those pertaining to issuing signed and stamped certificates; taxes on "*the wharfs and shipping in the several Ports of this Province*"; regulation of "*the Hire of Porters & Labours of Slaves in the Town of Savannah*"; ascertaining the boundary between two "*courts of conscience in the Parish of St. George*"; obliging indigo planters to bury or destroy the weeds once steeped within a limited time; finding all of them to be proper in law [BT number I.7]
93. January 20, 1775 [18]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*transmitting five Acts passed in [Georgia] in March 1774, and containing observations upon them*" [these are the acts on which Richard Jackson offered legal opinions on May 25, 1775, document 92] [BT number I.8]
94. April 20, 1775 [20]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*containing an account of the state of His Majesty's Council for [Georgia]*" [BT number I.9]
95. December 22, 1775 [22]

Letter from John Robinson, Secretary to the Lords of the Treasury to John Pownall, Secretary to the Board of Trade, "*transmitting several papers respecting the payment of a Bill of Exchange drawn by the Gov' of Georgia on the Agent of the said Province; and desiring him to take the opinion of the Board of Trade thereupon, and communicate the same to the Lords of the Treasury*" [no microfilmed document is identified as BT number I.10] [BT number I.11] [for more on **John Pownall**, see note after Reel 1 document 7]

96. November 3, 1775 [26]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, "*signifying the death of M^r. James Habersham, M^r. Clement Martin and M^r. Noble Jones, three of His Majesty's Council for [Georgia]*" [BT number I.12]
97. November 3, 1775 [26]
Memorial to Lord George Germain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, from John Graham, Lieutenant Governor of Georgia, at Savannah, describing his considerable personal losses to the "rebels," including his estate and slaves; seeing royal approval for a salary as Lieutenant Governor, since his appointment, to help him to support himself and his family [BT number I.13]
[Note: Lord George Germain, 1st Viscount Sackville (1716-1785) served as Secretary of State for the Colonies during the wartime Lord North administration, from November 1775 to February 1782. Between the Earl of Hillsborough's tenure as Secretary of State for the Colonies (from February 1768 to August 1772 (see note after Reel 2 document 137), and Germain's time of service, **William Legge, 2nd Earl of Dartmouth** (1731-1801), served in this position, from, August 1772 to November 1775.]
[Note: A gap exists here in the dates of microfilmed documents between December 22, 1775 (document 95) and April 9, 1781 (document 99). The gap does not appear to be the result of lost documents, so it may have to do with the Revolutionary War context of the period. Generally, this gap represents a period during which political and military matters dominated British governmental concerns and resources. The Board of Trade's concerns with encouraging economic growth and prosperity in the North American colonies were not only reduced in relative importance but became virtually impossible to implement. Specifically in Georgia, the British colony lacked a functioning civil government (the public authority structure on which successful private enterprise relies) between March 1776 and July 1779. Although a civil government existed in Savannah from July 1779 to July 1782, most of the territory of Georgia, especially the interior frontier areas, were beyond the practical control of the Georgia colonial government. Most of Georgia was in the hands of Georgian "rebels." Although the State of Georgia's first constitution was ratified in February 1777, resumed British control in Savannah, starting in 1779, impeded development of state governmental authority until after 1782. See also the note after document 77 above.]
98. June 8, 1781 [28]

Letter from William Knox at Whitehall to Grey Elliott, conveying, at Germain's request, an act of Georgia concerning royal duties on exported products, along with the Governor's letter to Germain; requesting that these documents be referred to the Board of Trade [both Knox and Elliott had previously served as Crown Agent for Georgia; by 1781, each was apparently working for the Board of Trade in London] [with enclosure, document 99] [BT number I.14]

99. April 9, 1781 [30]
Extract from letter from Wright at Savannah to Germain, conveying the Georgia act concerning royal duties on exported products [BT number I.15] [see transcription of Wright's full Letter No. 40 of this date, to Germain, microfilmed in the summary letterbook of incoming Secretary of State official correspondence found in Reel 10, document 250; no original, copy, or duplicate of this full letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
100. June 11, 1781 [32]
Legal opinion of Richard Jackson concerning an act for royal duties on exported products, which he finds to be problematic in its wording but with changes might be made proper in law [BT number I.16]
101. [no date] [34]
Petition of "*Merchants of London Trading to the Provinces of South Carolina and Georgia*", concerning the preservation of old property and contract rights as affected by changes of control during the Revolutionary War; signed by 6 individuals [Frame 34 microfilmed twice] [BT number I.17]
102. May 1, 1781 [38]
Duplicate of letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, reporting having received the Board's December 13, 1780 letter "*which will be duly attended to*" [BT number I.18]
[Note: Letters from colonial governors were often sent multiple times on separate ships, in hopes that one of the letters would get through or get through faster to England. Thus, an "**original**" letter would be sent plus perhaps several "**duplicate**" letters. A "**copy**" was usually the copy of a letter sent possibly at a later time and usually to another recipient. Use of these terminology conventions was usually but not always observed. Thus, a document identified as a "duplicate" might in fact be a "copy" or vice versa.]
103. "*Thursday Morn*"; "*Rec'd Feb^y 15, 1782*" [40]
Note from Mr. West to Mr. Cumberland, Secretary to Board of Trade, concerning public money remaining in the hands of Mrs. Campbell, executrix for the estate of the late Dr. Campbell, Agent for Georgia; requesting that the Board of Trade be notified that the balance remains unknown despite attempts to obtain that information from Mrs. Campbell [BT number I.19]
104. January 23, 1782 [42]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Board of Trade, transmitting copies of 93 laws passed between July 1780 and August 1781, along with copies of journals of the Commons House of the Assembly From May 5, 1780 to December 19, 1781; stating that *"I wish it were in my Power to give your Lordships any agreeable Account of our Situation here, but that from a Variety of Unfortunate Events, I cannot so. We are now Confined almost to our Lines round the Town and are expecting a Powerfull Attack every day"* [BT number I.20]

105. December 7, 1782 [44]
Legal opinion by William Selwyn at Lincoln's Inn, on 31 Georgia acts passed in 1780 and 1781, including acts disqualifying certain people from holding office in Georgia; providing relief to loyal inhabitants of Georgia or having property there; consolidating laws pertaining to regulating the town and common of Savannah; limiting legal actions; continuing several previous laws; providing relief to loyal subjects with real or personal property; licensing and taxing auctions; consolidating laws on jurors and jury balloting and summoning; regulating piloting; regulating *"Taverns, punch-houses and Retailers of Spiritous Liquors"* (two acts); consolidating laws concerning keeping and repairing fortifications and other defense works; concerning loss of bonds and mortgages executed *"by the Debtors of the Public"*; providing relief for *"the people called Quakers"*; securing the royal colony against *"the wicked attempts and Designs of rebels and other disaffected persons"*; appointing commissioners to manage *"all deserted property Idle and runaway Slaves"*; regulating internal trade; identifying certain persons as traitors if they do not surrender to justice within a certain time; plus amendment of this act; improving the justice of the peace process; requirements for returning inventories and accounts of estates; conveying certain tracts of land for designated [public] uses; prevention of *"fraud and Deceit in selling"* various goods; subdividing the parish of St. Paul following the ceding by Indians of lands to Britain in this area; authorizing a shipping embargo in Georgia's ports; consolidating laws pertaining to the militia; revising laws for parish boundaries and establishment of Church of England religious practice; collecting debts due to the public treasury; and a duty on auctions; pointing out many clerical errors in many of the acts, that some were implemented before being approved by the British government, and that others can no longer be implemented because of the situation in Georgia; nevertheless, stating that all of these are proper in law; concerning two additional laws, one protecting creditors from "Judgments confessed by Fraud", and the other concerning the attachment of estates of absent debtors, both of which have legal problems [BT number I.21]
[Note: This is probably **William Selwyn** (1732-1817), a prominent and well connected London attorney. His son William Selwyn (born in 1775) was, if anything, even more prominent and well connected. Sometime between June 1781 and December 1782, the elder Selwyn apparently replaced Richard Jackson as the attorney assigned by the Board of Trade to review the legal propriety of Georgia laws. For more on **Richard Jackson**, see document 27 above.]

Volume 653—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Board of Trade Correspondence (outgoing), Drafts

June 21, 1754 to June 29, 1758

Documents 106 to 134

[Frames 1 to 115]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: The Board of Trade correspondence having concluded in Volume 652, this Volume 653 is identified as “**Drafts**.” These consist of marked up drafts of documents outgoing from the Board of Trade, mostly to the King, a Secretary of State, or the Governor or Lieutenant Governor of Georgia, dated between 1754 and 1758. Chronologically, these documents come before those in Volume 648. Also, they also are the only outgoing correspondence of the Board of Trade in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia owned by DLAR. Other Board of Trade outgoing correspondence, dated between 1752 and 1781, is found in Volumes 672 to 674, which are not included in the microfilmed papers owned by DLAR.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: Archivists (probably in the Board of Trade) wrote descriptive notes for many of the manuscript documents, which are microfilmed with the documents. For some Volumes, archivists provided their own numbers by manuscript Bundle or Volume. No such numbers are assigned to documents in Volume 653, perhaps because the documents are “drafts.”

Note: No numbered letters appear in Volume 653 with numbers assigned by either the secretary of state or the colonial governor.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

106. June 21, 1754

[1]

Draft of response from the Board of Trade and Plantations at Whitehall to the King's order to devise a public seal for the royal colony of Georgia; signed by “*Dunk Halifax*,” J. Pitt, James Oswald, and R. Edgcumbe [Dunk Halifax is George Montagu-Dunk, 2nd Earl of Halifax, the First Lord of the Board of Trade between 1748 and 1761; the others were Lords of the Board of Trade in 1754]

[for more on the transition of Georgia from a trustee colony to a royal colony, see note after Reel 1 document 1]

107. [?] 1754 [2]
Draft of King's order to devise a public seal for the royal colony of Georgia
108. August 6, 1754 [4]
Draft of approval by the Board of Trade at Whitehall of the warrant for Georgia's seal
109. August 6, 1754 [5]
Draft of King's warrant appointing William Clifton to be attorney general of Georgia, directed to John Reynolds, Governor of Georgia
[Note: Georgia was first established as a British colony in 1732 by a private group of English **trustees**, only one of whom, **James Oglethorpe**, went to Georgia to settle and to lead development of the colony. Control of a colony by a group of trustees mostly in England was not efficient and Georgia did not thrive. In 1752, the King intervened, re-establishing Georgia as a royal colony.]
[Note: **John Reynolds** was the first governor of the Royal Colony of Georgia. He held the position from sometime in 1752 until 1758. In July 1756, the Board of Trade documented to the King large numbers of instances and allegations in which Reynolds' conduct suggested a singular lack of administrative competency (document 121 below). In July 1757 Reynolds was ordered to England to answer for his conduct (document 125), and in April 1758, the King replaced Reynolds with Georgia's 2nd royal governor, **Henry Ellis** (document 128). Ellis was much more competent, but poor health led him to request that he be relieved to return to England. In December 1760 **James Wright** replaced Ellis as Georgia's 3rd and last Royal Governor. See the note after Reel 1 document 1 for more on **Governors Reynolds and Ellis**. See the note after Reel 1 document 9 for more on **Governor Wright**.]
[Note: **William Clifton** was a strong-willed attorney and judge. For 10 years, from 1754 to 1764, he served as the first Attorney General of the Royal Colony of Georgia. Both he and the first Chief Justice, William Grover, were frequently controversial and in conflict with the Governor. After East and West Florida became new British colonies in 1763, Clifton left Georgia, having been appointed the first Chief Justice of West Florida in 1764. Like Governors Ellis and then Wright in Georgia, West Florida's first Governor, George Johnstone had a stormy relationship with Clifton. However, in West Florida it was Clifton who survived in the long run, as Johnstone was recalled and replaced as governor in 1767, and Clifton remained as Chief Justice until 1781, when the Spanish conquered West Florida, ending the existence of this short-lived British colony.]
110. August 6, 1754 [8]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade sending to the King a warrant prepared at his request for appointment of James Habersham to be "*Secretary and Register of*

the Records for Georgia", for the King's signature; signed by Halifax, J. Grenville, Oswald, and Andrew Stone [Frame 8 microfilmed twice]

111. August 6, 1754 [9]
Draft of King's warrant appointing James Habersham to be Secretary of the colony of Georgia
112. August 6, 1754 [11]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Secretary of State Thomas Robinson, sending requested warrant appointing Alexander Kellet Provost Marshal of Georgia, for the King's signature; signed by Halifax, Grenville, and Oswald
[Note: 1st Baron Grantham, Thomas Robinson (1695-1770) served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department from March to October 1754.]
113. [no date] [12]
Draft of King's warrant appointing Alexander Kellet Provost Marshal of Georgia
114. August 6, 1754 [15]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Robinson, sending requested warrant appointing William Russell Naval Officer for Georgia for the King's signature; signed by Halifax, Grenville, and Oswald
115. August 6, 1754 [16]
Draft of King's warrant appointing Russell Naval Officer for Georgia; sent to Reynolds
116. August 6, 1754 [19]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall, sending requested warrant authorizing and directing Governor Reynolds to use the seal of Georgia; signed by Halifax, Grenville, and Oswald
117. August 6, 1754 [20]
Draft of King's warrant authorizing and directing Governor Reynolds to use the seal of Georgia
118. December 17, 1754 [23]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall, sending requested warrant directing Reynolds to appoint Clement Martin to the Georgia Council, for the King's signature; signed by Halifax, Grenville, Francis Fane, and Edgcumbe
119. December 17, 1754 [24]
Draft of King's warrant directing Reynolds to appoint Clement Martin to the Georgia Council; sent to Reynolds
120. May 5, 1756 [26]

Draft of letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Reynolds, responding to several requests and complaints from Reynolds; requesting that he establish more regular communication with London, via Charleston; concerning instructions previously sent about establishment of an Assembly and of fees for the colony, empowering the governor to assent to bills from the Assembly and Council as long as they are first transmitted to the King for approval and “*suspending their Execution until His Majesty’s Pleasure could be known*”; granting Parliamentary financial support for the colony from midsummer 1755 to midsummer 1756 totaling £3,557.10.0, to be spent according to the enclosed estimate; concerning salaries for public officials; requesting information concerning what funding is needed for defense purposes; concerning making specie available for use by the colony; deferring judgment on complaints about Council members, especially Clement Martin; encouraging Reynolds to resolve these issues himself; expressing surprise that Reynolds might have been confused about correspondence from Secretary Habersham; concerning land grants, their proper titles, and payment of quit rents; generally approving certain actions of Reynolds but criticizing others and suggesting better alternative actions; signed by Halifax, Oswald, J. Talbot, Richard Rigby, and W. G. Hamilton

121. July 29, 1756 [36]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to the King, concerning numerous problematic aspects of Reynolds’ conduct as governor; including his reported dissolution of the Georgia Assembly with attendant “*great disorder*” and “*discontent and uneasiness*”; concluding based on all the information available “*that the Colony is in a declining State, that no people of Substance have Lately come into it...and that little or no Trade is carried on*”; that little preparation has been made for defense; that the governor has been unwilling to accept advice from the Council; that private allegations suggest additional problems with Reynold’s rule as governor, including the governor’s use of his private secretary, Mr. Little, for public business, including of dealing with Mr. and Mrs. Bosomworth [see note after Reel 1 document 10] on Indian affairs, for which he had no experience, with detailed description; that the governor has failed to assist properly or accept into the colony a group of newly arrived French settlers from Nova Scotia, with details; that the governor’s working relationship with the Assembly has been negative, with details; that the governor’s own accounts of many of these matters are quite different from information available from others; because of all these deficiencies in Reynolds’ conduct as governor, recommending “*that M^r. Reynolds be forthwith directed to return home*” so that the entire matter can be accounted for to the King, leaving a lieutenant governor, with instructions, in charge in Georgia, and recommending that Henry Ellis, a man of high qualifications, be appointed Lieutenant Governor; signed by Halifax, Oswald, Stone, and Hamilton [delivered copy of this report in Secretary of State document papers, Reel 5 document 223]
122. August 4, 1756 [63]

Draft of letter from Board of Trade to Henry Fox, Secretary of State for the Southern Department, sending a requested "*Commission, constituting & appointing Henry Ellis*" to be Georgia's Lieutenant Governor during Reynolds' absence, for the King's signature

123. August 4, 1756 [64]
Draft of the King's order appointing Henry Ellis Lieutenant Governor of Georgia
124. December 24, 1756 [67]
Draft of report from Board of Trade at Whitehall to the King [perhaps via Secretary of State William Pitt the Elder], reporting receipt of two letters from Reynolds with news about death of an important Creek "*emperor*", and potentially negative implications for relations with the French; noting that Georgia's "*infant colony*" "*is in a very defenceless state*"; differing with different information about the reaction in Georgia from Reynolds' account; with details of both Indian relations and the lack of military preparedness and strength in Georgia; with speculation about potential French offensive action against Georgia; signed by Halifax, Oswald, Stone, and Hamilton
[Note: The **French and Indian War**, fought between the North American colonies of England and France, began in western Pennsylvania in 1754, lasting until 1763. Each side sought to befriend the neighboring Indian tribes and to enlist their warriors into the conflict on their colonies' side. This colonial war was part of the larger European conflict called the Seven Years War (1756-1763).]
125. July 13, 1757 [75]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to William Pitt, informing him that, as requested, Governor Reynolds has been informed to come to England to answer for his conduct as governor; signed by Stone, Rigby, and Hamilton
126. February 23, 1758 [77]
Draft of estimate of the civil establishment of Georgia and other incidental expenses from June 24, 1757 to June 24, 1758, totaling £3,557.10.0
127. April 11, 1758 [79]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Pitt, concerning correspondence received from Ellis about relations with the Creek Indians and Spanish and about Georgia's military readiness; signed by Halifax, Thomas Pelham, Hamilton, and William Sloper [a former Georgia Trustee]
128. April 21, 1758 [81]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to the King, concerning the inquiry into the conduct of Governor Reynolds, drawing the conclusion that "*it is not expedient for your Majesty's Service that he should be continued in the Governm^t.*" of Georgia; therefore, recommending Lieutenant Governor Henry Ellis to become Governor of Georgia; signed by Halifax, Hamilton, Sloper, Oswald, and Soame Jenyns

129. April 21, 1758 [83]
Draft of letter from John Pownall, Secretary to the Board of Trade, at Whitehall, to Lieutenant Governor Ellis, sending him copies of "*an address & Representations of the late Assembly of Georgia*" [for more on **John Pownall**, see note after Reel 1 document 7]
130. April 21, 1758 [85]
Draft of letter from [?] at Whitehall to Lieutenant Governor Ellis, concerning difficulties and uncertainties of delivery of correspondence from Georgia to London; offering a lengthy statement about the status of the Georgia colony and goals for its development, possibly to guide Ellis as Lieutenant Governor or as he moved from Lieutenant Governor to Governor
131. [no date—probably in 1758] [104]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade, to [? possibly a Secretary of State], concerning "*The Settlement of Gray and his adherents to the Southward of the Altamaha and their forming themselves into a civil community without...authority of the Crown*"; related issues of Spanish influence and potential expansion in this area; signed by Halifax, Hamilton, Sloper, Oswald
[Note: **William Gray** was a land developer and settler of coastal lands between the Altamaha River and the St. Marys River. Besides being near the boundary between British Georgia and Spanish Florida, this territory was considered Indian land until the early 1760s. In 1763, the Spanish lost Florida at the end of the Seven Years War/French and Indian War, and the British established separate colonies of East Florida and West Florida. At about the same time, the Creek Indians ceded the coastal territory south of the Altamaha River. Between 1763 and 1767 both South Carolina and Georgia claimed this territory and sought to develop white settlement in the area. See Reel 2, especially documents 36, 64, 86, and 109, and others between these, for more on this inter-colony dispute and its resolution in London, through which Georgia finally prevailed. See also Reel 1 document 51 for a different conflict Gray had over ownership of land also claimed by former Governor Reynolds.]
132. May 3, 1758 [107]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade to Pitt, concerning English settlements south of the Altamaha River and the lingering uncertainties of conflicting South Carolina-Georgia land grant claims, which need to be clarified; signed by Jenyns, Hamilton, Sloper, Halifax, Oswald, Pelham
133. May 12, 1758 [111]
Draft of letter from Board of Trade to the King, sending the requested commission for Ellis to assume authority as Governor of Georgia, for his signature
134. June 29, 1758 [113]

Draft of letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to the King, sending the requested General Instructions for Ellis as he becomes Governor of Georgia, for his signature; signed by Halifax, Oswald, Jenyns

Reel 4 (Volumes 654, 655)

Volume 654—Itemized, Annotated Contents [not itemized in this finding aid]

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), begin

August 13, 1735 to December 12, 1741 Documents 1 to 217 [Frames 1 to 410]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 654 begins the incoming Secretary of State official correspondence, during the period of the proprietary trustee colony of Georgia, in the Colonial Office papers of Georgia. The microfilmed documents are copies written into a letterbook.

Note: Unlike the Board of Trade, the Secretary of State office did not assign archival numbers to documents, in Volume 254 probably because the documents are copies in a letterbook.

Note: No numbered letters appear in Volume 654 with numbers assigned by either the secretary of state or the colonial governor.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

1. Cover page and table of contents for letterbook [1]
“*Georgia: Letters from Gov^r. Oglethorpe and the Trustees for the Colony From 13 Augst 1735 To 12 Dec^r 1741, No. 20*”; apparently letterbook #20 of a set probably going back probably to the founding of the trustee-controlled Georgia Colony in 1732; this letterbook contains 216 documents, which are itemized in the table of contents (Frames 1 to 15); the documents themselves follow (Frames 16 to 410). These documents (which would be documents 2 to 217 here) are not itemized in this Finding Aid, since DLAR’s interest focuses on the Royal Colony, which was established in 1752.

Volume 655—Itemized, Annotated Contents [not itemized in this finding aid]

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 655 continues from Volume 654 the incoming Secretary of State official correspondence, during the period of the proprietary trustee colony of Georgia, in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia. The microfilmed documents are copies written into a letterbook.

Note: Unlike the Board of Trade, the Secretary of State office did not assign archival numbers to documents, in Volume 655 probably because the documents are copies in a letterbook.

Note: No numbered letters appear in Volume 655 with numbers assigned by either the secretary of state or the colonial governor.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

218. Cover page and contents for letterbook [1]
“*Georgia: Letters from Gov^r. Oglethorpe, the Trustees for the Colony [and] Mr. Verelst &c^a. From 13 Jan^{ry} 1742 To 18 May 1747, No. 21*”; apparently letterbook #21 of a set probably going back probably to the founding of the trustee-controlled Georgia Colony in 1732; this letterbook contains 181 documents, which are itemized in the table of contents (Frames 1 to 13); the documents themselves follow (Frames 14 to 343). These documents (which would be documents 219 to 399 here) are not itemized in this Finding Aid, since DLAR’s interest focuses on the Royal Colony, which was established in 1752.
[**Note:** This **Herman Verelst** appears to come from the family which, for two generations before him, produced several noted English painters. This Verelst was not a painter. Rather, he served as accountant to the Georgia trustees and a private agent for James Oglethorpe.]

Reel 5 (Volumes 656, 657)

Volume 656—Itemized, Annotated Contents [not itemized in this finding aid]

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

August 18, 1747 to August 28, 1751

Documents 1 to 178

[Frames 1 to 242]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 656 continues from Volume 655 the incoming Secretary of State official correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia, concluding the period of the proprietary trustee colony of Georgia. The microfilmed documents are copies written into a letterbook.

Note: Unlike the Board of Trade, the Secretary of State office did not assign archival numbers to documents, in Volume 655 probably because the documents are copies in a letterbook.

Note: No numbered letters appear in Volume 655 with numbers assigned by either the secretary of state or the colonial governor.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

1. Cover page and contents for letterbook [1]
“*Georgia: Letters, Memorials &c from The Trustees for the Colony From 18 Augst 1747 To 28 Augst 1751, No. 22*”; apparently letterbook #22 of a set probably going back probably to the founding of the trustee-controlled Georgia Colony in 1732; this letterbook contains 177 documents, which are itemized in the table of contents (Frames 1 to 7); the documents themselves follow (Frames 10 to 242). These documents (which would be documents 2 to 178 here) are not itemized in this Finding Aid, since DLAR’s interest focuses on the Royal Colony, which was established in 1752.

Volume 657—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Other Correspondence, (Board of Trade correspondence to Secretary of State and other, not official documents), continued

November 21, 1733 to February 2, 1785 Documents 179 to 279 [Frames 1 to 289]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 657 continues the Secretary of State’s microfilmed papers in the Colonial Office papers of Georgia. However, this Volume is not a continuation of official incoming correspondence from Volume 656. Instead, it includes various kinds of “other” documents that are not official Secretary of State correspondence. These include memorials and petitions, and correspondence from the Board of Trade to the Secretary of State, with scattered dates from 1733 to 1785. These are not arranged consistently in chronological order, and documents are concentrated in certain years, especially: 1741-1742 (concerning defense preparedness against Spain and Indians); 1752-1761 (concerning establishment and development of the royal colony and defense against Indians during the French and Indian War); 1779-1780 (concerning the siege of Savannah, its occupation by Britain, and re-establishment of a Georgia colony limited to the Savannah area); and 1782-1783 (concerning the end of the Revolutionary War and of the British Colony of Georgia).

Note: Because Volume 657 does not consist of “official” correspondence, no letters are found here identified with a letter number assigned by either the secretary of state or the colonial governor.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

179. 1764 [1]
Printed “*Journal of the Congress of the four Southern Governors, and the Superintendent of that district with the Five Nations of Indians, at [Fort] Augusta, 1763*”, printed by Peter Timothy at Charleston, South Carolina in 1764; with dated entries from October 1 through November 21, 1763; the four governors were James Wright of Georgia, Thomas Boone of South Carolina, Arthur Dobbs of North Carolina, Lieutenant Governor Francis Fauquier of Virginia; the

superintendent was John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District; the five Indian Nations were the Upper and Lower Chickasaws, the Choctaws, the Upper and Lower Creeks, the Cherokees, and the Catawbas; concluding with a treaty of peace and friendship dated November 10, 1763; followed by subsequent correspondence with British officials in London, dated between November 10 and November 21, 1763 [handwritten copy of this treaty in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 79]

180. [no date but received on March 26, 1742] [26]
Memorial to the King from the "*Trustees for establishing the colony of Georgia in America*", after explaining their reasons, "*humbly Pray[ing] your Majesty to take the Premises [of Georgia] into your wise consideration, that by your Majesty's Royal Directions they may be able to proceed in the Execution of their Trust; lest thro their inability to discharge their Duty; so great a Detriment should befall your Majesty's Service and dominions, as the loss of this important Province*" [this memorial appears to presage action taken by the King a decade later, in 1752, to establish a Royal Colony in Georgia, replacing rule by the trustees]
181. August 10, 1737 [28]
Memorial to the King from the Trustees of Georgia concerning defense against the Spanish
182. October 20, 1736 [30]
Representation to the King from the trustees of Georgia, concerning complaints by the Spanish against actions by inhabitants of British Georgia
183. June 4, 1745 [32]
Report from [Herman Verelst] to the Lords Justices of Britain concerning German "Foreign Protestants" at Gosport [at the mouth of Portsmouth harbor, England] [for more on **Herman Verelst**, see note after Reel 4 document 218]; followed by [no date]
"*An Estimate of the Expences of Clothing, Bedding, Arms, Ammunition, working Tools, Passage, brickalling [?] and Necessarys*" on board a vessel with German Protestants "*brought into Plymouth Harbour, by the Drake cartel Ship from Spain*", with details of costs and a total cost of £2,998.7.6
[**Note:** The British governmental system has used the institution of a council of **Lords Justices** to exercise occasionally and temporarily a high level substitute for royal rule when a monarch is out of the country or indisposed. In the Georgia Colonial Papers, this institution is mentioned in only two years, 1745 and 1752, both during the reign of King George II. See also document 278 below]
184. June 4, 1745 [35]
Report from Verelst to the Lords Justices concerning the German Protestants at Gosport and the possibility of sending them on to Georgia "*to join their Countrymen*"

185. June 26, 1745 [37]
Letter from Verelst at Queen Square, Westminster, to the Lords Justices, concerning the German Protestants
186. June 26, 1745 [39]
Memorial to the King from [?] concerning the King's "title to Georgia"
187. July 22, 1748 [41]
Letter from Verelst to the Duke of Bedford, concerning purchase of presents for Indians and Verelst's role in the Indian trade in Georgia
188. October 13, 1741 [43]
Petition to Oglethorpe as commander of British troops in South Carolina and Georgia from seven named "*masters*" and 47 additional prisoners at St. Augustine, seeking exchange
189. November 21, 1733 [45]
Statement that the Trustees will give 50 acres of land to any settler over 20 years of age who pays his way to Georgia and can subsist there on his own
190. October 27, 1741 [47]
Statement from the Office of Ordnance to the Duke of Montagu, Master-General of the Ordnance, responding to Oglethorpe's request for "*a Train of artillery, arms, and ammunition*" for Georgia's defense against Spain; stating that an adequate response was not possible without knowing what Georgia already had and raising questions about an account to pay for the request [with enclosures, documents 191 to 197]
[Note: John Montagu, 2nd Duke of Montagu (1690-1749) served as Master-General of the Ordnance from 1740 to 1742. He held various other military positions before and after.]
191. December 10, 1741 [49]
"Proportions of Ordnance and Stores proposed for the Forts also a Battering Train at Georgia" [enclosed with the Office of Ordnance's October 27, 1741 statement to the Duke of Montagu, document 190]
192. [no date] [55]
"An Abstract of Iron Ordnance Mortars Round Shott &c sent to South Carolina and Georgia from the year 1730 to 1739 Inclusive Also of what is proposed to be sent to Georgia (1741) if Approved of" [enclosed with the Office of Ordnance's October 27, 1741 statement to the Duke of Montagu, document 190]
193. October 22, 1741 [56]
"An Account of ordnance & stores to the province of south Carolina in the year 1731 by the ship Loyal Judith" [enclosed with the Office of Ordnance's October 27, 1741 statement to the Duke of Montagu, document 190]

194. October 22, 1741 [58]
“*An Account of Musquets &c for Arming the Company of Grenadiers now Ordered to be added to the Regiment of Foot at Georgia*”, as ordered on May 23, 1741 [enclosed with the Office of Ordnance’s October 27, 1741 statement to the Duke of Montagu, document 190]
195. October 22, 1741 [60]
Account of arms, ammunition, Bedding, Tents, tools, and other ordnance stores delivered to Georgia in 1738 [enclosed with the Office of Ordnance’s October 27, 1741 statement to the Duke of Montagu, document 190]
196. October 22, 1741 [66]
Account of ordnance and stores, sent to Oglethorpe on the ship *Charming Philley* for the defense and security of South Carolina and Georgia, on September 28, 1739 [enclosed with the Office of Ordnance’s October 27, 1741 statement to the Duke of Montagu, document 190]
197. October 22, 1741 [68]
Account of ordnance and stores sent to South Carolina in 1739 on the ship *Prince Galley* as ordered by the King on July 31, 1738 [enclosed with the Office of Ordnance’s October 27, 1741 statement to the Duke of Montagu, document 190]
198. December 10, 1741 [70]
Report from Montagu to “*My Lord*” [probably Secretary of State the Duke of Newcastle] on Oglethorpe’s request for ordnance stores
199. July 6, 1743 [72]
Petition from Verelst, “*Private Agent*” for Oglethorpe to Secretary of State the Duke of Newcastle, concerning Oglethorpe’s having made payments from personal funds to cover Georgia expenses; seeking payment to Oglethorpe of certain bills [identified as being enclosed with Mr. Stone’s & Mr. Martin’s letter of August 12, 1743, which is not microfilmed here; documents 200-203 may have been enclosed with this petition as well]
[**Note: Thomas Pelham-Holles, 1st Duke of Newcastle** (1693-1768) was a prominent, high-level Whig politician in England for many years. From 1727 until 1748, he served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department. After switching to be Secretary of State for the Northern Department from 1748 to 1754, he was chosen to be prime minister from 1754 to 1756 and again from 1757 to 1762.]
[**Note:** This Mr. Stone may be **Andrew Stone**, later a member of the Board of Trade. This Mr. Martin may be **Benjamin Martyn** (1698-1763), secretary for the Trustees for the Establishment of the Colony of Georgia in North America from 1732 to 1752.]

200. June 5, 1742 [73]
Copy of letter from Oglethorpe at [Fort] Frederica, Georgia [on St. Simons Island, the first sea island south of the Altamaha River] to Verelst, concerning his personal payment of Georgia expenses
201. June 7, 1742 [74]
Copy of certification by Charles Mackay that he received from Oglethorpe "*full Subsistence & arrears for the Highland Independent Company*", which he now commanded
202. August 13, 1742 [75]
Copy of letter from Oglethorpe at Frederica to Verelst, concerning another payment he has made for Georgia expenses
203. August 16, 1742 [75]
Copy of letter from Oglethorpe at Frederica to Verelst, concerning another payment he has made for Georgia expenses
204. August 17, 1742 [76]
Copy of letter from Oglethorpe at Frederica to Verelst, concerning another payment he has made for Georgia expenses
205. [no date] [78]
Copy of memorial of Oglethorpe to Secretary of State Newcastle requesting ordnance stores for Georgia's defense [this may be Oglethorpe's request referenced in Montagu's report, document 198]
206. January 28, 1748/7 [80]
"*Letter from M^r. Benjamin Martyn to John Potter Esq^r relative to the Trustees in Georgia petitioning the House of Commons for a supply of provisions for the Soldiers quartered there with his answer thereto*"
207. February 2, 1748/9 [83]
"*Letter from M^r Martyn [at the Georgia Office] to _____ desiring means may be taken to contradict reports that have been printed in the Hague French Gazette asserting that an Order has been issued for disbanding the regiment of Foot in Georgia*"
208. May 29, 1749 [83]
Letter from Martyn at the "*Georgia Office*" to Richard Neville Aldworth, "*stating that several German Protestants have applied to the Trustees of Georgia respecting leaving their present habitations and settling in South Carolina*"
[Note: **Richard Neville Aldworth Neville** (1717-1793) was a Whig politician who served as Undersecretary of State for the Southern Department from 1748 to 1751.]

209. July 14, 1749 [89]
Copy of letter from Aldworth at Whitehall to Martyn, "*referring to the Trustees of Georgia, certain inclosed Letters & Papers relating to Indian accounts*"
210. July 31, 1749 [92]
Letter from Veralst to Aldworth, concerning the independent military companies stationed in South Carolina
211. June 24, 1752 [95]
"*Report of the Lords Commissioners for Trade upon the Memorial of the Trustees of Georgia praying that the encouragement they have given for the produce and culture of raw silk in that Colony may be continued*"; signed by Dunk Halifax, J. Grenville, Viscount Dupplin (Thomas Hay, 9th Earl of Kinnoull), and Charles Townshend [later First Lord of the Admiralty and later yet author of the Townshend Acts just before he died in 1767]; note stating that this report was "*sent to the [then Secretary of State for the Northern Department, the] D[uke] of Newcastle 3^d. July 1752*"
[**Note:** Britain's Georgia Colony had been founded in 1732 as a proprietorship of Trustees for the Establishment of the Colony of Georgia in North America. Twenty years later, the King decided to take over control of the colony, re-establishing it as a Royal Colony in 1752. See note after Reel 3 document 109. Documents 212 to 215 reflect actions taken as part of the transition to a royal colony.]
212. July 24, 1754 [100]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Secretary of State for the Southern Department Thomas Robinson, "*recommending Mr. [William] Russell to be Naval Officer in the Province of Georgia*" signed by Halifax, Grenville, and Oswald
213. August 6, 1754 [103]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Robinson, "*informing him they had prepared a Warrant appointing M^r. [Alexander] Kellett Provost Marshall of Georgia*"
214. July 9, 1752 [106]
"*Report of the Board of Trade upon the nature and extent of the encouragement given by the Trustees of Georgia for the Growth & Culture of Raw silk in that Province*"; signed at Whitehall by Halifax, Dupplin, Townshend, and Oswald
[Frame 107 microfilmed twice]
215. July 24, 1754 [115]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Robinson, "*enclosing the warrant appointing Mr. Russell Naval Officer in Georgia*"; signed by Halifax, Oswald, and R. Edgcumbe
216. March 20, 1755 [118]

Letter from Board of Trade to Robinson, "*inclosing the Extract of a Letter from M^r. Reynolds Governor of Georgia in which he gives a circumstantial detail of the present temper and disposition of the neighbouring Indians and of the Practice used by the French to draw them from the British Interest*" [Reynolds' letter is document 216] [John Reynolds was Georgia's first royal governor, from 1752 to 1758; see note after Reel 3 document 109]

217. December 5, 1754 [121]
Extract from letter from Reynolds to Board of Trade, concerning French attempts to convince the Indians to side with the French against the English [enclosed with Board of Trade's letter of March 20, 1755 to Robinson, document 215] [the French and Indian War had begun in May 1754; see note after Reel 3 document 124]
218. May 9, 1755 [124]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Robinson, concerning a letter from Reynolds to Board of Trade relative to the conflict with France [with enclosures, documents 219 to 221]
219. March 9, 1755 [126]
Copy of letter from Reynolds to Board of Trade "*transmitting the Copies of three Letters relative to the apprehension of Antoine Waspy a French Officer, suspected to be a Spy whom he [Reynolds] had sent to England for examination*" [enclosed with Board of Trade's letter of May 9, 1755 to Robinson, document 218]
220. March 9, 1755 [128]
Copy of letter from Reynolds at Georgia to "*The Captain of any of His Majesty's Ships*", concerning Antoine Waspy, apparently requesting that they "receive and secure" Waspy, who had been sent to England on a merchant vessel [enclosed with Board of Trade's letter of May 9, 1755 to Robinson, document 218] [writing is microfilmed very light, making it difficult to read; see document 221 for a clearer description of this letter's contents]
221. May 5, 1755 [130]
Copy of letter from J. Cleveland at the Admiralty Office to John Pownall, Secretary to the Board of Trade, concerning Reynolds' letter to all British warship captains [document 220]; describing its contents; reporting that Waspy has been secured on the tender Hunter in the Thames River and can be sent to the Board of Trade, if they desire, for the examination for which purpose Reynolds had sent Waspy to England [enclosed with Board of Trade's letter of May 9, 1755 to Robinson, document 218]
222. July 29, 1756 [132]

Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Secretary of State Henry Fox, asking that the enclosed [document 223] be represented to the King; signed by Halifax, Oswald, Andrew Stone, and Hamilton

[Note: **1st Baron Holland Henry Fox** (1705-1774) served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department in 1755 and 1756 as part of a long career in high-level political positions.]

223. July 29, 1756 [134]
Lengthy report from Board of Trade to the King concerning inappropriate actions of Reynolds as Governor of Georgia, including his dissolution of the Georgia Assembly and much more, described with details; concluding by proposing that “Mr. Reynolds be forthwith directed to return home, in order that a full and distinct Account may be laid before Your Majesty” to reveal to him the current situation in Georgia and the results of Reynolds’ conduct; suggesting that Henry Ellis be appointed Lieutenant Governor of Georgia to help resolve the colony’s problems; signed by Halifax, Oswald, Stone, and Hamilton [enclosed with the Board of Trade’s letter of July 29, 1756 to Secretary of State Fox, document 222] [draft copy of this report in Board of Trade draft documents, Reel 3 document 121]
224. April 11, 1758 [155]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Secretary of State William Pitt, concerning a “misunderstanding between the Spaniards and the Creek Indians” as revealed in letters between Georgia Lieutenant Governor Henry Ellis and officials at St. Augustine, Spanish Florida; conveying copies of these letters to the Secretary of State; signed by Halifax, J. Pelham, Soame Jeryns, Hamilton, and Sloper [with enclosures, documents 225 to 229]
[Note: **1st Earl of Chatham William Pitt** (the Elder) (1708-1778) replaced his political rival Henry Fox as Secretary of State for the Southern Department in December 1756, serving until April 1757. After being briefly replaced, he returned to the office from June 1757 to October 1761.]
225. January 1, 1758 [157]
Extract from letter from Ellis to Board of Trade, describing the misunderstanding and communications about it between Ellis and Spanish officials [with enclosures, documents 226 to 228] [enclosed with Board of Trade’s Letter of April 11, 1758 to Pitt, document 224]
226. August 27, 1757 [159]
Copy of letter from Ellis at Savannah to the Governor of [Florida] at St. Augustine, seeking to establish friendly relations with the Spanish governor, especially promoting common cause by the British and Spanish against problems with the Indians [enclosed with Ellis’ letter of January 1, 1758 to Board of Trade, document 225] [also enclosed with Board of Trade’s Letter of April 11, 1758 to Pitt, document 224]
227. September 19, 1757 [161]

Copy of letter, written in Spanish, from the Governor of Florida “*D. Monso Ferrez de Heredia*” at St. Augustine to Ellis [not translated here] [enclosed with Ellis’ letter of January 1, 1758 to Board of Trade, document 225] [also enclosed with Board of Trade’s Letter of April 11, 1758 to Pitt, document 224]

[**Note:** The scrivener of this copy clearly guessed at the name of the Governor of Spanish Florida. His actual name was **Alonso Fernandez de Heredia**, and he served as governor between 1755 and 1758.]

228. November 28, 1757 [163]
Copy of letter from Ellis to the Spanish Florida Governor, expressing surprise that the Governor would be suspicious that British subjects might be encouraging the Indians to oppose the Spaniards and side with the British, offering alternative explanations for Britain’s relations with the Indians; also justifying British subjects being in Spanish territory, as a part of friendly relations with the Indians [enclosed with Ellis’ letter of January 1, 1758 to Board of Trade, document 225] [also enclosed with Board of Trade’s Letter of April 11, 1758 to Pitt, document 224]
229. January 1, 1758 [166]
Extract from letter from Ellis to Board of Trade, concerning difficulties paying for the small military force now necessary in Georgia; expressing also the need for a larger military, with details [enclosed with Board of Trade’s Letter of April 11, 1758 to Pitt, document 224]
230. June 8, 1758 [169]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to the Earl of Holderness, a Secretary of State, informing him that the Board of Trade had learned in a letter from Governor Reynolds of Georgia that he had sought to return to England on the *Charming Martha*, but the ship was captured by a French privateer and taken into Bayonne with Reynolds a prisoner; signed by Halifax, Hamilton, and Oswald [Reynolds’ letter is document 231]
[**Note:** 4th **Earl of Holderness Robert Darcy** (1718-1778) had served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department from 1751 to 1754. Transferring in 1754, he served as Secretary of State for the Northern Department from 1754 to 1761. During a brief period from April to June 1757, he served as the sole Secretary of State for both Departments. By 1758, he was again Secretary of State for the Northern Department. Why the Board of Trade sent this letter to Holderness rather than to the current Secretary of State for the Southern Department, William Pitt the Elder, is not clear.]
231. May 19, 1757 [171]
Copy of letter from Reynolds at Bayonne, France, to Board of Trade, informing them of his capture and status as a prisoner [enclosed with Board of Trade’s June 8, 1758 letter to Holderness, document 230]
232. August 4, 1756 [173]

Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Secretary of State Fox, notifying him that Governor Reynolds of Georgia was being recalled to England; signed by Halifax, Oswald, and Stone

233. October 25, 1758 [175]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Pitt, notifying him that Alexander Kellet had left Georgia and wished to resign as provost marshal; requesting that William Knox be appointed to replace Kellet; signed by Halifax, Oswald, Hamilton, and Sloper
234. November 22, 1758 [178]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Pitt, concerning the need for better military protection in Georgia, as represented by Governor Ellis [who earlier in 1758 had been promoted from Lieutenant Governor, officially replacing Governor Reynolds]; signed by Sloper, Oswald, Richard Rigby, and Hamilton; with microfilmed enclosure, document 235]
235. May 20, 1758 [180]
Extract from letter from Ellis to Board of Trade, concerning the need for stronger military protection for Georgia and how he is paying for the existing military on his own credit [enclosed with Board of Trade's November 22, 1758 letter to Pitt, document 234]
236. May 10, 1759 [187]
Letter from Board of Trade to Pitt, concerning memorial from settlers at New Hanover [south of the Altamaha River] about their required removal, enclosing Extract from Ellis' letter on the subject [document 237] and the instructions Ellis had to use for this purpose [document 238]; signed by Halifax, Soame Jenyns, Hamilton, and Sloper
237. January 28, 1759 [189]
Extract from letter from Ellis to Board of Trade, concerning the requirement to remove settlers from lands south of the Altamaha River; enclosing instructions being used for this purpose; seeking to ensure that he is following the right procedures, with details [enclosed with Board of Trade's May 10, 1759 letter to Pitt, document 236]
238. January 22, 1759 [195]
"Instructions for James Edward Newell Esq.", who was responsible for removing the New Hanover settlers [enclosed with Board of Trade's May 10, 1759 letter to Pitt, document 236]
239. February 8, 1759 [197]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Pitt, concerning the need for more military strength in Georgia and funding to pay for it; delivering to Pitt the Extract

from Ellis' October 25, 1758 letter making his case to Board of Trade [document 240]; signed by Halifax, Oswald, Jenyns, Hamilton

240. October 25, 1758 [199]
Extract from letter from Ellis to Board of Trade, describing the need for more military strength in Georgia, especially in relation to threats from Indian tribes; enclosed with Board of Trade's February 8, 1759 letter to Pitt, document 239]
241. April 25, 1760 [202]
Letter from Board of Trade to Whitehall to Pitt, concerning new hostilities with the Cherokee Indians; signed by Halifax, Jenyns, Sloper, and E. Bacon [with enclosures, documents 242 to 244]
[**Note:** During the French and Indian War, Indian tribes fought in unstable alliances with either French or British troops. At the same time, different and older American patterns of alliance and hostility influenced relations between Indian nations and the British colonies. These relations were often most tense along frontier lines, where white settlement (and British military pressure) pushed outward and Indian resistance sought to fight back and to minimize losses. The so-called **Anglo-Cherokee War** of 1760-1763 in frontier South Carolina appears to have been a part of the older, American pattern, unrelated to the concurrent strategies of war between British and French military. Still, subduing Indian hostility and maintaining Indian affinity toward Britain were important motivators for the British to rely, to the extent possible, on treaties. See note after document 242.]
242. February 15, 1760 [204]
Copy of letter from Ellis at Georgia to Board of Trade, reporting on hopes for re-establishing peaceful relations with the Cherokee Nation through a treaty negotiated with them by South Carolina Governor Lyttelton, but reporting that the Cherokees had broken the new treaty by raiding frontier areas with South Carolina settlers [enclosed with Board of Trade's February 15, 1760 letter to Pitt, document 241]
[**Note:** **William Henry Lyttelton, 1st Baron Lyttelton** (1724-1808) was Governor of South Carolina from 1755 to 1760. During this time, he sought to negotiate treaties with the Indians and, subsequently, to respect and abide by their provisions. The breaking of Lyttelton's treaty with the Cherokees questioned the viability of the entire system, undermining British policies based on friendship, trade, and gifts to keep the Indians loyal and peaceful.]
243. March 8, 1760 [208]
Extract from letter from Lyttelton at South Carolina to Ellis, reporting renewed incursions by the Cherokee into frontier areas with South Carolina settlers [enclosed with Board of Trade's February 15, 1760 letter to Pitt, document 241]
244. February 24, 1760 [210]

Extract from letter from Ensign Alexander Miln at Fort Prince George to Lyttelton, describing an Indian surprise attack with details [enclosed with Board of Trade's February 15, 1760 letter to Pitt, document 241]

[Note: Fort Prince George (named when the fort was built in 1753 for the prince who in 1760 became King George III) was located in Cherokee territory alongside a major trading post in what is now northwest South Carolina. While the fort endured occasional Indian attacks, the British saw it after 1760 as a staging place for attacks on the Cherokee Indians. Completion of Keowee Dam in 1971 submerged the entire area under a reservoir lake.]

245. March 11, 1761 [215]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Pitt, requesting that a warrant be issued affirming appointment of William Knox as Provost Marshal of Georgia; signed by Halifax, Jenyn, Hamilton, Sloper, and Bacon
[Note: William Knox soon became Georgia's Crown Agent, who handled the colony's business and financial matters in London. He also served for some time as Crown Agent for East Florida.]
246. March 11, 1761 [218]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Pitt, requesting that a warrant be issued affirming appointment of William Russell as Naval Officer of Georgia; signed by Halifax, Hamilton, Sloper, and Edward Eliot
247. April 28, 1761 [221]
Letter from Board of Trade at Whitehall to Pitt, concerning information by letter from Georgia "Lieutenant" Governor James Wright reporting the murder conviction in the Georgia court of a Richard Swan and his sentence of death; reporting Wright's having reprieved Swan until the King's wish is known about imposing the death penalty; enclosing extract from Wright's letter [document 248]; signed by Lord Sandys, Stone, Jenyns, Bacon, and John Yorke [for more on James Wright, see note after Reel 1 document 9; he was actually Governor of Georgia at this time; he had been Lieutenant Governor from April to November 1760]
248. February 28, 1761 [224]
Extract from letter from Wright to Board of Trade, concerning Richard Swan's conviction of murder and sentence to death, which has not yet been carried out, pending learning the King's wishes [enclosed with Board of Trade's April 28, 1761 letter to Pitt, document 247]
249. April 25, 1783 [226]
Letter from Haddon Smith at Bolsover Street No. 2, Cavendish Square, London, to the Earl of Hillsborough, concerning a previous memorial seeking ongoing payment of his salary, as rector of Christ Church, Savannah, of "*£70, and for some additional Allowance to it*"; explaining his suffering during the Revolution, as he remained a loyalist and was forced to flee to Tybee Island and then to

Liverpool, England, where only public charity kept him alive [see also documents 267 and following]

[**Note:** For more on **Wills Hill, 1st Earl of Hillsborough**, see note after Reel 2 document 137. He had a long career in British politics and government: First Lord of the Board of Trade from 1763-1765; Secretary of State for the Colonies and First Lord of the Board of Trade from 1768-1772; Secretary of State for the Southern Department from 1779-1782. By the date on this letter, he was no longer a Secretary of State, having been replaced by the Earl of Shelburne in the new position of Secretary of State for the Home Department. At the time of this letter, Lord North was actually the Secretary of State for the Home department, briefly, from April to December 1783. See note after document 267]

250. [no date] [229]
Detailed handwritten "*Sketch of the Blocade of Savanna, and the attack of the 9th October 1779*" [Frame 229 microfilmed twice] [see also Wright's daily notes from September 9 to October 22 on the Siege of Savannah, Reel 8 document 78; and see document 254 below and note after it]
251. [no date; evidently in 1767] [230]
Petition to the King of Samuel Bowen, a merchant from Georgia, seeking to patent his invention of "*a Method of preparing & making Sago, Vermicelli, & Soy, from the Plants growing in America*"; with note written at bottom of the petition, dated at Whitehall on June 6, 1767, signed by Shelburne, referring the petition to the Attorney General or Solicitor General, requesting a report and opinion on what may properly be done [Frame 230 microfilmed twice]
[**Note:** **William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne**, served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department from July 1766 to October 1768. Scattered along his lengthy career in British politics and government, he had previously served as First Lord of the Board of Trade in 1763 and served later as Secretary of State for the Home Department in 1782 and then Prime Minister in 1782-1783.]
252. June 6, 1767 [231]
Sworn statement by Samuel Bowen of Georgia, stating that he had "*found out and Invented a Method of preparing and making Sago Vermicelli, & Soy from the Plants growing in America*"
[**Note:** **Samuel Bowen** (? -1777) is described as a farmer and entrepreneur. Born in England of uncertain date, he sailed in 1758 to southern China, where he studied agriculture and collected seeds. In 1764, he settled in Savannah, where he experimented with planting his Chinese seeds in Georgia soil. Perhaps they did not do well, because his patented "Method" uses "Plants growing in America."]
253. June 9, 1767 [234]
Opinion of Attorney General William de Grey, concerning the petition of Samuel Bowen [document 251]; recommending that the patent be issued in a timely manner [which it apparently was]

[Note: **William de Grey, 1st Baron Walsingham** (1719-1781) was a prominent lawyer, judge, and politician, who served as British Attorney General from 1766 to 1771.]

254. September 9, 1779 [236]

Copy of letter from Major General A[ugustine] Prevost at Savannah to Sir Henry Clinton, reporting that "*The Count D'Estaing is here in Person, with twenty-five Sail of the Line, and seven or eight Frigates, and some Transports or Merchant Vessels. What Land force he has it is impossible to say, but believe it not very considerable. And as I think the Rebels Are not quite in readiness to cooperate very powerfully with him, I fain would hope that we are not in much danger*" [see also Wright's written notes on the Siege of Savannah, document 250 above and Reel 8 document 78]

[Note: **Augustine Prevost** (1723-1786) was a Swiss-born soldier and officer in the British Army, assigned to the 60th Royal American Regiment of Foot. He and his younger brother, **Jacques Marcus (Marc) Prevost** (1736-1781) had joined the British Army on the same date in 1756. By 1776, Augustine was a Colonel and Marc a Lieutenant Colonial both stationed with the Royal American Regiment at St. Augustine, capital of the new British colony of East Florida. Between 1776 and 1778, Georgia had been in "rebel" control, the State of Georgia had been founded, **Governor James Wright's** British colonial government had fled to England, and East Florida became the last southeastern American, Atlantic-coast bastion of British colonial power. In 1778, the 60th Royal Americans were ordered to join other British troops to invade Georgia under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell (see note below). After Campbell had subdued and occupied Savannah in December 1778, part of the British army under Jacques Marc Prevost temporarily captured Augusta in January 1779, only to lose it again. In September-October 1779, the British army, now commanded by Augustine Prevost, had to defend Savannah from a joint Continental and French "**Siege of Savannah**," which it accomplished successfully. This letter registers Augustine Prevost's surprise when a French fleet and army, commanded by **Charles Hector, Comte d'Estaing**, arrived below Savannah. A major battle was fought on October 9, during which **Polish Count Casimir Pulaski**, commander of the combined American/French cavalry troops, was killed. British victory in this battle led to lifting of the siege and British control of Savannah until mid-1782. During a brief transition period, Archibald Campbell (December 29, 1778 to July 1779) and then, Jacques Marc Prevost (July 1779 to September 1779), served as (military) provisional governors of British Georgia during the time when no British civil government was in place. Their efforts allowed Wright's "regular" colonial government to re-establish itself in Savannah, ruling over a geographically reduced colony that included little more than Savannah itself, until almost the end of the war.]

[Note: **Major General Archibald Campbell** (1739-1791) was an accomplished military leader in the British Army, especially during the Revolutionary War. He was sent to America in 1776 as a lieutenant colonel. His American military career began inauspiciously when he was captured on board a surrendering

British ship in Boston Harbor. After spending three years as an American prisoner of war, he was exchanged in 1778 for Ethan Allen. Immediately resuming active-duty command, his army was sent to Georgia to capture Savannah, which it accomplished in December 1778, after soundly defeating an American army commanded by Major General Robert Howe (no relation to the British Howe brothers). Lieutenant Colonel Campbell served briefly as Provisional Governor of Georgia, from December 29, 1778 to July 1779, in the absence of a functioning colonial government. Meanwhile, Colonel Jacques Marc Prevost briefly captured and occupied Augusta in early 1779 but was unable to hold it, reducing the British Colony of Georgia to Savannah and its immediate surroundings.

In July 1779, Campbell returned to England, as James Wright returned from England to resume his governorship of the British Colony of Georgia (except that Jacques Marc Prevost served as (military) Provisional Governor after Campbell left, until Wright's civil government was fully re-established in September 1779). By this time Georgia was the only remaining colony, among the 13 that had rebelled in 1775-1776, which retained a British colonial government on its territory. Unique among British colonial governors, Wright maintained a colonial-governmental presence in Savannah from July 1779 until July 11, 1782, when the city was evacuated and the British Colony of Georgia, like the other 12, ceased to exist.

Having proven himself an effective colonial governor in Georgia, Archibald Campbell, after remaining in England for two years, was appointed Governor of Jamaica from 1781 to 1784. After another two-year respite in England, he was appointed Governor of Madras, in India, from 1786 to 1790. In both of these assignments, he received high marks for effective governing.]

255. September 16, 1779 [238]
Copy of letter “N^o 1”, written in French, from D’Estaing, camped in front of Savannah, to Prevost, warning him not to take up arms against the French
256. May 4, 1782 [240]
Printed copy of “*An Act For inflicting Penalties on and confiscating the Estates of such Persons as are therein declared guilty of Treason*” and for other purposes, enacted by “*Representatives of the Freemen of the State of Georgia, in General Assembly met*”; including a long list of names of individuals in Georgia declared to be guilty of Treason, who are banished forever; applying provisions of the act to others not named who are also found to have engaged in treason; confiscating the estates of traitors
257. October 19-22, 1782 [245]
“*Public Sales at Savannah 19th October 1782 for Glynn & Camden Countys*”; plus Liberty, Chatham, and Effingham Counties on October 21; plus additional places on October 22 [what was being sold is not identified; perhaps it was the estates and property of loyalist “traitors” identified in the State of Georgia act of

May 4, 1782, document 256; the date of this sale is after the British Colony of Georgia had officially ceased to exist on July 11, 1782]

[Note: In 1777, when the emerging State of Georgia wrote its first constitution, the parishes into which colonial Georgia had been geographically divided were replaced by counties with new names.]

258. June 13, 1783 [249]
Letter from [?] Elliot at Whitehall [probably the Secretary of State office] to John Balcher, agent for Georgia, conveying Lord North's desire that "*a clear and distinct Account of the application of the Sums Granted by Parliament for the Civil Establishment of the Province of Georgia to June 1782*" be submitted
259. August 6, 1780 [250]
Copy of sworn statement of [Augustine] Prevost verifying that, to the best of his knowledge, the content of a memorial from [James] Graham [document 260] is accurate
260. [no date; date copy was made in London is August 8, 1780] [251]
Copy of memorial to the Commissioners of the Treasury of James Graham, seeking recompense from property losses sustained during the 1779 French blockade of Savannah [with supporting sworn statements, documents 259 and 261 to 263] [see Reel 8 document 70 for more on **James Graham** memorials; James might be related to **John Graham**, Georgia Lieutenant Governor]
261. February 9, 1780 [252]
Copy of sworn statement of Commander and Engineer James Moncrief, verifying the loss of indigo owned by Graham, as described in Graham's memorial [document 260]
[Note: In 1778, **Captain James Moncrief** had commanded engineering troops who used gangs of African slaves for the emergency construction of fortifications around Savannah, in anticipation of the siege that began in September. See also Reel 8 document 78.]
262. April 20, 1780 [252]
Copy of sworn statement of Surveyor General Philip Yonge, verifying the loss of indigo owned by Graham, as described in Graham's memorial [document 260]
263. May 27, 1780 [252]
Copy of account of the value of property lost by Graham, as described in his memorial [document 260]; signed by James Mossman and John Tebeau
264. June 4, 1782 [253]
Draft [outgoing] letter from [the Earl of Shelburne] at Whitehall to Governor Wright of Georgia, acknowledging receipt of several letters from Wright to Lord Germain; encouraging Wright to communicate all information of importance about Georgia to Guy Carleton, now Commander of British forces in North

America; stating that he [Shelburne] is attending to the actions called for in these letters

[**Note:** See note after Reel 3 document 97 for more on **George Germain, 1st Viscount Sackville**. Germain's long term as Secretary of State for the Colonies, from 1775 to February 1782, had recently ended when this draft letter was written. Germain was the last Secretary "for the Colonies." After a reorganization, his successor, **William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne**, (see notes after Reel 1 document 70 and Reel 2 document 95) held the new position of Secretary of State for the Home Department. Shelburne held this position only briefly, from March to July 1782, when he became Prime Minister. He was replaced by **Thomas Townshend**, who served as Secretary of State for the Home Department, except for a brief hiatus in 1783, from July 1782 until 1789.]

[**Note:** **Guy Carleton, 1st Baron Dorchester** (1724-1808) served many years in the British Army. In 1775-1776 he defended Quebec from invasion by the rebellious colonies to the south. After Sir Henry Clinton was recalled to London as Commander of British Forces in North America, following the British defeat at Yorktown, Carleton was appointed to replace Clinton. He held this position from early in 1782 until the end of the war in 1783.]

265. September 3, 1782 [255]
Letter from Wright, now at [?] Street No 8 in London [having evacuated Savannah, thus terminating the government of the British Colony of Georgia as the war ended; see note after Reel 10 document 260], to Thomas Townshend, now Secretary of State for the Home Department; expressing hope for an early opportunity to meet with the Secretary
266. September 3, 1782 [257]
Statement by Wright to [Townshend] "*containing Representation of the sufferings of the Loyalists on the Evacuation of Georgia*"; including description of his return to Georgia from leave in March 1779, arriving at Savannah on July 13, 1779; description of his continuing actions as British Governor of Georgia, and of the cruelty of the rebels, followed by evacuation of Savannah, as ordered by Carleton on July 5, 1782
267. April 15, 1783 [261]
Memorial to Lord North, [Secretary of State for the Home Department], of Haddon Smith at London, formerly Rector of Christ Church at Savannah, Georgia; seeking his continuing salary of £70 plus an additional allowance [see also document 249 and documents following]
[**Note:** **Frederick (Lord) North, 2nd Earl of Guilford** (1732-1792) had been Prime Minister during most of the Revolutionary War, from January 1770 to March 1782, when he was forced from power in the aftermath of the Cornwallis surrender at Yorktown in October 1781. In April 1783 he made a brief comeback, replacing Townshend in the position of Secretary of State for the Home Department, as part of the short-lived coalition government of Prime

Minister William Cavendish-Bentwick, 3rd Duke of Portland. The Portland government lasted from April 2 to December 19, 1783.]

268. [no date; delivered May 8, 1783] [263]
Petition to Lord North of Haddon Smith, previous rector of Christ Church, Savannah, Georgia [similar to but different from memorial in document 267; see also document 249 and documents following]
269. April [or May] 3, 1783 [264]
Statement by Wright, at London, supporting Haddon Smith's petition, clearly still not resolved
270. June [?] 12, 1783 [265]
Memorial to Lord North, Secretary of State for the Home Department [see note after document 267], of John Simpson, attorney for George McKenzie, at London, stating that McKenzie had been appointed him to be Surveyor General after Philip Yonge died and was later involved in defense of the Bahamas; seeking payment of the salary not paid him from January 23, 1782 to June 23, 1783; followed by
July 3, 1782
Sworn verification by Wright of the truth of McKenzie's memorial
271. March 26, 1784 [267]
Memorial to Lord Sidney [Thomas Townshend, now 1st Viscount Sydney], Secretary of State for the Home Department, of Anthony Stokes, Chief Justice of Georgia from 1769 to 1776 and again [after British rule was temporarily re-established in Georgia] from 1779 to 1782, and a practicing attorney in Georgia and St. Christopher in the West Indies, seeking relief from having suffered as a loyalist during the Revolution, seeking as recompense an ongoing salary of £500; followed by copies of letters pertaining to this memorial:
January 19, 1779
Copy of letter from [Secretary of State for the Colonies] Lord Germain at Whitehall to Stokes, recalling him to return to his duties as Chief Justice in Georgia; followed by:
January 19, 1779
Copy of letter from Germain to Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell commander at Savannah, verifying Stokes' integrity when he had to "*quit*" Georgia and "*now returns in the hope of finding the Province reduced to the Kings Obedience*" and ready to return to his duties; Germain therefore recommending "*him to you as worthy of your confidence and protection*"; followed by:
March 26, 1784
Copy of letter from James Wright, former Governor of Georgia, providing a character reference for Stokes; with original signature
272. February 8, 1785 [269]

Letter from [former Lieutenant Colonel] Archibald Campbell at London [in England for two years between assignments as Governor of Jamaica (1781-1784) and of Madras (1786-1790)] to [the Secretary of State ?], providing a character reference for Dr. Lewis Johnston, a persecuted Georgia loyalist, whom Campbell had appointed "*Chief Justice and Superintendant of the Police*" [for more on **Archibald Campbell**, see note after document 254; for more on **Dr. Lewis Johnston** and his **Board of Police**, see Reel 8 documents 114 to 116]

273. [no date] [271]
Petition to [Secretary of State?] of Lewis Johnston, late of Georgia, stating that he had always been loyal to Britain; that the "rebels" had imprisoned him for three years [1776-1778]; that in 1782 he lost his property in Georgia under provisions of Georgia's treason act; that after the evacuation of Savannah, he had gone to St. Augustine, where Governor Patrick Tonyn of British East Florida appointed him a Council member and an assistant judge; but that the return of East Florida to Spain required him to return to England with his family; seeking relief from his losses and suffering with a £180 per year payment for support of his family, and seeking public employment for himself
274. August 1, 1782 [273]
Petition to Secretary of State Townshend from Jermyn Wright of South Carolina and Georgia; recounting his loyalist activities during the war and his resulting suffering at the hands of the "rebels"; requesting royal protection [probably including enclosed documents 275 to 277]
[**Note: Jermyn Wright**, brother of Georgia Governor James Wright, was a wealthy loyalist planter with extensive properties in both South Carolina and Georgia.]
- Note:** A Public Record Office printed note microfilmed after document 274 states that "*Folios 274-275 [of Volume 657] are blank and have not been copied*".
275. January 26, 1782 [276]
Copy of letter from Governor Wright of Georgia at Savannah to Secretary of State Germain, concerning his brother, Jermyn "*who has been Buffeted about by the Rebels for these five or six years Past*"; including details; hoping that the Germain "*will be pleased to order him Something to subsist on, as a Truly Loyal & Suffering Refugee*" [probably enclosed with Jermyn Wright's August 1, 1782 petition to Townshend, document 274]
276. [no date] [277]
"*Inventory of the Landed Estates of M^r. Jermyn Wright*" in Georgia; listing 19 numbered parcels of land and plantations, by location, number of acres, and date acquired [all in 1767 or 1771], totaling 11,900 acres [probably enclosed with Jermyn Wright's August 1, 1782 petition to Townshend, document 274]
277. [no date] [278]

"Inventory of the Landed Estates of M^r. Jermyn Wright" in South Carolina, listing 17 numbered parcels of land and plantations, by location, number of acres, and date acquired [between 1726 and 1759 with some acquisitions undated], totaling 16,570 acres [probably enclosed with to Jermyn Wright's August 1, 1782 petition to Townshend, document 274]

Note: A Public Record Office printed note microfilmed after document 277 states that "*Folio 280 [of Volume 657] is blank and has not been copied*".

278. July 24, 1752 [281]
Letter from Thomas Hill, at the Board of Trade at Whitehall, to Claudius Amyand and Richard Pottinger, [secretaries for the Lords Justices] transmitting to them a copy of a memorial [document 279] of Edmund Gray, agent for Georgia; requesting that it be placed before the Lords Justices [for more on **Lords Justices**, see note after document 183 above]
[Note: Thomas Hill was Secretary to the Board of Trade from some time in the 1740s until John Pownall assumed the post in 1758, serving in this position until 1776.]
279. [no date] [283]
Petition to the Board of Trade from Edmund Gray, agent for Georgia, concerning Georgia's exposed position on the British southern frontier north of Spanish Florida, the potential for Spanish as well as French attack and the need to "*stop the French Passage from New Orleans to Quebeck*", and uncertainties in Indian relations with Georgia and the other southern colonies of Britain; recommending that trade and alliances with the Indians be strengthened and that colonial settlers be deterred from settling in the interior [enclosed with Thomas Hill's July 24, 1752 letter to the Lords Justices, document 278]

Reel 6 (Volumes 658, 659, 660, 661)

Volume 658—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

October 17, 1761 to November 14, 1767 Documents 1 to 117 [Frames 1 to 282]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 658 resumes from Volume 656 the Secretary of State’s papers of (mostly) incoming official correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia. However, a gap exists from when Volume 656 ends (August 28, 1751) and when Volume 658 begins (October 17, 1761). This gap leaves out of the microfilmed papers official incoming Secretary of State correspondence during the first decade of the Royal Colony of Georgia (other, not official correspondence is found during this decade in Reel 5 Volume 657 documents 211 to 248). Volumes 678 to 680 (Reel 10) contain letterbook summaries of incoming official Secretary of State correspondence. The documents summarized are dated from November 18, 1766 to December 31, 1781, with the exception of one prior document (an enclosure included in Governor Wright’s responses to a query from the Board of Trade) dated February 15, 1762.

Note: Beginning in about January 1767, Secretary of State for the Southern Department Shelburne began a practice of numbering his outgoing letters and had colonial governors number their letters to him. A year later, incoming Secretary of State for the Colonies Hillsborough continued Shelburne’s letter numbering practice. Volume 658 contains numbered letters to and from Shelburne. Where found, these letter numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

1. October 17, 1761 [1]
Letter from Governor James Wright of Georgia, at Savannah, to Robert Wood [possibly an undersecretary of state], concerning the boundaries of settlements south of the Altamaha River [for more on **James Wright**, see the note after Reel 1 document 9]

2. January 21, 1762 [2]
Letter from the Board of Trade and Plantations at Whitehall to the Secretary of State the Earl of Egremont, concerning threats of French settlements at Mobile [on the Gulf Coast in present day Alabama, nominally Spanish territory] and their relations with the Creek Indians, as documented in a letter from Wright [extract enclosed, document 3]; signed by Lords of Board of Trade Soame Jenyns, C. Bacon, and Edmond Thomas
[Note: **Charles Wyndham, 2nd Earl of Egremont** (1710-1763), served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department from October 9, 1761 to August 21, 1763.]
3. September 13, 1761 [5]
Extract from letter from Wright to Board of Trade, concerning the dangers of the French settlements at Mobile; “*representing that a military force will be necessary for the Defence*” of Georgia [enclosed with Board of Trade’s January 21, 1762 letter to Egremont]
4. February 20, 1762 [7]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, concerning status of the Georgia colony and threats to it from the French and Indians
5. May 4, 1762 [9]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, concerning boundary relations with South Carolina; concerning Georgia’s preparedness for defense
6. June 10, 1762 [13]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, concerning preparations for defense
7. August 18, 1762 [15]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, concerning dangers of attack from French, Indians, and now Spanish also to the south
8. November 15, 1762 [17]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Robert Wood, concerning several issues in the colony of Georgia
9. January 3, 1763 [19]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, concerning the “*Extraordinary Conduct*” of the Chief Justice Grover since former Governor Henry Ellis left Georgia on November 2, 1760, with details [with enclosures, documents 10 to 13] [for more on **Chief Justice William Grover**, see note after Reel 1 document 53]
10. March 1, 1762 [25]

Extract, written by Wright, of letter from Captain Simone [?], at [Fort] Frederica [on St. Simon's Island on the southern Georgia coast], [to Wright?], reporting having received from a certain Samuel Piles [or Pylos] a letter, written to Piles in Spanish by the new Spanish Governor in St. Augustine, Alonzo de Cardones, who explained that he had replaced Governor Don Lucas de Palacio, who had died, and requested that Pylos deliver to St. Augustine, with care, the 200 "*head of Cow's Stores that you have Negotiated*" [enclosed with Wright's January 3, 1763 letter to Egremont, document 9]

[**Note:** **Lucas Fernando de Palacio y Valenzuela** was Governor of Spanish Florida from 1758 to 1761. **Alonso de Cardenas** was Acting Governor in 1761-1762.]

11. [no date] [26]
Summary, written by Wright, of the 1759 Georgia court case of "*Wood & Shoftal* [Sheftall] *against Ephraim Alexander, Samuel Piles & Jos. Rumiére*" [enclosed with Wright's January 3, 1763 letter to Egremont, document 9] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 55]
12. November 22, 1762 [30]
Copy, written by Wright, of an affidavit of Captain Thomas Goldsmith before the Justice of the Peace in Old Town, South Carolina, [probably in either Berkeley or Charleston County] stating that he "*was Connected to the Soldiers being sent to Goal on Account of the Action brought against Lieut. Lewtonham[?] by Roth[?] Lorthen[?]*" [enclosed with Wright's January 3, 1763 letter to Egremont, document 9] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 57]
13. September 21, 1762 [31]
Copy of Minute of a meeting of the Georgia Council at Savannah, concerning "*the Conduct and Behaviour of Mr. Grover the Chief Justice*"; concluding with the opinion that "*Mr. Grover is unworthy of, and not fit to be continued in, the Office of chief Justice*" and that Grover should be suspended from his position [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 60, along with other documents pertaining to Grover, documents 54 to 59]; followed by:
June 12, 1762
"*Copy of the Warrant of Detainer referred to in the foregoing Minute*", written by Chief Justice William Grover to the Provost Marshal and Keeper of the Savannah Jail ordering them to detain Samuel Piles; followed by
August 9, 1762
Copy of petition and affidavit referred to in the foregoing minute, a petition to Wright from John Luke, merchant from South Carolina, concerning purchase of the brig Metta, owned by Captain Joseph Rivers, which, when adjudicated, Chief Justice Grover improperly sided with Captain Rivers; seeking redress for the resulting injustices; followed by
September 6, 1762

Statement by John Luke's attorney, Alexander Wylly, concerning Luke's petition and how his legal matter was handled; followed by
Account of John Luke pertaining to the purchase of the brig Metta; followed by
October 5, 1762

Extract from minute of a Georgia Council meeting at Savannah, concerning Chief Justice Grover, reconfirming the Council members' unanimous opinion that Grover should be suspended from office [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 60, along with other documents pertaining to Grover, documents 54 to 59]

[all enclosed with Wright's January 3, 1763 letter to Egremont, document 9]

14. November 5, 1762 [39]
Declaration by Wright suspending Grover from his position as Chief Justice
15. March 15, 1763 [41]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, sending congratulations on the provisional articles of peace marking the victorious conclusion of the Seven Years War/French and Indian War
[**Note:** The **French and Indian War**, fought between the North American colonies of England and France, began in western Pennsylvania in 1754, lasting until 1763. This colonial war was part of a larger European conflict called the **Seven Years War** (1756-1763). Overall, the main victor was Britain, and the main losers were France and Spain.]
16. April 20, 1763 [43]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, concerning "*a most Extraordinary Procedure of the Governor & Council of S. Carolina....Thomas Boone with the Advice of His Majesty's Council for S. Carolina has come to a Resolution to give Grants for all the Lands to the Southward of the River Altamaha Towards St Augustine without Limits*", with details; expressing concern to the Secretary of State for Georgia's claim to the same territory about what he calls the South Carolina Governor's "*Extraordinary Stretch of Power*"; stating that he has written to the Board of Trade "*to the Same Effect*" [with enclosures, documents 17, 18] [for more on **Governor Thomas Boone** and his scheme to settle, as a part of South Carolina, a portion of the Atlantic Coast south of the Altamaha River, that is, south of the settled portion of the Georgia colony and north of Spanish (about to become British) Florida, see note after Reel 1 document 63] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 64]
17. March 30, 1763 [49]
Copy of "*Protestation and Caveat*" of Wright to Thomas Moore, Governor of South Carolina, concerning Moore's plan to give land grants to South Carolina settlers along the coastal area south of the Altamaha River [enclosed with Wright's April 20, 1763 letter to Egremont, document 16] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 65]

18. April 20, 1763 [51]
Copy of sworn statement by Grey Elliot, member of the Georgia Council, concerning his having gone to Charleston at Wright's request and returned with a copy of Moore's resolution for land grants south of the Altamaha River [enclosed in Wright's April 20, 1763 letter to Egremont, document 16] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 65]
19. May 6, 1763 [52]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, conveying more information about plans for South Carolinian settlement south of the Altamaha River [similar letter written on same date to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 66]
20. June 10, 1763 [54]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, concerning the peace treaty and establishment of British colonies of East and West Florida; concerning the "*natural*" boundaries of these colonies, including the Mississippi River on the west; expressing concern about the boundaries of Florida and with South Carolina in relation to Georgia; concerning future relations with the Indians along these boundary areas as well as relations with both the French and Spanish
21. June 24, 1763 [56]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, expressing further concerns about boundary issues with South Carolina, French, Spanish, and Indians [with enclosures, documents 22, 23]
22. May 27, 1763 [58]
Copy of letter from Lieutenant Governor Fauquier of Virginia, at Williamsburg, to Wright, concerning a "*Critical Situation*" of relations with Indians on the frontiers of the southern colonies and an upcoming "*Congress*" with the Indians [enclosed with Wright's June 24, 1763 letter to Egremont] [for more on **Lieutenant Governor Fauquier**, see note after Reel 1 document 79]
23. June 22, 1763 [60]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Fauquier, concerning a congress with the Indians and the issues needing attention at it, especially delineating colonial and Indian lands; reporting having corresponded with Egremont and with the Board of Trade about these issues [enclosed with Wright's June 24, 1763 letter to Egremont, document 21]
24. September 7, 1763 [62]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Egremont, concerning Georgia's response to the official declaration of peace
25. November 10, 1763 [64]

Duplicate of letter from Governors Wright, Boone, Arthur Dobbs of North Carolina, Lieutenant Governor Fauquier of Virginia, and John Stuart, Superintendent of Indians for the Southern District, all at Augusta, Georgia, to Egremont, reporting on results of the congress and treaty they had just concluded with the Indians [difficult to read due to light microfilming] [see notes on Fauquier and Stuart after reel 1 document 79] [handwritten copy of treaty in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 79; printed copy of treaty in Secretary of State official correspondence, Reel 5 document 179]

[**Note:** Letters from colonial governors were often sent multiple times on separate ships, in hopes that one of the letters would get through or get through faster to England. Thus, an “**original**” letter would be sent plus perhaps several “**duplicate**” letters. A “**copy**” was usually the copy of a letter sent possibly at a later time and usually to another recipient. Use of these terminology conventions was usually but not always observed. Thus, a document identified as a “duplicate” might in fact be a “copy” or vice versa.]

26. December 8, 1763 [66]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to the Earl of Halifax, concerning instructions received from Egremont; reporting on related matters; scrivener’s note “*Copy sent to Mr. Grenville*” [one of Halifax’ previous colleagues among the Lords of the Board of Trade]

[**Note:** Dunk Halifax, or formally, **George Montagu-Dunk, 2nd Earl of Halifax** (1716-1771), had served as First Lord of the Board of Trade between 1748 and 1761. On September 9, 1763, he replaced the Earl of Egremont as Secretary of State for the Southern Department, serving until July 10, 1765.

27. December 23, 1763 [68]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, concerning Georgia’s southern boundary in relation to South Carolina and the Indians [with microfilmed enclosure, document 28]

[**Note:** For some time, the **southern border of Georgia** had been uncertain. Before 1763, when Florida was a Spanish colony, the British were reticent to settle too close to the Spanish border. Georgia’s colonial population concentrated around Savannah, up the Savannah River, and among the coastal sea island territory north of the Altamaha River. A few more adventuresome and speculative South Carolinians settled on the sea islands south of the Altamaha River, which by treaty were still supposed to be Indian territory. Through this period, the boundary between British and Spanish territory appears in practical terms to have been fluid. When Spanish Florida became the new British colonies of East and West Florida in 1763, the boundary issue became a British (and Indian) decision, to be decided depending on the competing interests of British colonial governors of South Carolina, Georgia, and East Florida (plus the Creek Indians). The Indians were the first loser, resulting from the congress and treaty signed at Augusta in November 1763. South Carolina was the next loser, as British authorities in London recognized Georgia’s boundary to extend all the way to the Florida border. That left Georgia and Florida to skirmish politically over

where that boundary would be drawn. In this December 1763 letter, Governor Wright of Georgia is still trying to secure his southern boundary in relation to South Carolina and the Indians. About three months earlier, newly minted Governor of East Florida James Grant, still in London, was negotiating with Secretary of State Halifax to set the northern East Florida boundary at the St. Marys River rather than the farther south St. Johns River. Grant's efforts succeeded, and the Florida-Georgia boundary he won remains the interstate line today. See the Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 1 document 3 (also Secretary of State papers, Reel 3 document 25) in DLAR's Finding Aid for the British Colonial Papers for East Florida.]

28. [no date] [70]
"Names of Persons Applying to Settle altogether on Part of the Lands Lately Ceded by [?] Indians"; listing 18 grants totaling 22,800 acres [enclosed with Wright's December 23, 1763 letter to Halifax, document 27]
29. May 12, 1764 [72]
Draft [outgoing] letter from Edward Sedgwick, a secretary at the Secretary of State office, at St. James's, to Wright, informing him that Halifax has transmitted to the Treasury Wright's request to establish customs house officers at the port of Sunbury
30. June 20, 1764 [74]
Letter from William Clifton at Savannah to Halifax, expressing his gratefulness for the King's having appointed him Chief Justice for the new colony of West Florida [for more on **William Clifton**, see note after Reel 3 document 109]
31. August 30, 1764 [76]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Sedgwick, acknowledging receipt of Sedgwick's letter concerning Wright's request for customs officers at Sunbury; further explaining the need for these officers
32. October 25, 1764 [78]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, concerning settling, protecting, and collecting duties in new areas
33. October 25, 1764 [80]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, concerning the complaint of Prince Masserano [Spanish Ambassador to Britain] of "*violences or Piracies being committed by English Cruisers against the Subjects of Spain*"
34. October 25, 1764 [82]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, concerning matters of illegal trade; scrivener's note "*Copy sent to the Treasury*"
35. November 7, 1764 [84]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, concerning stamp duties; scrivener's note "*Copy sent to the Treasury*" [with enclosures, documents 36, 37]

36. November[?] 3, 1764 [87]
List, with categories and numbers, of "*Declarations and other Proceedings to have been assessed [fees]*" at Savannah between the "*Return Day of October Court 1762 to the Return Day of October Court 1764*" [enclosed with Wright's November 7, 1764 letter to Halifax, document 35]
37. November 7, 1764 [88]
"*Account of Instruments Made use of in Public Transactions Law Proceedings*" "*viz^t From the Loan Office &c*" in Georgia; [enclosed with Wright's November 7, 1764 letter to Halifax, document 35]
38. December 21, 1764 [90]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, enclosing an address to Wright from both houses of the Georgia Assembly, welcoming Rev. George Whitefield's application to start a "college" in Georgia [with enclosures, documents 39, 40]
[**Note: Rev. George Whitefield** was a well-know and apparently powerful "field preacher" in England before moving to Georgia in 1738. Besides preaching in Georgia, he established an orphanage near Savannah in 1740. Apparently his plan and the colony's dream to establish a "college" or "seminary of learning" never materialized. He died in 1770.]
39. December 20, 1764 [92]
Copy of address from both houses of the Georgia Assembly, welcoming the application by Rev. George Whitefield "*for Lands in order to the Endowment of a College in this Province*" [enclosed with Wright's December 21 letter to Halifax, document 38]
40. December 20, 1764 [93]
Copy of note from Wright to members of the Assembly, responding enthusiastically to the Assembly's support for "*Establishment of a Seminary for Learning here*" as proposed by the Rev. Whitefield [enclosed with Wright's December 21, 1764 letter to Halifax, document 38]
41. December 24, 1764 [94]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, concerning plans to extend Georgia's high roads toward East Florida
42. December 26, 1764 [96]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, concerning Ambassador Masserano's complaint; scrivener's note "*Copy of this Letter & of its Enclosure sent to Gov^t Shirley*"; with microfilmed enclosure, document 43]
[**Note: William Shirley** (1674-1771) had served for long periods in the 1740s and 1750s as Governor of Massachusetts. From 1760-1768 he served, late in is

long life, as Governor of the Bahamas. In the 1770s, his son, **Thomas Shirley** also served as Governor of the Bahamas.]

43. December 24, 1764 [98]
“*Examination of John Bishop late of New Providence* [capital of the Bahamas colony] *mariner, concerning certain Acts of Piracy said to have been committed by him upon divers*” Spanish subjects; signed by Bishop [enclosed with Wright’s December 26, 1764 letter to Halifax, document 42]
44. March 9, 1765 [100]
Draft of [outgoing] letter from Halifax at St. James to Wright, acknowledging having received from Wright several letters concerning John Bishop “*whom you caused to be apprehended and detained as believing him to be the Person complained of in the Spanish ambassador’s Letter*”; noting that Bishop asserted having been tried previously on the same charges and acquitted; stating that he has asked Governor [William] Shirley [of the Bahamas] to send Wright information on Bishop and the complaint against him.
45. June 18, 1765 [102]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, verifying receipt of an extract from a letter from the Secretary of War to Halifax concerning royal policy for the command and disposition of troops in the colonies
46. June 24, 1766 [104]
Duplicate of letter from Wright at Savannah to Henry Seymour Conway, apparently responding to letter from Conway; expressing Wright’s opinion about rebellious subjects [in relation to the Stamp Act controversy especially]
[Note: **Henry Seymour Conway**, a gentleman commoner member of Parliament rather than a lord, served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department from July 12, 1765 until May 23, 1766. There is confusion about the date of this letter. If it is filed in chronological order, the year would be 1765, but Conway was not quite yet Secretary of State. If the clearly handwritten written date on the document of 1766 is accurate, Conway had just ceased being Secretary of State. The content of the letter suggests 1766. The **Stamp Act** was enacted by Parliament on March 22, 1765. Not until fall 1765 was enforcement begun and active opposition emerged. The opposition remained strong through 1766 and into 1767, although Parliament had repealed the law on March 18, 1766. For more on the **Stamp Act** see note after Reel 2 document 58.]
47. August 24, 1765 [106]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, stating that he had some time ago seen Bishop’s documentation of previous acquittal but that Bishop was still being detained because other charges were unresolved

[Note: Although Conway had replaced Halifax as Secretary of State for the Southern Department on July 12, 1765, Wright did not learn this until sometime between September 20 (document 48) and October 2 (document 49).]

48. September 20, 1765 [108]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Halifax, containing more information about the investigation of John Bishop
49. October 2, 1765 [110]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Conway, concerning correspondence during the transition from Halifax to Conway
50. January 31, 1766 [112]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Conway, describing his policies toward dealing with the discontents and rebelliousness of the times; drawing a contrast between Georgia and the northern colonies, but describing the anti-government actions of people in Georgia as well; pointing out the weakness of the military in Georgia, should matters get worse
51. February 7, 1766 [116]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Conway, sharing more information and opinion about the unrest in the colonies
52. February 12, 1766 [118]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Conway, sharing yet more about the unrest, including references to publications against the Stamp Act [with enclosures, documents 53 to 55]
53. November 29, 1763 [120]
Printed proceedings of the Commons House of the Assembly of South Carolina, declaring in 18 statements South Carolinians' [expanded] rights within the British system [enclosed with Wright's February 12, 1766 letter to Conway, document 52]
54. February 11 and 4, 1766 [121]
Two printed issues of *South Carolina Gazette and Country Journal*, expressing more views on expanded American "liberties" [enclosed with Wright's February 12, 1766 letter to Conway, document 52]
55. January 28, 1766 [125]
Printed Proceedings of Commons House of the Assembly of South Carolina, consisting of a series of House orders and Lieutenant (actually Acting) Governor William Bull's messages in response, dated between January 22 and 28, 1776, concerning whether or not South Carolina had properly received an "authentic" Stamp Act and whether the Governor was obliged to enforce it, on which the

House and the Lieutenant Governor and Council strongly disagreed [probably enclosed with Wright's February 12, 1766 letter to Conway, document 52]
[Note: At this time of Georgia's colonial history, the colony was without a governor. **Thomas Boone** had left office in May 1764 (for more on him see the note after Reel 1 document 63), and he was not replaced as governor until **Charles Greville Montagu** (for more on him see the note after Reel 2 document 117) assumed the position on June 12, 1766. During the interim, **William Bull**, who served as Lieutenant Governor from 1759 until 1775, stood in as Acting Governor but without the official title. For more on him, see notes after Reel 1 document 36 and document 64.]

56. March 10, 1766 [127]
 Letter from Wright at Savannah to Conway, reporting on the South Carolina government's conflict concerning enforcement of the Stamp Act; stating his intention to do his duty to the King regarding the Stamp Act, avoiding such conflicts [with enclosures, documents 57, 58] [Frame 128 microfilmed twice]

57. February 25, 1766 [130]
 Printed issue of *South Carolina Gazette and Country Journal*, including pieces pertaining to enforcement of the Stamp Act in South Carolina [enclosed with Wright's March 10, 1766 letter to Conway, document 56]

58. March 1, 1766 [133]
 Copy of document "*At a meeting of the Fire Company in Charleston*", at which, those present subscribed to a resolution swearing allegiance to the King, followed by listing rights of free trade, along with actions to be taken to enforce these rights [clearly meaning actions to oppose enforcement of the Stamp Act]; copy made by Wright; [enclosed with Wright's March 10, 1766 letter to Conway, document 56] [for more on **Sons of Liberty** and **Fire Companies**, see note after Reel 1 document 69]

59. March 15, 1766 [135]
 Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Conway, reporting further information on the South Carolina situation [with enclosure, document 60]

60. February 6, 1766 [137]
 Printed issue of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, containing extensive reports about protest responses to the Stamp Act in Massachusetts and Connecticut [Frame 138 microfilmed twice]; followed by
 March 13, 1766
 Printed issue of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, containing additional reports about protest responses to the Stamp Act in other colonies, including New York and Rhode Island [both enclosed with Wright's March 15, 1766 letter to Conway, document 59]

61. May 1, 1766 [141]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Conway, stating that new instructions concerning the importation of "*Bullion in Foreign Bottoms*" will be implemented

62. September 22, 1766 [143]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 2 from the Earl of Shelburne at Whitehall to Wright, approving of Wright's "*Conduct during the late Disturbances*"; warning of the importance of enforcing the supremacy of royal authority; ensuring Wright that his and his lieutenant-governor's jobs are safe [copy of this letter in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 1] [Shelburne did not write to Wright letters with numbers 1, 3, 4, or 7; as indicated in the Reel 9 document 1 letterbook with numbered documents, documents with these numbers were references to circular letters]
[Note: Politics in London was unsettled in May through July 1766, as is the chronological order of the documents during the same period. Until May 23, **Henry Seymour Conway** was Secretary of State for the Southern Department. Between May 23 and July 29, **Charles Lennox, 3rd Duke of Richmond and Lennox**, held this Secretary of State position. And on July 30, **William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne** assumed this Secretary of State position. Because of delays in the delivery by sea of correspondence between the colonies and Britain, letters during this period from the colonial governor were frequently directed to a Secretary of State who had already left office. In the case of this outgoing letter, Shelburne is, of course, identified accurately as the Secretary of State in September 1766. He continued in the position until October 20, 1768.]
63. June 28, 1766 [145]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to the Board of Trade, warning that "*I think I pretty clearly see disturbances and mischief gathering and breaking out amongst the Indians*"; blaming the King's regulation of the Indian trade dated October 7, 1763, with explanation of his views and an urgent request that changes be considered, since "*I look upon the Hands of the governor to be tyed up by His Majesty's Royal Proclamation*" [original letter in Board of Trade official correspondence, Reel 2 document 77]; scrivener's note stating that this copy of this letter, identified as "*No. 18*" was enclosed "*In their Lordships Letter, of 3^d. Sept^r. 1766*" [this letter is not found among the microfilmed documents]
64. July 23, 1766 [149]
Duplicate of letter from Wright at Savannah to Conway [on this date, Richmond was actually Secretary of State for the Southern Department], concerning disturbances of the sons of liberty and Georgia's loyal response [with enclosures, documents 65 to 70]
65. July 22, 1766 [151]
Address of both houses of the Georgia Assembly, at Savannah, to the King, expressing their loyalty to the King and their support for royal policies and rule [enclosed with Wright's July 23, 1766 letter to Conway, document 64]

66. July 17, 1766 [153]
Copy of address of the Commons House to Wright, expressing their loyalty to the King and support for Wright's royal governing of Georgia [enclosed with Wright's July 23, 1766 letter to Conway, document 64]
67. July 17, 1766 [155]
Copy of address of the Upper House to Wright, expressing their loyalty to the King and support for Wright's royal governing of Georgia [enclosed with Wright's July 23, 1766 letter to Conway, document 64]
68. July 17, 1766 [156]
Copy of Wright's response to one or both houses of the Georgia Assembly, thanking them for their statements of loyalty [enclosed with Wright's July 23, 1766 letter to Conway, document 64]
69. July 16, 1766 [157]
Copy of address of Wright at Savannah to both houses of the Georgia Assembly, commending them and their actions and calling on them to declare their loyalty and obedience to Britain [enclosed with Wright's July 23, 1766 letter to Conway, document 64]
70. July 16, 1766 [159]
Copy of address of Wright at Savannah to both houses of the Georgia Assembly, commending them on their addresses of loyalty and obedience [enclosed with Wright's July 23, 1766 letter to Conway, document 64]
71. August 23, 1766 [160]
Copy of letter No. 51 from Wright at Savannah to John Pownall, Secretary to the Board of Trade and Plantations, acknowledging receipt of the estimate for the civil establishment of Georgia from June 24, 1765 to June 24, 1766; hoping for early responses concerning several letters he had sent to the Board of Trade concerning the silk culture and Indian affairs, with details
72. October 28, 1766 [162]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Secretary of State the Duke of Richmond, concerning his succession to Secretary of State position; professing his and his colony's loyalty to the Crown
[Note: Wright's knowledge of who was currently Secretary of State for the Southern Department was behind the times. **Richmond** had been replaced on July 30, 1766 by **Shelburne**, as Wright became aware by November 18 (document 73). See the note after document 62 above.]
73. November 18, 1766 [164]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Secretary of State the Earl of Shelburne, concerning his succession to the Secretary of State position [beginning on January 5, 1767, document 80, Wright's letters to Shelburne were numbered]

74. November 18, 1766 [166]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, briefly summarizing for Shelburne's benefit Wright's experience governing and developing Georgia since his arrival and Governor Ellis' departure in November 1760 to the present time and the Stamp Act controversy, with details [with enclosure, document 75]
75. November 10, 1766 [168]
Printed issue of *The Carolina Gazette*, with reports on the Stamp Act protests in Massachusetts [enclosed with Wright's November 18, 1766 letter to Shelburne, document 74]
76. November 29, 1766 [170]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, providing additional documentation of prior developments and needs in Georgia, including especially matters of defense preparedness and Indian affairs [with enclosure, document 77]
77. February 15, 1762 [172]
Copy of answers by Wright to Board of Trade's questions of October 1761 about the status of the Georgia colony, its development, its finances, and its government; copied by Wright on November 29, 1766 [enclosed with Wright's November 29, 1766 letter to Shelburne, document 76]
78. [no date] [188]
"A General State of the Trade from October 1765 to Oct^r. 1766", including total values for imports from Britain, from the West Indies, from the Northern Colonies, and "by Negro's from africa" and exports from Savannah and from Sunbury to Europe, the West Indies, and the Northern Colonies
79. February 19, 1767 [189]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 5 from Shelburne at Whitehall to Wright, approving of Wright's reports of past actions and approaches, especially to Indian affairs; commenting that he wished the Governor George Johnstone of West Florida had paid the same attention to maintaining peace with the Indians; stating that the King had recalled Johnstone; concerning what steps were being taken to resolve the hostile Indian situation in West Florida; hoping that other colonial governors would learn lessons from Johnstone's errors [Copy of this letter in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 1]
80. January 5, 1767 [191]
Copy of letter No. 1 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, concerning the practice of Indian affairs in Georgia [with enclosures, documents 81 to 84]
[Note: Wright wrote 14 numbered letters to Shelburne, dated between January 5 and December 8, 1767. Of these, all except No. 5 and No. 7 are microfilmed here. For a summary of Letter No. 5, dated May 15, 1767, plus three enclosures, see Reel 10, document 13. For a summary of Letter No. 7, dated July 20, 1767,

see Reel 10 document 17. Shelburne's term as Secretary of State for the Southern Department lasted from July 30, 1766 until February 27, 1768.]

81. April 29, 1766 [193]
Quote from a Talk by an Indian leader; followed by
June 8, 1766
Quote from another Talk by an Indian leader;
copied on January 3, 1767 by Wright [enclosed with Wright's January 5, 1767
letter to Shelburne, document 80]
82. December 17, 1766 [195]
Copy of letter from John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern
District [for more on **John Stuart**, see note after Reel 1 document 79], at
Charleston, to Wright, concerning Indian Affairs and traders; followed by
January 5, 1767
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to [Stuart?], concerning Indian affairs and
traders
copied on January 3, 1767 by Wright [enclosed with Wright's January 5, 1767
letter to Shelburne, document 80]
83. June 8, 1766 [199]
Copy of Wright's reply to a Talk by an Indian leader
Copied on January 3, 1767 by Wright [enclosed with Wright's January 5, 1767
letter to Shelburne, document 80]
84. [no date] [201]
Printed copy of Wright's general instructions to Georgia traders on how to treat
Indians, beginning with the general admonition "*to set good Examples before
them: And your Behaviour must be such that no offence be given to the
Christian Religion*" [enclosed with Wright's January 5, 1767 letter to Shelburne,
document 80]
85. October 7, 1763 [date form was adopted] [202]
Printed form to license a trader with the Indians; with handwritten notes by Wright
explaining and expanding on it, including note that the form was published in the
Georgia Gazette on December 8, 1763 [enclosed with Wright's January 5, 1767
letter to Shelburne, document 80]
86. January 5, 1767 [203]
Letter No. 2 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, concerning the current status
of affairs in Georgia, offering a positive view of matters, at least temporarily,
justifying his past actions and stating that he will continue his policies
87. February 16, 1767 [205]
Letter No. 3 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, concerning receipt of certain
instructions from London and seeking to learn the status of other correspondence

88. April 6, 1767 [207]
Letter No. 4 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, concerning difficulties with Georgia Assembly, specifically Commons House, with Sons of Liberty, and with enforcement of Mutiny Act; concerning military preparedness of Georgia and Indian relations; concerning government in South Carolina; concerning other matters of Georgia colonial government and maintaining sovereignty of Britain in America [with enclosures, documents 89 to 101] [Frame 211 microfilmed twice] [copy of letter to Board of Trade, with similar enclosures, in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 95] [Wright's Letter No. 5 is not microfilmed in the Georgia Colonial Papers; for a summary of Letter No. 5, dated May 15, 1767, plus three enclosures, see Reel 10, document 13]
89. January 20, 1767 [215]
Extract from Journal of Georgia Assembly's Upper House, quoting several documents, including message from Wright to the Assembly, dated January 20, 1767, concerning request from Captain Lieutenant Ralph Phillips, commander of troops in Georgia, that a list of "*necessaries allowed by the Mutiny Act to Soldiers in America*" be provided to his troops; seeking Upper House advice on complying with the law; followed by
January 6, 1767
Extract from letter from Phillips, at Charleston, to Wright, requesting that the list he enclosed of necessities be provided; followed by
Resolution supporting Wright's understanding of a lawful response to Phillips' request [which would require funding for the necessities]; followed by
Copy of address by the Upper House to Wright, conveying its resolution that Wright should take all lawful action [including funding] concerning both the Phillips request and also regarding the need for repairs at Fort Halifax [a fort located within the city of Savannah; by 1759-1660, funds were found to rebuild it] [all enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88] [similar enclosure in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 96]
90. January 20, 1767 [217]
Extract from Journal of Georgia Assembly Commons House, quoting several documents, including Wright's message to Assembly and Phillips' request to Wright [same as in document 89], including the list of necessities and including the full name of the Mutiny Act, "*an Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion and for the better Payment of the Army and their Quarters*"; followed by
January 28, 1767
Extract from Journal, including decision to adopt and send a resolution to Wright concerning Phillips' request with an address from the Commons House; followed by
February 18, 1767
Extract from Journal, including approval of address to Wright from Commons House, conveying that house's position that "*complying with the Requisition*"

contained in your Excellency's Message would be a Violation of the trust reposed in them by their Constituents and founding a Precedent they by no Means think themselves justifiable in introducing"

[all enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88]

91. February 5, 1767 [219]
Extract from Journal of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, quoting a petition from "*Merchants residing in the Province*" of Georgia to both houses of the Georgia Assembly, concerning their opposition to enforcement of taxes and duties imposed on Georgia and the other colonies; seeking their repeal and requesting recompense for financial losses; followed by
February 10, 1767
Extract from Commons Journal, including committee recommendation that Commons House respond positively to the merchants' petition, petitioning Wright or the King to get the laws repealed and to pay recompense; followed by
February 13
Extract from Commons Journal, considering additions needed to the proposed petition to Wright or the King, including the issue of the state of Georgia militia; concerning need to obtain Upper House consideration of the proposed petition; followed by
February 16, 1767
Extract from Commons Journal, reporting that Upper House had received the Commons House's proposed petition and would consider it
[all enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88] [copy to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 98]
[**Note:** This merchants' petition may be a late reaction against enforcement of the Stamp Act in Georgia—although that act had been repealed by Parliament in March 1766. Or it might be an early reaction to a new revenue act and several other duty acts being enacted in 1767—although the Revenue Act was not assented to by the King until June—that became known collectively as the **Townshend Acts**, after Charles Townshend, Chancellor of the Exchequer (see note after document 149 below). In any event, merchants even in less "radical" Georgia remained upset about taxes and duties in this lull between British efforts to raise revenue by taxing trade.]
92. [no date] [222]
Copy of proposed "*Estimate [from the Commons House] of the necessary Charges of Government in the Province of Georgia for one Year commencing the 29th September 1766 and ending the 29th September 1767*", including expenses of the courts, Assembly, and contingencies, with notes [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88] [copy to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 100]
93. March 20, 1767 [223]

Extract from Journal of Upper House, disagreeing with Commons House's proposed Estimate provisions; specifically objecting to a salary of £100 for Charles Garth as "*Agent for this Province*", which Upper House finds "*irregular*" since he is now agent for South Carolina; similarly, objecting to proposed reimbursement to Treasurer of funds he had lent to Garth; including reasons for objections [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88] [copy to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 101]

94. March 20, 1767 [225]
Extract from Journal of Commons House, including text of Wright's response to Commons House, disagreeing on approving the proposed Estimate items suggested by that house [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88] [Frame 225 microfilmed twice] [copy to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 102]
95. March 26, 1767 [227]
Extract from Journal of Upper House, resolving that they oppose the Commons House move to hire its own agent for Georgia, and that Commons House has exceeded its authority in naming an agent; stating that the recognized Agent for Georgia is William Knox; resolving to address Wright concerning this matter [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88] [copy to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 103]
96. [no date] [228]
Copy of address by Upper House to Wright, concerning its opposition to Commons House's action to appoint its own agent for Georgia [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88]
97. March 26, 1767 [229]
Extract from Journal of Commons House, including decision to send petition to the King and Parliament "*respecting the Scarcity of Paper Currency in this Province*"; resolving to convey the petition via Charles Garth; also requesting that Garth "*use his utmost Endeavor*" to obtain Royal approval of a 1765 provincial law [previously disallowed] confirming land grants by South Carolina in the area south of the Altamaha River; reiterating its support for a salary for Garth; expressing concern about a decision by British Commander in Chief in North America Thomas Gage to reduce the number of troops in Georgia and requesting that Wright seek to replace these troops; including text of address from Commons House to Wright requesting that troop levels in Georgia be maintained; summary of Wright's response that he did not have authority to replace the troops, but that he would try to get Gage to send particular officers and troops to particular places, such as Fort George, and that the Commons House's proposals concerning Charles Garth would be a "Revolution" but in any case that to come to him for his consideration, they would need Upper House

approval; authorizing expenditures of £193.12.6 to be paid to certain military officers and soldiers for garrison duty [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88] [copy to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 99]

98. [no date] [232]
Copy of petition from Commons House to the King, concerning the need for relief from the shortage of paper currency [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88] [copy to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 104]
99. [no date] [234]
Copy of petition from Commons House to Parliament's House of Lords, concerning the need for relief from the shortage of paper currency [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88] [Frame 235 (blank) included twice] [copy to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 105]
100. [no date] [236]
Copy of petition from Commons House to Parliament's House of Commons, concerning the need for relief from the shortage of paper money [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88] [copy to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 106]
101. November 10, 1767 [238]
Extract from Journal of Commons House, ordering that £105 be sent to Garth in London and that the Commons House will reimburse the Treasurer for this amount [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 88]
102. July 18, 1767 [239]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 8 from Shelburne at Whitehall to Wright, responding to Wright's letter of April 10, 1767 [document 88 with its many enclosures, [documents 89 to 101], agreeing with Wright that the Georgia Commons House has seriously refused to obey the law; reporting the King's order that Commons House "*will render an exact and complete Obedience in all Respects whatever, to the Terms of the Mutiny Act*"; ordering Wright immediately to order Commons House to "*make those Provisions for the Supply of the king's Troops, which by that Act they are directed to do*" [copy of this letter in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 1]
103. June 15, 1767 [242]
Letter No. 6 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, acknowledging receipt of several new laws from the Board of Trade, especially one temporarily prohibiting the exportation of "*grain corn*"; seeking further clarification about his authority under the Mutiny Act in relation to the Commons House; reporting on laws passed in Georgia and raising new issues about public expenditure of funds

received from the sale of excess public gunpowder; about controlling rebellious slaves; and about other, additional acts and issues [with enclosure, document 104] [similar letter to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 112; extract from this letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 125] [letter No. 7 from Wright to Shelburne, dated July 20, 1767, is not found in the microfilmed Georgia Colonial Papers; for a summary of it, see Reel 10 document 17]

104. February 2, 1767 [248]
Extract from Journal of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, including address from Commons House to Wright, concerning a possible location for Wright's recommended lazarette "*for the Reception of infected Persons coming into this Province*" and requesting that funds received from the sale of gunpowder be released to support the lazarette; including Wright's response to Commons House's request concerning gunpowder money, with which he concurs, releasing £300 [for more on a **lazarette**, see note after Reel 2 document 113] [enclosed with Wright's June 15, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 103] [copy to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 113]
105. August 14, 1767 [250]
Letter No. 8 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, concerning relations with the Indians [with enclosures, documents 106, 107]
106. April 5 and July 30, 1767 [252]
Extracts from two letters dated April 5, 1767 and July 30, 1767 respectively from Wright to Superintendent of Indian Affairs John Stuart concerning difficulties between Indians and traders in the Little River area [enclosed with Wright's August 14, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 105]
[**Note:** The aptly named **Little River**'s lower reaches, where it flowed into the Savannah River not far upstream from Augusta, Georgia, are now submerged under a long dam lake. The river begins about 60 miles to the west and meanders eastward through rural countryside before being drowned. In the 1760s it was on the frontier of friction between Georgian settlers and Creek Indians.]
107. July 29, 1767 [254]
Extract from Journal of Georgia Council, concerning petition dated July 20, 1767 from inhabitants in the Little River area complaining about "*plunder and depredations committed on their Stock of Horses and Cattle by a Party of Creek Indians*"; including copy of petition text with details, signed by 31 individuals; including letter dated July 20, 1767 from four magistrates in the Little River area with similar complaints; which led Wright to set up a Talk with the Indians; followed by
August 4, 1767
Extract from Georgia Council Journal, including texts of several documents: Wright's draft Talk to the Indians, dated July 30, 1767, which was reviewed at the

meeting, in which he takes the complaints he had received to the Indians and seeks to re-establish the mutual friendship and peace promised by the treaty of 1763 [handwritten and printed copies of the treaty at Reel 1 document 79 and Reel 5 document 179 respectively; cover letter explaining treaty at document 25 above]; Wright's July 24, 1767 response to letter from the four magistrates promising action by the Georgia government; July 30, 1767 letter from the four magistrates to Wright with more details about the Indian raids; draft response from Wright to the magistrates, dated August 4, 1767, calling on the magistrates to use their legal authority to use warrants to attempt to apprehend the perpetrators of the crimes complained about; draft by Wright dated August 5, 1767 of another Talk to the Creek Indians, this time promising to punish the Indians who perpetrated the crimes [both enclosed with Wright's August 14, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 105]

108. August 15, 1767 [260]
Letter No. 9 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, concerning the need for greater military protection in Georgia and funding to pay for it; stating that he is paying for existing troops out of his pocket [with enclosure, document 109]
109. April 2, 1767 [262]
“*Extract of Substance of my [Wright's] Letter to Gen^l Gage*”, concerning the dangers to Georgia from insufficient troops and funding for them; stating that he is paying for existing troops out of his pocket; with details of the dangers, including summarized correspondence with Stuart and Gage [enclosed with Wright's August 15, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 108] [similar or copy of extract in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 117]
110. November 14, 1767 [266]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 10 from Shelburne at Whitehall to Wright; conveying the King's approval of Wright's efforts to “*pacify the Creek Indians for the Outrages committed upon them in their Village on Oconee River by the Inhabitants of Augusta*”; recognizing that “*the worst consequences may ensue from the Lawless and brutal Behaviour of the Back Settlers, unless duly restrained, & which therefore cannot be too severely punished*”; reporting the King's approval of using the £300 from the “Powder Duty” to building a lazarette [copy of this letter in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 1]
111. September 17, 1767 [268]
Letter No. 10 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, hoping to be able to stabilize the situation with the Creek Indians
112. September 21, 1767 [270]
Letter No. 11 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, providing a brief update on the situation with the “*attacks of the Assembly*”

113. October 24, 1767 [272]
Letter No. 12 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, reporting on the murder and injury of East Florida inhabitants by Creek Indians at St. Marys, Georgia [with enclosure, document 114] [similar letter to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 121]
114. October 21, 1767 [274]
Sworn testimony of William Clark of St. Mary Parish [located where the town of St. Marys, Georgia now exists, on the St. Marys River, which was and remains the boundary between Georgia and Florida], before Justice of the Peace George McIntosh, concerning the murders by Creek Indians; followed by
October 15, 1767
Sworn testimony of James Lemon, ferryman at Satilla [location uncertain but perhaps site of a ferry on the St. Marys River], before Justice of the Peace George McIntosh, concerning the murders by Creek Indians [George McIntosh was brother of Lachlan McIntosh, later a general in the Continental Army, who in 1777 killed his war-related political rival Button Gwinnet in a duel] [both enclosed with Wright's October 24, 1767 letter to Shelburne] [copy of each in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 122]
115. October 31, 1767 [276]
Letter No. 13 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, concerning having called a session of the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly to explain to them the content of the Mutiny Act and seek their compliance [with enclosures, documents 116, 117]
116. October 27, 1767 [278]
Extract from Journal of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, quoting text of Wright's message to the Assembly concerning requirements of the Mutiny Act; followed by
October 29, 1767
Extract from Journal of Commons House, quoting text from the Commons House's address in response to Wright, having resolved to provide up to £200 to provide provisions for the troops as required by the Mutiny Act, and itemizing the articles to be provided; followed by
October 30, 1767
Extract from Journal of Commons House, quoting text from Wright's response to the Assembly, acknowledging the Commons House's having complied with the Mutiny Act
[all enclosed with Wright's October 31, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 115]
[copies of these extracts plus additional ones dated in 1768 in document 125 below]
117. October 27, 1767 [280]
Text of Wright's message to Upper House of the Georgia Assembly, concerning his having informed the Commons House of its responsibility to comply with

requirements of the Mutiny Act, as conveyed by royal orders received through Shelburne; [apparently copy of enclosure sent to Hillsborough (document 126 below), dated October 28 rather than October 27] followed by October 27, 1767

Text of Upper House's address in response to Wright's message, pledging support for all British laws, including this one; followed by Wright's response of "*great satisfaction*" concerning the Upper House's address [both enclosed with Wright's October 31, 1767 letter to Shelburne, document 115] [copy in document 126 below, sent later to Hillsborough]

Volume 659—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Official Correspondence, (incoming), continued

November 18, 1765 to December 10, 1768 Documents 118 to 161 [Frames 1 to 108]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between "official" and "other" correspondence.

Note: Volume 659 continues from Volume 658 the Secretary of State's papers of (mostly) incoming official correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: Under the direction of Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Earl of Hillsborough, archivists in the Secretary of State's Office began numbering each incoming document (except for documents enclosed with an incoming letter) with a letter and number (e.g. A.1) within a Bundle or Volume. Hillsborough may have brought this practice with him from the Board of Trade. Where found, this Finding Aid reports these numbers as "SS numbers." Volume 659 begins with A.1 and ends with A.25. Only Volume 659 contains SS numbers. This archival practice was not continued in Volume 660.

Note: Secretary of State for the Colonies Hillsborough continued Shelburne's practice of numbering his outgoing letters and having colonial governors number their letters to Hillsborough. Where found, these letter numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

118. February 20, 1768 [1]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 3 from the Earl of Hillsborough at Whitehall, to James Wright, Governor of Georgia, stating that the issues in Wright's letters about difficulties with the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly have been forwarded to the King; enclosing a report by the Board of Trade concerning similar difficulties in Massachusetts Bay Colony; supporting Wright's efforts to enforce obedience to the Crown; stating that word from the Governor of East Florida [James Grant] indicates that no further consequences will accrue from the murders by Creek Indians at St. Marys; enclosing the approved estimate for services in Georgia, in the same amount as the previous year; seeking Wright's opinion about whether the Board of Trade's recent decision to curtail support for the silk industry in Georgia is wise policy or might "*destroy all Hope of Success in this important Article of Produce*", so that the King may be advised on what policy to suggest to the Board of Trade [with enclosures, documents 119, 120] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
[Hillsborough did not write letters to Wright numbered 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 22, 23, 25, or 33. Items with these document numbers in the Reel 9 document 3 letterbook of Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence are all references to circulars sent by the Secretary of State office.]
[Note: For more on **Wills Hill, 1st Earl of Hillsborough**, see note after Reel 2 document 137. He had a long career in British politics and government with overlapping important responsibilities: First Lord of the Board of Trade from 1763-1765; Secretary of State for the Colonies and First Lord of the Board of Trade from 1768-1772; Secretary of State for the Southern Department from 1779-1782. On February 27, 1768, Hillsborough assumed the new position of Secretary of State for the Colonies (this letter was thus written several days before he was officially appointed), a position he held until August 27, 1772. Although the position of Secretary of State for the Southern Department was not abolished, in 1768 it became a secondary position from the point of view of colonial governors, who clearly communicated now with the new Secretary of State for the Colonies.]
[Note: For more on Georgia Governor **James Wright**, see note after Reel 1 document 9. For Wright, this was just another of several changes of Secretary of State to whom he had to report and from whom he sought approbation and support.]
[Note: For much more on East Florida Governor **James Grant**, see the David Library's Finding Aid on the British Colonial Office papers for the British colony of East Florida.]
119. [no date] [6]
Copy of Estimate for civil establishment of Georgia and other incidental expenses from June 24, 1767 to June 24, 1768, totaling £3,086 [enclosed with Hillsborough's February 20, 1768 letter to Wright., document 118] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3] [SS number A.1]

120. February 5, 1768 [8]
Extract from a Letter from [John] Pownall [Secretary to the Board of Trade] to Richard Phelps [probably at the Treasury], stating that, since the bounty granted for silk culture in Georgia "*has not had the desired Effect*", the Board of Trade wishes to discontinue the bounty, after already committed expenses in the 1767-1768 Estimate for Georgia have been paid [enclosed with Hillsborough's February 20, 1768 letter to Wright., document 118] [SS number A.2] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3] [for more on **John Pownall**, see note after Reel 1 document 7]
121. December 8, 1767 [10]
Letter No. 14 from Wright at Savannah to Shelburne, acknowledging receipt of an act concerning duties in the colonies [SS number A.3]
[**Note:** Shelburne continued as Secretary of State for the Southern Department until October 20, 1768, while Hillsborough began as Secretary of State for the Colonies on February 27, 1768. Regardless, when Wright dated this letter to Shelburne, he was still the "Principal" Secretary of State in relation to the colonial governors, until Hillsborough assumed his newly created position in February.]
122. February 23, 1768 [12]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 5 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, acknowledging receipt of Wright's December 8, 1767 letter to Shelburne [document 121] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
[**Note:** Hillsborough evidently got a running start on his new position. This letter is dated four days before he was officially appointed as Secretary of State for the Colonies.]
123. May 23, 1768 [14]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning bills passed by the Georgia government; concerning issues with some of these bills, including those concerning the Commons House's having appointed Charles Garth as its agent to the King; concerning the efforts of some people, such as the Sons of Liberty, and some in the Commons Assembly, who are "*Considering Mistaken Notions of American Liberty and Power*"; concerning his own beliefs and opinions supporting the notion of liberties under a benevolent British government; concerning prosperity in Georgia and encouragement by England of trade; concerning other issues, in detail [with enclosures, documents 124 to 130] [SS number A.4]
124. February 18, 1768 [22]
Extract from Journal of Georgia Council, concerning a bill from Charles Garth, dated February 15, 1768, for £100 for his salary, which was contested since he had not been appointed to the position of Georgia's agent; the Council supported Wright's position that Garth could legally not be paid [enclosed in Wright's May

23, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 123] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 135]

125. October 27, 1767 [24]
Extract from Journal of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, quoting Wright's message to the Commons House concerning its duty to comply with provisions of the Mutiny Act; followed by
October 29, 1767
Extract from Journal of Commons House, including text of its address responding to Wright, authorizing £200 to pay for the required soldiers' provisions, which are itemized; followed by
October 30, 1767
Extract from Journal of Commons House, including text of Wright's response to Commons House, supporting its adherence to the law; followed by
January 27, 1768
Extract from Journal of Commons House, approving continuation of Garth as their agent to the British government; followed by
March 9, 1768
Extract from Journal of Commons House, including text of Wright's message, dated March 9, 1768, to the Commons House notifying them that the King had disallowed and repealed a Georgia law on the control of Negroes "*and other slaves*" passed on March 25, 1765, as well as another law passed on March 6, 1766 encouraging new settlement in Georgia, construction of a new "*Great House*", and other matters; also including text of another Wright message dated September 11, 1767, concerning resolving the status of land grants made by South Carolina in the coastal area south of the Altamaha River; followed by
March 24, 1768
Extract from Journal of Commons House, including text of Commons House address responding to Wright's message about the disallowance and repeal of certain laws, recognizing the need for a legal way to control slaves and that some Georgia settlers who may suffer from resolving the South Carolina land grants may need assistance
[all enclosed with Wright's May 23, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 123]
[copies of October 1767 extracts in document 116 above, enclosed in a letter to Secretary of State Shelburne; these and additional extracts dated in 1768 were sent to new Secretary of State Hillsborough]
126. October 28, 1767 [28]
Copy of address of Upper House of Georgia Assembly to Wright, responding to his message [document 127] expressing their support for following the law and specifically the provisions of the Mutiny Act [enclosed with Wright's May 23, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 123] [apparently copy of enclosure sent to Shelburne (document 117 above), dated October 27 rather than October 28]
127. October 27, 1767 [29]

Copy of Wright's message to Upper House of Georgia Assembly, informing them of his communication with the Commons House about their duty to enforce the Mutiny Act [enclosed with Wright's May 23, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 123] [copy sent earlier to Shelburne in document 117 above]

128. March 15, 1768 [30]
Copy of Upper House of Georgia Assembly address responding to Wright's message about disallowance and repeal of the Negro control act and the act concerning South Carolina land grants, assuring Wright that they will support an alternative slave law and wish to consider the potential distress of settlers in relation to the settler act; followed by
April 11, 1768
Copy of address by both Houses of Georgia Assembly concerning recent disallowance and repeal of the two Georgia laws, reiterating the positions each House took separately
[both enclosed with Wright's May 23, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 123]
129. March 9, 1768 [32]
Copy of message from Wright to Council of Georgia, concerning recent disallowance and repeal of two Georgia laws, one on governing Negroes and other slaves and the other on land settlement and paying for a new courthouse; stating that these were important provincial laws, and that action must be taken to reenact similar laws that will be legal; followed by
March 9, 1768
Copy of message from Wright to [Council of Georgia], concerning recent disallowance and repeal of a Georgia law, about settling South Carolina land claims in the area south of the Altamaha River, stating that action must be taken to enact a legal law to settle the legality of these land claims
[both enclosed with Wright's May 23, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 123]
130. April 11, 1768 [34]
Copy of message by Wright to Commons House, assenting to a rewritten act for Negro control; stating he will send it to the King for his approval [enclosed with Wright's May 23, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 123]
131. May 30, 1768 [36]
Letter No. 1 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, congratulating him on his appointment as Secretary of State; informing him of Wright's loyal governing of Georgia and of the progress made in Georgia [SS number A.5]
[Note: Hillsborough began having his outgoing letters numbered when he first began acting as Secretary of State for the Colonies in February 1768, a practice he apparently continued from Shelburne. Like Shelburne, Hillsborough also had the colonial governors number their letters to him. Wright didn't number his No. 1 letter until May 30, while the first outgoing Hillsborough letter (No. 3) in these microfilmed papers (document 118), is dated February 20, a few days before he was officially appointed. Wright wrote to Hillsborough numbered letter No. 1

dated May 30, 1768 to at least letter No. 58 dated May 8, 1771, of which all except No. 6 are microfilmed here.]

132. May 30, 1768 [38]
Letter No. 2 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning Wright's responding to Hillsborough's request for copies of all Georgia laws in force [SS number A.6]
133. May 30, 1768 [40]
Letter No. 3 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning Georgia's response to the Stamp Act as distinct from other colonies to the north; concerning other colonial matters such as silk production [SS number A.7]
134. May 31, 1768 [42]
Letter No. 4 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning various matters of colonial development in Georgia carried over from Shelburne's time to Hillsborough's [SS number A.8]
135. May 31, 1768 [44]
Letter No. 5 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning implementing recent laws of Parliament [SS number A.9] [no letter No. 6 is microfilmed here]
136. May 31, 1768 [46]
Letter No. 7 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning how he has used his power in relation to the Indians and in relation to the Sons of Liberty [SS number A.10]
137. July 20, 1768 [48]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 15 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, concerning Wright's handling of difficulties and lack of flexibility "*in the Mode of issuing and disposing of Money granted for the Support of Government by the Laws of the Colony*", especially when colonial legislation specifically obligated royal money for particular purposes; offering the opinion that payment of the legislated salary of £100 to Charles Garth cannot be withheld by the Governor and Council, and that they should not have approved legislation with such an obligation of money; stating an understanding that repeal of colonial laws without conveying the reasons creates difficulties, which he will try to minimize by sending the Board of Trade orders, which contain the reasons for repeals; enclosing papers with the rationale for repealing Georgia's Negro control act; stating that despite this repeal, the King continues to be pleased with Wright's overall conduct as governor; explaining that the legal solution to the Negro control situation lies in not identifying slaves as "*Chattels Personal*" slaves; explaining that the King tried to find a "*short and easy Mode of Proceeding*" regarding the lands south of the Altamaha and "*is sorry to find that the Assembly has been so far misled by the Enemies of all Peace and Order as to reject the Measure*"; conveying the King's order that Georgia lands "*shall have the same Exemption from Quit Rents for 10*

Years as has been allowed in the like Cases in the Colony of South Carolina"; stating that "*the Law for encouraging the Importation of Settlers was not repealed for any of the Reasons you suppose*"; enclosing a paper explaining the actual reasons [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]

138. June 8, 1768 [52]
Letter No. 8 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, listing laws passed by Georgia government; explaining that these are necessary for the wellbeing of the colony; seeking clarification for the proper procedures to convey them to the Secretary of State and/or the Board of Trade; postscript dated June 11, 1768 expressing hope that the relationship between the Governor and Assembly is improving [SS number A.11] [Frame 52 microfilmed twice] [similar letter to Board of Trade, with same date, in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 134; copy of letter #8 to Hillsborough in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 138]
139. July 1, 1768 [55]
Letter No. 9 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning operation and prices in the silk culture industry [with enclosure, document 140] [SS number A.12] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 137]
140. [no date] [57]
List of silkworm cocoons made and of silk produced each year, from 1755 to 1768 [enclosed with Wright's July 1, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 139]
141. July 4, 1768 [58]
Letter No. 10 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting that the boundary between "*us and the Indians*" has been surveyed, but not before many disputes about the boundaries of many private properties along the border; expressing concern about the possibility of the Indians allying with the Negro slaves against the British settlers [with enclosure, document 142] [SS number A.13]
142. April 18, 1768 [60]
Extract from letter from [John] McIntosh, Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District to Wright, concerning a "Talk" with the Upper and Lower Creek Indians about the British "*Fugitive Laws*" and Indian practices in relation to "*delivering up of fugitive Negroes*" [enclosed with Wright's July 4, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 141]
[Note: This John McIntosh was another of the numerous, interrelated McIntoshes of Georgia, South Carolina, and East Florida. He became a Deputy Superintendent under John Stuart in 1766 and later, apparently was assigned to the Chickasaw Indians.]
143. September 15, 1768 [61]

Draft [outgoing] letter No. 17 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, expressing approval of Wright's report on silk production, on setting boundaries with Indian lands, and on fugitive Negroes; concerning a man named Alexander Willy [Wylly], who claims to be former Speaker of the Georgia Lower House and has been improperly presuming to speak on behalf of Georgia inhabitants to the government of Massachusetts Bay; the King wanting to ensure that Mr. Wylly does not actually become Speaker of the Lower House [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]

[Note: Alexander Wylly (1731-1781) was a prominent attorney in Savannah who had moved here from his native Ireland in about 1756. As revealed in other documents in these microfilmed papers, in 1762 he was representing petitioners before Georgia's Chief Justice. The Alexander Willy in this letter may be the same person. However, members of the Wylly family in Savannah were numerous, and this person seems to lean toward what was to become the Rebel cause against the British. By contrast, wealthy attorney Alexander Wylly remained a steadfast loyalist, evacuating to East Florida only when his property and livelihood were endangered in 1776.]

144. August 5, 1768 [63]
Letter No. 11 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning trade with the Indians and provisions about this trade in the King's Proclamation of 1763; concerning fugitive slaves and the Indians; concerning other Indian affairs issues [with enclosures, documents 145 to 148] [SS number A.14] [Frame 63 microfilmed twice] [similar letter with same date and same enclosures is in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2, document 144]
145. November 18, 1765 [67]
Extract from minutes of the Indian Congress at Picolata in East Florida, which culminated in the Treaty of Picolata, negotiated by East Florida Governor James Grant and Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District John Stuart, with the Creek Indians, with references to the setting of boundaries in Georgia [enclosed with Wright's August 5, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 144] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 145] [for more on the **Treaty of Picolata**, see note after Reel 2 document 145]
146. January 10, 1766 [68]
Copy of agreement between Governor of Wright of Georgia and Captain Alleck "*one of the Kings and head men of the Creek Indians*" as a part of the Treaty of Picolata of November 18, 1765, establishing boundaries between Creek and British lands in Georgia, mostly identified by rivers, including especially the St. Marys, Altamaha, Oconee, Ogeechee, Canoochee, and Apalachee Rivers [enclosed with Wright's August 5, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 144] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 148]
[Note: Captain Alleck was a Creek Indian chief with considerable personal influence. He chose to live apart from the Lower Creek Villages farther to the west. Making his home on an inland tributary of the Altamaha River, he

apparently intentionally located himself in the border area between European and Indian territory. At the Picolata Treaty Assembly in November 1765, the Creek Indians apparently granted to him authority to negotiate with Governor Wright the details of a boundary in Georgia between European and Indian lands. Although this may have made Captain Alleck appear a stooge of the Europeans, he apparently played a much more devious, crafty game for what he judged to be his own personal gain.]

[**Note:** On the frontier, **rivers** served as highways as well as boundaries. The five rivers mentioned here were especially important in facilitating the migration of British settlers inland as they expanded their territory from the coast into the interior. Trading posts were located on rivers and at river junctions. And the rivers provided access for Indians to come to Savannah to meet and negotiate with Georgia colonial officials. At any one point in time, the rivers also provided convenient boundaries. However, because the frontier between Indians and British settlers was constantly shifting in practice, despite agreements and treaties, river boundaries were inherently unstable. Of the six rivers identified, four (St. Marys, Oconee, Ogeechee, and Altamaha) flow directly into the Atlantic Ocean along the Georgia coast, and two (Canoochee and Apalachee) are inland rivers, tributaries of the Ogeechee and Altamaha respectively.]

147. July 27, 1768 [70]
Copy of a "Talk" by Wright and Stuart to chiefs of the Lower Creek Nation, reaffirming boundaries in Georgia negotiated in January 1766 and adding new boundaries identified largely by rivers or lands adjacent to rivers, [enclosed with Wright's August 5, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 144] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 147] [see note on rivers after document 146]
148. [no date] [72]
Hand-drawn map showing lands separated between the St. Marys River [at the top, to the south], the Altamaha River, and the Apalachee River [at the bottom, to the north]; also showing a stylized Indian village and routes between the rivers [enclosed with Wright's August 5, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 144] [copy of map in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 146] [see note on rivers after document 146]
149. August 6, 1768 [73]
Letter No. 12 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating his opposition to the kinds of rights-based protesting being done by the government in Massachusetts Bay and rejecting such protesting in Georgia [SS number A.15] [similar letter with same date to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 149]
[**Note:** The reference here is to the leading role Massachusetts was playing in American colonial opposing enforcement of the **Townshend Acts** of 1767. These acts represented Britain's next attempt, after repeal of the Stamp Act, to raise revenues to pay off the French and Indian War debt. Townshend

mistakenly believed that the American colonies would not object to an “external” tax levied on all British domains as they had objected to the “internal” Stamp Act, which applied to only the North American colonies. Included among the new duties was one on the importation of tea. After the American colonies, led by Massachusetts and Virginia, objected loudly to the new duties, Parliament repealed them in 1770, except for the duty on tea. See especially documents 166 to 169 below for Georgia’s reaction to communications from **Massachusetts** rallying the American colonies in protest against the Townshend Acts, which Wright considered “*dangerous and factious*.”]

150. August 6, 1768 [75]
Letter No. 13 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, having received new laws from Parliament, stating that they will be enforced in Georgia [SS number A.16] [Frame 75 microfilmed twice] [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 154]
151. August 6, 1768 [77]
Letter No. 14 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, having received several orders, stating that they will be enforced in Georgia [SS number A.17] [see document 158 for possibly letter No. 15, although it is identified as letter No. 13] [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 155]
[**Note:** No original letter, copy of letter, duplicate letter, or summary of letter identified as No. 15 from Wright to Hillsborough is found in these microfilmed documents. However, document 158 below, a letter dated September 17, 1768, which is identified as No. 13 (despite there being another No. 13 in document 150) is actually Wright’s Letter No. 15. Wright himself refers, in his letter No. 21 (document 157 below) to his “*letter N^o. 15. of the 17th of Sept^r*.”]
152. October 3, 1768 [79]
Letter No. 16 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning issues with and complaints about the officers of customs in various colonies, but not in Georgia [SS number A.18]
153. October 3, 1768 [81]
Letter No. 17 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning policies about the use of quit rents [SS number A.19]
154. October 4, 1768 [83]
Letter No. 18 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating he will pay attention to certain orders of the Crown [SS number A.20]
155. October 4, 1768 [85]
Letter No. 19 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating he will follow instructions received [SS number A.21]

156. October 5, 1768 [87]
Letter No. 20 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, disagreeing that Garth's salary should be paid because the Governor and Council have the sole right to appoint public officials, not the Assembly; suggesting language to exclude chattels personal slaves from the proposed rewrite of the Negro control act, with explanations about past practices regarding chattel slavery; concerning his views about quit rents [SS number A.22] [Frame 87 microfilmed twice] [extract from this letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 143]
157. October 5, 1768 [90]
Letter No. 21 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, conveying information about the approximate numbers of Indian gun men by tribal group, which Wright calculates to total 8,040 [SS number A.23]
158. September 17, 1768 [92]
Letter No. 13 [actually letter No. 15; see note after document 151 above] from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning the negotiation of boundary lines with the Indians [with enclosure, document 159] [SS number A.24]
159. September 3, 1768 [94]
Extract from minutes of Georgia Council, documenting a Talk between Upper Creek headman Emisteseegoe [also spelled Emisteseco] and Wright; beginning with text of Emisteseegoe's Talk, speaking for both Upper and Lower Creeks, summarizing Indian and British relations from an Indian perspective, how they were better in the past and are now worse; making specific complaints, but seeking to negotiate the differences, especially on boundaries; including relations with British East and West Florida; followed by
September 5, 1768
Extract from minutes of Georgia Council, with text of Wright's answer to Emisteseegoe and the Creek Indians, summarizing Indian and British relations from the British perspective, especially on the negotiation of boundaries; seeking to gain the favor of the Indians in continuing friendly relations; seeking to answer specific complaints about border relations, including those relating to East and West Florida; also text of Emisteseegoe's response to Wright's response, stating that despite negotiations and promises with Wright, "*there are those*" among Georgia settlers "*who first ridicule and throw aside all Orders and Regulations that are attempted to be established among them*"; including additional complaints about the actions of both settlers and traders, with details; wishing nevertheless to remain in friendly relations with the British; followed by
September 6, 1768
Extract from minutes of Georgia Council, with text of Wright's response to Emisteseegoe's second Talk, stating that "*we have bad People and mad People amongst Us, as well as you have*"; explaining that he cannot enforce Georgia's laws and rules unless a person has been convicted by a court, and that it is more difficult to enforce laws against people who live in the Carolinas or Floridas if they break the law in Georgia; stating that he has heard similar statements from

Indian headmen concerning their own people; thanking the Indians for continuing to talk and negotiate [Frame 103 microfilmed twice]
[all enclosed with Wright's September 17, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 158]

160. December 10, 1768 [104]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 19 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, stating the King's satisfaction at Wright's having fully explained "*disadvantages*" of certain current trade policies, especially those pertaining to trade with the Indians, but stating that the King "*considers these disadvantages as in great measure unavoidable*" because greater constraints are necessary in the Indian trade than are necessary under British law for trade in general; stating that other matters Wright inquired about have been resolved; stating that the matter of quit rents is still being considered by the Board of Trade; stating that the policies for Indian regulation are being reviewed, based on Wright's concerns on the subject [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
161. October 20, 1768 [106]
Letter No. 22 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, informing Hillsborough that Georgia's Chief Justice, [William] Simpson, died; requesting that steps be taken to replace him with a person who is "*not only a Real Lawyer, but a Man of abilities [and] resolution to Support the Dignity of the Office*" [SS number A.25] [for letter No. 23, see document 168 below]
[**Note:** **William Simpson** was appointed Chief Justice for Georgia on December 15, 1766. He served until his death on October 20, 1768. Wright appointed **Noble Jones** as interim Chief Justice until a new Chief Justice, appointed in London, could arrive. **Anthony Stokes** arrived in Savannah in about September 1769.]
[**Note:** For more on **Noble Jones**, see notes after Reel 2 document 170 (1769) and Reel 3 document 70 (1772). Over the years, Governor Wright turned repeatedly to his friend and political ally Noble Jones for responsible appointments.]
[**Note:** **Anthony Stokes** served as colonial Georgia's last Chief Justice, from 1769 until the last days of the colony in 1782, with a break during the war, between 1776 and 1779, when Georgia had no functioning colonial government. A staunch loyalist, he returned to England after the war and in 1783 published a lengthy book entitled *A View of the Constitution of the British Colonies, in North America and the West Indies, at the Time the Civil War Broke Out on the Continent of America*. In 1784, he petitioned Secretary for the Home Department Thomas Townshend for relief, as a loyalist, to be awarded an ongoing salary of £500 (see Reel 5 document 271).]

Volume 660—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Official Correspondence, (incoming), continued

November 15, 1768 to December 11, 1770 Documents 162 to 226 [Frames 1 to 153]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 660 continues from Volume 659 the Secretary of State’s papers of (mostly) incoming official correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: The archival practice used in Volume 659 of assigning letters and numbers (e.g. A.1) to incoming correspondence within the Bundle or Volume (not including enclosures) was discontinued in Volume 660.

Note: In Volume 660, Secretary of State for the Colonies Hillsborough continued the practice of numbering his outgoing letters and having colonial governors number their letters to him. Where found, these letter numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

162. January 4, 1769 [1]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 20 from the Earl of Hillsborough, Secretary of State for the Colonies, at Whitehall, to James Wright, Governor of Georgia, agreeing that the new Chief Justice for Georgia should be “*a Person of Integrity, Ability and Knowledge in his Profession*” [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3] [for more on **Wills Hill, 1st Earl of Hillsborough**, see notes after Reel 2 document 137 and Reel 6 document 118; for more on **James Wright**, see note after Reel 1 document 9.]
163. December 13, 1768 [3]
Letter No. 24 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning an order from the King that communications from “*His Principal Secretaries of State*” not be shared with the colony’s Council or Assembly; stating that he had never thought it proper to make such communications “*public*” [for letter No. 23, see document 168 below] [copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 156]
164. December 14, 1768 [5]

Duplicate letter No. 25 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, looking forward to receiving the King's commands concerning the future of the silk culture with discontinuance of the bounty; expressing happiness over the King's satisfaction with Wright's boundary negotiations with the Indians; reporting that [Alexander] Wyllly will not be selected again as Speaker of the Commons House but that if he were, Wright would contemplate vetoing his selection [copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 157]

[**Note:** Letters from colonial governors were often sent multiple times on separate ships, in hopes that one of the letters would get through or get through faster to England. Thus, an "**original**" letter would be sent plus perhaps several "**duplicate**" letters. A "**copy**" was usually the copy of a letter sent possibly at a later time and usually to another recipient. Use of these terminology conventions was usually but not always observed. Thus, a document identified as a "duplicate" might in fact be a "copy" or vice versa.]

165. December 24, 1768 [7]
Letter No. 26 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, informing Hillsborough of Georgia's annual tax bill to pay for colonial government, totaling £3471.9.4¾ plus five other bills approved, despite some concerns regarding a letter received from Boston, and being sent for royal approval; stating that he will "*not think of Issuing Writs for another assembly untill I Receive His Majesties Command Relative thereto*" [with enclosures, documents 166, 167] [copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 158]
166. December 24, 1768 [9]
Extract from minutes of Commons House of Georgia Assembly; concerning letters received from the House of Representatives of Massachusetts Bay and from the House of Burgesses of Virginia, relative to petitioning the King for redress of grievances; the Commons House resolving that it "*approves of the Measures by them pursued to Obtain redress of Our Common Grievances*" and for communicating these measures to the other "*Provinces on the Continent*" [enclosed with Wright's December 24, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 165] [copy of extract in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 160]
[**Note:** Since February 1768 (document 118), **Massachusetts** had been viewed by Hillsborough and Wright as a dangerous center of protest. By August (document 149), Massachusetts had become leader among the American colonies in protesting the newly enacted **Townshend Acts**. By December, communications from both Massachusetts and Virginia urging common protest among the colonies were having a positive effect on the Georgia Assembly's Commons House, a situation which Wright (in document 169) considered "*dangerous and factious*." See also documents 167 and 168.]
167. December 24, 1768 [11]
Copy of address by Wright to the Georgia Commons House, criticizing it for taking improper action by supporting the measures contained in the letter from

Boston; reminding them that the Parliament is a superior legislative body to the colonial legislatures; objecting to the distinction between an internal and external tax; stating that if "*America Could be, or was to become Independent of the Mother Country, from that day you might Date the Introduction of your Ruin and Misery*" [enclosed with Wright's December 24, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 165] [another copy of address in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 159]

168. November 18, 1768 [13]
Duplicate letter No. 23 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning redrafting laws such as the repealed Negro regulation act; expressing concerns but hopes that the situation has improved with the Georgia Commons House; stating that "*'Tis Certain my Lord we have People here of the same Principals & Opinion with the Violent Bostonian Sons of Liberty, and the Inflammatory Publications from the Northward*"; suggesting that despite these, Georgia remains a "Flourishing State" [with enclosures, documents 169 to 171]
169. November 15, 1768 [15]
Copy of address by Wright to the Georgia Assembly concerning the Indian trade and Georgia settler violations of the agreements for relations with the Indians, especially land encroachment and various "*Frauds and Abuses*"; stating he is considering a new law for regulation of the Indian trade to punish those breaking the law; announcing the King's approval of using £300 from powder tax collections for support land grants without quit rents for ten years; concerning introduction of a replacement law to regulate Negroes; offering more information for future Assembly consideration of the annual tax bill; stating that the letter from Massachusetts contains "*dangerous and factious*" information; requesting that the Assembly focus on the important matters of legislation Wright has outlined, not the improper issues raised in the Boston letter [enclosed with Wright's November 18, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 168]
170. November 16, 1768 [17]
Copy of address by Upper House of Georgia Assembly to Wright, expressing satisfaction with the steps Wright is taking concerning the tax law, the use of powder-tax funds to support land grants without quit rents, and various other laws; followed by copy of Wright's thanks, with the same date, to the Upper House for its communication [enclosed with Wright's November 18, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 168]
171. November 17, 1768 [19]
Copy of address by Commons House to Wright, concerning enforcement of the laws concerning the Indian trade, favoring use of powder-tax funds to support land grants without quit rents; stating its expectation of giving serious consideration to the tax bill; stating their loyalty to the King and denying having received a letter that might question that loyalty; expressing a desire to work with the Governor; followed by

November 17, 1768

Extract from minutes of Commons House meeting, stating that delivery of the House's address to Wright had been positively accepted; followed by text of Wright's response dated November 17, 1768 to Commons House, thanking them for their loyalty and for their positive view of his actions on issues in his address of November 15, 1768 [document 169]

[both enclosed with Wright's November 18, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 168]

172. December 26, 1768 [21]
Duplicate letter No. 27 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, responding in detail to a set of over 100 instructions received; questioning the dictation of "*only*" 19 seats in the Assembly, based on geographic districts; stating his preference for at least 25 seats; identifying the additional geographic areas deserving representation [frame 21 microfilmed twice]; with questions on other specific instructions in detail, including voter qualifications, the obsolescence of certain instructions, the inapplicability or inadvisability of other instructions, and strong support for others [copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 161]
173. January 14, 1769 [25]
Letter No. 28 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting having just received a sketch of the surveyed boundary between Indian and Georgia territories from Williams Creek on the Little River to the St. Marys River [copy of letter (without number) in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 151]
174. December 24, 1768 [27]
Copy of address by Georgia Commons House to the King, declaring their loyalty and affection for the King, while presenting a "*grievance this Province labours under*" concerning the raising of royal revenue in America
175. January 30, 1769 [29]
Duplicate of letter No. 29 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, expressing hope for continued loyalty to the King in Georgia; but still "*entertaining doubts*", given three years of publications averse to loyalty [copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 162]
176. March 23, 1769 [31]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 21 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, concerning Wright's difficulties with the Assembly, which concern the King, and more generally about difficulties in the colonies concerning the authority of Parliament; referencing a recent speech by "*Dr. Franklin*" about American rights and British tax restrictions on those rights; concerning the King's allowing a new Georgia slave control law, including mention of chattal slaves, "*provided a clause be inserted in such Act to prevent it's taking effect 'till His Majesty's pleasure be*

known thereupon"; reporting a cut of £900 in Georgia's annual estimate for midsummer 1768 to midsummer 1769, because of reduced costs to support the silk culture; stating that the bounty for silk is to be discontinued, over time; conveying the King's approval of Anthony Stokes to be Chief Justice of Georgia [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3] **[Note: Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) was living in London at this time, as he had for some time since the 1750s. He divided his life between political missions for Pennsylvania and certain other colonies and the gentlemanly life of an intellectual and inventor. In 1765, he worked and spoke out publicly for a losing cause, opposing passage of the Stamp Act. In the following years, he became a public commentator in England and America in favor of the rights based position of Americans against British controls such as taxation and limiting representation. The particular speech mentioned in this March 1769 letter is not immediately clear from the context. It must have contained similar content to many of his preserved letters of the time, such, for instance, as his April 27 1769 letter to his friend Samuel Cooper, pastor of Brattle Street Church in Boston.]**

177. [no date] [34]
Estimate of Civil establishment of Georgia and incidental expenses from June 24, 1768 to June 24, 1769, totaling £3,086 [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
178. March 8, 1769 [36]
Letter No. 30 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting on the status of the Negro law and on the silk culture; concerning the situation with the Assembly, "*waiting the Determination of Parliament relative to American affairs*"; expressing displeasure over the King's encouragement of colonial governors "*to grant Baronys and very large tracts of Land to Gentlemen residing in England*"; stating his belief that "*this is not the True Way of Settling or Peopling a [?] Colony*" [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 163]
179. March 21, 1769 [38]
Letter No. 31 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting receipt of letters from Hillsborough and that otherwise, "*Nothing new has happened here*"
180. June 7, 1769 [40]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 24 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, telling Wright that his concerns about the quit rent law need to be directed to the Treasury; having nothing new to report about the King's policy about large land grants to absentee gentlemen [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
181. June 26, 1769 [42]
Duplicate letter No. 32 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating that he is prepared, as ordered, to call a new election [for Assembly members]

"whenever the Circumstances of the Affairs Shall appear to require it"; concerning framing a new slave regulation law and a law regulating Indians as well; reporting with sorrow that the year's silk worm population had been largely destroyed in spring by heavy rains followed by [insects?]; otherwise, reporting that everything else is *"Tranquil"*; concerning Spaniards on the Florida coast who had met with and offered gifts to some Creek Indians; also other news of the Creek Indians [copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 164]

182. July 3, 1769 [44]
Letter No. 33 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, raising the possibility of being granted a leave of absence to return to England for personal reasons, probably in June 1770 or after; stating that he is making his request early *"because I have Purchased Lands of Considerable Value in this Province, and have bought in a great Number of Slaves, and Settled Several Plantations, and therefore it will require Some Months"* for him to be ready to go on leave from Georgia
183. November 2, 1769 [46]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 26 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, conveying the King's approval of Wright's request for a leave of absence; agreeing with Wright's opinion that *"it will not be found necessary to send out a Lieutenant Governor...[because] it would be very difficult to find any Gentleman, properly qualified for such a Station"* [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
184. August 15, 1769 [48]
Letter No. 34 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concurring with a speech by the King concerning execution and enforcement of Parliament's laws in America; expressing his estimation that *"not a man in a Thousand, or I believe I may say Ten Thousand has the least Spark of disaffection to His Majesties Person or his Illustrious family"*; suggesting that the recent opposition against the government and legislative authority of Britain may reflect to some extent the fact that *"there may be some few of Republican Principles in America, there being a Good Many of the descendants of the Oliverian Puritans &c Scattered about"*; but also stating his belief that most Americans are *"so Clearly Convinced that they are not Represented in the British Parliament and also are so Enthusiastically Possessed with an opinion that they Cannot be Constitutionally taxed by a Parliament in which they are not Represented, or be Subject to be Taxes by Laws to Which they have not Consented"* that they will never be convinced otherwise; recalling that there once was a time when opposition to a particular law could be *"Effectually Settled"*, but believing that that possibility exists no longer; expressing concern about Britain's being able to protect its colonial governors *"from Public Affronts or Insults"*; nevertheless, stating his understanding that the current British constitution gives the King and Parliament *"an absolute Right to bind the Colonies"*; wondering whether *"from the Present*

Circumstances and Situation of Affairs [it might] become Expedient to make Some alteration in the Present Constitution relative to America?" [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 1]

[Note: "**Oliverian**" **Puritans** were evidently the followers of Oliver Cromwell. Cromwell succeeded—temporarily, between 1649 and 1658—in establishing first rule of Britain through Parliament without a monarch and then rule without either a monarch or Parliament as "Lord Protector." With his death of natural causes in 1658, Britain returned to its monarchy with Parliament.]

185. August 15, 1769 [50]
Letter No. 35 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning provisions of the new law from Parliament on the silk culture, commenting that "*I cannot think this Colony is at Present able to bear an Expençe of that kind*"; stating his opinion that offering bounties will be necessary for the silk culture to succeed; suggesting that this kind of economic support from Britain would help to maintain positive attitudes among Americans for British rule [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 2]
186. August 15, 1769 [52]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to John Pownall, acknowledging receipt of several recent laws of Parliament relative to America
[Note: On this date, Pownall might have been communicating with Wright as Secretary to the Board of Trade or as Undersecretary of State, since he held both positions from 1768 until 1776. For more on **John Pownall**, see note after Reel 1 document 7.]
187. September 1, 1769 [54]
Letter No. 36 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, offering no new news and reporting that everything is tranquil
188. September 20, 1769 [56]
Letter No. 37 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, having received instructions concerning the operation of lotteries, stating that no such operations exist in Georgia, and that he opposes them as "*evil*"; reporting having begun preparations for an Assembly election; reporting on the spread of non-importation resolutions of colonial governments; reporting that the colonies "*are now so intirely united and Connected. and its absolutely Impossible to Prevent it*" [with probable enclosure, document 189] [Frame 56 microfilmed twice] [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 8]
189. August 17, 1769 [58]
Printed issue of the *South-Carolina Gazette*, publishing the text of non-importation resolutions adopted on July 22, 1769 by an association for South Carolina meeting at Charleston; containing news from other colonies as well; followed by
August 31, 1769

Printed issue of the *Supplement to the South-Carolina Gazette, and Country Journal*, publishing news from Boston concerning protests to the British taxation acts, plus other news; followed by

September 7, 1769

Printed issue of the *South-Carolina Gazette*, publishing news about the organized efforts of “*every respectable Colony in America*” against Britain’s taxation acts; including news specifically from Boston, Philadelphia, Williamsburg, Charleston, and Savannah (text of Commons House’s address to the King dated August 23, 1769 [a document not microfilmed here]); including other news; followed by

September 14, 1769

Printed issue of the *South-Carolina Gazette*, publishing an exhortation for South Carolinians not to lose their freedom by acting like slaves; other exhortations for liberty under the British constitution; news about the South Carolina resolutions of July 22, 1769; also other news; followed by

September 20, 1769

Printed issue of the *Georgia Gazette*, containing general news

[all probably enclosed with Wright’s September 20, 1769 letter to Hillsborough, document 188, although not so identified]

190. December 9, 1769 [67]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 27 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, agreeing with Wright’s judgment that some of the colonies have not arrived at the “*state of Maturity*” achieved by others; stating that the King is now considering what action to take about the “*Illegal Combination against importing into the Colonies the Goods and Manufactures of Great Britain*”; stating that Mr. Bryan, a member of the Georgia Council, having joined in the effort in Georgia to organize against importation, is to be suspended from the Council [see also original of Wright’s March 1, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 201 below, and duplicate of the same letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 11] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3] [for more on **Jonathan Bryan**, see Reel 3 document 11 and note after it]
191. November 8, 1769 [69]
Letter No. 38 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating that the relationship between the branches in Georgia government now appears to be one of “*very Proper Harmony*”; reporting that the same cannot be said for certain other colonies [with enclosures, documents 192 to 195] [Frame 69 microfilmed twice] [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 3]
192. [no date] [71]
Copy of address by [Wright] to the Georgia Assembly, recommending a law “*to prevent Incroachments and trespasses being Committed on the Lands and Hunting Grounds of the Indians*”, now that the boundary lines had been surveyed, and to end “*the present confusion and disorderly State of the [Indian]*”

Trade"; stating that he will be placing before the Assembly recommendations for rewriting the repealed Negro Law; also the law requiring public payment for garrison guard duty will need to be rewritten and enforced; recognizing the need to address certain other laws that will expire; recommending certain provisions that need legal sanction concerning obeying the tax laws, which the British government does not seem to be prepared to repeal, although it may not impose additional ones; invoking a patriotic love for and obedience to the mother country [enclosed with Wright's November 8, 1769 letter to Hillsborough, document 191] [copy of address in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 4]

193. [no date] [73]
Copy of address of Upper House of Georgia Assembly to Wright, concurring with the recommendations in Wright's address to the Assembly [document 192]; concurring in an expression of patriotic love for and obedience to the mother country [enclosed with Wright's November 8, 1769 letter to Hillsborough, document 191] [copy of address in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 5]
194. [no date] [75]
Copy of response by [Wright], thanking the Upper House for its strong support for his recommendations and for its expression of patriotic love for and obedience to the mother country [enclosed with Wright's November 8, 1769 letter to Hillsborough, document 191]
195. November 2, 1769 [76]
Extract from minutes of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, authorizing, debating, amending, and quoting the final text of address to Wright in response to his address; stating agreement with the need to control abuses against Indians and in the Indian trade; agreeing to consider seriously a workable rewrite of the Negro Law and of the Patrol Law; expressing relief that additional tax laws are not being planned but great concern that Georgia is being asked to enforce certain existing tax laws, which Commons House considers to be unconstitutional; still, expressing great support for maintaining harmony and unanimity within the British Empire and its colonies; including Wright's response, dated November 2, 1769, to the Commons House address, reasserting the need for the laws he has proposed concerning obedience to and enforcement of the laws, which he considers an necessary expression of "*the firm Attachment of the People of Georgia to his Majestys Royal Person and Family*"; also stating his sorrow to find items in the Commons House address "*in which I entirely differ in opinion with you*", but maintaining that "*they are Matters which do not lye with us to determine*" [enclosed with Wright's November 8, 1769 letter to Hillsborough, document 191] [copy of extract in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 6 (Commons House address to Wright) and document 7 (Wright's response)]

196. February 17, 1770 [78]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 29 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, expressing hope that Wright will be able to steer the newly elected Commons House toward doing business “*with good Humour and Dispatch*”; stating his understanding that, despite Wright’s hopes, non-importation associations are at work in Georgia; concerning changes in the membership of the Board of Trade Commissioners [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
197. March 9, 1770 [80]
Letter from Charles Pryce, Attorney General of Georgia, [in England] to [someone in the Secretary of State office, to be brought to Hillsborough’s attention], concerning Pryce’s leave of absence to England; seeking Hillsborough’s approval to extend his leave because of ill health and other misfortunes; with two other signatories, Lady Jane Boyles, Parsons Green [?] [the identities of Lady Jane Boyles and Parsons Green are not evident, unless Green is actually Grame and this person is related to William Grame who resigned as acting Attorney General while Pryce was on leave, leading to the appointment of James Hume [see document and note after Reel 3 document 10 as well as documents 199 and 201 below]
198. January 20, 1770 [82]
Letter No. 39 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, expressing pleasure at the King’s approval of his request for a leave of absence; expecting to begin his leave in June 1770; stating that James Habersham will act in Wright’s stead as governor during Wright’s absence; stating that he will personally “*fortify and Prepare him in the best manner I can before my departure*”; in a postscript, informing Hillsborough that “*no resolutions for Non Importation have taken Effect here altho’ I think it has been three times attempted by Some few and I believe urged by our Neighbours* [colonies]” [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 9]
199. February 1, 1770 [84]
Copy of letter No. 40 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating that since Attorney General [William] Grame has resigned, he has appointed young gentleman James Hume, while Pryce remains on leave of absence [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 10; for more on **William Grame** and **James Hume**, see note after Reel 3 document 10]
200. April 14, 1770 [86]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 30 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, expressing the King’s approval of appointment of Hume as Attorney General while Pryce’s leave of absence has had to be extended [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
201. March 1, 1770 [88]

Letter No. 41 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating that he has suspended and removed [Jonathan] Bryan from the Council, pursuant to the King's order; stating that "*Combinations and Confederacies against Importing the Manufactures &c of Great Britain into the Colonies*" are tending toward destroying the country's commerce; stating that the non-importers are "*not only ungratefull and unwarrantable, but also illegal*"; stating his purpose to ensure that no non-importation agreement is put into effect in Georgia [duplicate of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 11; for more on Bryan, see note after Reel 3 document 11, as well as documents 117, 118, 120, 121, 125]

202. April 12, 1770 [90]
Letter No. 42 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating that Georgia "*remains as when I wrote last, and I hear nothing further about any Resolutions*" [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 12]
203. June 12, 1770 [92]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 31 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, stating that the King is pleased "*that His Colony of Georgia continues in a State of such good Order and Tranquillity*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
204. May 10, 1770 [94]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Pownall, acknowledging receipt from Pownall of the estimate for the civil establishment of Georgia from midsummer 1769 to midsummer 1770
205. May 10, 1770 [96]
Duplicate letter No. 43 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting no further public notice in Georgia of the letter received from the House of Burgesses of Virginia; stating that reaction in Georgia to the non-importation efforts in other colonies has been mostly negative; stating that his method has been to talk privately with any individuals he heard were favoring non-importation efforts, a strategy he believes is working positively [another duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 13]
206. May 11, 1770 [98]
Duplicate letter No. 44 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting on the difficulties of working successfully with the new Assembly to obtain needed legislation concerning Indian affairs, Negro control, and others; stating that "*The Present Ideas of Liberty in america*" require a "*Watchfull Eye*"; describing several enclosures; seeking instructions on how to deal with a resolution that the southern parishes of Georgia should not be made to pay taxes because they are not represented in the [Georgia Commons] House; concerning the silk culture, which is not doing well, which discontinuation of the bounties on silk production

will worsen; concerning 18 bills by the Assembly to which he has assented and only two that he rejected [with enclosures, documents 207 to 210] [another duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 14]

207. November 16, 1769 [102]
Extract from minutes of the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly, including text of an address sent to Wright, concerning the grievance of St. David, St. Patrick, St. Thomas, and St. Mary of not having representation in the Commons House; requesting that Wright call an election to select representatives from these Parishes; including text of Wright's responding address to Commons House, also dated November 16, 1770, stating that he is unsure of his powers to call the election requested; stating that he will seek instructions from England [enclosed with Wright's May 11, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 206] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 15; for more on the four Georgia parishes, see note after Reel 3 document 15]
208. November 27, 1769 [104]
Extract from minutes of the Georgia Council, concurring with Wright that he does not have the power to issue writs of election as requested by the Commons House [Frame 105 (which is blank) microfilmed twice] [enclosed with Wright's May 11, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 206] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 16]
209. February 20, 1770 [106]
Extract from minutes of Commons House, including text of an address from Commons House to Wright, concerning election of representatives from certain parishes in Georgia; stating that delay in holding the election "*may be deemed a denial of Justice*" with which they cannot agree; followed by
February 21, 1770
Extract from minutes of Commons House, including text of Wright's written response to the Commons House address, stating that he did not expect that Commons House would reject his reasonable position supporting the concept while seeking clarification on how to implement it
[all enclosed with Wright's May 11, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 206]
[copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 17]
210. March 12, 1770 [108]
Copy of address from Georgia Council to Wright, reiterating its position stating that Wright's instructions from the King limit his powers to call an election; believing that Commons House has misunderstood those instructions; with details illustrating how the instructions (contained in a 1763 proclamation of the King) are clear, and the Commons House's interpretation does not reflect these instructions; followed by
Copy of Wright's response of March 12, 1770 stating that the Council's thinking is the same as his own [Frame 108 microfilmed twice]

[all enclosed with Wright's May 11, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 206]
[copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 18]

211. May 28, 1770 [110]
Letter No. 45 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, recommending Anthony Stokes, Chief Justice of Georgia, and Lachlan McGillivray, wealthy planter and expert in Indian affairs, to fill two vacancies on the Georgia Council [with enclosure, document 212] [see note after Reel 6 document 161 for more on **Anthony Stokes**]
[Note: **Lachlan McGillivray** (1718-1799) was a Scots Highlander whom James Oglethorpe brought to Georgia as a settler and soldier. He prospered as an Indian trader and planter in Georgia's interior. Establishing close ties with the Upper Creek (Muskogee) Nation, he married and had three children by a woman from a powerful Creek family, thereby becoming an influential chief. Later in life, he moved to Savannah, where he was an influential leader in Georgia government, partly because of his contacts with and understanding of the Creeks. He remained a loyalist during the Revolutionary War and returned to Scotland after the war ended.
Lachlan's half Indian son **Alexander McGillivray** (1750-1793) led a similarly unique career as an Indian trader, planter, and Muskogee (Creek) chief. After serving in the British Army during the Revolutionary War, he negotiated successive treaties on behalf of the Creek Nation with the Spain in 1784 and the United States in 1790. He also worked with the Panton, Leslie Company which held the Indian trading monopoly under both Britain and then Spain in the 1780s and 1790s, becoming a powerful and wealthy intercultural power broker.]
212. May 17, 1770 [112]
Printed issue of *Supplement to the South-Carolina Gazette*, with news about activities at Charleston for "*the General Cause of American Liberty*"; including other news from Boston and other places [enclosed with Wright's May 28, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 211]
213. July 31, 1770 [114]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 32 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, expressing support for Wright's handling of the election issue and of his relations with the Assembly; confirming that the King's policy is to retain control over decisions on places that may have representatives; stating that the existing policy to fill vacancies in colonial Councils is to rely on the Board of Trade; notifying Wright that, despite his own appointments, the Bishop of Norwich is advocating to the Board of Trade for his brother to be appointed, which Hillsborough states is a good choice, of which Wright will approve, and that Wright will be given the opportunity to recommend him [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
214. July 20, 1770 [116]

Letter No. 46 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting having received intelligence that Creek and Choctaw Indians have met at Mobile to discuss peace between the two nations, "*a Circumstance that I'm afraid will be attended with bad Consequences to his Majesties Subjects here*"; suggesting possibly sending a chief each from the Lower and Upper Creeks to England to be exposed to "*the Immense Grandeur of every thing they would See*", as a means of strengthening Creek friendship with Britain [with enclosures, documents 215 to 217] [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 20]

215. March 1, 1766 [120]
Abstract of minutes of a meeting of the "*Fire Company*" in Charleston, including, following professions of loyalty to the British King and Constitution, text of a resolution containing 13 statements of rights, pertaining especially to free trade practices [enclosed with Wright's July 20, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 214] [Charleston's "Sons of Liberty" were called the Fire Company; see note after Reel 2 document 69] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 69]
216. [?] July 1770 [122]
Printed column from newspaper signed "*GEORGIANS*" observing that a certain South Carolina newspaper has declared "*the whole Colony of Georgia INFAMOUS*"; strongly objecting to that characterization and deriding the meetings of "*mistaken and deluded people*" in Charleston to organize non-importation efforts; suggesting that it is the South Carolinians, not the Georgians, who are the most infamous [enclosed with Wright's July 20, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 214]
217. June 27, 1770 [123]
Printed issue of *The Georgia Gazette*, containing information about grand jury and other court proceedings in Savannah, and other news; followed by
June 28, 1770
Printed issue of *The South-Carolina Gazette*, containing news from London, a non-importation resolution from New Jersey, and related news from Charleston; followed by
July 4, 1770
Printed issue of *The Georgia Gazette*, containing news from London; extract from July 3, 1770 minutes of a Georgia Council meeting at which a certain presentment was declared to be not only "*indecent*" but also "*without the least ground or foundation*"; including other news [Frame 129 microfilmed twice]; followed by
July 5, 1770
Printed issue of *The South-Carolina Gazette*, containing news from London; news from Charleston and elsewhere about non-importation agreements, which is stated, all colonies except Georgia have adopted; and other news [Frame 130 microfilmed twice]; followed by
July 11, 1770

Printed issue of *The Georgia Gazette*, containing news of Georgia court actions; extract from July 3, 1770 minutes of a Georgia Council meeting at which a certain presentment was declared to be not only "*indecent*" but also "*without the least ground or foundation*" [same Council meeting as printed in the July 4 issue above]; including "*Supplement*" with opinion columns
[all enclosed with Wright's July 20, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 214]

218. July 23, 1770 [136]
Letter No. 47 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, acknowledging receipt of James Hume's appointment as Attorney General during Pryce's absence
219. August 22, 1770 [138]
Letter No. 48 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting a violent incident in which two English and one Indian were killed [with enclosure, document 220]
220. July 28, 1770 [140]
Printed page from a Charleston newspaper, with handwritten notes added, presumably by the sender, with information about non-importation activities [enclosed with Wright's August 22, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 219]
221. August 22, 1770 [141]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Pownall, acknowledging receipt of copies of several bills adopted by Parliament concerning the colonies plus a speech to Parliament by the King [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
222. November 15, 1770 [143]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 34 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, commending Wright on the steps he has taken "*to prevent the Introduction into Georgia of those pernicious and unwarrantable Doctrines, which have been propagated by the faction at Boston and have found but too easy an Admission into other Colonies, and excited a Spirit of Disorder and Licentiousness, disgraceful to all legal government, and destructive of that Liberty which (it is pretended) they are calculated to preserve*"; deploring the recent Indian incident, which reveals that Georgians are still disregarding the King's recommendation to avoid violence against Indians; not encouraging a visit by Indian leaders to England because of the large expense
223. November 23, 1770 [145]
Report from the Board of Trade at Whitehall to the King, on a February 1770 bill passed by the Georgia government concerning the election of representatives in the colony; stating that the bill substantially changes the constitution of the colony; explaining how this is so; noting that Wright has pointed out that the bill is contrary to his instructions from the King and that for this reason, he had felt he should reject it, except that "all these Alterations were beneficial, and would be

attended with good consequences, and were agreeable to his own proposals, so willing to approve it, except for one provision that limits the duration of the Assembly to three years, recommending that the law now in force should be altered concerning qualifications for election and mode of voting in the way the bill provides; recommending therefore, that the King empower Wright to approve the bill, as suggested by Wright; signed by Soame Jenyns, William Fitzherbert, Lord Greville, Robert Spencer, W. Northey [scrivener's note "*Read by the King*"]

224. October 8, 1770 [149]
Letter No. 49 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning achieving representation in the four new parishes; stating that McGillivray "*will be able to give your Lordship full Information and Satisfaction with respect to our Indian affairs*"; concerning the two English men killed by a small party of Indians; enclosing a Talk [document 225] concerning it in relation to the 1763 treaty with the Creek Indians; recommending Henry Yonge [Surveyor General of Georgia] to be appointed a member of the Georgia Council [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 30]
225. September 5, 1770 [151]
Copy of a Talk given by several Creek headmen at the Euchees, concerning the incident in which two English men were killed by Creek Indians; enclosed with Wright's October 8, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 224]
[**Note:** A tribe of Indians, distinct from the Creeks, living in areas of Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina, called themselves **Euchee**, also spelled Yuchi. This Talk might have taken place at a village of the Euchees, which might have been in northern Florida.]
226. December 11, 1770 [152]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 35 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, conveying the King's approval of Wright's recommendation concerning representation in the four new parishes; sending to Wright a copy of the Board of Trade's concurring report on the matter [document 223] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]

Volume 661—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Official Correspondence, (incoming), continued

October 2, 1770 to December 12, 1772 Documents 227 to 287 [Frames 1 to 227]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between "official" and "other" correspondence.

Note: Volume 661 continues from Volume 660 the Secretary of State's papers of (mostly) incoming official correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: In Volume 661, Secretary of State for the Colonies Hillsborough continued the practice of numbering his outgoing letters and having colonial governors number their letters to him. Where found, these letter numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

227. December 8, 1770 [1]
Letter No. 50 from James Wright, Governor of Georgia, at Savannah, to the Earl of Hillsborough, Secretary of State for the Colonies, clarifying the circumstances of two English men being killed by Creek Indians, enclosing his Talk to the Creek headmen [document 228] and the Lower Creek response [document 229], plus indications of Upper Creek approval, not yet received; stating that *"Its high time my Lord that this matter was brought to a point, and that those wretches should know that they Shall not be Suffered to murder His Majesties Subjects When and Where they Please with Impunity, as they have done hitherto and I fear will be the Case in the Instance now in agitation"*; quoting from his letter to John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District, *"that I think our Indian affairs are on Such a Footing as must End in war, and that I am Informed that his Deputy at Pensacola or Mobile is taking great Pains to make a Peace between the Creeks and Chactaws, Which is Surely bad Policy, and that for my own Part I Look upon it as making War between the Indians and us"* [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 31]
[**Note:** For more on **James Wright**, see note after Reel 1 document 9. For more on the **Earl of Hillsborough**, see Reel 2 document 137.]

228. October 2, 1770 [3]
Copy of Wright's Talk to the headmen and warriors of the Lower Creek Indians, invoking the Treaty of Augusta signed by the English and Creeks in November 1763; stating that the Creeks have not kept their part of the agreement, stating that *"your People have very frequently come into the Settlements and killed the White Peoples Cattle, and Stole their Horses"*, especially in the settlements between Augusta and the Little River, and *"on the White People Following [the horse thieves] to the Indian Settlement at the Oconee, Some Indians Murdered two of the White men"*; therefore, demanding satisfaction, requiring that *"two of the murderers be Immediately Put to Death"* [enclosed with Wright's December 8, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 227] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 32]

229. [no date] [5]
Copy written by Wright of Lower Creek headmen's response to Wright's Talk [document 228], acknowledging that "*What you demand is very Just*" and promising to communicate this to the Upper Creeks, who did the murder, not the Lower Creeks; signed by 7 headmen; identified by Wright as received on December 7, 1770 [enclosed with Wright's December 8, 1770 letter to Hillsborough, document 227] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 33]
230. December 13, 1770 [7]
Letter No. 51 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating his mature consideration that the colony of Georgia is "*in every Respect beaten [?] and defenceless*" with many scattered settlers trying to be productive and very few militia to protect them; that the colony is making progress toward prosperity but is vulnerable to Spanish attack as well as Indian attack; pointing out the need for both ships and troops to be stationed for the defense of Georgia; stating that troops now stationed in North Carolina and East Florida are not close enough to protect Georgia; seeking the Secretary of State's assistance, including funding for a new fort [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 34]
231. February 11, 1771 [11]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 36 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, expressing favor for an Indian policy that cultivates "*their good Will and Affection towards us*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
232. March 12, 1771 [13]
Letter from Cornell [?] Todd at the General Post Office to John Pownall, Undersecretary of State, passing on a letter from Wright to the General Post Office [document 233], so as to inform Hillsborough about the "*extraordinary*" request that no mail be sent to Georgia until a postmaster is appointed [Note: For more on **John Pownall**, see note after Reel 1 document 7.]
233. [no date] [16]
Copy of last page of a letter from Wright to [Mr. DeLancy] stating that "*I am to request Sir that you will not send any more Mails here till you appoint Mr. Ross, or get somebody else to act*" [as postmaster]
234. January 18, 1771 [17]
Duplicate Letter No. 52 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, providing more information on the situation in the back country with the Creek Indians; stating that he has appointed Alexander Wyllly to be Clerk of the Georgia Council, the previous clerk having died; stating that he would not have appointed Wyllly except for the unanimous recommendation of the Council [document 235]; stating his

belief that while Wyly was "*led away by a mistaken Opinion and Zeal, yet I really believe him to be an Honest Man and hope he is Sensible of his Error*"

[Note: For more on **Alexander Wyly**, see note after document 143 above.]

235. December 26, 1770 [19]
Address by Georgia Council to Wright, concerning the death of the clerk of the Council; recommending Alexander Wyly to be appointed to the vacant position; signed by 9 members of the Council [enclosed with Wright's January 18, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 234]
236. January 18, 1771 [21]
Letter No. 53 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, expressing gratitude that something positive may be coming from "*doubtfull*" events [apparently referring to the murder of two English men by Creek Indians]
237. February 28, 1771 [23]
Letter No. 54 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating that he will comply with the royal command to recruit additional men for military service, but suggesting that "*from the great Scarcity of men, I apprehend very few will be met with here*" [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 35]
238. February 28, 1771 [25]
Letter No. 55 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, expressing thanks for being given the authority to alter the law allowing election of representatives from the four new parishes; expressing concern that members of the Assembly are again asserting their rights and privileges and powers, whereas Wright maintains that these powers are distinctly limited; concerning other matters of Indian affairs; in a postscript dated March 2, 1771 Wright suggests that the issue of "*the Parliamentary Power of the assembly Should be brought to a Point by His Majesty's determination thereon*"; also adding a note that new evidence has been received of Indian nations in the interior talking with each other about making war together on "*the white People*" [with enclosures, documents 239 to 241]
[duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 36]
239. October 24, 1770 [29]
Extract from minutes of Commons House of Assembly, including order that an address be sent to Wright requesting that he order an election for representatives from the four new parishes; followed by
October 26, 1770
Quoting text of address dated October 25, 1770 from Wright stating that since the King controls election laws, Wright cannot himself order an election contrary to the current law; followed by order of Commons House that Wright be asked whether he has received new instructions about the election laws; followed by February 2, 1771

Recording approval of an address to Wright dated January 25, 1771, to which Wright had responded that he had already responded to their inquiries about an election for the 4 new parishes, but that he was still awaiting an answer about a possible change in his instructions [enclosed with Wright's February 28, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 238] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 37]

240. January 30, 1771 [31]
Extract from minutes of Commons House of Assembly, assuming power through a committee to examine and inquire into matters in court records; followed by February 18, 1771
The committee's request to the court for information on a possible case of charging double for fees by Thomas Thruder, Deputy Surveyor General, which request was refused by Thomas Moodie, Deputy Secretary, which refusal Commons House considered a "*presumptuous Breach of the Privilege of the House and a daring Contempt of the Authority of your Committee*"; therefore, issuing a warrant for the Provost Marshal to arrest Moodie; followed by February 20, 1771
Commons House considering and disapproving the tax bill for the current year because the 4 new parishes were not represented in the vote [enclosed with Wright's February 28, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 238] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 38]
241. February 22, 1771 [33]
Extract of minutes of Georgia Council, containing text of Wright's presentation of Commons House's proceedings [documents 239, 240), which he considers "*extraordinary*"; comparing these with current parliamentary law and with the record of his actions in relation to the election issue in the 4 new parishes; the Council concluding that the Assembly has overstepped its authority and should be dissolved and the Council's actions published in the *Georgia Gazette*; followed by February 22, 1771
Text of Wright's address to Upper House of Georgia Assembly, thanking them for their good work but declaring his need to dissolve the Assembly because of the conduct of the Commons House; followed by February 25, 1771
Georgia Council's address to Wright, supporting Wright's efforts against the Commons House's conduct; followed by February 25, 1771
Wright's answer to the Council, thanking them for supporting him; followed by February 25, 1771
Concurrence of two additional Council members not in attendance when the Council met to consider the election process issue
[all enclosed with Wright's February 28, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 238] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 39]

242. May 4, 1771 [39]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 37 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, expressing surprise that Wyllly has been appointed clerk to the Council, given his past conduct and principles, supposing that they must have changed considerably, and suggesting that judgment on him be deferred until "*he has given better proofs of his having relinquished those onerous and pernicious Tenets, in which in his former situation he so openly avowed*"; stating that "*The conduct of the [Commons House] is so unwarrantable, and the Powers and privileges they have arrogated to themselves are so dangerous to the liberty of the Subject and so inconsistent with the constitution of a subordinate Colony...as fully to justify the Steps you took in dissolving them*"; recommending that the King commend Wright and express his displeasure with Commons House; also commending the behavior of the Council; thanking Wright for not having used his approved leave of absence during this time, which Wright had hoped to begin in June 1771; informing him that new orders from the King limit such leaves to duty at other colonies as needed or for sickness [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
243. April 30, 1771 [41]
Letter No. 56 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning the Assembly, which he had dissolved and, in March, had allowed an election for a new session; Commons House having already passed an "*Extraordinary Resolve by which they absolutely deny his Majesties Right to put a Negative upon, or disapprove of a Speaker*", an action which he sought to countermand, with support of the Council; concluding that Commons House had "*firmly adhered to their Resolution and My Lord they are so intoxicated with Ideas of their own Importance and Power, that it Seems Absolutely necessary to bring those matters to a Point and Settle them*"; hoping that the King will enforce royal and Parliamentary power by informing the Commons House that it may not usurp those powers [with enclosures, documents 244 to 246] [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 51] [see note after document 276 comparing documents 245 and 244 with 275 and 276, respectively]
244. April 23, 1771 [43]
Extract from journal of Commons House proceedings, containing Wright's approval for an Assembly election and appointment of commissioners; listing the representatives elected and qualified; followed by
April 24, 1771
Extract from journal of Commons House proceedings, listing more representatives elected and qualified; recording that: Commons House had unanimously selected Noble Wimberly Jones to serve as Speaker of Commons House; that Wright had disapproved the choice of Speaker and informed Commons House that it must select another person; that Commons House had elected Archibald Bulloch as Speaker; that Bulloch as Speaker had made requests that Wright approve certain new powers for Commons House; that

Wright had replied that he would allow only the usual rights of the Commons House; that Wright then met with both houses of the Assembly, informing them of the royal limitations placed on him concerning powers of the Assembly, and asking that further important business before the Assembly be postponed until after the current planting season; followed by

April 24, 1771

Extract from journal of Commons House proceedings, including a resolution responding to Wright's statements, which was to be redrafted as an address to Wright; recording that two newly elected representatives had, for private reasons, declined their seats; sending an address requesting Wright to call new elections for the representative seats vacated; establishing a new committee of privileges and elections, a committee of rules for Commons House, and a committee of grievances; followed by

April 25, 1771

Extract from journal of Commons House proceedings, containing a resolution concerning changed rules of the House, including altered quorum requirements, giving the Speaker "*full power and authority for these purposes and no other*", and appointing John Lee as "*Messenger*" and assistant to the Speaker; resolving to thank Noble W. Jones for his service as former Speaker and as a "*true Lover of his Country by supporting on every Occasion the Honor and Dignity of this House and the Rights and Privileges of the People*"; resolving that "*the rejecting the Speaker, elected by the unanimous consent of the House, is a high Breach of the Privilege of the House, and tends to subvert the most valuable Rights and Liberties of the People*", but that the House had chosen to elect another person so as not to disrupt and delay government; followed by

April 26, 1771

Extract from journal of Commons House proceedings, containing reappointment of Benjamin Franklin as agent for Georgia to the British government; containing text of an address to Wright, declaring Commons House's willingness to consider any bills of substance, regardless of the lateness of the season, consistent with "*the Real Interests of our Constituents, ever keeping in View the great and essential Rights of the People, and the Honour and Dignity of the Commons [House]*"; concerning other business, including consideration of a bill for the militia, a bill for support of Georgia government for 1771, a bill to amend the manner of electing members of Commons House, a bill for watchmen to preserve "*good order in and about the Town of Savannah*"; including text of Wright's address to both Houses of the Assembly objecting to the Commons House's disregard for the lawful authority of the King and Parliament by independently selecting a Speaker and by being unwilling to delay consideration of bills [all enclosed with Wright's April 30, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 243] [see note after document 276 comparing documents 245 and 244 with documents 275 and 276, respectively]

[**Note:** For more on **Noble W. Jones** and his father **Noble Jones**, see notes after Reel 2 document 170 and Reel 3 document 70.]

[**Note:** **Archibald Bulloch** (1730-1777) was a South Carolina native who moved with his family to Georgia in 1758, having already become a practicing attorney.

In 1768 he was first elected to the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly where, by 1771 he had become a popular leader. Both he and Noble W. Jones were early supporters of what became the American revolutionary cause, which would seem to explain why Georgia's Commons House elected first Jones and then Bulloch to serve as Speaker of the House. Later, during the early war years, Bulloch served in the Continental Army in southern engagements, while also being elected to Georgia's early Provisional Congresses and to the Second Continental Congress. In 1777, he died suddenly from yet unexplained causes, leaving something of a leadership vacuum in Georgia's patriot cause.]

245. April 23, 1771 [55]
Extract from journal of Upper House proceedings of the Georgia Assembly, with the opening of the new session; followed by
April 24, 1771
Extract from journal of Upper House proceedings, recording that Commons House had appointed Noble W. Jones Speaker, that Wright had disapproved their choice, that Commons House had therefore elected Archibald Bulloch as Speaker, that Wright had granted Commons House only its customary privileges and rights but no new ones; including text of Wright's address of the same date to the Assembly, including his request that major business of the Assembly be postponed during the planting season; including text of Upper House resolution and address supporting Wright; including text of Wright's brief response the same day to Upper House for its support; followed by
April 25, 1771
Extract from journal of Upper House proceedings, with no business conducted; followed by
April 26, 1771
Extract from journal of Upper House proceedings, recording Wright's speech to both houses of Assembly, dissolving the Assembly because of its overreaching its powers
[all enclosed with Wright's April 30, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 243]
246. April 23, 1771 [59]
Extract from proceedings of the Georgia Council, listing election results for the new Assembly by name and jurisdiction represented, and date qualified; followed by
April 26, 1771
Extract from proceedings of the Council, including summary of Wright's views on Commons House activities and actions, questioning Commons House's authority to take these actions; questioning "*whether it is possible for me to do business with them after such a Resolution and whilst it remains in their Journals*"; with the Council agreeing that the Assembly must be dissolved
[all enclosed with Wright's April 30, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 243]
247. May 8, 1771 [61]

Letter No. 57 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, expressing gratitude that, despite the unsettled nature of Georgia's government, the colony is experiencing "*the Continuance of Public Tranquility*"; thanking Hillsborough for his support [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 52]

248. May 8, 1771 [63]
Letter No. 58 from Wright at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating his doubt that the Creek Indians can be coerced into maintaining friendly relations with the British; reiterating his policy of seeking friendship and accommodation with the Indians; but concluding that Georgians do not trust the Indians to remain peaceful and friendly [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 53]
249. May 8, 1771 [65]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Pownall, acknowledging receipt of Parliament's allocation of £3,086 for the civil establishment of Georgia for 1771; looking forward to seeing Pownall in August [upon his return, on leave, to England]
250. July 3, 1771 [67]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 38 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, conveying information that Georgia's rewritten law on ordering and governing slaves has been approved, while its March 1768 law "*laying a Duty on raw Neat Hides exported*" has been disallowed [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
251. August 3, 1771 [69]
Letter from James Habersham at Savannah to Pownall, stating that Wright had left Georgia on leave for England on July 10, 1771
[**Note:** **James Habersham's** official title, conferred by Governor James Wright, was President of the Georgia Council. In fact, he served as acting governor, without the title, during Wright's leave of absence from July 1771 until February 1773. For more on him, see note after Reel 3 document 9]
252. August 3, 1771 [71]
Letter No. 1 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating that Wright had left Georgia on leave for England on July 10, 1771 [leaving Habersham in charge as an acting governor without the title]; acknowledging receipt of news and of the King's approbation of Wright's dissolution of the Georgia Assembly; expressing his own opinion that the dissolution was necessary and had been supported strongly by the Council; reporting nothing else "*unusual*" in Georgia [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 54]

[**Note:** Habersham, following the practice of Wright and of Hillsborough, wrote a total of 14 numbered letters to Hillsborough while acting as governor of Georgia. All are microfilmed here, dated between August 3, 1771 and August 12, 1772.]

253. December 4, 1771 [73]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 39 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, stating the King's approbation of Habersham's conduct during the Assembly situation; reiterating the King's position that the Assembly was conducting itself in ways beyond its powers; stating that when the time is right for Georgia to reconvene its Assembly, Habersham must state to the Assembly the King's "*Disapprobation of the Conduct and Proceedings of the late Assembly*", warn them against future actions contrary to the British Constitution, and "*negative*" any illegal actions by the Assembly [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
[**Note:** Hillsborough's numbered letters to Habersham while he was acting as Governor of Georgia continued the numbering of letters to Governor Wright, running from No. 39 December 4, 1771 to No. 45 August 7, 1772, all microfilmed here.]
254. September 26, 1771 [75]
Letter No. 2 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, recounting how Wright had convened a new Assembly but because of its "*very extraordinary Proceedings*" had very soon dissolved it; suggesting that if they were reconvened now, they would adopt the same extraordinary actions; thus waiting to hear the King's pleasure about the situation; reporting receipt of a Talk from the Lower Creek headmen, concerning a proposal of the Cherokees to give up some lands to pay off debts owed to traders; recognizing that some of the lands proposed were considered to be lands of both the Cherokee and the Creek Indians; reported having communicated with [John] Stuart [Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District and [George] Galphin [Deputy Superintendent of Indian Affairs] about the subject [with enclosure, document 255] [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 57]
255. August 20, 1771 [78]
Copy of Talk given by Emisteseco [also spelled Emisteseegee], a leader of the Lower Creek Indians, at Cussiters, to Wright, Stuart, and Galphin, emphasizing that the lands the Cherokees say is theirs is and has been Lower Creek land [enclosed with Habersham's September 26, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 254] [for more on **Cussiters**, see note after Reel 3 document 58; for more on John Stuart see note after Reel 1 document 79; for more on **George Galphin** see note after Reel 3 document 68] [another copy of Talk in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 58]
256. September 30, 1771 [80]
Letter No. 3 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, informing Hillsborough that 438 pounds of raw silk from Ebenezer, Georgia is being sent to

London; hoping for more active British governmental support of the silk industry in Georgia [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 59; also, see note after this document for more on **Ebenezer**]

257. October 23, 1771 [82]
Letter No. 4 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, announcing “a *perfect state of Peace with our Indian Neighbours, and the Province continues to flourish and thrive*”; stating that, although the Assembly has caused “altercation” which, he says “*merits the reprehension*” of the British government, “*I believe His Majesty has not more loyal and affectionate Subjects, than in Georgia*”; reporting the death of Francis Harris, member of the Georgia Council; reporting extraordinary rains in Georgia, which may cause the rice crop to “*fall short*” [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 63; also, see note after this document for more on **Francis Harris**]
258. October 31, 1771 [84]
Letter No. 5 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting on a “*very disagreeable Affair*” between back country settlers and a small band of Creek Indians, of which one member was killed; blaming the settlers for “*murder*”, which is not acceptable as a response to the Indians’ habit of stealing settler horses and killing their cattle; planning to make a full inquiry and bring the offenders to justice; restating that the Indians in general are peaceful, the problem being “*stragling Parties of them*” who get into confrontations with the settlers; suggest that establishing a military outpost on the Oconee River might help keep the hostile groups separated; commenting on crops that are selling well, especially tobacco, hemp, and indigo [with enclosures, documents 259, 260] [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 64]
259. October 29, 1771 [88]
Extract from minutes of Georgia Council; containing consideration of the reported killing by a group of Georgia settlers of two Creek Indians along the Oconee River in Georgia’s interior; agreeing that the murder had been done by “*some bad white People*” because the Indians had stolen horses; including an affidavit dated October 24, 1771, made by Martin Weatherford before St. Paul Parish Justice of the Peace Edward Barnard, with information about the matter; the Council recommending that Habersham make a serious inquiry into the matter [enclosed with Habersham’s October 31, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 258] [copy of extract also in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 65]
260. October 29, 1771 [90]
Copy of Talk by Habersham to the headmen and warriors of the Lower Creek Indians, concerning the incident of possible killing of two Indians, not yet confirmed, because they had stolen horses from Georgia settlers; pointing out the errors by both sides—the stealing of horses by the Indians and the violent response of the settlers against the Indians; requesting that the Creek leaders

restrain their Indians from unlawful acts against settler-owned horses and cattle; in return, Habersham agreeing to try to control the actions of Georgia settlers against Indians [enclosed with Habersham's October 31, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 258] [another copy of Talk in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 65]

261. January 11, 1772 [92]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 40 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, reiterating support for Habersham's efforts concerning the Assembly; stating that the lands the Cherokee wish to give up in payment of their debts would be a valuable addition to Georgia's territory, care must be taken not to create difficulties with the Creeks, who also claim the same land; wishing for the advice of Governor Wright on the matter; understanding the difficulty of holding the settlers accountable during a time when claims are being made by British inhabitants in America of extraordinary rights; hoping, nevertheless, that Habersham will enforce the law strictly in the back country; offering no encouragement toward the British government's paying for a military post in the interior; expressing pleasure that the settlers at Ebenezer are producing raw silk; instructing Habersham to give the silk industry all possible encouragement [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
262. November 27, 1771 [95]
Letter No. 6 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, retelling the story of the incident in which one Indian was killed by Georgia settlers after Indians had stolen horses and killed cattle; stating that he is doing all he can to enforce the law on settlers in the back country and also communicating about the situation with Stuart, who was conducting a conference with Indians in West Florida [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 66]
263. December 30, 1771 [97]
Letter No. 7 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting news from Galphin that a Georgia settler named [John] Carey of Queensborough, Georgia [today a part of Augusta] had been "*basely and cruelly murdered by a Creek Indian without the least Provocation*"; reporting considering cutting off trade with the Indians as a means to get them to behave better; stating that production is picking up in Georgia, which will lead to more exports to Britain [with enclosure, document 264] [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 67] [for more on the Carey murder, see Reel 3 document 68 (copy at document 264 below), document 71 (copy at document 271 below), document 72 (copy at document 272 below), and Reel 9 document 3 (copy at 281 below)]
264. December 9, 1771 [99]
Extract from minutes of the Georgia Council, containing text of a November 2, 1771 Talk by several Lower Creek headmen at Chickasaw Square, received from

Galphin concerning the killing of a Georgia settler by Indians; also text of Galphin's December 2, 1771 response to the Indian headmen; the Council advising Habersham "*peremptorily to demand Immediate Satisfaction for the Murder of _____ Carey*"; followed by text of Habersham's Talk dated December 9, 1771 to the Lower Creek headmen, expressing the desire to keep relations open and clear between Georgians and Indians, but seeking "*Common Justice*" for the death of the Georgian settler; asking "*that you give me the Satisfaction I require without delay*" [enclosed with Habersham's December 30, 1771 letter to Hillsborough, document 263] [copy of extract in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 68] [for more on **Carey murder**, see Reel 3 document 67 (copy at document 263 above), document 71 (copy at document 271 below), document 72 (copy at document 272 below), and Reel 9 document 3 (copy at document 281 below)] [for more on **Chickasaw Square**, see note after document 68]

265. February 5, 1772 [103]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 42 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, worrying about the consequences of the killing of a Georgia settler by a Lower Creek Indian; encouraging Habersham to continue paying special attention to matters on the frontier [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
266. February 5, 1772 [105]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 41 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, conveying the King's disallowance of one Georgia act and four ordinances passed in February and May 1770 [subjects of the laws not revealed here] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
267. January 16, 1772 [107]
Letter No. 8 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, describing arrival of a ship "*with about 250 passengers, Men, Women and Children from Belfast in Ireland to settle here*", whose population had suffered from smallpox during the voyage, causing Habersham to quarantine the ship at Tybee Island [at the mouth of the Savannah River]; stating that the harbor is busy with commercial ship traffic, a sign that the colony is flourishing [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 69]
268. April 1, 1772 [109]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 43 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, remarking on the rapid expansion of the Georgia colony, which has led to violence between Indians and settlers; stating that Habersham's responses to the violence have been proper; stating that the estimate approved for Georgia for the current year totals £3,186, including an added allowance [of £100] to purchase "*implements and Utensils for improving the Manufacture of Raw Silk*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]

269. March 30, 1772 [111]
Letter No. 9 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, stating that a new Assembly will be convened in April; stating that he will observe the King's order that he put "*a Negative on the Speaker*" [Noble Wimberly Jones]; making plans to talk with the Indian traders about the land-for-debt swap the Cherokee have proposed; feeling that the present boundaries of the back country are "circumscribed within too narrow Limits" and that opening more land for settlers would reduce the pressure toward violence; promising to promote the silk industry [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 70; also, see note after this document for more on **Noble Wimberly Jones**]
270. June 6, 1772 [113]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 44 from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, expressing pleasure that the Indian traders intend to cooperate with the Georgia government in negotiating the Cherokee land-for-debt swap [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3]
271. April 24, 1772 [115]
Letter No. 10 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting that the Lower Creek Indians had themselves "*put to death the Indian, who murdered John Carey*"; interpreting relations between Georgia and the Lower Creek Indians to be positive and peaceful; again blaming "*their stragling People*" rather than all Indians; stating the importance of a varied agricultural economy, including tobacco and hemp but also indigo and silk; noting the problems of rice, which require a lot of standing water, subjecting people to fevers; especially seeking to convey the importance of developing silk in the growing back country areas [with enclosure, document 272] [duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 71] [for more on the Carey murder, see Reel 3 document 67 (copy at document 263 above), document 68 (copy at document 264 above), document 72 (copy at document 272 below), and Reel 9 document 3 (copy at document 281 below)]
272. April 20, 1772 [119]
Extract from minutes of the Georgia Council, containing text of a Talk made on March 17, 1772, by Lower Creek headmen at Chickasaw Square, about the murder of John Carey by an Indian; followed by Habersham's response, dated April 20, 1772, expressing satisfaction with the Indians' actions in relation to the murdered settler [enclosed with Habersham's April 24, 1772 letter to Hillsborough, document 271] [copy of extract also in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 72] [for more on the Carey murder, see Reel 3 document 67 (copy at document 263 above), document 68 and note after it (copy at document 264 above), document 71 (copy at document 271 above), and Reel 9 document 3 (copy at document 281 below)]
273. April 16, 1772 [121]

Letter from Indian traders at Savannah to Habersham, describing with details the history of the land-for-debt proposal from the Cherokee Indians; concluding that the Lower Creeks are unhappy more because they were not consulted than because they want to keep the land for themselves; hoping that the land cession can be accomplished soon; signed by 9 individuals [Frame 122 microfilmed twice] [copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 73] [see also related petition in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 61 and in document 286, Appendix C below]

274. April 30, 1772 [123]
Letter No. 11 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting having convened the new Assembly but having failed to get the Commons House to agree to and play its proper role in the royal colony, had dissolved the Assembly; stating that he had exercised the “negative” on the House’s choice for Speaker, Wimberly Jones, but that the House had re-elected Jones, which led Habersham to threaten to dissolve the Assembly unless they chose someone else, after which they elected Archibald Bulloch, whom Habersham approved; but he insisted that the “minute” electing Jones be struck from the record, which the House would not do, leading to the Council’s recommending dissolution of the Assembly, which Habersham did after some further delays; stating his opinion that his use of the “*negative*” as ordered, without giving or having reasons for his action, naturally enflamed the House and thus did not achieve its goal of convincing the House to submit to the authority of Parliament and the King; nevertheless, justifying the steps he took; also raising the issue of two criminals having escaped from the Savannah jail, thus also escaping being hanged; calling the present jail “*a wooden Hutt, improperly called a Goal*”; suggesting that this situation allows criminals to frequent Georgia without realistic fear of being punished; requesting that steps be taken to fund a real jail in Savannah, and also to fund the “*Watch Duty*” in Savannah sufficiently to protect the city; recognizing the need for a functioning colonial government to deal with such issues, but not having such a government because of the conflict with the Assembly; concluding with his reluctant opinion of the conduct of Noble Wimberly Jones, “*for some time past in opposing public Business, as very ungratefull and unworthy of a good Man*”; providing details to support his opinion [with enclosures, documents 275, 276] [see duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 74]
275. April 21, 1772 [131]
Extract from minutes of Upper House of Georgia Assembly, reporting receipt from Commons House of word that Noble Wimberly Jones had been elected Speaker, followed by Habersham’s statement that he had “*negatived*” the Commons House’s choice and would not accept re-election of the same person; followed by
April 22, 1772
Copy of proceedings of Upper House, reporting Archibald Bulloch’s election as Speaker, which Habersham accepted; after which Bulloch petitioned Habersham,

requesting that he allow free speech within the Commons House; to which Habersham responded that the Commons House would continue to have the rights and privileges it had always had, but no new ones; including text of Habersham's April 22, 1772 address on the constitutional rights of the Assembly and the powers of the governor, under the laws of Parliament and the King; asking that the Commons House not raise issues of policy at this time but informing it about certain issues, especially concerning relations with the Indians, that are important; followed by

April 23, 1772

Extract from minutes of Upper House, containing text of the Upper House's address to Habersham, dated April 23, 1772, responding positively to Habersham's raising of issues and supporting his governing, to which Habersham responded positively on the same date; followed by

April 24, 1772

Extract from minutes of Upper House, containing Habersham's answer to Commons House accepting Bulloch as Speaker but requiring that Jones' elections be struck from the record; followed by

April 25, 1772

Extract from minutes of Upper House, containing text of Commons House's address to Habersham expressing their desire to continue with public business; containing text of Habersham's response, insisting that references to Noble Kimberly Jones' election be stricken from the Commons House's journal because it suggested that Bulloch was still not truly the Commons House's choice but was selected only when Jones declined to serve, and refusing to return to public business until this is resolved

[all enclosed with Habersham's April 30, 1772 letter to Hillsborough, document 274] [see note after document 276 comparing documents 275 and 276 with documents 245 and 244, respectively] [for more on Noble Kimberly Jones on **Noble Wimberly Jones** and his father **Noble Jones**, see notes after Reel 2 document 170 and Reel 3 document 70; for more on **Archibald Bulloch**, see note after Reel 6 document 244]

276. April 21, 1772 [138]

Extract from minutes of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, containing texts of certification of election for members of Commons House; stating the Commons House's election of Noble Kimberly Jones as Speaker, and when Habersham declined to accept him, Commons House again elected Jones as Speaker; followed by

April 22, 1772

Extract from minutes of Commons House, containing the third, unanimous election of Jones as Speaker, immediately followed by Jones' declining to serve, for personal reasons, whereupon Commons House elected Archibald Bulloch as Speaker; whereupon Bulloch stated that he had requested that Habersham grant to Commons House "*freedom of speech, as by right & Customs they used to have, and all their just privileges & liberties, and that, in any thing he shou'd deliver in the name of the House, if he committed any mistake, it may not be*

imputed to the House, but that he might resort again to the House for a declaration of their true intent & meaning", which Habersham had agreed to grant; containing text of Habersham's subsequent address to both houses of the Assembly, including his decision to limit public business to only a few expiring bills, so that members can attend to personal business that is important "*at this season*"; identifying as important public matters that need consideration the bill for watchmen for Savannah, in light of the recent murder of John Carey by Creek Indians; to which Commons House responded with its readiness to conduct public business; also establishing a Committee of Privileges and Elections to consider issues that arise; adopting rules for Commons House, except altering one so that "*not less than eighteen Members & the Speaker shall proceed to any business*" except in the case of warrants and letters to Members, which shall require "*eight Members and the Speaker*"; followed by

April 23, 1772

Extract of minutes of Commons House, during which the House met and immediately adjourned; followed by

April 24, 1772

Extract of minutes of Commons House, containing new election business in certain parishes; followed by

April 25, 1772

Extract of minutes of Commons House, containing text of Commons House's address to Habersham, expressing the wish, regardless of neglect of their private business, to proceed with needed public business; containing text of Habersham's address in response, noting the "*exceptional minutes*" in Commons House's journal, which elect Noble Wimberly Jones three times as Speaker and then Archibald Bulloch only after Jones declined to serve; desiring that Commons House "*come to a present & speedy determination to recede from* [this position]"; containing text of Commons House's response to Habersham, maintaining that Habersham has misconstrued the "*true intent and design*" of the minutes in question, that nothing offensive is contained in them, and that the House remains ready to conduct the business of Georgia; containing text of Habersham's response to Commons House, which was to dissolve the Assembly [Frame 139 microfilmed twice] [probably all enclosed with Habersham's April 30, 1772 letter to Hillsborough, document 274, although not so identified] [for more on **Noble Wimberly Jones** and his father **Noble Jones**, see notes after Reel 2 document 170 and Reel 3 document 70; for more on **Archibald Bulloch**, see note after Reel 6 document 244]

[**Note:** For the researcher, some confusion may appear to exist between **seemingly the same documents** enclosed with letters sent from Savannah in **1771 and in 1772**, as follows:

Document 243: Letter No. 56, dated April 30, 1771, from Governor James Wright of Georgia to Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Hillsborough, including enclosures:

Document 244: Extracts from the journal of the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly, dated on consecutive days from Tuesday, April 23 through Friday, April 26, 1771

Document 245: Extracts from the journal of the Upper House of the Georgia Assembly, dated on consecutive days from Tuesday, April 23 through Friday, April 26, 1771

Document 246: Extracts from the journal of the Georgia Council, dated Tuesday, April 23 and Friday, April 26, 1771
and

Document 274: Letter No. 11, dated April 30, 1772, from President of the Georgia Council [and acting governor] James Habersham to Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Hillsborough, including enclosures:

Document 275: Extracts from the journal of the Upper House of the Georgia Assembly, dated on consecutive days from Tuesday, April 21 through Saturday, April 25, 1772

Document 276: Extracts from the journal of the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly, dated on consecutive days from Tuesday, April 21 through Saturday, April 25, 1772

While the letters are clearly different, the enclosures have sufficient similarities to require careful examination to distinguish. Each set of Georgia Assembly journal extracts is identified as recording the “*first session of the eighth General Assembly*”. Yet one set contains dates in 1771 and the other in 1772. In each case, the days of the week correspond accurately to the days of the week for the dates identified in the years identified.

Both sets of enclosures pertain in particular to what appear to be slightly different repetitions of an ongoing conflict between the Commons House and Governor Wright (1771) and President of the Council Habersham (1772). This conflict is but one example of the larger conflict between democracy-seeking Georgians and British royal authority, which in turn is an example of similar, contemporaneous conflicts in 12 other North American colonies, which would lead to an American revolution just a few years in the future. The immediate conflict contested the power to appoint the Speaker of the Commons House, with the Commons House attempting to appoint its own choice (rebel-leaning Noble Wimberly Jones) and the Royal Governor and then President of the Council insisting on “*negativing*” (vetoing) him. The circumstances were very similar. However, wording in the Commons House journals differs enough to distinguish the two:

On Wednesday, April 24, 1771, the record (in document 244) states that “*his Excellency the governor had been pleased to disapprove of the choice of Noble Wimberly Jones, Esquire to be the Speaker and therefore desired they would proceed to the Choice of another Speaker. Then, the Members present proceeded to the Choice of another Speaker and unanimously elected Archibald Bulloch*”, whom Wright approved to be Speaker.

On Tuesday, April 21, 1772, the record (in document 276) states that the Commons House had elected Noble Wimberly Jones to be Speaker and that Habersham had “*informed the Members, that they had his Honor’s leave to proceed again to the choice of another Speaker. The House proceeded to the choice of a Speaker, Noble Wimberly Jones Esq^r being again chosen*”, to which Habersham replied that “*he had no personal objection to the Gentleman chosen,*

but that he had it in express command from His Majesty to disapprove of him & that he again rejected him." On the next day, April 22, the Commons House again "*unanimously chose Noble Wimberly Jones Esq^r, who observed, that he had for a long time passed [sic], in former Assemblies, with great inconveniency to his private business, filled that office, but, as it wou'd now be so extremely burthensome to him, he had intended to decline accepting it if offered again, and therefore, for reasons mentioned, with many thanks to the Gentlemen for the honor done him, does decline accepting the Chair*" Then, the Commons House proceeded to unanimously to choose Archibald Bulloch, whom Habersham approved to be Speaker.]

[Note: A pattern of periodic instances of **hostile relations between Georgia Royal Governors and elected Georgia Assemblies** can be discerned in the Georgia Colonial Papers. For the governors, the problem was the more democratically inclined lower or Commons House. The Upper House of the Assembly, as well as the Georgia Council (which, unlike the Assembly, answered directly to the Governor) were generally reliably loyal to the Governor's wishes. During the colonial period before the American Revolution, a Georgia Governor **dissolved a Georgia Assembly** five times because of actions taken by the Commons House, as follows:

July 1756: Georgia's first Royal Governor, John Reynolds, appointed in 1752, dissolved the Assembly, a major factor leading to a Board of Trade investigation and report, which resulted in Reynolds being dismissed as Governor in 1758 and replaced by Henry Ellis. In this case, the government in London blamed the governor and his apparent inability to govern effectively, not the Commons House, for the political crisis that led to the dissolution (see especially Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 121 and Secretary of State official correspondence, Reel 5 document 223).

December 1768: Governor James Wright (who had replaced Ellis in 1760 due to the latter's ill health) dissolved the Assembly after a confrontation with the Commons House over enforcement of the 1765 Stamp Act and later attempts by Parliament to levy taxes on inhabitants of the American colonies. This time—and in subsequent instances of dissolution—London sided with the Governor (see especially Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 documents 166 and 167, of which copies are found in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 documents 160 and 159 respectively).

February 1771: Governor Wright dissolved the Assembly after another confrontation over attempts by the Commons House to exercise independent authority (consistent with similar protest movements at the time in other colonies) against what the Governor considered to be inviolate royal and parliamentary authority (see especially Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 39 and Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 241, of which Reel 3 document 51 is a duplicate).

April 1771: After the February dissolution, Wright moved quickly to reinstate the Assembly and patch up his working relationship with it. In March, new elections were called, and a new Assembly was seated in April. However, the confrontation with the Commons House continued (for details on this

confrontation, see the note above; see also especially Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 documents 243 to 246; duplicate of document 243 is in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 51).

April 1772: In July 1771, Governor Wright left Georgia for a leave of absence in England. He left without having reinstated a new Assembly. During his absence, which lasted until January 1773, Wright's President of the Georgia Council, James Habersham, served (without the title) as acting governor. Just a year after Wright's unsuccessful efforts to reinstate the Assembly, Habersham tried again. Elections were held and a new Assembly was seated in April. By now, the movement in the American colonies toward rebellion was gaining momentum, so the predictable result in Georgia was another, more serious confrontation over democratic v. royal power, leading Habersham to dissolve the newly convened Assembly before the end of April (for details on this confrontation, see the note above; see also especially Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 documents 274 to 276; duplicate of document 274 is in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 74).

Besides the issue of selection of a Commons House Speaker, the confrontation over authority also added new issues. One was whether the governor could order the Commons House to alter its Journal to reflect adherence to British law, as he sought to enforce it. Another was whether the Commons House could insist on expanded rights and privileges or whether the governor could enforce only the traditional rights and privileges of a colonial assembly; these issues are raised in document this document 276.]

277. June 15, 1772 [149]
Letter No. 12 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, acknowledging receipt of royal disallowances of one Georgia act and four ordinances; reporting on his actions in relation to the murdered Georgia settler by Creek Indians; pledging adherence to other instructions received [see copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 76]
278. June 15, 1772 [151]
Letter No. 13 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, reporting on relations with the Indians, steps taken to prevent small pox; reporting having received the current year's estimate for expenses of Georgia government, including an added £100 to encourage the silk culture, for which he is "*most grateful*" [see copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 77]
279. June 15, 1772 [153]
Letter from Habersham at Savannah to William Knox, stating that he will comply with the King's instruction "*respecting the alteration of the public Service of the Church, where the Royal Family are particularly prayed for—I sincerely condole with His Majesty on the afflicting Event of the Death of His Royal Mother*"
[Note: Knox had served off and on for much of Georgia's colonial history, from the late 1750s until at least the early 1770s, as Crown Agent for the colony.]

Stationed in England, he represented the financial and other interests of Georgia. For some time, later, he was also Crown Agent for East Florida. Between 1770 and 1776, he also held another position, jointly with John Pownall (who served as well as Secretary to the Board of Trade), as an Undersecretary of State for the Colonies. This letter and Habersham's letter of the same date to Pownall (document 280) are probably addressed to the two as Undersecretaries of State.]

280. June 15, 1772 [155]
Letter from Habersham at Savannah to John Pownall, informing him that Georgia will comply with expectations that "*all persons do put themselves in deep Mourning*" following the death of Princess Dowager of Wales [the King's mother] [see note after document 279]
281. August 7, 1772 [157]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 45 from Hillsborough to Habersham, agreeing that the punishment inflicted by the Creek Indians on the murderer of John Carey "*clearly demonstrates their friendly disposition and their Resolution to live in peace with us*"; supporting Wright's plan for the cession of lands by the Cherokee Indians; supporting Habersham's efforts to "*support the Rights & Authority of the Crown against the unwarrantable claim of the Assembly*" concerning election of the Speaker; still hoping that the Assembly will change its conduct and that a new Assembly will be convened [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 3] [for more on the Carey murder, see Reel 3 document 67 (copy at document 263 above), document 68 (copy at document 264 above), document 71 (copy at document 271 above), document 72 (copy at document 272 above).] [No. 45 is the last of Hillsborough's numbered letters to Georgia microfilmed here]
282. August 12, 1772 [159]
Letter No. 14 from Habersham at Savannah to Hillsborough, concerning details of use of the £100 allocated to encourage the silk culture; reporting that several "*People from the Northward*", some of them "*Villains*" and "*North Carolina Regulators, have settled and built Hutts on the Lands* [near Augusta] *proposed to be ceded by the Indians to his Majesty*"; having ordered them to leave; reporting that certain Cherokee Indians were marking boundaries for lands they claimed in the area supposed to be ceded; reporting heavy rainfall, which can be expected to increase fevers among settlers [with enclosures, documents 283, 284]
283. August 4, 1772 [161]
Printed text of Habersham's Proclamation forbidding colonial settlement in areas "*reserved for the Use of the Indians as their Hunting Grounds*" and for immediate removal of any who have settled in these areas [Frame 161 microfilmed twice] [probably enclosed with Habersham's August 12, 1772 letter to Hillsborough, document 282, although not so identified]
284. August 12, 1772 [162]

Copy of letter from Habersham at Savannah to Edward Barnard [Justice of the Peace in St. Paul Parish, Wilkes County, northwest of Augusta] sending him 30 copies of the Proclamation concerning illegal settlements on Indian lands, with instructions for him to deliver the proclamations to certain parishes [enclosed with Habersham's August 12, 1772 letter to Hillsborough, document 282]

285. November 4, 1772 [164]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 1 from the Earl of Dartmouth at Whitehall to Habersham, approving Habersham's actions in relation to settlements by "*lawless People*"; expecting early decision by Board of Trade on Wright's proposal for cession of lands by the Cherokees and Creeks; stating that Wright is expected to embark soon upon his return journey to Georgia [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
[Note: **William Legge, 2nd Earl of Dartmouth** (1731-1801), replaced the Earl of Hillsborough as Secretary of State for the Colonies on August 27, 1772. He held the office until November 10, 1775.]
[Note: Dartmouth continued Hillsborough's practice of numbering his letters to colonial governors and having colonial governors number their letters to him. Dartmouth's numbered draft, outgoing letters microfilmed here run consecutively from No. 1 dated November 4, 1772 to James Habersham, acting governor in Wright's absence, followed by No. 2 dated December 12, 1772 through No. 22 dated August 2, 1775 to Governor James Wright. Draft letters numbered 1 and 2 are in this Reel 6, while those numbered 3 through 22 are found in Reel 7.]
286. November 9, 1772 [166]
Report from Board of Trade to the King, on Wright's memorial to Secretary of State for the Colonies Hillsborough concerning a proposal to improve its already considerable prosperity by reducing dangers to the security of the relatively few settlers from more numerous Indians on Georgia's frontier, thereby establishing stability for development; this to be accomplished by obtaining funds to strengthen military and other security forces; funds to be obtained from sale of land ceded by Cherokee and Creek Indians, first to pay off Indian debts owed to Georgian traders and then for efforts to increase security on the Georgia frontier; the land available considered to be between three and four million fertile acres and the value of debts owed considered to be about £45,000; expecting that Creek Indians will agree to the cession, as the Cherokee already have; suggesting a land sale price of six pence per acre with an exemption from quit rents for ten years and from provincial taxes for five or seven years, plus exemption from jury and other duties in Savannah, except for the militia, for whom exemption would cost one shilling per acre; expectations to raise a surplus of funding after paying off the debts owed to the traders; the Board of Trade endorsing Wright's proposal, even though Creek Indian agreement to the arrangement was not yet obtained; suggesting that obtaining willing Creek participation should be a high priority and carefully handled so they do not conclude that they have been "*deceived, and imposed upon and treated with Injustice*"; suggesting several limits and safeguards during the negotiations

to protect the interests of the Crown; signed by the Earl of Dartmouth, Bamber Gascoyne, Lord George Greville, Lord George Stewart of Garlies; followed by Appendix to the Board of Trade Report, containing the following:

Contents

- A. Copy of Wright's memorial to Hillsborough with no date [at Frame 176] [copy of memorial in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 40]
- B. Papers relative to Wright's Memorial, selected and organized by Wright, including [at Frame 188] [copy of list in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 41]
 - 1. Copy of original deed of sale by Cherokee Indians of their lands to settle their debts, dated February 22, 1771 [at Frame 192] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 42]
 - 2. Copy of *Judd's Friend's Talk in answer to Captain Stuart's [Talk] about selling Lands to pay their Debts*", dated March 7, 1771 [at Frame 194] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 43]
 - 3. Copy of "*Talk from the Cherokee Indians to obtain His Majesty's leave to dispose of Lands for payment of their Debts*", dated May 3, 1771 [at Frame 196] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 44]
 - 4. Copy of "*Wright's Talk to the Cherokees in answer to their [Talk] about surrendering their lands*", dated May 23, 1771 [at Frame 198] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 45]
 - 5. Copy of a Talk from the Creeks about the murders committed on the Oconee River and about the Cherokee cession of lands above the Little River, dated May 1, 1771, contained in letter dated June 8, 1771 from Philamon Kemp to Wright [at Frame 200] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 46]
 - 6. Copy of Wright's Talk in answer to the Creek Talk, dated June 25, 1771 [at Frame 208] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 47]
 - 7. Copy of the Cherokee Talk regarding sale of their lands, dated June 8, 1771 [at Frame 211] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 48]
 - 8. Copy of petition of the principal traders with Creek and Cherokee Nations to Wright; signed by 10 individuals, with no date [at Frame 213] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 49, dated June 8, 1771]
- C. Petition of London merchants trading with and interested in Georgia to Board of Trade, signed by 9 individuals, with no date [at Frame 219] [copy in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 61]
- D. Map of the tract of land ceded by the Cherokee, with no date [archivist's note dated December 5, 1926 (at Frame 221) indicates that this map of Indian Boundaries "*has been removed to M.P.G. 20*"; however, map is microfilmed in the next three, unnumbered Frames]

287. December 12, 1772 [223]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 2 from Dartmouth to Wright [in England], forwarding to him a copy of the Board of Trade's report on Wright's proposal concerning cession of Indian lands on Georgia's frontier to Britain in return for payment of the Indians' debts to traders, which has been adopted in substance by the King; itemizing the added stipulations for land sales recommended by Board of Trade; including instructions to Wright, as he is about to return to Georgia, for implementing his proposal, now as the King's orders; wishing Wright a "*prosperous Voyage and happy Arrival in Georgia, and for the Success of a measure which appears to me to be founded in the disinterested Zeal for the public Welfare and the particular Advantage & Happiness of the People you are appointed to govern*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
[Note: Wright had been on leave in England since July 10, 1771. He returned to Savannah by sometime in February 1773.]

Reel 7 (Volumes 662, 663, 664)

Volume 662—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

December 16, 1772 to October 28, 1773

Documents 1 to 29

[Frames 1 to 78]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 662 continues from Volume 661 the Secretary of State’s papers of (mostly) incoming official correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: In Volume 662, Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Dartmouth continued the practice of his predecessors by numbering his outgoing letters and having colonial governors number their letters to him. Where found, these letter numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

1. January 6, 1773 [1]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 3 from [the Secretary of State for the Colonies] the Earl of Dartmouth at Whitehall to James Wright, Governor of Georgia, informing Wright that the King had remitted quit rents on purchases of the land in the area being acquired from the Creek and Cherokee Indians in return for paying off their debts to the traders; allowing the Georgia Council, at its discretion, also to remit certain Georgia taxes [see Reel 6 documents 285 and 287 for Dartmouth’s draft letters No. 1 and No. 2 to Wright] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
[**Note:** William Legge, 2nd Earl of Dartmouth (1731-1801), replaced the Earl of Hillsborough as Secretary of State for the Colonies on August 27, 1772. He held the office until November 10, 1775.]
[**Note:** Dartmouth’s draft letter No. 2, dated December 12, 1772 [Reel 6 document 287] had been addressed to Wright in England. By sometime in February 1773, Wright was back in Savannah. It is likely, therefore, that this letter was sent to Savannah, after Wright had left London, to reach him when he arrived there.]

[**Note:** Dartmouth continued Hillsborough's practice of numbering his letters to colonial governors and having colonial governors number their letters to him. Dartmouth's numbered draft letters microfilmed here run consecutively from No. 1, dated November 4, 1772 (in Reel 6), to No. 22, dated August 2, 1775 (in this Reel 7).]

2. January 12, 1773 [3]
Letter No. 1 from James Habersham, President of the Georgia Council [and acting governor without the title during Governor James Wright's leave of absence in England], at Savannah, to Dartmouth, acknowledging Dartmouth's recent appointment as Secretary of State; reporting that on January 9 he had reconvened the General Assembly of Georgia and had begun doing normal business with it; expressing optimism about Georgia's economic future, especially in light of the expansion of territory for settlement in process with the Indians [with an apparent enclosure, document 3]
[**Note:** Habersham apparently wrote no numbered letters to a Secretary of State between his letter No. 14 to Hillsborough, dated August 12, 1772 (Reel 6 document 282), and this letter No. 1 to Dartmouth. He wrote only this one numbered letter to Dartmouth before Governor James Wright returned from England in February 1773.]
3. December 16, 1772 [5]
Printed edition of the *Georgia Gazette*, which reported that "*On Wednesday last the General Assembly of this province met here, when the Honourable the Commons House made choice of Noble Wimberly Jones, Esq. to be their Speaker, who next day declined accepting the chair; they then chose William Young, Esq. who being presented to his Honour the President was approved of*"; followed by text of Habersham's speech to the Assembly dated December 10, 1772 and text of an address of the Upper House of Assembly to Habersham dated December 11, 1772; followed by text of Speaker William Young's address to Habersham dated December 14, 1772, expressing the Commons House's wish to proceed with normal business; followed by Habersham's "*hearty thanks*" in response [with apparently Habersham's handwritten comment in the margin expressing how happy he was with this outcome], along with other business of the Assembly; also including several court documents signed by Habersham [evidently, but without being stated so, enclosed with Habersham's January 12, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 2]
4. [no date] [7]
Estimate for the civil establishment of Georgia from June 24, 1772 to June 24, 1773, totaling £3,086 [with scrivener's note of its being received at the Secretary of State office from the Board of Trade and "*Plantation office*" on March 2, 1773] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
5. March 24, 1773 [9]

Letter No. 1 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting, after delaying to assess the situation upon his return to Savannah, that he had found in Georgia a "*pleasing prospect of Harmony*" between the governmental branches, despite "*some discontented Factious Persons [who] will always be in every Community*"; stating that a Tea Bill still needs to be passed in Georgia; stating that he had met with M^r. [John] Stuart [Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District] about the Indian lands to be ceded to Georgia, hoping that "*we shall be able to obtain a proper Cession*"; stating that "*about 600 Families [are] ready to Purchase and Settle*" plus "*great Numbers to the Northward of us*"; conveying several reports of violence between Indians and settlers; stating that "*Reports of this sort will always be exaggerated, and indeed nothing can possibly prevent these disagreeable Circumstances from happening and even increased (probably to an actual War)*"; stating that he is seeking to keep prepared with a full roster of militia; having "*no doubt*" that royal support will allow Georgia "*soon be in a state of Safety as with respect to Indians*" [with enclosures, documents 6, 7]

[Note: For more on **James Wright**, see the note after Reel 1 document 9. He had been on leave in England from December 1771 until probably February 1773. He returned as Sir James Wright, having been honored with the title of Baronet.]

[Note: As Georgia Governor, Wright wrote apparently 71 official, numbered letters to Dartmouth as Secretary of State for the Colonies, all but two of which (No. 68 and No. 69) are microfilmed in Reels 6, 7, and 8, including two No. 35 letters with different dates. No. 67, dated January 3, 1776, is the last microfilmed letter Wright successfully sent to Dartmouth from Savannah. Letter No. 68 and letter No. 69 must have been dated between January 3 and March 10, 1776, the date of Wright's last official, numbered letter No. 70 (Reel 8 document 30), which was written in the safety of the British ship *HMS Scarborough* at Cockspur Island (see notes after Reel 8 documents 29 and 30 and surrounding documents for more on Wright's escape from Savannah and departure for England in March 1776).]

6. March 1, 1773 [11]
Extract of minutes of Upper House of Georgia General Assembly, in session with Commons House, to welcome Governor Wright back from leave; with text of Wright's address to the Assembly, noting the benefits of royal support for progress being made in Georgia, especially in expanding Georgia's boundaries; encouraging the Assembly to do its duties to help make this progress a reality; followed by
March 2, 1773
Extract of minutes of Upper House, containing text of Assembly's thank you address to Wright, supporting his early actions on return to the governorship; followed by Wright's reply to Upper House, thanking its members and reminding them of the benefits of "*His Majesty's Paternal Regard, And Attention to this Province*"; followed by
March 3, 1773

Extract of minutes of Upper House, containing text of message from Commons House, dated February 10, 1773, agreeing with Upper House on reappointment of Benjamin Franklin as Georgia's crown agent and disagreeing with other amendments and bills of the Upper House, expecting a conference to discuss the differences; followed by Upper House's agreement for a conference; recording business relative to special court sessions; followed by

March 4, 1773

Extract of minutes of Upper House, continuing work on a bill concerning special courts; followed by

March 5, 1773

Extract of minutes of Upper House, continuing work on a special courts bill; concerning a bill from Commons House on ordering the militia; followed by

March 6, 1773

Extract of minutes of Upper House, with no business conducted; followed by

March 8, 1773

Extract of minutes of Upper House, containing initial approval of the special courts bill; initial consideration of the militia bill adopted by Commons House; followed by

March 9, 1773

Extract of minutes of Upper House, containing request from Commons House for conference on bill "*to prevent hunting by Fire, Light &c*", which Upper House agreed to; followed by

March 10, 1773

Extract of minutes of Upper House, reporting final passage of the special courts bill, which was sent to Commons House for its consideration; agreeing to amendments by the Commons House on the hunting bill; followed by

March 11, 1773

Extract of minutes of Upper House, receiving message from Commons house concerning its passage of bill setting fees for certain public services; a committee reporting having made several amendments to that bill; followed by

March 12, 1773

Extract of minutes of Upper House, recording that Wright had adjourned Upper House until June 8, 1773

[all enclosed with Wright's March 23, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 5]

7. March 1, 1773 [19]
Extract of minutes of Commons House, with text of Wright's address to Assembly upon his return from leave [see extract of same date from Upper House minutes in document 6 for address's content]; concerning consideration of other bills; followed by
March 2, 1773
Extract of minutes of Commons House, with text of General Assembly's response to Wright's address [see extract of same date from Upper House minutes in document 6 for response's content]; concerning a bill to "*empower Commissioners or Surveyors to lay out, make, and repair the roads already laid*

out” and to clear rivers and creeks; concerning a bill “*for a better ordering of the Militia*”; followed by

March 3, 1773

Extract of minutes of Commons House, containing text of Wright’s message to Commons House supporting the bill for surveying the new territories to be acquired; concerning conference with Upper House on a bill on “*hunting with fire, and Killing Deer by night*”; followed by

March 4, 1773

Extract of minutes of Commons House, concerning a bill regulating certain fees for public services; concerning the bill on ordering the militia; followed by

March 5, 1773

Extract of minutes of Commons House, concerning estimate for Georgia government for the coming year; concerning the bills on militia and on hunting; followed by

March 8, 1773

Extract of minutes of Commons House, concerning reprimand of John Oaks, who had insulted a member of the House; followed by

March 9, 1773

Extract of minutes of Commons House, concerning several items of routine business; concerning a needed conference with Upper House on the bill about hunting; concerning a lengthy list of acts of Georgia passed in the 1760s, some of which need to be amended and others rewritten; receiving Upper House’s positive response concerning a conference on the hunting bill; followed by

March 10, 1773

Extract of minutes of Commons House, reporting committee recommendations to amend or rewrite certain listed acts from the 1760s; concerning the conference on the hunting bill, agreeing with the alterations made; followed by

March 11, 1773

Extract of minutes of Commons House, concerning an ordinance appointing Grey Elliott to be Georgia’s agent “*in case of the absence of Benjamin Franklin from Great Britain*”; concerning adjournment of the House until June 8, as ordered by Wright; followed by

March 12, 1773

Extract of minutes of Commons House, concerning consideration of a list of new bills; communicating with Wright concerning the need for cessions of Indian lands along the southern frontier of Georgia, like what is underway to the north; including messages from Wright dated March 13, 1773 concerning how well the Assembly has been doing business and adjourning the Assembly until June 8 [all enclosed with Wright’s March 23, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 5]

[Note: Grey Elliott (? -1787) was a South Carolina planter, born in England, who moved to Georgia in the 1750s. Becoming active in Georgia public affairs, he served over the years as a surveyor, auditor general, and member of the Council. By 1775, he was selected to serve as Georgia’s agent. As a loyalist, he remained in England during the war and did not return to Georgia thereafter. In England, he held a number of public positions. In 1781, his path crossed that of

Georgia again while he was working for the Board of Trade and Plantations. See Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 98.]

8. April 10, 1773 [37]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 4 from Dartmouth to Wright, informing Wright that a Mr. Edward Wilkinson of South Carolina, a trader with a large debt owed by Indians, has asked permission to negotiate the cession of Indian lands in South Carolina to settle his debt; stating that the British government will not allow this, but that he should be eligible for proportionate compensation from the cession of Georgia lands [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
[Note: **Edward Wilkinson** is probably the one (1710/20-1783) who became known as a "Cherokee agent," probably a different title for a trader with the Indians. His entrepreneurial attempt to cash in on a good deal in Georgia was a predictable outcome from approval of the 1773 agreement between Georgia and the Cherokee and Creek Indians. Similarly, refusal of his proposal by British authorities was equally predictable.]
9. April 8, 1773 [39]
Letter No. 2 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that a congress will soon convene with the Creeks and Cherokees to settle the land cession agreement; expressing unhappiness that the Creek proposal for the southern boundary of the land cession area is "*very much Confined and Improper*", although Stuart and the Georgia Council seem to "*have acquiesced*" in it; reporting that "*everything is quiet*" "except for a "*vessel with Negroes having Small Pox on Board*"
10. June 10, 1773 [41]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 5 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, expressing satisfaction with Wright's successful resumption of his governorship and of his relations with the Assembly; expressing confidence that the Indian land cession will be successful [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
11. May 12, 1773 [43]
Letter [unnumbered] from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, expressing joy at having received the news that "*the Queen was happily brought to Bed of a Prince*"
12. June 16, 1773 [45]
Letter [unnumbered] from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that he has taken the appropriate action following receipt of the King's order of April 7, 1773 [not explained here; see document 13]
13. June 16, 1773 [47]

Printed edition of the *Georgia Gazette*, including text of the King's April 7, 1773 order "*further*" regulating and restricting the surveying and granting of lands in the American colonies; including text of Wright's proclamation, dated June 11, 1773, announcing cession of Indian lands, to be sold to settlers by Georgia government; including the Georgia Council's legal notice, dated June 11, 1773, implementing Wright's proclamation; including several other Georgia legal notices [for an outline of microfilmed documents relating to the cession of lands by the Cherokee Indians on this date, see note after Reel 3 document 40]

14. June 17, 1773 [49]
Letter No. 3 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting the success of the Congress with the Indians on the land cession issue and that since then, surveying has begun to establish the new boundaries accurately; noting that large numbers of prospective settlers from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and both Carolinas already are anxious to purchase land; stating he has suggested to the creditors [those trading with the Indians] the importance of raising a "*troop of Rangers*" to keep order during the settlement process; stating that he has notified the creditors to prepare and present their claims for payment of debt; warning that the Indians still seem to be organizing a confederacy to the west; expressing concern, again, for lack of any British military force to protect the colony
15. June 14, 1773 [51]
Letter No. 9 from Superintendent of Indian Affairs John Stuart and Wright to Dartmouth, officially notifying Dartmouth of agreement at the Congress with the Creeks and Cherokees, after "*some Obstructions & Difficulties*", on a treaty discharging the Indians' debts to the traders and cession of Indian lands to Georgia to be sold for settlement, and to pay off the debts; conveying copies of the legal documents [with enclosures, documents 16 to 18] [the logic of this letter number is not clear; Stuart did not number his letters, and this number does not fit into any known sequence of Wright's numbered letters]
16. June 1, 1773 [53]
Copy of the treaty agreement between Georgia and the Creek and Cherokee Indians; original document signed by Wright, Stuart, and headmen of the Creek and Cherokee Nations [enclosed with Stuart's and Wright's June 14, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 15]
17. June 1, 1773 [55]
Copy of Georgia's notification to the Indian traders, who are creditors with claims for outstanding debts of Creek and Cherokee Indians, to "*Release and Discharge*" their debt claims against the Indians [enclosed with Stuart's and Wright's June 14, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 15]
18. June 1, 1773 [57]
Copy of Georgia's notification to Indian traders to declare and discharge any claims they might make against Britain or Georgia in relation to the Indian debts

to them now being discharged [enclosed with Stuart's and Wright's June 14, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 15]

19. May 12, 1773 [59]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to William Knox, acknowledging receipt of the estimate for Georgia's civil establishment for the current year [written to Knox probably in his position between 1770 and 1776 as Undersecretary of State; see note after Reel 6 document 279]
20. August 10, 1773 [61]
Letter No. 4 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, informing him of the difficulties of accurately surveying the newly ceded territory so that the price of land sales can be accurately determined; reporting that already a new incident of a settler named Collins killing two Indians had occurred, that the Indian headmen had acted well in the situation, and that Wright was seeking justice against Collins; realizing that he, Wright, will need to travel often into the new lands, seeking to enforce the law and enforce justice; reporting that the Creeks had refused to give up some of the lands in the cession area along the Oconee River because it is their bear and beaver hunting ground; reporting that other Cherokee lands, probably better lands, had been ceded instead; reporting that he has begun organizing township government in the new area, but that the southern boundary area continues to be less clearly defined and less settled [with enclosures, documents 21 to 24]
21. July 22, 1773 [63]
Printed proclamation by Wright concerning enforcement of the law against the perpetrator, Hezekiah Collins, of the murders of two Cherokee Indians and announcing a reward of £100, £50 for apprehension of Collins, who has fled from justice and another £50 upon conviction of Collins [enclosed with Wright's August 10, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 20]
22. July 21, 1773 [64]
Copy of address of Upper House of Georgia Assembly to Wright, congratulating him on enduring the rigors of successfully completing the treaty with the Indians including the cession of lands for Georgian settlement on the western frontier; followed by
July 22, 1773
Copy of Wright's response to Upper House, thanking them for their support [both enclosed with Wright's August 10, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 20]
23. June 30, 1773 [66]
Copy of address of Commons House of Georgia Assembly to Wright, congratulating him on successfully concluding the treaty with the Indians; followed by
June 30, 1773

Copy of Wright's response to Commons House, thanking them for supporting his actions to accomplish the cession of lands [both enclosed with Wright's August 10, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 20] [Frame 66 microfilmed twice]

Note: Frame 67 contains a Public Record Office note, dated April 28, 1926, stating that a map of "*Lands ceded by Creek and Cherokee Indians...has been removed to M. P. G2*"; nevertheless, that map is microfilmed in document 24.

24. [no date] [no frame numbers]
Copy in six overlapping frames without printed frame numbers of a map of lands ceded by Creek and Cherokee Indians in the treaty signed on June 1, 1773; stating that the ceded lands total 1,616,298 acres; based on a survey described; signed by Philip Yonge, Deputy Surveyor General [son of previous Surveyor General Henry Yonge; he later became Surveyor General before dying in 1783; both Yongs remained loyalists during the Revolution] [see note above] [presumably enclosed with Wright's August 10, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 20, although not so identified]
25. August 16, 1773 [68]
Letter No. 5 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, stating that Collins has not yet been apprehended but expecting that to be accomplished; reporting on the three regiments of foot militia in Georgia, totaling 2,828 men of ages 16 to 60; stating that this was Georgia's total defense at present, he was expecting the numbers to rise soon [Frame 69 microfilmed twice]
26. October 28, 1773 [70]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 6 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, congratulating Wright on the success of the Indian lands cession; abhorring the "inhuman" nature and "barbarity" of the murders of two Cherokee Indians by a Georgia settler; agreeing that the perpetrator must be apprehended and brought to justice; approving Wright's plan to divide the ceded land into townships and districts and to hold elections for representatives from these districts in the spring [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
27. September 15, 1773 [72]
Letter [unnumbered] from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, stating that requested answers to questions in a royally required inquiry "*relative to the State of this Province*" will take some time to prepare and deliver, but that the task will be performed
28. September 15, 1773 [74]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to John Pownall, Undersecretary of State, acknowledging receipt of copies of laws of Parliament and of a speech by the King [for more on **John Pownall**, see note after Reel 1 document 7]
29. September 30, 1773 [76]

Letter No. 6 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, expressing hope for harmony during the next session of the Georgia Assembly; stating that he is preparing a report on the inquiries, and that he will also be sending copies of new laws passed in Georgia

Volume 663—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

March 3, 1773 to December 10, 1774 Documents 30 to 112 [Frames 1 to 184]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 663 continues from Volume 662 the Secretary of State’s papers of (mostly) incoming official correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: In Volume 663, Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Dartmouth continued the practice of his predecessors by numbering his outgoing letters and having colonial governors number their letters to him. Where found, these letter numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

30. January 8, 1774 [1]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 7 from The Earl of Dartmouth, Secretary of State for the Colonies, at Whitehall, to James Wright, Governor of Georgia, congratulating Wright on his accomplishment of substantial tranquility in Georgia during this time [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4] [**William Legge, 2nd Earl of Dartmouth** (1731-1801), served as Secretary of State for the Colonies from August 1772 until November 1775. For more on **James Wright**, see the note after Reel 1 document 9]
31. October 30, 1773 [3]
Letter No. 7 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, stating that “*I cannot consistent with my Duty to His Majesty remain silent on the Subject of the Assembly in South Carolina denying the Right of the Council to sit as an upper*

House"; with details and reasons for his statement; stating that his report on the inquiry is delayed as he attempts to obtain necessary information; promising that he will complete and send his report soon.

32. February 5, 1774 [5]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 8 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, informing Wright that the South Carolina matter is under consideration by the Privy Council, but that the South Carolina petition is not based on the denial to which Wright refers in his October 30, 1773 letter [document 31]; nevertheless, stating that the actions in South Carolina are not looked upon kindly by the King, and appropriate actions will be taken [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
33. December 20, 1773 [7]
Letter No. 8 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, submitting his report on the inquiries about the state of the Province of Georgia, which is enclosed [document 34], along with several attachments to the report [documents 35 to 43]
34. October 30, 1773 [9]
Copy of "*Answers to the Heads of Inquiry Relative to the Present State and Condition of the Province of Georgia*"; answer to 1st question: description of the physical, geographic, and climatological conditions in the colony; answer to 2nd question: description of the colony's boundaries; answer to 3rd question: description of the Atlantic ocean frontage distance of the colony (about 100 miles), acreages of various expansions of the colony through cessions of land by the Indians, the estimated current total being about 6,695,429 acres, estimates of cultivated acreage, numbers of settlers, the overlapping claim to certain Georgia territory by South Carolina, and related information; answer to 4th question: description of principal rivers in some detail; answer to 5th question: description of principal harbors in some detail (including attachment A.N.1) [see document 35]; answer to 6th question: description of the structure of the royal colonial government of Georgia; answer to 7th and 8th questions, which seem connected: description of the trade of the colony and its regulation by Georgia's government; answer to 9th question: provided in a separate customs house report (attachment B.N.2.) [see document 36]; answer to 10th question: description of methods used to enforce customs rules and collections (including attachment C.N.3.) [see documents 37 and possibly 40, 41]; answer to 11th question: description of staple commodities and other trade products from the colony; answer to 12th question: stating that no known mines exist in the colony, but that potential mines may exist on the frontier; answer to 13th question: estimating that the white population may be "*eighteen thousand and upwards*" and the black population "*computed at Fifteen thousand*"; answer to 14th question: estimating the 1761 white population at "*no more than*" 6,100, making the increase since then 11,900; explaining the increase by the availability of good land at moderate prices; answer to 15th question: describing the numbers and activities of the colony's militia; answer to 16th question: descriptions of existing forts and those

under construction; answer to 17th and 18th questions, which seem connected: describing the Indian Nations in and around the colony, estimating their numbers, describing their degree of friendliness to Britain; answer to 19th question: reporting the revenues raised within the colony, by year, which are applied toward support of the colony; answer to 20th question: ordinary expenses of government are available in annual estimates for the colony [an attachment D.N.4, although not identified here, appears to belong here; see documents 38, 39]; answer to 21st question: reporting salaries and incomes by position in the civil establishment of the colony [with enclosures pertaining to several of the questions, documents 35 to 43]

35. December 13, 1773 [23]
Map of the entrance to the Savannah River leading to the harbor of Savannah, [consisting of two unnumbered microfilmed frames], attachment A.N.1. in Wright's report on inquiries [document 34] [enclosed with Wright's December 20, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 33]
36. October 18, 1773 [24]
"An Account of the Number of Vessels, which are Owned, or Part Owned, in the Province of Georgia, with the Tonnage thereof;—or as near as can be taken"; reporting registered vessels in categories, including ships, snows, brigantines, and sloops, with a total of 25 vessels making voyages to sea and 10 more mostly on rivers and creeks, with a combined tonnage for the 35 vessels of 1,990 tons [Frame 24 microfilmed twice]; followed by
October 10, 1773
"An Account of the Imports into the Port of Savannah in Georgia, From Foreign Plantations, between the 5th of January, 1772 and the 5th of January 1773" and *"An Account of the Exports from the Port of Savannah in Georgia, To Foreign Plantations, for the above Period"*, each listing products and their values; with imports calculated to total £810.0.0 and exports £2,693.0.0; these combined are attachment B.N.2. in Wright's report on inquiries [document 34] [both enclosed with Wright's December 20, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 33]
37. October 18, 1773 [26]
"An Estimate of Annual Loss to the Revenue by Illicit Trade in the Province of Georgia, upon an Average for Three Years downward from, January 1769. Supposing the White Inhabitants to have been upon Average Eleven thousand, during that time", with calculations for untaxed consumption of rum, molasses, tea, coffee, muscovado sugar [dark with high molasses content], and wines, suggesting total values of revenue lost in Georgia duties of £846.5.5 and in West Indian duties of £293.11.0; this is attachment C.N.3. in Wright's report on inquiries [document 34] [enclosed with Wright's December 20, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 33] [Frame 26 microfilmed twice]
38. [no date] [28]

"An estimate of the necessary Charges of Government in the Province of Georgia for one Year commencing the 29th September 1770 and ending the 29th September 1771", with itemized amounts totaling £1,145.1.11; this is part of attachment D.N.4. in Wright's report on inquiries [document 34] [enclosed with Wright's December 20, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 33]

39. March 3, 1773 [30]
"An Estimate of the necessary Charges of Government in the Province of Georgia commencing the 29th September 1770 and ending the 29th September 1773", with itemized amounts totaling £3,820.3.11; this is part of attachment D.N.4. in Wright's report on inquiries [document 34] [enclosed with Wright's December 20, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 33]
40. October 18, 1773 [32]
"An Account of the Income of the Collector of His Majestys Customs at the Port of Savannah in Georgia, in the Year 1772", reporting a net income of £240 [this, along with the similar accounts in document 41, appears to be a part of the answer to the 10th question in Wright's report on inquiries (document 34), although not identified so and separate from attachment C.N.3 (document 37)] [enclosed with Wright's December 20, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 33]
41. October 18, 1773 [33]
"An Account of the Income of the Comptroller of His Majestys Customs, at the Port of Savannah in Georgia, in the year 1772", reporting a net income of £120; followed by
October 18, 1773
"An Account of the Income of the Searcher of His Majestys Customs at the Port of Savannah in Georgia, in the Year 1772", reporting a net income of £120 [each, along with the similar account in document 40, appears to be a part of the answer to the 10th question in Wright's report on inquiries (document 34), although not identified so and separate from attachment C.N.3 (document 37)] [both enclosed with Wright's December 20, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 33]
42. October 18, 1773 [34]
Letter from William Haven, Naval Officer of Georgia, at Savannah, to Wright, reporting on the 1772 annual fees collected as follows: total £120.15.0 from the port at Savannah and £33.12.0 from the port at Sunbury [enclosed with Wright's December 20, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 33]
43. October 18, 1773 [36]
Letter from Customs Collector Alexander Thomson and Customs Comptroller and Searcher William Crown to Wright, responding to Wright's request for information about incomes of their offices in 1772 and *"a State of the Foreign Trade, and Shipping of this Port [Savannah]"*; concerning illicit trade, stating that it is conducted mostly by West Indian vessels who land near the mouth of the

Savannah River and seek to unload their cargoes there, without paying duties; reporting less information on illicit trade in foreign European goods and via the Indians on the interior, especially in the Carolinas; stating that the customs operation in Georgia is doing a reasonably good job of keeping the trade as honest as feasible; suggesting that customs officials should be more independent than they are [enclosed with Wright's December 20, 1773 letter to Dartmouth, document 33]

44. December 23, 1773 [38]
Letter No. 9 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting on having sent to the Board of Trade copies of several Georgia bills and of proceedings of both houses of the Georgia Assembly; reporting on having visited some of the ceded lands and on finding them "*very Satisfactory*"; reporting that land sales are picking up rapidly; otherwise reporting that "*every thing is at Present well and easy in this Province*"
45. January 4, 1774 [40]
Letter No. 10 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that he has evidence of the murder of a settler family of six, he surmises, by "*some Struggling Party of Creek Indians—and it's more than Probably owing to the Imprudence of some of the Persons kill'd*"; expressing his intention to "*take every Method in my Power to prevent as far as Possible any bad effect it may have*"
46. March 2, 1774 [42]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 9 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, congratulating Wright on having presented accurate and detailed information in response to the inquiry about the state of the colony; expressing the ongoing feeling that settling the ceded lands will be difficult, but that they will ultimately achieve benefits for Britain [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
47. January 31, 1774 [44]
Letter No. 11 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting with concern another murder by Indians of a frontier settler family of six; hoping that this was either an accident or a case of "too much rashness on both Sides"; reporting yet another murder near this second one, of four white settlers and two Negroes; reporting having ordered the Georgia Militia into the area to provide protection; reporting other instances of potential hostilities; stating that he has written to the governors of [South] Carolina and East and West Florida and will write to the North Carolina governor concerning the situation and the possibility of needing to cut off trade with the Indians; pointing out that "*the Nation of Savages are not less than 4000 effective Gun Men and our whole Strength not 3000*"; stating that his defenses are insufficient if a full-scale war occurs with the Indians, which he fears might happen; stating that he will write to General Haldimand [temporary Commander of British Forces in North America], telling him the situation and

requesting assistance; including additional information and estimations of the possibilities [with enclosures, documents 48, 49]

[Note: **Major General Frederick Haldimand** (1718-1791) was a professional military man in the British Army originally from Switzerland. His military career lasted from the French and Indian War through the early 1770s. In the late 1760s, he was assigned command of British forces in the Southern District and was specifically active in Britain's two new colonies, East and West Florida. In 1773, **General Thomas Gage** (1718-1787) brought Haldimand to New York to assume temporary command of North American forces while Gage was on leave in England. In 1774, he did not return to the South but was assigned to command the forces in New York City. When Gage moved to Boston, Haldimand went with him, commanding the troops in Boston. When the Revolutionary War began officially, causing Britain to insist on British commanders in America, Haldimand was reassigned to be Governor of Quebec, a position he held until 1784.]

48. March 2, 1774 [48]
Copy of a Talk by Wright to headmen of the Upper and Lower Creek Indians, referring to the treaty for ceded land and the beginnings of negative relations on the frontier; stating the intent of keeping the peace and punishing perpetrators [enclosed with Wright's January 31, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 47]
49. [no date] [50]
Copy of address by Wright to Commons House of the Georgia Assembly, explaining the situation with new Indian violence on the frontier; expressing the need for additional militia and for Commons House approval to pay for it; followed by
January 28, 1774
Response of the Commons House to Wright's address, agreeing with his actions and requests; congratulating him on his "*watchfull attention and care*" in these matters; stating that it is situations like this that "*inspire His Majestys faithfull American Subjects*"; followed by
January 28, 1774
Wright's thank you to Commons House for its positive and patriotic address [all enclosed with Wright's January 31, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 47]
50. March 2, 1774 [53]
Letter No. 12 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, stating that he has closed the matter of apprehending Hezekiah Collins, who cannot be found, but feeling that it is time to close the matter, satisfying the situation with "*some pecuniary Amends*"; still awaiting a response from the Creek Indians concerning other recent murders by them; meanwhile, work goes on toward settlement of the land and of establishing political representation for the frontier inhabitants [Frame 53 microfilmed twice]
51. March 10, 1774 [55]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Undersecretary of State John Pownall, acknowledging receipt of instructions from the King [for more on **John Pownall**, see note after Reel 1 document 7]

52. March 12, 1774 [57]
Letter No. 13 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, submitting a petition [enclosed, document 53] from the Council of Georgia; stating the content of the petition, which thanks the King for allowing cession of Indian lands and new settlement by Georgia colonists, but which states the conviction that peace and safety will never be accomplished with the Indians; relating, in support of the petition, details of recent violence and stating the inadequacy of Georgia's defenses [with enclosures, documents 53 to 58]
53. March 9, 1774 [61]
Petition from the Council of Georgia to the King, thanking the King for approving the cession of lands from the Creek and Cherokee Indians but warning of the need for defenses to protect the population from violence by the Indians on the frontier; signed by James Habersham, President [enclosed with Wright's March 12, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 52]
54. March 8, 1774 [63]
Address of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, thanking the King for approving the cession of lands; seeking assistance to provide needed protection for settlers on the frontier [Frame 63 microfilmed twice] [enclosed with Wright's March 12, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 52]
55. March 9, 1774 [64]
Address of Upper House of Georgia Assembly to Wright, requesting that the governor seek assistance in these dangerous times to provide needed protection for settlers on the frontier; signed by James Habersham, President [enclosed with Wright's March 12, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 52]
56. March 9, 1774 [67]
Response of Wright to address from Upper House [document 55], promising to place its concerns of the need for protection before the King through Dartmouth [enclosed with Wright's March 12, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 52]
57. March 9, 1774 [68]
Address of Commons House to Wright, asking Wright to take the protection issue to the King, requesting his assistance; signed by William Yonge, Speaker [enclosed with Wright's March 12, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 52]
58. March 9, 1774 [70]
Response of Wright to address from Commons House, promising to send its concerns of the need for protection before the King through Dartmouth [enclosed with Wright's March 12, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 52]

59. March 12, 1774 [71]
Letter No. 14 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning an effort to appoint Benjamin Franklin to be agent for Georgia to the crown; warning of a recurrence of the Commons House of the Assembly's previous efforts in 1767 to establish its own agent to the crown, bypassing the Upper House, Council, and governor [with enclosures, documents 60 to 63]
[Note: The 1767 incident over appointing a provincial agent occurred in March, 1767. In the Board of Trade incoming correspondence, see Reel 2 documents 99, 101, and 103. In the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, see Reel 6 documents 93, 95-97, and 101.]
60. March 12, 1774 [74]
Address of Upper House of Georgia Assembly to Wright, reporting to him evidence that Commons House seems to have taken unto itself the power to appoint the agent to the crown for Georgia and has reappointed Benjamin Franklin for the position on its own authority [enclosed with Wright's March 12, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 59]
61. March 12, 1774 [75]
Response to Upper House address concerning Commons House having reappointed Benjamin Franklin to be Georgia's agent to the crown; assuring the Upper House that its rights and privileges will be preserved and that Wright will inform the Secretary of State of this situation [enclosed with Wright's March 12, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 59]
62. March 11, 1774 [77]
Extract from journal of Upper House of Georgia Assembly, quoting from Commons House journals of February 24, 1770, January 24, 1774, January 27, 1774, February 3, 1774, February 4, 1774, February 28, 1774, March 2, 1774, which together document that Commons House had reappointed Franklin on its own authority (he had previously served in this position in 1768, 1769, and 1770), after having reviewed his previous record as agent for Georgia and found it to be positive for the interests of the people of Georgia; approving a salary of £150 plus expenses; raising of questions in Upper House as to whether these actions of Commons House were proper and whether Franklin actually provided any valuable services to Georgia; concluding that the Commons House had exceeded its authority by seeking to appoint a provincial agent [enclosed with Wright's March 12, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 59]
63. March 11, 1774 [82]
Extracts from journals of Commons House of Georgia Assembly of February 4, 1774, February 28, 1774, February 24, 1774, January 24, 1774, January 27, 1774, February 3, 1774, all concerning Commons House's effort to investigate the previous record of Benjamin Franklin as agent for Georgia and Commons

House's reappointment of Franklin as agent for Georgia at a salary of £150 [enclosed with Wright's March 12, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 59]

64. March 14, 1774 [84]
Letter No. 15 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, acknowledging that the peace and tranquility he wrote about in past letters has been "*to[o] much Interrupted of late*"; stating that he is still seeking to re-establish and enforce the confidence and harmony necessary for the welfare of the province [Frame 84 microfilmed three times]
65. [no date] [86]
"*Estimate of the Civil Establishment of His Majesty's Colony of Georgia, and other incidental expences attending the same from the 24th of June 1773, to the 24th of June 1774*", with a total expected cost of £3,086; with scrivener's note "*From Plantation Office*"
66. May 4, 1774 [88]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 10 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, stating his understanding that since the recent instance of violence by Indians seems to have been "*an unauthorized Act of Violence by only a few of those Savages, & is not justified by the Nation in general, I should hope that it will not be attended with any further ill consequences*"; stating that he has insufficient information to justify sending British troops to Georgia, since they need to be concentrated nearer the places where public safety threats seem more imminent; stating, however, that if a true Indian war erupts, British troop would then be committed; noting the contrast in how Commons House has dealt with different issues, for instance, its loyal appreciation of the King's support for the cession of Indian lands v. its illegal assumption of power in appointing a provincial agent; instructing Wright to take a firm position against Commons House in the latter issue [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
67. March 21, 1774 [90]
Letter No. 16 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting Haven received a letter and speech of South Carolina Lieutenant Governor Bull concerning actions by the South Carolina Lower House suggesting that that colony would not support Georgia in a possible Indian war, unless the war came to South Carolina; stating also that news from East Florida Lieutenant Governor John Moultrie is that British troop strength here is so reduced that no help can be expected from this colony [with enclosure, document 68]
[Note: Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina William Bull (1718-1791) served in this position from 1759 to 1775. Five times during this period, he was called upon to serve temporarily as acting governor, including from March 1773 until June 1775. For more on **William Bull**, see notes after Reel 2 documents 36, 64.]

[Note: Lieutenant Governor of East Florida John Moultrie (1729-1798) served in that position for most of this British colony's 20 years of existence (from 1763 to 1783). During a lengthy hiatus between governors, Moultrie served as acting governor (without the title) from 1771, when James Grant returned to England, until sometime in March 1774, when Patrick Tonyn arrived as the colony's second (and last) governor.]

68. March 10, 1774 [92]
Extract from journal of South Carolina Commons House, stating its resolution that South Carolina should not become involved in Georgia's conflict with the Creek Indians but that it should be ready, if needed, to protect South Carolina settlers if necessary [enclosed with Wright's March 21, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 67]
69. June 1, 1774 [94]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 11 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, supporting Wright's efforts to re-establish peace with the Indians [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
70. April 18, 1774 [96]
Letter No. 17 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting yet another murder, this one by a "*villain*" settler of an "*innocent*" Indian; the perpetrator was in South Carolina and had not been apprehended, despite rewards; concerning his attempts to keep the incident from being followed by a revenge killing by Indians; once again, having written to governors of South Carolina, East Florida, and West Florida; stating that at some point, British troops will be needed to resolve this [with enclosures, documents 71 to 73]
71. March 28, 1774 [100]
Printed proclamation from Wright seeking apprehension of Thomas Fee, the murderer of a Creek Indian named Mad Turkey; offering a reward of £100, half upon apprehension and half after conviction [enclosed with Wright's April 18, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 70]
72. [no date] [101]
Copy of Talk of Wright to headmen of the Creek Nation, concerning the murder of Mad Turkey by Thomas Fee and other concerns of relations between the British and Upper and Lower Creek Nation, including Wright's feeling of necessity to close trade with the Indians to help induce them against violence [enclosed with Wright's April 18, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 70]
73. [no date] [103]
Copy of response of several Creek Indian leaders to Wright's Talk [document 72], expressing support for living with the white people and for continuing trade with the white traders [enclosed with Wright's April 18, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 70]

74. April 26, 1774 [109]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning changes in the King's instructions for disposal of royal lands; seeing clarification on how to reconcile differences with previous instructions, with details
75. April 26, 1774 [111]
Letter No. 18 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning the need for more fortifications in Georgia; expressing his feeling that unrest among some of the colonies is an "*insult*" to Britain; enclosing [document 76] a sketch of the lands ceded by the Indians in Georgia between the Altamaha River and Ogeechee River [Frame 112 microfilmed twice]
76. November 30, 1773 [113]
Copy of map of Georgia territory between the Altamaha River and the Ogeechee River with old and new boundary lines [microfilmed overlapping on two frames] [enclosed with Wright's April 26, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 75]
77. May 4, 1774 [114]
Letter No. 19 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, expressing thanks for Dartmouth's appreciation of Wright's report on the state of the colony; stating that he has "*met with many difficulties in Carrying on my plan for Settling the Ceded Lands*", largely because of Indian violence against settlers; still feeling that the value of settling the new territory is high; reporting the death of Naval Officer [William] Haven; stating his wish to appoint David Montagu [or Montaigne?], who had held this office before Haven [Frame 114 microfilmed twice]
78. May 4, 1774 [116]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, rejoicing in news of the birth of a healthy prince
79. July 6, 1774 [118]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 12 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, expressing satisfaction with Wright's ongoing dealings with the Indians; stating that cutting off trade is a drastic step to take, but that, since circumstances differ so much from case to case that he [Dartmouth] cannot second guess Wright's decision; reporting having written letters requesting that the governors of South Carolina, East Florida, and West Florida cooperate with this trade measure; stating that "*these untoward Events, in respect to the Indians, have put the Province in a very critical Situation*"; hoping to avoid a military solution but wanting assurance "*that proper measures will be taken for the protection of the Kings Subjects*", with military assistance from General Gage if necessary [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
80. May 18, 1774 [120]

Letter No. 20 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning the process of settling the ceded lands according to the King's instructions and the results of surveying the lands; suggesting that a more open process allowing settlers to find good spots to settle, to move onto the land, and to pay themselves for the necessary survey, after the fact [with enclosure, document 81]

81. May 3, 1774 [122]
Extract from journal of Council of Georgia, concerning a planned, orderly disposition of lands ceded by the Indians, advising the Surveyor General to identify all the lands involved; followed by
May 17, 1774
Extract from journal of Council of Georgia, concerning a memorial to Wright from Surveyor General Henry Yonge, dated May 13, 1774, whose text is included in the extract, stating that multiple difficulties will result in attempting to carry out the survey of Georgia's territory, as ordered by the King, partly because separating out the lands already granted from those not granted will require making "*an Almost general Survey of this Province*"; raising additional objections and identifying obstructions to conducting the survey; stating furthermore that the survey will be expensive, requiring two surveyors in each Parish; the Council agreeing "*That it is Impracticable for the Surveyor General to Execute His Majesty's said Instructions for Surveying and Laying out the Vacant Lands in this Province in districts*" [enclosed with Wright's May 18, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 80]
82. May 24, 1774 [126]
Letter No. 21 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting a new instance of violence between Indians and whites, in which Thomas Fee, who had murdered an Indian at Augusta, had been captured and imprisoned at 96, but that an angry crowd had forcibly removed him from jail, declaring that he should not be tried for the murder of an Indian, thus allowing a breakdown in the exercise of law and justice, which will have a negative effect on the Indians; nevertheless, reporting that no new violence by Indians has been reported since January; reporting that Lieutenant Governor Bull of South Carolina has agreed to cooperate with Georgia in the cessation of trade with the Creek Indians
[Note: The frontier fort and settlement called **96** [or Ninety-Six] or **Camp 96** was a military way station and trading post along the wilderness "Cherokee Trail," near present-day Greenwood, SC, west of Columbia. Today, the small, rural town of Ninety Six, South Carolina retains the name of the wilderness camp. Its name came from the inaccurate belief that it was 96 miles from Keowee. **Keowee**, in turn, was originally a Cherokee village on the Cherokee Trail, near which in 1753 the British built a sizeable military structure they called Fort Prince George. It was located in what is now the northwest corner of South Carolina, not far south of Franklin, North Carolina. The site of Keowee now lies beneath the waters of reservoir Lake Keowee.]
83. August 3, 1774 [128]

Draft [outgoing] letter No. 13 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, stating that the issue of the practicality of doing the ordered survey will be considered by the Board of Trade, but offering no hope that the King will change his policy; expecting that Wright will persevere in getting the King's order implemented; expressing hope that the threat of an Indian war will soon diminish and that open trade will be restored [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]

84. June 28, 1774 [130]
Letter No. 22 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, admitting that stopping the trade was "bold" but thinking that it may succeed; reporting that the Indians are meeting to develop an answer to Wright's Talk [document 72]; stating that "*this Province will not be safe for some time*"
85. July 25, 1774 [132]
Letter No. 23 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, stating that, although he is happy that help might come from British troops if a real Indian war breaks out, worrying that by the time that help could arrive, "*the Province may be half Burned and destroyed*"; expressing disappointment with the Assembly because of its attempt to appoint an agent, to which Wright and the Council do not intend to capitulate; reporting on the "*Great Wrath*" of many in South Carolina over recent Parliamentary Acts "*passed Relative to the Massachusetts Bay Government*" [and closing the port of Boston], including "*some very indecent Resolutions*"; stating that "*I will not answer for their Conduct*" but that he will continue to keep Dartmouth informed; enclosing several South Carolina newspapers [documents 86 to 88]
86. July 11, 1774 [134]
Printed issue of *South Carolina Gazette*, containing news about the new British laws regarding the port of Boston and text of South Carolina resolutions seeking citizenship rights for American subjects equal to those for subjects living in England [enclosed with Wright's July 25, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 85]
87. July 15, 1774 [136]
Printed issue of *South-Carolina and American General Gazette*, containing general news [enclosed with Wright's July 25, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 85]
88. July 19, 1774 [138]
Printed issue of *South-Carolina Gazette and Country Journal*, containing news of Boston's response to Britain's having closed its port and its colonial government; along with related news from other colonies [enclosed with Wright's July 25, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 85]
89. July 26, 1774 [140]

Letter from Wright at Savannah to Pownall, acknowledging receipt of various laws of Parliament, including those applying to Massachusetts Bay

90. October 5, 1774 [142]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 14 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, stating, again, his hope that the “*disagreeable dispute with the Creek Indians*” can be resolved without resort to military action [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
91. August 18, 1774 [144]
Letter No. 24 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning an unobligated £157.10.0 in Georgia’s accounts that can be reassigned; suggesting its use to help fund a fort at Cockspur or Tybee [Island, at the mouth of the Savannah River]; reporting with sorrow that “*there have been 2 meetings of the Liberty Folks here, and some Resolutions were drawn up yesterday*” [with enclosures, documents 92, 93]
92. August 10, 1774 [146]
Printed copy of “*Resolutions entered into at Savannah in Georgia, on Wednesday the 10th Day of August, 1774, at a General Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Province, assembled to consider the State of the Colonies in America*”, on the theme that “*his Majesty’s Subjects in America owe the same Allegiance, and are entitled to the same Rights, privileges, and Immunities, with their Fellow Subjects in Great-Britain*”; followed by
Handwritten note by Wright at the bottom of the printed sheet, dated August 13, 1774, stating that “*Some Proofs are Preparing by which I believe it will appear that these Resolutions are not the Voice of the Province but most unfairly and Intolerantly made by a Junto of 25. or 26.*”
[both enclosed with Wright’s August 18, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 91]
93. August 5, 1774 [147]
Printed copy of proclamation by Wright, stating that the recent resolutions [document 92] were developed by a few private individuals meeting illegally, and that the resolutions “*are unconstitutional, illegal, and punishable, by Law*” [enclosed with Wright’s August 18, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 91]
94. August 24, 1774 [148]
Letter No. 25 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, stating that nothing has happened to change or improve the situation with the Creek Indians
95. August 24, 1774 [150]
Letter No. 26 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, stating that he had tried to prevent the “*Liberty People*” in Georgia from meeting and proclaiming their resolutions but that he had failed; stating that the similar group in South Carolina “*who have been Suffered to do whatever they pleased without the least mark of disapprobation or Attempt to Check them*”, have made the situation in Georgia

more difficult for him, a situation he compares with opposition to the Stamp Act [in 1766]; feeling that standing up in such times as these with integrity for what is right is costly; it increases people's resentment of his power, and it makes him feel like "*being set up as a mark to be shot at*", yet he vows to persevere; reporting knowledge that another meeting will be held on August 30, which he feels will also be illegitimate, and which, he believes, will label his proclamation "*arbitrary & oppressive & an attempt to debar them from their natural and lawful Rights & priviledges*"; stating his belief that "*it will require the interposition of higher Authority to remedy the Evil for the executive Powers of Government in the Colonies are too Weak to rectify such abuses, and Prosecutions would only be Laughed at and no Grand Jury would file a Bill of Indictment and the Persons ordered & carrying them on Probably Insulted and abused*"; blaming the rise of a "*Licentious Spirit in America*" on the protests against the Stamp Act; believing that things have now gone so far that "*neither Coercive or Lenient measures will settle matters*"; stating that even if the American spirit could be smothered for a time, it would appear again; yet, stating that British governmental authority cannot ignore the protests but must react to preserve itself and British sovereignty [with enclosures, documents 96 to 101]

96. July 14, 1774

Printed flyer inciting people to attend a meeting at Savannah on July 27 to discuss the issue of steps being taken "*to deprive the American Subjects of their constitutional Rights and Liberties, as a Part of the British Empire*" and to consider "*CONSTITUTIONAL MEASURES*" [enclosed with Wright's August 4, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 95]

[154]
97. July 27, 1774

Written summary of the July 27 meeting in Savannah, termed a "*respectable meeting*", at which plans were made for further meetings and actions; signed by John Glen [enclosed with Wright's August 4, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 95]

[155]
98. August 5, 1774

Printed proclamation by Wright, declaring the July 27 meeting to be an unlawful assembly concerned with "imaginary Grievances", and that the meeting was "*unconstitutional, illegal, and punishable, by Law*" [enclosed with Wright's August 4, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 95]

[156]
99. August 10, 1774

Printed statement of resolutions made at a meeting held on August 10, 1774 [same statement printed statement of resolutions found in document 92] [enclosed with Wright's August 4, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 95]

[157]
100. August 23, 1774

[158]

Printed issue of *South-Carolina Gazette and Country Journal*, containing various news items about the rights of citizens protests in the colonies [enclosed with Wright's August 4, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 95]

101. August 24, 1774 [160]
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, with news and commentary on the rights of citizens protests in the colonies [Frame 160 microfilmed twice] [enclosed with Wright's August 4, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 95]
102. September 6, 1774 [162]
Letter No. 27 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, justifying cutting off trade with the Indians because Wright felt the Indians would never comply with the cession of lands without some coercive act; stating that East Florida had not complied with a full stoppage but only one on guns and ammunition; deploring the government's seeming unwillingness to send additional troops to Georgia to assist in this situation; worrying that without such assistance, Wright will not be able to maintain control over the colony in the manner he knows is required [with enclosures, documents 103 to 106] [for an outline of microfilmed documents relating to the cession of lands by the Cherokee Indians on this date, see note after Reel 3 document 40]
103. August 31, 1774 [164]
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, with letters, news articles, and text of public documents about current matters of dispute in the colonies; commentary dialogue/debate between authors identifying themselves as a *Freeholder* and *Mercurius*, which continues through several issues in the latter half of 1774 [enclosed with Wright's September 6, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 102]
104. September 7, 1774 [166]
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, including text of Parliament's act "*better regulating the Government of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, in New-England*", a petition concerning the protest activities by inhabitants of Savannah, and additional news, commentary, and public documents [enclosed with Wright's September 6, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 102]
105. August 30, 1774 [168]
Extract from journal of Georgia Council, concerning matters of enforcing a stoppage of trade with the Indians, including recognition that East Florida has limited trade in only guns and ammunition; reporting other details [enclosed with Wright's September 6, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 102]
106. September 6, 1774 [171]
Extract from journal of Georgia Council, deferring consideration of the stoppage of trade until information is received from General Gage and from the Lower Creeks [enclosed with Wright's September 6, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 102]

107. September 6, 1774 [172]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Pownall, acknowledging receipt of several papers from Parliament and of a speech by the King
108. November 2, 1774 [174]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 15 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, reiterating his wish that the dispute with the Creek Indians be resolved as quickly and passively as possible; stating his ongoing confidence that, although the protests in Georgia appear to arise from some degree of discontent, Wright will be able to use his "*firmness and authority...to check such Proceedings*"; stating that concerning monies from fines being held by the Attorney General for use by Georgia, "*His Majesty is please'd to allow you to apply in such manner as you shall think most for His Majesty's Service*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
109. September 23, 1774 [176]
Duplicate Letter No. 28 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that the Lower Creeks are now helping to impose justice on those Creeks who had acted violently against Georgia settlers; expressing hope for a permanent peace soon
110. October 1, 1774 [178]
Letter No. 29 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning execution of the royal order for a complete survey of Georgia, describing the steps taken in Georgia and difficulties encountered, as already reported; stating that he is already doing as much as possible to encourage the survey until he receives further instructions to make the task more possible
111. October 1, 1774 [180]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Pownall, acknowledging receipt of papers and instructions from Pownall
112. December 10, 1774 [182]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 16 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, expressing the King's pleasure at hearing "*that an Accommodation with the Creeks, upon your own Terms, is likely to be accomplished*"; stating dismay that Wright had taken the order about a survey so literally, that there was no intent to impose an impossible task, and that "*any Alteration should be admitted, from the local Circumstances of any particular Colony*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]

Volume 664—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

September 14, 1774 to December 23, 1775 Documents 113 to 221 [Frames 1 to 251]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents on differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office relating to the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 664 continues from Volume 663 the Secretary of State’s papers of (mostly) incoming official correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: In Volume 664, Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Dartmouth continued the practice of his predecessors by numbering his outgoing letters and having colonial governors number their letters to him. Where found, these letter numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

113. October 13, 1774 [1]
Letter No. 30 from Governor James Wright of Georgia, at Savannah, to Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Dartmouth, stating his conviction that the protests in Georgia “*are attempted by a few in Savannah and held in Contempt & Just Nothing at all. whilst the Resolutions & Conduct of our Neighbours in the other Northern Colonys really make me Shudder*” [with enclosures, all in document 114] [for more on **James Wright**, see the note after Reel 1 document 9; **William Legge, 2nd Earl of Dartmouth** (1731-1801), served as Secretary of State for the Colonies from August 1772 to November 1775]
114. September 14, 1774 [3]
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, with commentary on the Boston Tea Party, among other events; with additional news of foreign and Indian affairs; followed by
September 21, 1774
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, with further commentary on protests in the colonies; with additional news; with statements of inhabitants who disagree with the resolutions currently being put before the people of Georgia; with Georgia governmental notices about the surveying being done and that this work will delay new land sales transactions; followed by
September 18, 1774

Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, with further commentary and further statements of disagreement with the current resolutions; with further news from Boston; followed by

October 12, 1774

Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, with additional commentary, further statements of disagreement with the current resolutions, and news items

[all enclosed with Wright's October 13, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 113]

115. October 21, 1774 [11]
Copy of letter from Wright and [Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District John Stuart at Savannah to Dartmouth, announcing successful congress, negotiation, completion, and signing on October 20, 1774 of a new peace treaty with the Creek Indians designed to end the violence between Georgians and Indians; stating that suffering from the stoppage of trade had been the reason that the Indians had come to the table and that the Indians had accepted the British terms offered; stating that the Creeks were now punishing those who had done violence to Georgia settlers [with enclosure, document 116] [for more on **John Stuart**, see note after Reel 1 document 79]
116. October 20, 1774 [13]
Copy of the treaty of peace signed between the British and Creek Indians after a congress at Savannah; signed by 7 Lower Creek head men, 13 Upper Creek head men, and 9 Georgia leaders
117. October 24, 1774 [14]
Letter No. 31 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning the happy event of signing the peace treaty; expressing the belief that the Indians now understand that the British will not put up with the violence of Indian young men; now concerned with establishing some limitations or controls on the Indian trade; worrying about the kind of trading agreement 15 Indians recently signed with trader Jonathan Bryan [with enclosure, document 118] [Frame 15 microfilmed twice] [for more on **Jonathan Bryan**, see Reel 3 document 11 (original letter in Reel 6 document 201) and the note after it, as well as documents 118, 120, 121, 125]
118. December 25, 1774 [16]
Copy of "indenture" between Bryan and 15 named Indian head men and warriors, including the Bryan's lease of Indian lands [date does not appear accurate, given the date of Wright's letter, with which the indenture was enclosed] [enclosed with Wright's October 24, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 117]
119. January 4, 1775 [18]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 17 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, congratulating Wright on his successful resolution of the dispute with the Creek Indians; approving of the [pro-British] protests of those who have publicly disagreed with the [anti-British] protest resolutions; suggesting that the pro-British

protesters should be publicly rewarded; enclosing an order confirming one Georgia law adopted in September 1773 and disallowing another [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]

120. November 16, 1774 [22]
Letter No. 32 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, stating that Bryan has signed another land lease with 20 other Indians and is seeking to turn his leases into deeds as quickly as he can; wishing that he and his improper land purchases could be curtailed [with enclosures, both in document 121]
121. November 2, 1774 [22]
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, with news of the protests and government responses in Boston and in New York; with information from Georgia's government about Bryan's "deed" and the recently signed Indian treaty; including proclamation of Wright concerning land purchase procedures [Frame 23 microfilmed twice]; followed by
November 16, 1774
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, with news and commentary, including a new commentary writer, going by Veritas, and a letter from Bryan defending his leases
[both enclosed with Wright's November 16, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 120]
122. December 12, 1774 [26]
Duplicate letter No. 33 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, restating his satisfaction at having settled the Indian dispute; stating that those involved with the current protests in Georgia show contempt for Britain and its government
123. November 13, 1774 [28]
Letter No. 34 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that since the South Carolina deputies to the "so-called" Continental Congress returned from Philadelphia, Georgia has been subjected to severe pressure to join the other protesting colonies; stating that "*things Cannot Continue Long in this State & must come to a Point soon indeed*" [with enclosure, document 124]
[Note: Perhaps because of Wright's strong anti-protest stance, Georgia did not succumb to pressures from the other colonies to attend the **First Continental Congress**, which convened in September 1774. Georgia was represented, however, in the **Second Continental Congress**, which met in May 1775.]
124. December 14, 1774 [30]
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, with multiple commentaries on different sides of the increasingly tense protest situation; with news from Boston, London, and elsewhere [enclosed with Wright's November 13, 1774 letter to Dartmouth, document 123]
125. February 1, 1775 [33]

Draft [outgoing] letter No. 18 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, again congratulating Wright on his success in ending the Indian dispute; recognizing Bryan as a dealer in "*fraudulent transactions*"; sharing information on how the government is reacting militarily to the "*unwarrantable proceedings*" of the [First] Continental Congress [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]

126. December 19, 1774 [35]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, responding to a request for information to provide the Board of Trade with the names of the current Georgia Council
127. December 19, 1774 [37]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning the prohibition of exporting gunpowder, arms, or ammunition from Britain, which Georgia will observe
128. December 20, 1774 [39]
Letter No. 35 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, restating his satisfaction at resolution of the Indian dispute; stating that he could not have delayed doing so since it was important to open up the new lands ceded by the Indians for settlement by Georgians; admitting that "*our Liberty Folks are really very active in Fomenting a Flame throughout the Province*", but insisting that "*I shall Persevere to the last*" in keeping them from approving the resolutions of the [First] Continental Congress; expressing thanks for making the funds available that are held by the Attorney General
129. March 3, 1775 [41]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 19 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, expressing hope that Wright will maintain control so that violence will not take place over the dispute between those for and those against Britain; stating that Wright's suggestions about how better to collect quit rents have been taken into consideration, and that the approach of a law from North Carolina will be used to guide all the colonies in this regard [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
130. January 21, 1775 [43]
Letter No. 35 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning several applications received from "masters mates" of British merchant ships claiming King's Bounty" in the form of 2,000-acre land grants; having delayed settling these claims, requesting instructions on whether they are legitimate [document 128 is also numbered letter No. 35; in chronological sequence, document 128 is properly No. 35, and this document should be No. 36; however, the error was not subsequently corrected]
131. February 1, 1775 [45]

Letter No. 36 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting on (from Wright's perspective) the deterioration of relations with the Assembly, which continues to meet illegally, the members calling themselves "*deputies*"; stating that "*I am very anxious to know the Sense of the New Parliament, and His Majestys determination on these matters*"; worrying about the content of certain [First] Continental Congress resolutions, including one declaring unlawful the seizure of any American for transport for trial "*beyond the Sea*" and about whether "*some of them will not only be Mad Enough to Attempt this but also to Oppose and Engage the Kings Troops*"; including additional examples of illegal actions [with enclosures, documents 132 to 135]

132. January 18, 1775 [47]
 Copy of address by Wright to Commons House, informing them that, as a result of their petitions, the King has committed to assisting the colony militarily if a real Indian war breaks out; commenting on the "*ferment*" in the "*Colonies to the Northward of us, as far as Nova Scotia*"; expressing concern for the "*extraordinary and violent*" direction the intensifying disputes may take; pleading that the Commons House members will not be "*led away by the voices and opinions of Men of overheated Ideas*"; stating that "*You may be Advocates for Liberty, so am I, but in a Constitutional and legal way*"; exhorting them "*not to suffer yourselves to be drawn in, to Involve this Province in the distresses of those who may have offended; we are in a very different situation, and on a very different footing from the other Colonies*"; assuring them that "*I am at this time Actuated by further Motives than those only of discharging my duty as the Kings Governor*" but also as a fellow inhabitant who has lived with them in Georgia, having a "*real and affectionate regard for the People*"; requesting that the Assembly now take up important business that had been neglected because of the crisis with the Indians [Frame 48 microfilmed twice]; followed by
 January 20, 1775
 Copy of address of Upper House of Georgia Assembly to Wright, expressing their loyalty to Wright and to Britain and their thanks for the resolution of the dispute with the Indians; stating that Wright clearly has the best interests of the colony [of Georgia] in mind in his address; expressing deep concern about the disputes of the colonies with the Mother Country; expressing opposition to the directions being taken by other colonies; followed by
 January 20, 1775
 Wright's response to Upper House, acknowledging their loyalty and expressing satisfaction with their sentiments;
 [all enclosed with Wright's February 1, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 131]

133. January 20, 1775 [53]
 Copy of address by Wright to Commons House, begging to differ with them "*with Respect to the State we are in*", as stated in a petition the Commons House has just directed to the King; contending that the few murders by Indians that have recently occurred do not make an Indian war, as the petition asserts [enclosed with Wright's February 1, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 131]

134. January 20, 1775 [54]
Copy of address by Commons House to Wright, stating its conviction that the “*numerous Grievances*” of the American people are real, cannot be ignored, and must be redressed; stating that “*It is that alone which every good American Contends for*”, which will result in true “*enjoyment of our Constitutional Rights and Liberties*” [enclosed with Wright’s February 1, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 131]
135. January 18, 1775 [56]
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, containing current news, commentary, and official documents concerning the disputes in the colonies; followed by January 25, 1775
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, containing current news, and public documents, including the texts of recent addresses [see also documents 132 to 134]
[both enclosed with Wright’s February 1, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 131]
136. February 13, 1775 [60]
Letter No. 37 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, conveying information about Indian relations [Frame 60 microfilmed twice, the second time sufficiently darkened to be readable]
137. February 13, 1775 [62]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, wishing that “*Declarations and Resolutions so Solemnly made to Support the Authority of the Supreme Legislature over all His Majesty’s Dominions*” would be sufficient to diffuse the disputes in America, but fearing that “*a great many People have worked themselves up to Such a Pitch of Political Enthusiasm with Respect to their Ideas of Liberty, and the Powers of the British Parliament, and of their Right to Resist what they Call unconstitutional Laws, that I do not Expect they will yet give up their Pretentions*”
138. February 14, 1775 [64]
Letter No. 38 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, acknowledging receipt of several duplicate letters from Dartmouth [Frame 64 is microfilmed twice]
139. February 24, 1775 [66]
Letter No. 39 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that a large quantity of molasses and “*French sugar*” that had been seized by the “*Collector*” had been “*rescued and Carried away*” by disguised and armed men who also “*Beat and abused the Men*” [who guarding the goods] [with enclosures, documents 140, 141]
140. February 17, 1775 [62]

Sworn statements by several people concerning the theft of seized goods, with details, including: Alexander Thompson, Collector of Customs for Savannah; James Agar, "*Waiter to [Collector] Alexander Thompson*"; Moses Nunes; John Downs, mariner; Jacob Blamey, master of the British Navy's armed schooner *St. John*; Arthur Bernard Cooper, midshipman on the *St. John*; Nathaniel Bolley, Surgeon on the *St. John*; James Smith, a sailor on the *St. John*; Thomas Evers, boatswain of the *St. John*; and Lieutenant William Grant, commander of the *St. John*; followed by
February 18, 1775

Examinations of Andrew Elton Wells, a Savannah merchant, and Jane Wells, his wife, concerning the theft of seized goods, with details
[all enclosed with Wright's February 24, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 139]
[Note: **Lieutenant William Grant** (1761-1851) was an officer in the Royal Navy. Although related to East Florida Governor James Grant (his grandfather was James' brother), William Grant's naval assignment to East Florida and Georgia appears to have been coincidental. The genesis of the schooner that became His Majesty's naval vessel ***St. John*** is not clear. By 1774, it had been fitted out by the British Navy as a coastal and river vessel in East Florida and Georgia. Here it played a role in the seizure of goods for which their ship's owners had not paid customs duties. In February 1776, it played a losing role in trying to capture a merchant shipload of gunpowder which, instead, fell into the hands of South Carolinian and Georgian rebels. In this case, Lieutenant Grant mistakenly searched for the large merchant vessel in the wrong place and missed his opportunity to seize it. During 1776 and 1777, the *St. John* patrolled the St. Johns River on defensive duty against a possible Georgia rebel invasion of East Florida (such invasions were unsuccessfully attempted in February 1776 and May 1777). By late 1777, the schooner was declared unfit for service and was condemned at St. Augustine.]

141. February 21, 1775 [76]
Copy of proclamation by Wright concerning the theft of seized goods; offering a reward [enclosed with Wright's February 24, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 139]
142. March 23, 1775 [78]
Letter No. 40 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, expressing happiness at learning of the King's opposition to "*the Protests and dissents which were Enter'd by Many Persons here*"; blaming these protests and dissents in Georgia on outsiders; stating that "*had the People of this Province been left to themselves I am convinced Nothing of Consequence would have been attempted*"; commenting on several other matters [Frame 78 microfilmed twice]
143. March 23, 1775 [80]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, commenting on the proceedings of the [First] Continental Congress, which he finds "*unwarrantable, arbitrary, and Tyrannical*"

144. March 24, 1775 [82]
Letter No. 41 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting receipt of duplicate letters, whose originals he had already received and answered
145. May 3, 1775 [84]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 20 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, stating that he has no official information on the validity of 2,000 acre rewards for Masters' Mates but will inform Wright if he receives any; concurring with Wright's approach to dealing with the "*present Disorders in America*" including his efforts "*for preventing, as far as you are able, the Contagion from spreading itself through the Province of Georgia*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
146. April 24, 1775 [86]
Letter No. 42 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, stating that the Indians are now unusually pacific and behaving well; stating that dissidents in Georgia are still meeting and plan to send three people to the next Philadelphia Congress; yet he believes that "*I have Succeeded in my Indeavour to Counter Act and Present them Publishing their Proceedings*"; expecting no successful provincial congress in Georgia; reporting, however, that a group of people with republican principles living in St. John Parish [the location of the port of Sunbury], descendants of New Englanders, have organized and plan to send three persons to South Carolina, seeking to join their efforts together, and also sending one man (Lyman Hall of New England) to Philadelphia; stating, with sarcasm, that they also have collected about 200 barrels of rice "*for the Relief and Support of their Poor distressed innocent Bretheren in Boston Suffering under the Power of Tyranny and Oppression*"; expressing again the need for British troops in each of the colonies, stating that "*Even if things were again in the happy State they formerly were, that some of His Majestys Troops are absolutely necessary in every Province*"; otherwise stating his conviction that authority, obedience, and loyalty must be enforced; with a postscript warning that any application from an Indian trader for a license to supply the Indians with powder, ball, and guns should be allowed to do so to help protect the colonies
[Note: Dr. Lyman Hall (1724-1790) served in the Continental Congress and in 1776 was one of three Georgia signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was born in Connecticut but left the New England ministry to practice as a physician in South Carolina and Georgia. After the war, he served as Governor of Georgia in 1783 and 1784.]
147. April 24, 1775 [90]
Letter No. 43 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting receipt of several duplicate letters from Dartmouth, originals which he had received and to which he has responded
148. May 1, 1775 [92]

Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, expressing unease with the unstable situation, stating that [likely by now aware of the April 19 fighting at Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts] *"It is difficult my Lord in Cases of this Sort to say what Turn things may take, but I doubt it will not be that honourable and happy one which is so much to be wished, and that a very Contrary Spirit Still Prevails in general"*

149. May 1, 1775 [94]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, pledging to do all he can to restore *"Public tranquility"*
150. May 1, 1775 [96]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, stating his opinion that Parliament has been patient with America's wayward ways even as the level of violence has escalated; but his opinion is that *"things have gone to[o] far, and they have work'd themselves up to Such a Pitch, that I must be free to Say I doubt much whether it will have the Wished for Effect. and my Private opinion is, that it will not"*
151. May 2, 1775 [98]
Letter from Wright at Savannah John Pownall, [Undersecretary of State], acknowledging receipt of a copy of a joint address of both houses of Parliament to the King concerning the state of the British colonies in America and the King's response [for more on **John Pownall**, see note after Reel 1 document 7]
152. May 2, 1775 [100]
Letter No. 44 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, pledging that he will *"Certainly Exert to the Utmost of my Power to Promote and Support His Majesty's Authority and for the maintenance of the Public Peace"*
153. May 2, 1775 [102]
Letter No. 45 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting receipt of a duplicate letter from Dartmouth, whose original he had already received and answered
154. May 12, 1775 [104]
Letter No. 46 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that overnight, the King's gunpowder magazine *"was broke open and Robbed of about 600 bbls of GunPowder"*, leaving about 300 bbls of the King's powder and the same amount of merchants' powder; a proclamation has announced a reward [with enclosures, documents 155, 156]
155. May 5, 1775 [106]
Printed issue of *South-Carolina General and American Gazette*, with extensive news and commentary [Frames 106 and 107 microfilmed twice]

156. July 5, 1775 [109]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 21 from [Dartmouth] at Whitehall to Wright, while recognizing the severity of the “*rebellious*” situation among the colonies to the north, including South Carolina, hoping that Wright in Georgia is still maintaining his “*prudence and fortitude*” and remaining separate from the other colonies; expressing the King’s resolution to respond strongly to the “*evidence of an intention, in almost all the Colonies to the northward, to take up arms against the Government of this Kingdom*”, in order to “*reduce the rebellious subjects to obedience*”; outlining initial steps being taken, including strengthening both the army and navy in America [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
157. May 25, 1775 [113]
Letter No. 47 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that “*things have taken a most Unhappy Turn, for hearing of the Engagement or Skirmish Between the Kings Troops & the Provincials near Boston*” [on April 19, 1775 at Lexington and Concord], plus attempts in [South] Carolina “*to Liberate the Slaves & Encourage them to attack their masters*”; expressing concern for the future of Georgia; concluding that “*I see nothing but a Prospect of a General Rebellion throughout America, and unless the [Second] Continental Congress [which convened in May 1775] should have Prudence & Moderation Enough to put a Stop to these things, I apprehend Matters will go to the Utmost extremities*”
158. June 9, 1775 [115]
Letter No. 48 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, providing further information on the deteriorating situation in [South] Carolina; stating the opinion that “*Pardon me My Lord, but a few Troops 12 Months ago would have kept all the Southern Provinces out of Rebellion, and I much fear many will now be Necessary*”; stating that he has done all “*in my power to Support the Just Sovereignty of Great Britain, Law, Government & Good order. but I Cannot Continue in this very Uncomfortable Situation Without the Means of Protection & Support and [therefore I] must Humbly request that His Majesty will be Graciously Pleas’d to Give me Leave to return Home, which I would Propose to do next Spring, or Sooner as things may be Circumstanced, and would therefore hope to have it as soon as may be*”; with additional details on the situation in Georgia and, by extension, all the colonies; in particular, describing how a provincial group has been telling certain undesired people to leave the province within seven days; stating that “*I am really Apprehensive my Lord, that the Free Spirit of the People & State of the Colonies in General, has not been thoroughly known or seen— I think it Necessary that your Lordship should be made Acquainted with the Strange Situation His Majestys Officers & the Friends of Government are reduc’d to, and who now Complain much.*” [with enclosures, documents 159 to 165]
159. June 7, 1775 [117]

Copy of sworn statement of Savannah merchant Thomas Johnston, describing how an armed group of merchants headed by Joseph Habersham appeared at Johnston's door, seeking a Mr. [William] Tongue, who was not present, but a note was left for him that he must leave the province within seven days [Joseph Habersham, an American revolutionary, was the son of James Habersham, a hard-core loyalist, who served on the Georgia Council for many years and as the acting governor of Georgia when James Wright was on leave in England between 1771 and 1773. For more on the Habershams, see note after Reel 3 document 9] [enclosed with Wright's June 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 158]

160. June 7, 1775 [119]
Copy of sworn statement of Peter Edwards of Savannah, describing how an armed group of people, led by Joseph Habersham, sought a Captain Law, who was not there, but a note was left for him that he must leave the province within seven days [enclosed with Wright's June 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 158]
161. June 7, 1775 [120]
Copy of statement [in the third person] by a "*Negro Boy belonging to this deponent*" [Peter Edwards] reporting that he had delivered the note to Captain Law, that he had opened it, and that the "*purport*" of the note was as follows: "*The friends of America in Georgia desire that Capt. Law will Quit the Province in Seven days from this day, as he must abide by any Consequences that May ensue by neglect thereof June the 5th 1775*" [enclosed with Wright's June 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 158]
162. June 7, 1775 [121]
Copy of sworn statement by Thomas Gummersall, a Quaker person late of the province of New York now in Georgia, stating having seen an armed group headed by Joseph Habersham and others who had approached a person, delivering a note whose contents were, in effect, that the person should leave the province in seven days or abide by the consequences, and stating that similar notes had been sent to others, including Mr. Tongue [Frame 121 microfilmed twice] [enclosed with Wright's June 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 158]
163. June 7, 1775 [123]
Copy of sworn statement by merchant William Tongue, late of the City of New York and now in Savannah, stating that he had received a sealed note reading as follows: "*The Friends of America in Georgia Signify to Mr. Tongue that his Departure is Expected in Seven days from this, otherwise he must abide by Any Consequences that may follow*" and that when he returned to his lodgings he was told that Joseph Habersham had been there seeking Tongue and had written the note; reporting that later he, Tongue, had met Habersham in the street, had asked him about the matter and told him, Habersham, that "*it was an arbitrary & unprecedented proceeding or words to that Effect and that this*

Deponent Supposes the said Mr. Habersham meant to intimidate this Deponent", followed by additional conversation between the two, during which Habersham reportedly stated that Tongue was "*of Tory Principles or an Enemy to American Liberty and that they Should not be Sheltered or Encouraged in this Province or nearly to that Effect*"; stating his belief that Habersham is head of a Sons of Liberty group [enclosed with Wright's June 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 158]

164. June 7, 1775 [125]
Copy of sworn statement of Matthew White, master of the brig Elizabeth, stating that he had observed a group assemble, headed by Joseph Habersham, and that the group had surrounded him, Habersham stating to him that he was looked upon as an "*Enemy to the Friends of America*" and that he should depart the province within seven days, to which he replied that he did not understand, to which the group replied that they would make him understand; naming names of others in the group; stating that the same evening, a large group of armed men assembled in Savannah to talk about the plans to order certain persons out of Georgia [enclosed with Wright's June 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 158]
165. June 10, 1775 [127]
Order to the Acting Provost Marshall from Chief Justice of Georgia Anthony Stokes, documenting the illegal activities of Joseph Habersham and others and ordering that these individuals be apprehended and brought before the Chief Justice [enclosed with Wright's June 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 158]
166. June 17, 1775 [129]
Letter No. 49 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that on June 13, 300 or 400 of "*the Liberty Folks here assembled in the Town of Sav[annah] and put up a Liberty Tree & a Flagg & in the Evening paraded about the Town*", all "*in Contempt & Defiance of the Court*", as the Chief Justice had opened the court session that same day with "*an Excellent Charge very Properly adapted to the Present Times*"; stating the opinion that the "*Liberty Folks*" will find little opposition in Savannah because, those loyal to the King logically ask "*Why should they Expose their Lives & Propertys to the Resentment of the People, when no Support or Protection is Given them by Government*"; reporting that popular meetings are underway "*to Choose Delegates to Meet in Provincial Congress at Savannah on the 4th of July*"; assuming that they will approve whatever comes from the [Second] Continental Congress; reporting that he has put all the evidence of the situation before the Georgia Council, seeking their opinions and advice on what legal steps could be taken, but they had no helpful advice; stressing the urgency of the British government's acting quickly and strongly in a situation that cannot be contained by local and provincial actions [with enclosures, documents 167, 168]
167. May 29, 1775 [131]

Printed issue of *The South Carolina Gazette*, including news and opinion about the rebellious situation [enclosed with Wright's June 17, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 166]

168. June 14, 1775 [132]
Printed issue of *The Georgia Gazette*, including news from London, other colonies, and Georgia concerning the rebellious situation and more [enclosed with Wright's June 17, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 166]
169. June 17, 1775 [134]
Letter No. 50 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning a letter from General Thomas Gage concerning the current situation; concerning the need for Georgia to be more able to protect itself with at least 500 additional troops in the colony and a fort and barracks at Savannah [with enclosure, document 170] [for more on **General Thomas Gage**, see note after document 47 above]
170. April 16, 1775 [136]
Copy of letter from General Gage at Boston to Wright, with orders needed to prepare for military activities, given the new rebellious activities in the colonies [enclosed with Wright's June 17, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 169]
171. June 17, 1775 [138]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, informing him that, in light of Wright's request for a leave of absence, Council President James Habersham [who would be a logical choice for successor, having previously served as acting governor without the title when Wright was on leave in England from July 1771 to February 1773] is "*very Infirm, and Generally laid up with the Gout and other disorders, and its much doubted that he may Live the year out*" [he died in November 1775]; stating also his opinion that Noble [Wimberly] Jones "*is by no means a Proper Person*"; but suggesting John Graham for the assignment
[**Note: John Graham** (c. 1718-c. 1795) was a close associate of and fellow wealthy planter with Governor James Wright. Graham is estimated to have owned 26,000 acres of land, while Wright owned about 19,000 acres and over 500 slaves. Graham was appointed Lieutenant Governor in late 1775, but he had little to do, as the Georgia colonial government continued to lose power. By March 1776, Wright, Graham, and other loyalist governmental leaders fled for their safety from Savannah to England. In 1779, Graham returned with Governor Wright to Georgia as Lieutenant Governor of a weakened colony restricted to the area around Savannah. Sometime in late 1781 or early 1782, he again retreated to England, this time not to return. At the end of the war, the State of Georgia confiscated Graham's numerous properties. His home plantation, Mulberry Grove, was awarded to American General Nathanael Greene for his services to the United States.]
172. June 20, 1775 [140]

Letter No. 51 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that the "*Liberty People*", believing that Superintendent of Indian Affairs John Stuart is trying to incite the Cherokee Indians to go to war against the Americans, are recruiting men in Georgia for military action; expressing general unease about the Indians becoming involved in the dispute between the American protesters and British loyalists [for more on **John Stuart**, see note after Reel 1 document 79] [with enclosure, document 173]

173. June 13, 1775 [142]
Printed issue of *The South-Carolina Gazette and Country Journal*, containing news and opinion about the rebellious activities of the times, including those in Massachusetts and in North Carolina [Frames 142, 143 microfilmed twice]
174. August 2, 1775 [144]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 22 from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, stating that, in response to Wright's plea for protection, he has signified the King's approval for the Lords of the Admiralty "*to send immediately one of His Majesty's Ships of War to the Mouth of the Savannah River*"; stating that the King has approved Wright's request to return on leave to England and is commissioning [John] Graham "*to administer government during your Absence*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
175. July 8, 1775 [146]
Letter No. 52 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting "*a Pretty Extraordinary Procedure...at the Port of Sunbury*" with details attached, concerning the expected arrival of a ship full of gunpowder and related matters of preparation for protection by vessels; concerning preparations against possible hostilities from the Indians; meanwhile a Provincial Assembly is meeting in Georgia, and a new [Second] Continental Congress is about to convene in Philadelphia; expressing a sense of being only a nominal governor in a situation in which "*the Powers of Government are wrested out of my Hands, [and] that Law & Government are nearly if not quite annihilated*" [with enclosures, documents 176 to 181]
176. June 29, 1775 [148]
Copy of sworn statement by James Hitching, customs collector at Sunbury, concerning seizure of a large quantity of *genwa* [possibly cases of gin?] and "*other unaccustomed & prohibited Goods*" but that a group of armed men, identified by name, prevented the customs officer Isaac Antrobus from securing the vessel; Antrobus subsequently received a note stating that the inhabitants of Sunbury wished him to leave Sunbury "*within half an hour from this time, and not return till the Morning Nine of the Clock*"; when Antrobus was still on board a half-hour after receiving the note, he was violently removed by men, identified by name, who then took control of the vessel and its goods [enclosed with Wright's July 8, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 175]

177. July 4, 1775 [150]
Copy of sworn statement by comptroller and searcher Isaac Antrobus, a customs official at Sunbury, recounting his side of the story of the seized vessel commandeered by Sunbury men [enclosed with Wright's July 8, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 175]
178. July 4, 1775 [152]
Extract from meeting of Georgia Council, concerning the incident of Sunbury men "rescuing" a seized vessel and its cargo; Wright seeking opinion and advice from the Council, which recommended that since "*the Powers of Government seem to be totally unhing'd, therefore prosecutions, at present, would be Ineffectual*"; concerning men stealing munitions from the public storage place; concerning activities in South Carolina to enlist men to military service against the existing government; concerning the status of Indians regarding the rebellious activities in the colonies [enclosed with Wright's July 8, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 175]
179. July 5, 1775 [154]
Copy of sworn statement by George Baillie, Commissary General of Georgia, reporting that men had been taking a cannon carriage and other military stores from the public storage place; reporting his inability to stop the theft of the King's property but that he was keeping a list of names and of items taken; followed by July 5, 1775
Copy of sworn statement by James Moodie, Deputy Secretary of Georgia, reporting on having observed, while at his office, several men taking a gun carriage and other military stores
[both enclosed with Wright's July 8, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 175]
180. July 5, 1775 [155]
Copy of sworn statement by John Menzies and Joseph Goldwire, writing clerks, reporting that they observed Joseph Habersham and other named men taking a gun carriage and other military stores [enclosed with Wright's July 8, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 175]
181. July 7, 1775 [156]
Copy of letter from Archibald Bulloch, President of the Georgia Provincial Congress, to Wright, stating that the Congress, "*deeply concerned at the Present Alarming State of Affairs and distresses of America*" so what "*both Countrys may remain United, Virtuous, Free, and Happy, until time shall be no more*", requests that Wright call a "*day of Fasting and Prayer*" that a "*happy reconciliation may Soon Take Place between America and the Parent State*"; followed by Response by Wright stating that while "*I cannot Consider that Meeting [of the Provisional Congress] as Constitutional*", he will still call a day of fasting and prayer, on behalf of the King [enclosed with Wright's July 8, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 175]

182. July 10, 1775 [157]
Letter No. 53 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting on seizure by the "*Liberty People*" of a schooner carrying gunpowder and on seizure at Charleston of official letters to Wright by Liberty People of South Carolina; reporting that the Georgia Provisional Congress ordered the Savannah post office not to deliver letters to Wright , but it shortly thereafter rescinded the order; stating that "*It being impossible My Lord for me to submit to these daily Insults*", requesting again that he be allowed to return to England on leave; expressing that "*I begin to think a King's Governor has little or no business here*"
183. July 11, 1775 [159]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, updating his reports in his letter of July 10, 1775, including confirmation that a schooner with a reported six tons of gunpowder had been seized by the "*Liberty Folks*", that "*many Pretty Extraordinary things are Talk'd of*" by the Congress and by the 300-man force the Congress had recently raised; promising to continue to deliver "*true accounts*" of what is happening [with enclosure, document 184]
184. July 12, 1775 [161]
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, including news about and documents from the Georgia Provincial Congress, Wright's proclamation of a day of "*fasting, humiliation, and prayer*" on July 19, and other news [enclosed with Wright's July 11, 1775 letter to Dartmouth]
185. October 4, 1775 [163]
Draft [outgoing] letter from John Pownall, Undersecretary of State, at Whitehall to Wright, writing in Dartmouth's absence, stating that plans are being developed for military action against the illegal actions of protesters in America, possibly including a "*Southern expedition*" during the upcoming winter, which, it was hoped, would "*change the Prospect of our Affairs on that Side*"; encouraging Wright not to despair [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
186. July 18, 1775 [156]
Letter No. 54 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that the Provincial Congress had send him an address, making several charges against him, which, he claims are false; defending his actions and enclosing documentation; reporting having learned that the South Carolina Council of Safety had convinced the Georgia Provincial Congress to give them "*5000 weight of the Gun Powder and which they carried away with them*"; reporting believing that the Congress has agreed to send "*2000 weight of Gun Powder into the Indian Country as a Present from the People*" rather than from the King or the colonial government or the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, which Wright fears "*will raise Strange Ideas amongst the Indians and be attended with very bad Consequences*"; reporting that the Congress has appointed a "*Council of Safety*" similar to that in South Carolina; stating that the South Carolinians have offered generous assistance to

the Congress's efforts in Georgia; restating his request to return to England, with a new purpose, "*in order to Resign the Government*" [with enclosure, document 187]

187. July 17, 1775 [170]
Extract from minutes of the Georgia Council, containing the text of an affidavit received from the Parish of St. Paul sworn by Joshua Smith that at Augusta, a man named Robert Hamilton made a public statement that "*in Case there should be Occasion for any Assistance from them, the Negroes, in Killing the King's Troops Each Negroe for so doing should be entitled to or have his Freedom*", which information the Council referred to the Chief Justice and Attorney General; containing the text of the Georgia Congress's address to Wright, expressing grievances against the colonial government in "*these very critical and alarming Times*", seeking redress through a petition to the King, and providing details of their grievances, signed by Archibald Bulloch, President; which Wright understood to contain "*sundry charges against him which he thought were without any just foundation*"; containing Wright's justifications for his actions, including his proroguing of the Georgia Assembly because of the uncertain times, and the accuracy of his representations, in letters to Dartmouth, of the actual situation in Georgia [enclosed with Wright's July 18, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 186]
188. July 29, 1775 [174]
Letter No. 55 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that the Council of Safety had forbade the rector of the church to preach in his church because his sermons had supported the government and had humiliated the man in public; followed by
August 1, 1775
PS to the letter reporting that the Provincial Congress has taken on new powers to control the movement of vessels between the mouth of the Savannah River and the town of Savannah, and to issue paper money; reporting that "*No Sloop of War or Cruizer Is come yet*" [with enclosures, documents 189 to 193]
189. July 28, 1775 [177]
Official statement by Chief Justice Anthony Stokes that the attached copies of several depositions, as declared by Henry Preston and Charles Pryce, are true copies; followed by
July 26, 1775
Copy of sworn statement by Mary Smith, wife of Archibald Smith, that the written affidavit of George MacMichen is true and accurate, as affirmed by Preston and Pryce
[both enclosed with Wright's July 29, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 188]
190. July 25, 1775 [178]
Copy of sworn statement of [Captain] John Hopkins, mariner of Savannah, describing his being taken forcibly from his home and publicly abused and

insulted him, demanding that he drink to "*Damnation to all Tories & Success to American Liberty*" or be hanged from the Liberty Tree; suggesting that the "Parson" "M^r Smith" would get the same treatment; providing names of some of the "mob" [enclosed with Wright's July 29, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 188]

191. July 25, 1775 [180]
Copy of sworn statement of Rev. Haddon Smith, Rector of Christ Church in Savannah, stating that a group of named men had come to his home, the parsonage; the group's leader, Peter Tarling, then read a paper informing him that, "*For from Your late Conduct in disobeying the Orders of the Congress, You are deemed an Enemy to America & by order of the Committee [of Safety] we are to inform you that you are to be Suffered no longer to Officiate in this Town' or words to that Effect*"; followed by
July 25, 1775 [156]
Copy of sworn statement of John Neidlinger of Savannah, sexton for Christ Church parish, stating that a man delivered a message to him from the committee [of safety] that he for no reason should ring the church bell, that he should so inform Rev. Smith, and that he was not to let anyone use the church's key without their permission; followed by
July 26, 1775
Copy of sworn statement of George Baillie, Commissary General of Georgia, stating that he had discovered a gun carriage and other military stores missing from the public storage house, which had forcibly been broken into; followed by
July 26, 1775
Copy of sworn statement of George Macmichen, a laborer of Savannah, stating that he had been near the public storage house when two men (one of them Thomas Lee) came along, broke into the storage house, and used Negro men to take away a gun carriage and other things
[all enclosed with Wright's July 29, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 188]
192. July 25, 1775 [182]
Copy of order by Chief Justice Anthony Stokes to the acting Provost Marshal, his bailiffs and constables, based on John Hopkins' testimony, that bricklayer Joseph Reynolds, mariner George Bunner should be apprehended and brought to the court for examination; followed by
Note by John Hopkins stating that, "*Upon further Consideration*" he wishes that these warrants not be issued because of possible danger to Reynolds and Bunner, based on threats by Joseph Habersham [enclosed with Wright's July 29, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 188]
193. July 26, 1775 [184]
Printed issue of the *Georgia Gazette*, containing news and opinion, including news about the Battle of Bunker Hill at Boston [fought on June 17, 1775] and other news of General Washington's army; containing a *Supplement* with

proceedings of the Georgia Provincial Congress plus other Georgia news and opinion [enclosed with Wright's July 29, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 188]

194. August 16, 1775 [187]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, forwarding information about late events in Georgia [no enclosures are microfilmed here]
195. August 7, 1775 [189]
Letter No. 56 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, expressing concern about his continuing accounts to Dartmouth of "*the very illegal, Insolent, and Dangerous Transactions, of the Liberty People here*"; providing more such accounts, including the reported enlisting of Georgia men, without legal consequences, for service in "*the Carolina Regiments*"; new threats that public gunpowder will be taken; the intimidation of individuals to compel them to sign and support the papers of association; and a new plan to "*wrest the command of the Militia out of my Hands*" [with enclosures, documents 196 to 201]
196. August 7, 1775 [191]
Copy of sworn statement by Rev. Hadden Smith, Rector of Christ Church, reporting to have observed men recruiting British soldiers for the South Carolina service, with details, including intimidation of the Chief Justice not to interfere legally [enclosed with Wright's August 7, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 195]
197. August 2, 1775 [193]
Copy of sworn statement by mariners Henry Barnwell and Caleb Comstock of the sloop *Friendship*, reporting that named men had been aboard the vessel when Captain Amos Weeks was not there, intimidating crew members and Captain Weeks against trading in Savannah; followed by
[August 2, 1775]
Copy of sworn statement by Captain Amos Weeks, repeating what he had heard about the incident; followed by
August 2, 1775
Copy of order by Anthony Stokes, Chief Justice of Georgia, that the Acting Provost and the King's Constables, based on the information from Weeks, Barnwell, and Comstock should apprehend Ebenezer McCarty, along with Florence Mahony and William Davis of Savannah, for questioning about their actions on the *Friendship*
[all enclosed with Wright's August 7, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 195]
198. August 2, 1775 [195]
Copy of order by Chief Justice Stokes to the Provost Marshal and "*the Keeper of the Common Goals in Savannah*", that they should apprehend McCarty, Mahony, and Davis to be held in jail "*untill they are dischargd by due Course of Law*" [enclosed with Wright's August 7, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 195]

199. August 2, 1775 [196]
Copy of writ [of habeas corpus] by Chief Justice Stokes to the Provost Marshal and Keeper of the Jails, that they incarcerate McCarty, followed by certification by Joseph Farley, Deputy Acting Provost Marshal of Georgia that McCarty had already been "*Committed to my Custody*" before receiving this writ [enclosed with Wright's August 7, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 195]
200. August 3, 1775 [197]
Copy of order by Chief Justice Stokes to the Provost Marshal and Keeper of the Jail, that they should apprehend and keep McCarty and Mahony "*untill they are dischargd by due Course of Law*"; followed by
Copy of statement by Joseph Farley, saying that it was this document that had justified his taking McCarty into custody; followed by
August 3, 1774
Statement by Stokes remanding McCarty to jail
[all enclosed with Wright's August 7, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 195]
201. August 7, 1775 [198]
Copy of sworn statement by Thomas Corns, Keeper of the Common Jail in Savannah, describing the bringing of McCarty to the jail, under an order by Stokes; detailing the evidence used to justify apprehending and jailing McCarty; followed by:
August 7, 1775
Copy of sworn statement by Sarah Corns, wife of Thomas Corns, describing that, after McCarty had been committed to jail, several men came to the Corns house, asking for Thomas, who was not at home, and requesting the keys to the jail, which she said she did not have, whereupon one of the men tried to force his way into the house, but the group of men decided to return to the jail, and she later learned that the jail's lock had been forced, and McCarty had escaped
[both enclosed with Wright's August 7, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 195]
202. August 17, 1775 [201]
Letter No. 57 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, with a further "*disagreeable Account of the Proceedings of the Congress and Liberty People here*", reporting that the Congress has allowed militia officers to remain in place but is seeking to release their soldiers from their service to the King; however, reporting that the Committee of Safety is seeking to take control of naming officers also; reporting that a South Carolina vessel had seized a vessel full of gunpowder outside the bar, sailing into St. Augustine; repeating that Georgia people were being intimidated to sign papers of association [with enclosures, documents 203, 204]
203. July 25, 1775 [201]
Extract of Georgia Council meeting, concerning General Gage's order to the commander at St. Augustine to make 100 soldiers with officers available to be sent to Savannah; the Council, after deliberation, deciding not to send for this detachment because the number of soldiers being offered was insufficient to

meet the need, and because bringing them to Savannah “*most probably would Inflame the People, and that they [the soldiers] would only be Subject and Exposed to Insult and Danger*” [enclosed with Wright’s August 17, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 202]

204. August 15, 1775 [204]
Extract of Georgia Council meeting, containing:
August 8, 1775
Text of an “*application*” from members of a so-called Council of Safety at Savannah; suggesting that, since it appears to the Council of Safety members that “*many of the Commissioned Officers in the Militia, are disagreeable to the People over whom they Command*”, these officers should be removed and replaced; justifying the need for this action because Georgia is “*a frontier Province bordering upon the Indian and too near the Spanish Settlements, both of which ‘ere long, may be our declared Enemies*”; claiming that “*The People throughout the Province desire to be Commanded by Officers of their own Chusing*”; and that this sentiment is borne out of necessity, not the desire to undermine the power of the King; requesting that Wright approve such officers for Georgia’s militia; signed by 10 individuals; followed by
August 9, 1775
Text of letter from Georgia Militia officers John Charles Lucena and John B. Randell of the 1st Company of the 1st Regiment to Wright, describing how they had been replaced by two other men elected by their company at the behest of a Captain Pooler, who had assumed command and had stipulated that only men who had signed an association paper would be eligible to be officers; followed by
August 9, 1775
Text of letter from William Stephens and William Johnston of the 4th Company of the Georgia Militia, describing how their company had been called out and told that the Congress and Council of Safety had ordered that the soldiers elect officers, that officers must have signed a paper of association; the captain had resigned in disagreement over these orders, and a new commander and officers had been elected; followed by
August 10, 1775
Text of letter from Georgia Militia company commander J. Nethorclift to Wright of the Light Infantry Company, describing the recent actions of the men of his company, who, stating that they were following orders of the Provincial Congress or Council of Safety, declared that he must sign an association paper to continue as their commander; when Nethorclift declined to sign the paper, declaring his choice to remain loyal to the King, he was replaced by a Mr. Francis Harris “*but under what authority I do not know*”; followed by
August 14, 1775
Text of letter from James Robertson, commander of the 8th Company, to Wright, reporting that soldiers of his company had likewise voted to replace their officers and of him and his ensign, both of whom refused to sign a paper of association; followed by

Discussion within the Georgia Council about what to do about these actions by militia companies; Wright stating that he considered them to represent “*a very extraordinary and dangerous Tendency*”, which he blamed on “*the Resolution and Direction of the Provincial Congress*” designed to “*wrest the Power and Command of the Militia from the Crown*”, including lengthy explanation and justification for his views; the Georgia Council, recognizing that the authors of the “application” [see above] are among those elected to officer positions and therefore “*associators*”, that is supporters of the Provincial Congress; thus, the application is borne more out of politics than of necessity; recommending, therefore, that Wright not sign commissions for the newly elected officers; followed by

August 16, 1775

Text of statement by Chief Justice Stokes concurring with the views of Wright and the recommendations of the Georgia Council, including lengthy explanation and justification; followed by

August 6, 1775

Text of letter from [Colonel] James Grierson, [Militia commander] at [Fort] Augusta to Wright, reporting on activities of a certain “*Col^o Fletcher of S^o Carolina*” who has been using intimidation to recruit associators in this part of Georgia; that 150 men have been recruited already, that 700 are expected, and that they appear to intend to march on Fort Augusta; seeking instructions; followed by

August 6, 1775

Text of letter from John Wilson, secretary of the parish at Augusta, to Grierson, requesting that, given the apparent danger of conflict, that Grierson assemble the Militia regiment under his command and prepare to defend the town; followed by August 6, 1775

Text of letter from Grierson to Wilson, responding that his orders come from Savannah and that he cannot mobilize on his own, at the request of local people; followed by

Wright’s comments to the Georgia Council that Grierson had acted properly and that Wright would decide what steps the Militia should take

[all enclosed with Wright’s August 17, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 202]

[Note: Being an “**associator**” meant generally that a person (especially an enfranchised white adult male American person) had declared his loyalty to one of the newly forming governments that began springing up during 1775 to supplant the British colonial governments now considered (by rebellious Americans) to be illegitimate. This declaration, generally made in writing, indicated that the person had chosen not only to side with the rebellious Americans but also to renounce loyalty to a British colonial government. In practice, the term “associator” came to mean a male adult who had not only sided with the rebellion but agreed to do active military duty to help ensure its success. These associators joined “provincial” forces, American forces analogous to the colonial militia. While an associator may have renounced loyalty to a colonial government, he did not necessarily (yet) renounce the sovereignty of the King (see, for instance, document 208 below). Although not

used in this way here, some American loyalists also adopted the term for members of their own voluntary military associations.]

205. August 16, 1775 [212]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to John Pownall, acknowledging receipt of a speech by the King and a printed act of Parliament
206. October 25, 1775 [214]
Letter from George Johnston at Old Burlington Street [presumably London] to "My Lord" [the Earl of Dartmouth], stating that he has received a petition from inhabitants of Georgia expressing opposition to the grievances against the crown being expressed by other Georgians in the name of rights for "*Freemen in North America*"; wishing to present this petition to the Secretary of State in person rather than through the Board of Trade [with enclosures, documents 207, 208]
207. [no date] [216]
Copy of petition from inhabitants of Georgia, expressing their loyalty to the King and their opposition to the grievances of other Georgia inhabitants; seeking redress through Johnston to the throne [Frame 216 microfilmed twice] [enclosed with Johnston's October 25, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 206]
208. July 14, 1775 [218]
Address and representation of the Georgia Provincial Congress to the King, expressing grievances and the fear of greater cause for grievance; appealing to the King as righteous to correct the injustices and oppression perceived to be caused by the royal government, identified as "*Your Majesty's Ministers*"; seeking relief from a benevolent King; signed by Archibald Bulloch, President of the Provincial Congress [enclosed with Johnston's October 25, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 206]
209. November 7, 1775 [220]
Draft [outgoing], letter from John Pownall at Whitehall to Wright, a confidential communication, with enclosures concerning plans for a southern expedition as a first step to be taken against the colonies "*now in open Rebellion*," [no enclosures are microfilmed here] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]
210. September 16, 1775 [222]
Letter No. 58 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that "*the Liberty People are Still going on in the same way*"; stating that most Militia officers are now elected and new; reporting on the attempts by South Carolinians to arm "associators" in Georgia's interior; reporting that the Council on Safety is now operating somewhat as an executive branch of the provincial government; expressing being confused at why General Gage has not or has not been able to stem the rebellion with military force; wishing he had had the opportunity to speak in person with the Secretary of State, stating that "*I could have said much*";

implying that possibly he could have made some suggestions that might have helped to snuff out the rebellion earlier [with enclosure, document 211]

211. July 27, 1775 [224]
Printed copy of resolution by the Georgia Council of Safety, concerning the organization of military forces as part of the provincial government [enclosed with Wright's September 18, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 210]
212. September 23, 1775 [225]
Letter No. 59 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that a ship loaded with gunpowder and the year's supply of Indian presents was seized at Tybee Island by the "*Liberty People*"; reporting that attempts by the Liberty People to gain support from the Indians have been met with no success, since the Indians are maintaining a policy of not getting involved in the British-colonial dispute; pleading for quick action, without which Wright predicted that the colonial government, already a "*wrecked state*" would be "*Totally annihilated, and assumed by Congresses, Councils, and Committees, and the greatest acts of Tyranny, oppression, gross Insults, &c &c &c Committed and not the least means of Protection, Support, or even Personal Safety. and these almost daily occurrences are too much my Lord*"; including additional details of the lack of authority of the colonial government [with enclosures, documents 213 to 215]
213. September 2, 1775 [227]
Copy of sworn statement of Savannah cordwainer Martin Strohaker, who reported having observed a man named [Joseph] Humphreys seeking the home of a man named [Thomas] Lane and a Captain [John] Green to deliver a packet of papers to him from Deputy Acting Provost Marshall Joseph Farley [enclosed with Wright's September 23, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 212]
214. September 22, 1775 [228]
Sworn statements of master Richard Maitland and first mate John Fullerton of the ship *Philippa* from London, with a cargo of miscellaneous goods plus some royal arms, stating they had come to the bar at Tybee Island on their way in to Savannah when they were approached by an armed schooner, whose crew seemed prepared to board the *Philippa* but were not able to, that the schooner, flying an "*American Liberty*" flag, shadowed the *Philippa*; reporting that camps of men were seen on Tybee and Cockspur Islands and that some of the men came in boats and boarded the *Philippa*, demanding its papers, after which they took the royal arms, after which Joseph Habersham came on board with an order from the Provincial Congress requiring that the royal arms be taken because "*If it was the King's they would take it*"; reporting that among the boarders were Oliver Bowen, captain of the schooner, and John Joyner of South Carolina and John Cuthbert of Savannah; reporting that Maitland had gone to Governor Wright about the matter as soon as he could but that he believed Wright "*had it not in his power, to take any measure, or even enforce the Laws*"; stating that Maitland

wished that a warrant be issued by the Chief Justice to recover the stolen arms [enclosed with Wright's September 23, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 212]

215. September 11, 1775 [233]
Copy of sworn statement by Thomas Lane, a bailiff in St. George Parish, reporting his side of the events also reported on by Martin Strohaker [document 213]; followed by
September 12, 1775
Copy of sworn statement by Isaac Roberts of Sunbury, a bailiff in southern Georgia, stating that a Joseph Woodruff had taken from him two Negroes he had legally acquired from Woodruff; followed by
[September 12, 1775]
Copy of sworn statement of Richard [?] Bissell who had arrived in Savannah from Jamaica with a shipload of goods, including molasses, but had received a message from the Parochial Committee in Savannah to appear and that there, a man named Mordecai Sheftall had told him he could not sell his molasses in Savannah and should return to Jamaica [Frame 237 microfilmed twice]
[enclosed with Wright's September 23, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 212]
216. September 26, 1775 [238]
Letter No. 60 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, transmitting, at the request of the petitioner, a petition to Wright from Robert Smith and several others concerning conditions in Georgia, the accuracy of which Wright can attest to from his own knowledge [with enclosures, documents 217 to 219]
217. September 22, 1775 [240]
Certification by Wright that two affidavits were made before Chief Justice Stokes and are accurate [enclosed with Wright's September 26, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 216]
218. September 14, 1775 [241]
Copy of resolution of the General Committee of the [Provincial Congress] to "*take into Consideration the Conduct of Mr. Robert Smith for not attending this Committee when Summoned to to do*"; signed by John Cuthbert, Secretary [Frame 241 microfilmed twice] [enclosed with Wright's September 26, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 216]
219. September 22, 1775 [242]
Copy of sworn statement of Robert Smith and William Moss, Hugh Russell, commander of the brig *Neptune*, John Wood, James Douglass, and William Macredie, all of Savannah, with their side of the events concerning the ship *Philippa* [see document 214]; with additional details [enclosed with Wright's September 26, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 216]
220. December 15, 1775 [247]

Draft [outgoing] letter from J[ohn] P[ownall] at Whitehall to George Green, stating that he is directed by Lord George Germain [Secretary of State for the Colonies], "*that the King has no further occasion for your Service as Secretary and Register of the Colony of Georgia*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 4]

[Note: Lord George Germain, 1st Viscount Sackville (1716-1785) replaced the Earl of Dartmouth as Secretary of State for the Colonies on November 10, 1775. He served during the wartime Lord North administration, until February 1782.]

221. December 23, 1775 [249]
Draft [outgoing] letter [No. 1] from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, informing him that the "*armament*" is about to leave England to attempt "*the Restoration of legal Government in the Southern Provinces*"; stating that [Josiah] Tattnall has been approved to join the Georgia Council to replace James Habersham [who had died earlier in 1775]; announcing that the commission and appointment of Mr. Green to the Office of Secretary and Register has been revoked "*upon a discovery of very improper Conduct in that person*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
[Note: Josiah Tattnall (1740- ?) was a wealthy planter with a large plantation near Savannah. When the British colonial Georgia government was disbanded in 1776, this strong loyalist moved his family to the West Indies and later to England. As with the James Habersham and Noble Jones families, the elder Josiah Tattnall's son Josiah (c. 1764-1803) identified with America over Britain. In 1782, he returned as a young man to the Georgia he had left with his family as a 12-year-old in 1776 to resettle on his family's plantation. As a wealthy planter, he became a military and political leader, serving as both U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor. This Josiah's son, yet another Josiah (1794-1871) served a long, high-ranking career in both the US and Confederate Navies.]

Reel 8 (Volume 665)

Volume 665—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (incoming), end

June 27, 1775 to December 7, 1780

Documents 1 to 146

[Frames 1 to 343]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 665 continues from Volume 664 the Secretary of State’s papers of (mostly) incoming official correspondence in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: In Volume 665, Wright continued sending numbered letters to Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Dartmouth (whose last numbered letter to Wright is found in Volume 664 in Reel 7). Dartmouth was replaced in November 1775 by Lord George Germain, who continued the practice of his predecessors by numbering his outgoing letters and having colonial governors number their letters to him. Where found, these letter numbers are included in this Finding Aid.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

1. October 14, 1775 [1]
Letter No. 61 from Governor James Wright of Georgia, at Savannah, to Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Dartmouth, reporting that “*Back Country People*” had armed and seized a stockade fort in the newly ceded area of Georgia; concluding that in general, “*the Poison has Infected the whole Province*”; reporting the seizure of a slave ship and its cargo, concluding that “*the King’s Port, and mens Property, are in the Absolute power of these People*”; stating that he is unable to receive letters from London because the shipping is controlled by these people and that some of his letters to London are held by those in rebellion; repeating his plea for both ammunition and soldiers; reporting that the [Second] Continental Congress is in “*Talks*” with “*all the Indians upon the Continent*” and similar talks are underway by Georgia’s Council of Safety; concluding again that “*all Powers are Assumed and taken from the Kings Governors and their Officers*”; stating that when the General Court met to swear in office holders and some of them “*Insolently*” refused to swear loyalty to the

crown, so that the court could not sit and do business properly; concluding that “*really My Lord there is hardly a Shadow of Government remaining*”; hoping that instructions are on the way to guide him in “*what course to take in every respect, to reduce this Province, and People to the Obedience to the Kings Authority, law, and Government*” [with enclosures, documents 2 to 5]

[Note: **William Legge, 2nd Earl of Dartmouth** (1731-1801), served as Secretary of State for the Colonies from August 1772 until November 10, 1775. For more on **James Wright**, see note after Reel 1 document 9.]

2. October 13, 1775 [5]
Copy of letter from Deputy Acting Provost Marshall Joseph Farley at Savannah to Chief Justice Anthony Stokes, concerning an affidavit by his bailiff Thomas Lane in St. George Parish “*respecting the refusal of some of the inhabitants of that Parish, to serve as Jurors at October Court*” [for more on Chief Justice **Anthony Stokes**, see note after Reel 6 document 161] [enclosed with Wright’s October 14, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 1]
3. October 17, 1775 [7]
Copy of sworn statement by [?], concerning [?] [microfilming is so light this document is virtually unreadable] [enclosed with Wright’s October 14, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 1]
4. October 16, 1775 [9]
Statement by clerk Preston Pryor, certifying as accurate the copies of sworn statements concerning the seating of jurors for the Georgia Court [enclosed with Wright’s October 14, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 1]
5. October 17, 1775 [10]
Extract of minutes of the Georgia General Court, concerning the refusal of 11 named persons to serve as jurors; stating that they conducted themselves in a way that was “*highly contemptuous, and tends Stop the Administration of Justice*” [enclosed with Wright’s October 14, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 1]
6. November 1, 1775 [12]
Letter No. 62 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting that hostilities between Georgia settlers and Indians are continuing, and that he expects a war with the Indians; stating the opinion that “*If the Indians are not Immediately Supplied with Ammunition, and the Trade opened as usual, it will be Impossible to restrain them*”; reporting the death of James Habersham [for more on him see note after Reel 3 document 9] and appointment of John Hume [perhaps related to James Hume, who served beginning in 1770 as Attorney General of Georgia and moved from Georgia to East Florida in 1776 to escape the hostilities of the American rebels against him; see note after Reel 3 document 10] to succeed him as Secretary of Georgia; reminding Dartmouth that Wright has requested leave to return to England and that he “*cannot expect to continue much longer here*”; to fill vacancies in the Georgia Council, recommending as new members Josiah

Tattnall [for more on him see Reel 7 document 221], Patrick Houston [for more on him see note after Reel 1 document 43], Lachlan McGillivray [for more on him see note after Reel 6 document 211], and Charles William Mackinnen; reiterating that some of his letters to London “*Still remain with Lord W^m Campbell on board the Sloop of War in Rebellion Road, near Charles Town*”; postscript dated November 3, 1775, reporting that Noble Jones [for more on him see note after Reel 3 document 70], Council member and Treasurer of Georgia, had died and that he and the Council intend to appoint George Johnston to succeed him as Treasurer [with enclosures, documents 7, 8]

7. September 7, 1775 [14]
Copy of Talk from the Creek nation to Wright, stating that “*We hope that you can help us with as much ammunition as you Possibly can and we are determined to Lye quiet and not Meddle with the Quarrel*”; wishing to continue as friends with the white people if they will continue to be friendly to the Creeks [enclosed with Wright’s November 1, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 6]

8. August 1775 [15]
Statement of several loyal subjects in Christs Church Parish, deploring the “*misery brought on this Country by several unconstitutional Bodies called a Provincial Congress a Council of Safety and Parochial Committees*” that have “subverted our Civil and Religious Liberties” in various ways itemized; signed by 112 individuals [some of them officials in the colonial government] [enclosed with Wright’s November 1, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 6]

9. November 16, 1775 [17]
Letter No. 63 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, urging again that “*the most vigorous Efforts should be made [by the King] both by Sea and Land, to reduce His Rebellious Subjects to Obedience*”; including other details of the situation in Georgia [with enclosures, documents 10-13]
[**Note:** In London, Dartmouth had been replaced as Secretary of State for the Colonies by Lord George Germain on November 10, 1775. Wright continued writing to Dartmouth, through his letter No 70 dated March 10, 1776, until he learned, three days later, that Germain had replaced Dartmouth.]

10. June 27, 1775 [18]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to General Thomas Gage, urging him to take early and strong action to put down the recently begun rebellion [enclosed in Wright’s November 16, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 9]
[**Note: General Thomas Gage** (1718-1787) served in the British Army as commander in chief in North America from 1763 to 1775. Ten days before Wright wrote this letter, Gage had sought to follow Wright’s (and Parliament’s) advice. The result was the bloody but indecisive Battle of Bunker Hill, which led directly to Gage’s being replaced by General William Howe.]

11. June 27, 1775 [19]

Copy of letter from Wright to Admiral [Samuel] Graves [1713-1787], urging him to take action against the recently begun rebellion [enclosed in Wright's November 16, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 9]

12. November 16, 1775 [20]
Copy of sworn statement by David Montaigut, deputy customs collector at Savannah, recounting events of October 3, 1775, when a sloop *Charlotte* had passed through customs, and a group of "*Committee men*" led by Oliver Bowen had come to the customs office, demanding the register of the vessel for having engaged in commerce in Georgia, but, after several hours of "*rummaging*" in the customs office, were unable to find it [Frame 21 microfilmed twice] [enclosed in Wright's November 16, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 9]
13. November 16, 1775 [22]
Copy of sworn statement by William Brown, searcher and acting comptroller of customs at Savannah, recounting his recollection [similar to David Montaigut's in document 12] of events on October 3, 1775, concerning the sloop *Charlotte* [enclosed in Wright's November 16, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 9]
14. December 9, 1775 [24]
Letter No. 64 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, reporting on other difficulties operating the colonial courts because of the rebellion, on the theft of gunpowder and arms by South Carolinians, and on other rebellious activities [with enclosures, documents 15 to 20]
15. December 6, 1775 [28]
Copy of resolution by the Georgia Provincial Congress, concerning the unwillingness of James Hume [who had served as Attorney General of Georgia since 1770; not to be confused with John Hume, Secretary of Georgia] to conform to the Congress's regulations for Georgia's courts; proclaiming that James Hume should therefore depart Georgia within one month [he did move to East Florida in early 1776; see note after Reel 3 document 10]; signed by Edward Langworthy, Secretary [enclosed with Wright's December 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 14]
[Note: Edward Langworthy (1738-1802) was a teacher from Savannah whose involvement in the Georgia Council of Safety thrust him into revolutionary politics. While representing Georgia in the Second Continental Congress (which had convened in May 1775 and continued in session until 1783) from 1777 until 1779, he was a signer of the Articles of Confederation.]
16. December 6, 1775 [30]
Extract from Provincial Congress proceedings, resolving that, since Chief Justice Stokes has threatened to bar from practicing in the Georgia courts any attorney "*who shall attempt to conform himself to the Regulations of this Congress*", if he acts on this treat, he "*will prove himself an Enemy to this Country, and thenceforth be precluded from the Protection of this Congress, and of the*

Authorities which shall act under it [enclosed with Wright's December 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 14]

17. December 5, 1775 [32]
Extract from Provincial Congress proceedings, ordering that James Hume appear before the Congress on the next day to answer for having issued a writ "*contrary to the Regulations of this Congress*" [enclosed with Wright's December 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 14]
18. November 30, 1775 [34]
Copy of resolution by the Provincial Congress, delivered to James Hume, stopping all litigation in Georgia courts against debtors until ordered otherwise by Congress, except for cases in which "*persons are removing themselves or their Effects out of this Province*" [enclosed with Wright's December 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 14]
19. November 30, 1775 and following dates [36]
Several abstracts from Provincial Congress proceedings, including:
November 30, 1775
Resolution [the same as document 18] by the Provincial Congress stopping litigation against debtors, with the exception of those leaving Georgia and their goods; followed by
December 1, 1775
Reference to resolutions adopted by the Provincial Congress on this date, to be found in the *Georgia Gazette*; followed by
December 6, 1775
Resolution [the same as document 16] by the Provincial Congress, warning Chief Justice Stokes about barring from practice in the Georgia courts attorneys who follow the Congress' court regulations; followed by
December 7, 1775
Text of Stokes' letter to Wright describing how he received the resolution of the Provincial Congress; followed by
Reference to the rule of the court adopted by the Provincial Congress; followed by
December 15, 1775
Text of letter from James Johnston [publisher of the *Georgia Gazette*] to Stokes, stating that he has received a rule of the General Court adopted by the Provincial Congress and will have it printed; followed by
December 16, 1775
Text of letter from Stokes to Johnston seeking to persuade him not to print the court rule
[all enclosed with Wright's December 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 14]
20. December 1, 1775 [38]

Printed text of the court rule adopted by the Provincial Congress, pertaining to the discontinuation of debt litigation, with details and related matters [enclosed with Wright's December 9, 1775 letter to Dartmouth, document 14]

21. December 11, 1775 [40]
Letter No. 65 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, expressing gratitude that the King has approved his leave of absence from Georgia, but stating his mixed feelings; stating that some feel he can do more for Georgia by staying, but others think he "*might be of more service in England than here*"
22. December 19, 1775 [42]
Letter No. 66 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, concerning the Provincial Congress's militarization through an alternative militia, many of whom previously served in the colonial Georgia militia; providing news of South Carolina's alternative government
23. January 3, 1776 [44]
Letter No. 67 from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, providing updates on rebel activities in Georgia [with enclosures, documents 24-27]
24. December 12, 1775 [40]
Copy of rule of the General Court, responding to the Provincial Court's rule on debt litigation, which is quoted in the new rule; stating that the Provincial Court is not a lawful body of government, so its rule is unlawful; arguing the legitimacy of the colonial court and its foundation in loyalty to the Crown and ordering court officials to continue their duties to this lawful court [likely written by Stokes] [enclosed with Wright's January 3, 1776 letter to Dartmouth, document 23]
25. December 21, 1775 [48]
Printed text of resolution of the Georgia Council of Safety, calling for election of members to a new Provincial Congress in early January 1776 [enclosed with Wright's January 3, 1776 letter to Dartmouth, document 23]
26. December 6, 1775 [49]
Printed issue of the *Georgia Gazette*, with news and comment on the rebellion and the colonial government in other colonies and in Georgia [Frame 49 duplicated twice] [enclosed with Wright's January 3, 1776 letter to Dartmouth, document 23]
27. December 27, 1775 [51]
Printed issue of *Georgia Gazette*, with news and comment on the rebellion and colonial government in other colonies and Georgia [enclosed with Wright's January 3, 1776 letter to Dartmouth, document 23]
28. January 3, 1776 [53]

Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Dartmouth, updating Dartmouth on the state of affairs in Georgia, which remain unsettled because of actions by the "*Liberty People*", with details

29. March 26, 1776 [55]
Letter No. 3 from Wright "*On Board his Majestys Ship Transport* [actually 22-gun ship *HMS Scarborough*] *at Cockspur*" [an island at the mouth of the Savannah River, Georgia] to Secretary of State for the Colonies Lord George Germain, reporting the substantial financial loss of John Graham, wealthy planter, Georgia Council member, and lieutenant governor, from the burning by rebels of the ship *Inverness* to keep it and its cargo from falling into British hands; Graham now being in financial distress, suggesting that he deserves "*Protection & Relief*" from the government [for more on **John Graham**, see note after Reel 7 document 171; for more on **Cockspur Island**, see notes after Reel 1 document 46 (map) and Reel 2 document 99]
[Note: **Lord George Germain, 1st Viscount Sackville** (1716-1785) replaced the Earl of Dartmouth as Secretary of State for the Colonies on November 10, 1775. He served during the wartime Lord North administration, until February 1782. Although Germain replaced Dartmouth in November 1775, Wright did not learn of this change until early March 1776 (see document 31). Since several months were required for correspondence to be penned in England, received in Georgia, and then responded to back to England (or vice versa), lengthy communications delays were inevitable. During the period of rebellious chaos in late 1775 and early 1776, some delays must have been further lengthened, and some deliveries were waylaid.]
30. March 10, 1776 [57]
Duplicate letter No. 70 from Wright on board the *Scarborough* at Cockspur to Dartmouth, recounting the increasingly dangerous situation which led to Wright, his top government officials, and others to withdraw "*precipitously*" to shelter on English warships, when they arrived in Georgia's waters, along with 500 British troops; describing how the rebels were arresting people loyal to the King and taking their property
[Note: This is the last numbered letter Wright wrote to Dartmouth before learning, three days later (document 31) that Germain had superseded him the previous November as Secretary of State for the Colonies. Wright's microfilmed official, numbered letters to Dartmouth include No. 1 through No. 67 (including two No. 35 letters with different dates) and No. 70. Only No. 68 and No. 69, written between January 3 and March 10, 1776 are not included. Actually, a complete gap devoid of any microfilmed correspondence exists in this collection between January 3 and March 1, 1776. During this period, the screws of Georgia's colonial governmental crisis/American rebellion were progressively tightening, leading to the time, in early March, when Wright and his fellow colonial government leaders fled to the safety of a British warship. Ironically, that warship and the rest of the fleet under Sir Peter Parker's command that arrived soon after, in mid-April, at the mouth of the Savannah River, were supposed to

be Britain's decisive, initial southern-campaign response to American rebellion. The perceived easy mission was to reconquer the southern rebel colonies quickly (originally conceived to occur during the winter), after which the perceived more intractable northern colonies could be mopped up during the warmer months (see Reel 7 documents 185, 209, and 221 dated between October 4 and December 23, 1775). Instead, as described by Wright in documents below, the fleet was diverted to Boston, arriving there just as British General William Howe was evacuating the city. Wright, having lost hope for a British military effort to recapture Savannah, exercised his privilege of a leave of absence approved by the King and sailed home to England on British Navy vessels, via Halifax.]

31. March 13, 1776

Duplicate unnumbered letter from Wright on board the *Scarborough* at Cockspur to Germain, acknowledging receipt of Germain's November 10, 1775 circular letter announcing his assumption of the position of Secretary of State for the Colonies, congratulating him and offering his loyal service

[59]
32. March 14, 1776

Duplicate unnumbered letter from Wright on board the *Scarborough* at Cockspur to Germain, acknowledging receipt of an act of Parliament "*Prohibiting all Trade & intercourse with the Colonies*" in rebellion; promising to execute the law; reporting that a number of loyal inhabitants of Georgia have been arrested and imprisoned; enclosing copies of his letters to Dartmouth so that Germain will understand the status of affairs in Georgia [no enclosures microfilmed here]

[61]
33. March 14, 1776

Duplicate Letter No. 1 from Wright on board the *Scarborough at Cockspur* to Germain, informing Germain that he had previously recommended to Dartmouth that John Hume replace James Habersham, who had died, as Secretary of Georgia; reiterating the recommendation to Germain

[64]
34. March 20, 1776

Letter No. 2 from Wright on board the *Scarborough* at Cockspur to Germain, stating that "*I look upon this Province My Lord, to be now totally under the Influence & Direction of the Carolina People, who have had Possession of the Town of Savannah for three Weeks past*"; still holding out hope that loyal inhabitants in Georgia will join in "*making a stand & Defence*"; stating that "*We continue to be in the Greatest Distress Possible*"; reporting by name on government officials who have been arrested and the seizure of property by the rebels; postscript dated March 26, 1776 reporting that a party of about 100 rebels had come onto nearby Tybee Island, seeking to capture Wright, who was not ashore, and killing and wounding several others who were out cutting wood; concluding that "*Things My Lord are growing worse every hour, and I fear assistance is at a great distance yet, the man that was killed they Scalpt*" [with enclosures, documents 35 to 37]

[65]

35. March 1, 1776 [69]
Copy of letter from Wright at Cockspur to John Graham, Lewis Johnson, and John Stuart, seeking their advice on several questions pertinent to the situation of a possible British attack to reduce the town and force the rebels to abandon it, including, how rebels and Indians should be treated after a possible attack; ensuring them that he is doing everything he could to preserve the King's rule in Georgia [enclosed with Wright's March 20, 1776 letter to Germain, document 34]
36. March 2, 1776 [71]
Copy of letter from Graham, Johnson, and Stuart, on board the *Scarborough* at Cockspur, to Wright, responding to his letter of March 1, 1776; recognizing that he as governor has no power at the moment, while on the British warships, except to advise the King's officers on what they should do; suggesting that if the troops were to seek to reduce the town, precautions should be taken to fortify Cockspur Island and keep a British ship there as a possible escape vessel if necessary, when the others sail up the river to Savannah; suggesting that troops will need to remain in Georgia to protect the safety of "*the Kings Officers & friends of Government*"; noticing that, since the King's troops and ships had arrived, the conditions of those loyal to the King had become worse rather than better; expressing the opinion that negotiations with the rebels would be futile, so they would have to be subdued; once subdued, the former rebels might eventually become worthy of pardon if they were to return ; suggesting that nothing be said about Indian relations until the situation changes positively; suggesting that Wright himself not go to Savannah to be a part of the operations there; hoping that Georgia and all the colonies will soon be restored to loyal colonial status [enclosed with Wright's March 20, 1776 letter to Germain, document 34]
37. March 2, 1776 [75]
Copy of letter from Wright on board the *Scarborough* at Cockspur to Captain [Andrew] Barkley, commander of the King's ships at Cockspur with a copy to Major [James] Grant, commander of the King's troops, sharing the conviction of the Georgia Council that if the ships and troops, having arrived, were to leave, the loyal inhabitants of Georgia would be totally lost to protect themselves [enclosed with Wright's March 20, 1776 letter to Germain, document 34]
[Note: This **Major James Grant** is but one of several with the same name and rank who hailed from the Highlands of Scotland and served in the British Army during the latter half of the 18th Century. The most well-known is the James Grant who was a Major during the French and Indian War, Governor of East Florida between 1766 and 1773, and a General during the Revolutionary War. No evidence is found here that this Major James Grant was closely related to the governor and general.]
38. March 27, 1776 [77]
Letter No. 4 from Wright, on board the *Scarborough* at Cockspur, to Germain, forwarding to Germain a petition from James Jackson and Andrew McLean of

Augusta, who, he says, are loyal subjects and great sufferers [with enclosures, documents 39, 40]

39. March 23, 1776 [79]
Copy of letter from James Jackson at Cockspur to Wright, warning that some Indian traders, since 1763 unregulated because exclusive rights to the Indian trade had been discontinued, were allowing rebels to talk with the Indians, which may influence the Indians to abandon their loyalty to Britain; seeking protection by ensuring that the Indians remain loyal [enclosed with Wright's March 27, 1776 letter to Germain, document 38]
40. March 21, 1776 [81]
Memorial from James Jackson and Andrew McLean, seeking exclusive rights to engage in the Indian trade as a means of protection by being able to influence the Indians to remain loyal to Britain [enclosed with Wright's March 27, 1776 letter to Germain, document 38]
41. April 26, 1776 [82]
Letter No. 5 from Wright, at Halifax [Nova Scotia, a major forward base for British Navy operations in North America] to Germain, reporting that he had arrived at Halifax on the *Scarborough* on April 21, 1776; enclosing copies of his correspondence documenting the reasons for his having left Savannah; stating his disappointment that the ships and troops that had arrived at the mouth of the Savannah River were not actually come to defend and protect Georgia for the King's rule but were headed to Boston. Wright had gone with the ships, heading toward Boston with a stop at Cape Fear, where he hoped to talk with General Sir Henry Clinton. Unable to meet with Clinton, he had written Clinton a letter [document 42]. When the ships arrived off of Boston, they learned that General William Howe's British army was evacuating that city; General Howe told him that "*it is wholly uncertain whether any Troops will go to Georgia or not*"; stating that, if no plans exist for a military operation to Georgia, Wright will exercise his privilege of the leave of absence granted by the King and return to England; pointing out that he can make no useful contribution to the King's service by trying to return to Georgia
[Note: The *Scarborough* and the other British warships at the mouth of the Savannah River must have left Cockspur Island, with Wright on board, soon after March 27, 1776. The date they arrived at Boston is not documented here, but Howe's evacuation of the city began on March 17. By the time the *Scarborough* arrived, it may have been just in time to join the end of the evacuation fleet on its way to Halifax.]
[Note: General Sir Henry Clinton (1730-1795) was one of a number of high-ranking generals who led British troops during the American Revolutionary War. He was first assigned to America in 1775, along with Generals William Howe and John Burgoyne and the troops they commanded, to support General Thomas Gage and his troops in Boston. In different ways at different times, each of these generals made significant history during Britain's losing attempt to put down the

American rebellion. In 1775, after Gage failed to produce a British victory at Bunker Hill, Howe replaced him as commander in chief of British troops in North America. In September 1777, Howe occupied Philadelphia, only to evacuate it in June 1778. Burgoyne memorably surrendered at Saratoga in 1777, ending his military career. Meanwhile, Clinton turned southward in 1776, assuming command over the sputtering attempt to organize a southern campaign. By the time in late March and early April 1776, when Wright was trying to meet with him (document 41) and writing to him (document 42), Clinton was marching south with his troops. The culmination of his campaign was a failed attempt in June to capture Charleston. Later, after Howe had evacuated Philadelphia in 1778, Clinton replaced him as commander-in-chief in North America, a position he held until after Cornwallis' Yorktown surrender in 1781, when Clinton was replaced by General Guy Carleton.]

[Note: Only a scattering of documents are found in the microfilmed Secretary of State papers of incoming correspondence dated between April 1776 and July 1779 (documents 41 to 64), because no British colonial government operated in Savannah during that time. Wright's last numbered letter written in Georgia to Germain (No. 5, March 27, 1776, document 38) was sent from a British transport ship moored at Cockspur Island at the mouth of the Savannah River, where he and a few other Georgia government officials took refuge for a month in March 1776 before returning to England via Halifax. His first numbered letter to Germain written after he brought British colonial government back to Georgia (No. 1, July 31, 1779, document 65) was written in Savannah, beginning a new period of British rule that lasted until Britain surrendered Georgia to the victorious Americans near the end of the war in July 1782. Actually, military British rule had been in effect since December 29, 1778, immediately following the British victory over the rebels at Savannah, and it lasted until September 1779, when, apparently, Wright's civil government became fully functional.]

42. April 2, 1776 [86]
Copy of letter from Wright, at sea on the *Scarborough*, to General Clinton, hoping that he is still planning a military campaign in the southern colonies and, in particular Georgia, despite the fact that Captain Barkley's fleet had been ordered to sail northward, away from Georgia; reporting on the attack by about 100 rebels and 25 Indians on Tybee Island, which failed to capture Wright; stating that "*if any operations are intended to be carried on against Georgia, I mean to return*" but if not, he will return home on leave previously granted by the King [enclosed with Wright's April 26, 1776 letter to Germain, document 41]
43. [various dates] [88]
Various lists of information evidently assembled and written by Wright [perhaps at sea while sailing from Halifax to England or maybe after he had already arrived in England], including:
July 5, 1775
Two sides of paper containing 12 signed receipts, all with the same date, for expenditures for Georgia government, with amounts paid; followed by

[no date]

"A List of the Officers Appointed by the Rebels in Georgia, under what they call the temporary Constitution", including the president, 13 Council of Safety Members, and 12 others with separate titles; followed by

August 4, 1775, February 10 and 23, 1776 [90]

A receipt documenting the Georgia Congress's issue on three dates of £15,077 of printed paper money; followed by

March 21, 1776 [90]

"A List of such Officers, appointed under what is called the new Constitution in South Carolina, as I could [re]Collect", including 16 named officials with titles and references to numbers more; also a list of three South Carolina armed vessels with their guns, and their commanders; followed by

May 4, 1776

"A copy of Mr. Stokes's Permit to depart the Province of Georgia"; followed by [no date]

"Memorandum Relative to Georgia etc.", evidently written by Wright, [perhaps to Under-Secretary of State William Knox], including notes on Georgia events and other information, starting with the arrival of Sir Peter Parker's fleet beginning on April 18, 1776 and ending with a reference to May 12, 1776

44. April 2, 1777 [93]

Draft [outgoing] letter from William Knox at Whitehall to Wright [in England], reporting that the House of Commons had approved £2,816 to support the civil establishment of Georgia from June 24, 1776 to June 24, 1777 [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5] [for more on **William Knox**, see note after Reel 6 document 279]

[Note: Since the late 1760s, the annual estimate for Georgia's civil establishment had remained steady at £3,086. In 1776, however, with Wright and his top government officials in England and the rebels in charge at Savannah, the estimate was, naturally, reduced. Yet it remained substantial, indicating Wright's and the government's determination that "illegitimate" rebel rule in Georgia would be temporary and that Georgia's "legitimate" colonial government would soon be re-established in Savannah.

45. [no date] [95]

Estimate of the Civil Establishment for Georgia from June 24, 1776 to June 24, 1777, itemized, with a total of £2,816 [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]

46. [no date] [97]

Memorandum written by Wright, [in England; perhaps to Knox], concerning affairs in Georgia, including information from William Brown [late acting comptroller and searcher for the port of Savannah] in St. Augustine reporting that field officers had been appointed for three more [rebel] battalions for Georgia; reporting that a [rebel] expedition was being fitted out from Sunbury against East Florida; that "[Colonel Augustine] *Prevost had brought in 10 Prisoners & 14*

scalps [for more on **Augustine Prevost** see note after Reel 5 document 254] describing other matters of violence and of confusion and oppression of the people under rule by the Provincial Congress; reporting that the Continental Congress had authorized money for an expedition against East Florida

47. October 8, 1777 [99]
Letter from Wright at Somerset Street [London] to [Germain], communicating intelligence received from several sources at St. Augustine, especially William Brown; including information about rebel preparations for an expedition from Georgia to East Florida, news about Indian activity with the rebels and the status of British prisoners; describing intriguing going on to unite a week [rebel] Georgia with South Carolina; including other news of specific people and actions in Georgia by the rebels; hoping that British General William Howe might soon launch a major expedition against the southern rebellious colonies
48. May 30, 1778 [102]
Letter from Wright at Somerset Street to Germain, recommending and requesting consideration for John Hume for a position using his abilities as a lawyer [Frame 102 microfilmed twice]
49. [no date] [104]
Estimate of the civil establishment of the colony of Georgia from June 24, 1777 to June 24, 1778, totaling £2,866. [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
50. January 6, 1779 [106]
Letter from Wright at Somerset Street to Germain, enclosing a memorial "*from myself and Some other Gentlemen,*" requesting its approval and Germain would "*give the Necessary orders for the Protection of their Property, and Relief in the Promises [debts?]*"; with enclosure, document 51]
51. [no date] [108]
Memorial to Germain from Wright and several gentlemen who own property in Georgia, requesting that any Negroes or other property belonging to these gentlemen in Georgia that comes under British control be cared for and sent by the military to their proper owners in England; signed by James Wright, Josiah Tattnall, John Graham, Anthony Stokes, James Hume [the former Attorney General, not the Secretary of Georgia], and [Captain] Samuel G. Powell [enclosed with Wright's January 6, 1779 letter to Germain, document 50]
52. February 11, 1779 [102]
Letter from Anthony Stokes at Little Cloisters, Westminster Abbey [London] to Knox, concerning personal matters of obtaining a valid copy of his commission [as Chief Justice of Georgia], since the original had probably been destroyed by the rebels and of obtaining relief through memorials to the Treasury [with enclosures, documents 53, 54]

53. March 5, 1771 [112]
Copy of Stokes' commission from the King "*to be our Council* [sic] *in our Province of Georgia*", signed by the Earl of Hillsborough [then Secretary of State for the Colonies]; along with a cover memo, apparently directing Stokes' commission to Governor Wright [enclosed with Stokes' February 11, 1779 letter to Knox, document 52]
54. March 23, 1769 [113]
Copy of commission from the King appointing Stokes to be Chief Justice of Georgia, with endorsement of commission by Governor Wright dated September 1, 1769; copy certified by Wright on February 9, 1779 [enclosed with Stokes' February 11, 1779 letter to Knox, document 52]
55. March 9, 1779 [114]
Memorandum written by Wright to Knox at Whitehall, listing "*officers from Georgia*" in England, including [besides Wright himself], Lieutenant Governor Graham, Chief Justice Stokes, Council members Powell and Tattnall, port collectors Alexander Thompson and James Kitching at Savannah and Sunbury respectively, and James Edgar at Tidewater [?]; providing information on these and others from Georgia
56. [no date] [115]
List [evidently written by Knox] of officers of Georgia and others and their current locations [more complete than Wright's list in document 55]
57. March 8, 1779 [117]
Draft [outgoing] unnumbered letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, informing him of reports from Major General [Augustine] Prevost and Lieutenant Colonel [Archibald] Campbell that Georgia is expected "*by this time* [to be] *entirely reduced to the King's Obedience*" and ordering Wright and the officers of the Colony of Georgia to prepare immediately to return to re-establish British civilian rule at Savannah [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5] [for more on Prevost and Campbell and their successful capture of Savannah in the last days of December 1778, see note after Reel 5 document 254]
58. March 31, 1779 [119]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 1 from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, reiterating the good news of British victory over the rebels in Georgia and immediate orders from the King to proceed to re-establish civil government in the colony; announcing a forthcoming declaration of the King's peace in Georgia; with instructions on how to re-establish government by loyal officials, starting with the Council and moving on to an Assembly later; urging care in establishing a new Assembly so that differences and difficulties with it will not re-emerge; calling for a strong executive authority; calling for "*making Reparation for the Injuries and*

Losses sustained by Loyal Subjects"; stating that if the Assembly provides for future financial needs of the colony, the King will "*remit the Arrears of the Quit Rents*"; encouraging the Georgia government to make land grants to settlers coming from rebellious colonies wishing to live in a loyal British colony [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]

[**Note:** Both Germain in this letter and Wright in document 65 chose to restart their numbered correspondence with each other, thus acknowledging the significant disruption of British rule between about April 1, 1776 (when Wright and his government were forced out of Savannah and the back to England) and July 1779 (when they returned). For colonial Georgia, this was indeed a new beginning.]

59. March 31, 1779 [124]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 2 from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, in anticipation that the continuing British military efforts in South Carolina will soon be successful, informing Wright of an approved proclamation restoring it to British colonial rule, which Wright is to convey to a new colonial governor or British military commander when the time is right [with enclosure, document 60, with another copy, document 61] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
60. March 24, 1779 [126]
Copy of proclamation by Frederick Earl of Carlisle, William Eden, and George Johnstone, King's commissioners appointed "*to treat, consult & agree upon the means of quieting the Disorders now subsisting in certain of the Colonies Plantations & Provinces in North America*", revoking the King's prohibition of trade with territories that have returned to rule under a British colonial government and providing for pardons to be issued for those now loyal to the British government; declaring Georgia at peace under the King [enclosed with Germain's March 31, 1779 letter to Wright, document 59]
[**Note:** This Commission, led by the 30-year-old **Frederick Howard, 5th Earl of Carlisle** (1748-1825), was also called the **Carlisle Commission** or the **Peace Commission of 1778**. Following Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga and despite the just-consummated agreement between the American states and France, Prime Minister Lord North sought to cut the conflict short through this commission. Its task was to seek negotiated reconciliation with the colonies by promising them (belatedly) self-government within the British Empire. Along with Carlisle, **William Eden** contributed significantly to this commission's efforts. The contribution of the third member, **George Johnstone**, former (cashiered) governor of West Florida, is not so clear. The commission arrived in America in April 1778 but never gained negotiating traction with the Americans, so it soon returned to England, and the war went on.]
61. March 24, 1779 [126]
Another copy of the proclamation returning Georgia to loyal colonial status [same as document 60 but with different pagination] [enclosed with Germain's March

31, 1779 letter to Wright, document 59] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]

62. March 31, 1779 [133]
Draft [outgoing] letter from Knox at Whitehall to Wright, instructing him to carry to Georgia and deliver two enclosed letters, one to Colonel John Stuart and the other to Brigadier General Campbell [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
63. [no date] [135]
Estimate of the Civil Establishment for the colony of Georgia from June 24, 1778 to June 24, 1779, totaling £2,900
64. July 9, 1779 [137]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 3 from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, sent for Wright to receive upon his return to Savannah, pointing out that “*We now have two great Branches of the House of Bourbon [France and Spain] in addition to Our Revolted Colonies to contend with*” and stating that the King intends to “*exert the utmost force of the Nation...in annoying the Enemy and repelling their unjust Attacks*”; declaring the King’s firm determination win the war and not withdraw from any of his colonies; passing on the report that “*there are so many deserted Estates in Georgia that fit Persons could not be found to manage them*” and looking forward to their management soon by returned loyal planters; instructing Wright to help facilitate this process of re-establishing a normal, prosperous economy by offering allowances; stating that, given John Stuart’s death in March 1779 at Pensacola, his position will be divided into two districts, one toward the Mississippi River and the other toward the Atlantic Ocean, with separate superintendents, Alexander Cameron for the former and Colonel Thomas Brown for the latter [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
[**Note:** **Alexander Cameron** began as a British trader to the Cherokee Indians in Tennessee territory and lived with the Cherokee for many years before, as a British loyalist, becoming a Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the British government. **Colonel Thomas Brown** was from East Florida. Early during the conflict between the British colonies to the north and Great Britain, East Florida Governor Patrick Tonyn appointed Brown to organize and lead a militia group named the East Florida Rangers. The Rangers played a significant role in the successful military campaign against Savannah and the temporary occupation of Augusta. He also had experience with the Indians of Florida’s northern interior. As a Superintendent of Indian Affairs and in other positions, he remained one of the few British officials remaining with Tonyn until most British East Floridians had evacuated to Canada, the West Indies, or England and the Spanish returned Florida to their colonial control in 1785.]
65. July 31, 1779 [141]

Duplicate letter No. 1 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, stating that he had arrived back at Savannah on July 14, 1779; stating that he has restored British civil government and is in the process of making new appointments to governmental offices; expressing worry that he has been instructed to delay establishing an elected legislative body; hoping that Georgia is now in a “*State of Safety*” so that elections can be held soon [with enclosures, documents 66 to 68] [on letter numbering, see note after document 58 above]

66. July 22, 1779 [143]
Extract from minutes of a Georgia Council meeting at Savannah, with text of a memorial from inhabitants in the Savannah area concerning obtaining assistance and relief from the economic disruption and destructiveness caused by the war and rebel occupation; recognition by the Council of the importance “*to secure the Command of Savannah River and the Safety of the settlers*” and thus the need to apply to the local British army and navy commanders, Major General Prevost and Commodore Sir James Wallace, for their assistance; with text of a letter from [Savannah port collector] Alexander Thompson to Wright stating that both Prevost and Wallace are already responding to the need for safety up the river; followed by
July 23, 1779
Extract from minutes of a Georgia Council meeting, with text of a letter from Wallace, on board the *Experiment* on the Savannah River, to Wright dated July 22, 1779, concerning what he already is doing to provide safety up the river [enclosed with Wright’s July 31, 1779 letter to Germain, document 65]
[Note: Commodore Sir James Wallace (1731-1803) was a career officer in the British Navy. In 1779, as captain of the 50-gun ship *Experiment*, he was supporting the British military effort to reconquer the rebellious southern colonies. Not long after helping to provide protection up the Savannah River, while sailing off of Hilton Head [South Carolina], the *Experiment* was captured at sea by a French warship. The ship was lost to the British Navy. Wallace was imprisoned in France and later returned to England, his naval career over.]
67. [no date] [147]
Copy of letter from loyal inhabitants of Georgia to Wright, welcoming him back and looking forward to Wright’s re-establishing economic prosperity under British rule [signatures of senders not included in the copy, which was made by Wright] [enclosed with Wright’s July 31, 1779 letter to Germain, document 65]
68. July 22, 1779 [149]
Response from Wright to the loyal inhabitants who sent him the welcoming letter [document 67]; expressing pride for his former governance of Georgia and Georgia’s economic growth during that period from 1760 to 1776; stating that, with the King’s support, the new loyal Georgia will prosper again, with the hard work and support of its loyal inhabitants
69. July 31, 1779 [151]

Duplicate letter No. 2 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting on the status of the colony upon his return and his early steps to re-establish a successful British colonial Georgia [with enclosure, document 70]

70. July 23, 1779 [153]
Extract from minutes of Georgia Council meeting, with text of petition from James Graham [see Reel 5 documents 259-261 for more on **James Graham** petitions; James might be related to **John Graham**, Georgia's Lieutenant Governor], Basil Cowper, and certain London merchants involved in trade with Georgia, lamenting the substantial losses they sustained of runaway slaves and other lost or destroyed property during the war and rebel occupation; requesting that some of whatever property becomes available to secure payments of British debts may be received by the petitioners for their relief; followed by
July 26, 1779
Extract from minutes of Georgia Council meeting, continuing consideration of the petition from merchants Graham, Cowper, and others in London; agreement by the Wright and the Council that strong sanctions are needed to bring runaway slaves under control and returned to their owners; expectation that payments on debts should be able to be made from sale of properties forfeited by rebels; fear of the dangerous consequences of Indians having become possessed of fugitive Negroes, some of them from South Carolina; agreement that these matters will be difficult to resolve; agreement that the army should be left free to capture Negroes without interference of civil government; agreement on the need to construct a jail for captured Negroes and on other specific steps to regain control over the Negro population and to return Negroes to their proper, loyal owners; establishing appointed commissioners to oversee all of these steps; also taking steps to make sure Negroes are not able to be carried away from Georgia
71. [no date] [159]
Personal notes, written by Wright, summarizing intelligence he had received from an unidentified source [see document 73] concerning events of great military significance in Savannah; informally signed "J.W."
72. August 1, 1779 [161]
Duplicate letter No. 3 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting on the arrival at Savannah of a number of Indians after having learned of John Stuart's death in March 1779; hoping that these Indians may be useful in maintaining positive relations with the Indian nations
73. August 9, 1779 [163]
Letter No. 4 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting that the colony, following the period of rebel control, was in a "*wretched situation*," close to being "*totally lost*"; predicting optimistically that "*I doubt not My Lord however but this Province Will Soon Raise its head*"; explaining that he had received intelligence from Thomas Moore, a St. Augustine privateersman who had been captured, taken to Charleston, and subsequently escaped to Savannah [evidently the

source of intelligence in Wright's notes in document 71]; providing further information about Indian relations following the death of Stuart; with enclosures, documents 74, 75] [no letters from Wright to Germain numbered No. 5, No. 6, or No. 7 are microfilmed here]

74. August 2, 1779 [165]
Copy of summary by Wright of information given to him by John Wilki[n]son of St. Paul's Parish, reporting having seen about 60 Continental troops apparently under Lachlan McIntosh's command, who were imprisoning loyalists and ravaging the countryside; reporting having heard about a Georgia militia party in the up-country of about 600 men; reporting that many loyalists in the up-country were trying to defend the interests of Britain and wanted Wright to know of their efforts
75. June 27, 1779 [167]
Copy written by Wright of proclamation of "*John Dooly, Esquire Colonel of the Regiment of Militia of Wilks County and Commandant of the Forces in the State of Georgia*", issued under authority of Major General Benjamin Lincoln, commander of American forces in the "*Southern Department of the United States of America*", and of the President and Council of the state of Georgia, calling on all people of the state to declare their allegiance to and become a "*Peaceful Citizen*" of Georgia; warning that those not complying and not renouncing allegiance to Britain, especially those living in the lower counties of the state ("*below the County of Richmond*" [which surrounds Augusta]), will be subject to forfeiting their property and to personal penalties for supporting the British military
[Note: In 1777, when the emerging State of Georgia wrote its first constitution, the parishes into which colonial Georgia had been geographically divided were replaced by counties with new names.]
76. October 27, 1779 [169]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 4 from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, reporting being happy to learn of Wright's safe return to Savannah but unhappy at the news of the sorry state of the colony of Georgia and of its loyal inhabitants; reporting doubt about the status of [General] Sir Henry Clinton's planned attack on Charleston; stating the King's approval of Wright's plan for "*Management of the Negroes, which came in from Carolina, or belong to Persons who have fled from Georgia*", and commenting that "*the Circumstance of having so large a Share of the Property of the Inhabitants of Carolina in the Possession of the King's Officers...might be a strong inducement to many to give their Assistance in restoring the King's Government*" in South Carolina [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
[Note: Clinton was at this time British commander-in-chief for North America. In October 1779, he was busy evacuating his British army from Rhode Island to New York. He and General Cornwallis sailed southward as the year changed to 1780. They besieged Charleston in April and the city fell to the British in May

1780. For more on **General Sir Henry Clinton**, see note after document 41 above.]

[Note: **Major General Charles Cornwallis, 1st Marquess Cornwallis** (1738-1805) was among the more capable of the top generals on the British side of the Revolutionary War, and his career extended successfully to other parts of the Empire. What he is remembered for, however, is his surrender to American forces at Yorktown, Virginia in October 1781. Although hostilities dragged on until 1783, the military outcome was settled at Yorktown. Cornwallis' military leadership in South Carolina in 1780, at Charleston in the spring and at Camden in August, was exemplary and successful.]

77. November 5, 1779 [172]
Duplicate letter No. 8 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, conveying information about major military events at Savannah in September and October 1779 [with enclosure, document 78]
78. September 3 to October 22, 1779 [174]
Daily notes, written by Wright, documenting in detail the military events that occurred in Savannah and the surrounding area during these days, beginning with expectation of an attack by Comte d'Estaing's French fleet on Savannah [see also Major General Augustine Prevost's September 9, 1779 letter to North American British Army Commander Sir Henry Clinton, Reel 5 document 254]; including extensive preparation of fortifications ordered by Wright, using the labor of "400 to 500 Negroes", under the supervision of Chief Engineer Captain James Moncrief [see Reel 5 document 261 and note following]; arrival of the French fleet on September 8 at the mouth of the Savannah River and retirement of the small defensive fleet of one British warship and several Georgia boats; landing of French troops on September 12 below Savannah and demand from d'Estaing for Savannah and Georgia to surrender to the King of France; British response, both military and civil (after debate in the Council), after which hostilities commenced on September 17, including French construction of fortifications outside Savannah and heavy bombardment of Savannah from October 3 to 9; major attack on Savannah on October 9, during which about 2,500 French troops under d'Estaing and about 1,000 rebel troops under General Lincoln sought to capture the town but were repulsed with heavy French and rebel casualties, including slight wounds to d'Estaing and a mortal wound to Polish Count Pulaski; British defenders totaled about 2,350 regulars, militia, sailors, and volunteers; after a truce requested by the French and rebels to bury the dead and tend to the wounded, continuing lighter cannonading until the French and rebel army began to withdraw to their ships starting on about October 15 [enclosed in Wright's November 5, 1779 letter to Germain, document 77] [see also similar Wright's daily notes on the Siege of Savannah in Reel 5 document 250 and notes after Reel 5 document 254 for more on Prevost, d'Estaing, Clinton, and Pulaski]
79. November 6, 1779 [180]

Copy of letter No. 9 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, distressed to report on such inadequate progress toward achieving the goals of a prosperous Georgia; blaming the rebels, especially those from interior Carolina, as well as the British military for leaving Georgia "*naked and defenseless*" by the "*expedition into South Carolina*"; reporting that, since the siege, he is trying to re-establish the civil government and re-establish loyalty within Georgia [with enclosures, documents 80, 81]

80. [no date] [182]
Copy of text agreed on between Wright and Georgia Council as an affirmation of allegiance to Britain [enclosed with Wright's November 6, 1779 letter to Germain, document 79]
81. October 22, 1779 [184]
Copy of minutes of Georgia Council meeting, agreeing on a day of public thanksgiving for having been divinely delivered from the French and rebel attack on Savannah; considering the situation of some inhabitants, who, after British conquest of Savannah, had declared their allegiance to Britain, but who took up arms against Britain in the recent hostilities; deciding to interrogate any now in Georgia whose loyalties might have wavered to ensure their allegiance to Britain; followed by
October 25, 1779
Copy of minutes of Georgia Council meeting, considering a petition dated October 23, 1779, from inhabitants of Savannah and Christ Church Parish, concerned that "*a Number of Slaves appear in Arms and behave with Great Insolence, joined by some White persons, who do not appear to act under any legal Authority, commit great outrages and plunder in and about the Town*"; signed by 18 individuals, which the Council referred to "*the General*" to resolve "*as to him shall seem proper*"; followed by
October 27, 1779
Copy of minutes of Georgia Council meeting, concerning cases of smallpox among three Negroes on one plantation; concerning information received that, following failure of the military attack against Savannah, Carolinians intended to infiltrate coastal areas of Georgia to "*plunder and carry off Negroes*"; followed by
October 29, 1779
Copy of minutes of Georgia Council meeting, concerning a petition of widow Abigail Hines of Savannah and her daughters, seeking to be allowed to keep their real property while moving South Carolina until the rebellion is over, without suspicion of their loyalty and without their property being confiscated; signed by Abigail and five daughters, which the Council agreed to allow; followed by
October 30, 1779
Copy of minutes of Georgia Council meeting, considering widespread complaints against the high cost of merchandise; to which the Council agreed that prices should be set fairly, that existing prices should be examined by a group of eight appointees and that fair prices be announced; concerning the current political organization of the colony, with a decision to submit to the Chief Justice and

Attorney General questions about certain changes, including calling an assembly and related election procedures
[all enclosed with Wright's November 6, 1779 letter to Germain, document 79]

82. November 4, 1779 [191]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Germain, responding to Germain's request to learn about the office of Clerk of the Council, a position held since 1770 by [Alexander] Wyly [see note after Reel 6 document 143 for more on **Alexander Wyly**]; explaining that it is a needed position that otherwise would cost more to fill [see follow up in document 111]
83. November 9, 1779 [193]
Letter No. 10 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, suggesting that the spirit of rebellion is on the wane since the French and rebel defeat at Savannah; hoping to be able to send a party of horse around the colony, rooting out remaining rebels and establishing the King's peace and security; wishing for additional resources from England to help accomplish these goals
84. January 19, 1780 [195]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 5 from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, offering congratulations from the King to Wright and Major General Prevost for together successfully foiling the French and rebel attack on Savannah; still waiting with anticipation to learn the results of General Sir Henry Clinton's and Admiral [Mariot] Arbuthnot's expedition against Charleston [see also document 76 and note after it; Arbuthnot provided the transport for Clinton's troops to South Carolina and supported them during the siege]; predicting that if Charleston falls, *"Georgia will be secure, Tranquility will return, and it must soon resume its former progress to Prosperity under your prudent and upright Administration"*; encouraged to hear that Wright is moving toward re-establishing an Assembly for Georgia; proposing that, after the rebellion is over, rebels should not expect royal clemency and that the proceeds from selling confiscated rebel property should go into a fund to provide compensation for losses of loyal inhabitants; offering advice on other related matters, such as paying militia (a bad idea) or offering them subsistence rations (a good idea); stating that a proposal has been made to add £5,000 to the next year's estimate for Georgia's civil government to be used for post-rebellion reconstruction and new development; stating that Clinton is making horses available for colonial use to help draw less developed areas into the loyal colonial life of the colony [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
85. January 22, 1780 [203]
Draft [outgoing] letter from Knox at Whitehall to Wright, informing him that mail for Georgia and New York, along with dispatches to General Clinton [who had just arrived in South Carolina with his troops to besiege Charleston], are being sent to Wright at Savannah; asking him to forward the New York and Clinton mail [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]

86. January 20, 1780 [205]
Duplicate letter No. 11 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting that the colonial courts are functioning again in Savannah, with details; expressing optimism about now being better able to manage Indian relations; anxious to hear "*of the Success of His Majesty's Fleet against the combined Fleets of France and Spain which Pray God Grant*"
87. February 10, 1780 [207]
Letter No. 12 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, expressing concern that Spain has joined France against Britain in the war, but counting on the "*English Spirit*" to "*Triumph*"; hoping to be able to Congratulate Germain soon on English victory in South Carolina, which, he hopes, "*Altho late, will Give a Sickening Stab to the Rebellion*"; describing his efforts to "*take care of*" wayward Negroes and the debts of those who have lost slave property; describing plans to revive deserted estates [with enclosure, document 88]
88. February 4, 1780 [209]
Extract from minutes of Georgia Council meeting, including consideration of plans to account for "*Deserted Estates in this Province, supposed to be Rebel Property*", and to dispose of them by satisfying claims of loyal inhabitants for recompense from property lost to the rebels [enclosed with Wright's February 10, 1780 letter to Germain, document 87]
89. February 15, 1780 [211]
Letter No. 13 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting positive news about the expedition against Charleston; reporting further court activities in Georgia
90. February 18, 1780 [213]
Letter from Wright at Savannah to Thomas de Grey, acknowledging receipt of the estimate for the civil establishment of Georgia for the period from June 24, 1778 to June 24, 1779, totaling £2,900
[Note: **Thomas de Grey, 2nd Baron Walsingham** (1748-1818) was an attorney and politician, the son of William de Grey, 1st Baron Walsingham (see note after Reel 5 document 253). Besides serving in Parliament, Thomas was Lord of Trade from 1777 to 1781. Wright is writing to him in this letter as Undersecretary of State for the American Department, a position he held from 1778 to later in 1780.]
91. June 7, 1780 [215]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 6 from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, reporting to Wright that fleets under Clinton and under Graves left England in early May for North America and that a Spanish fleet left Cadiz at about the same time, destination uncertain; hoping that Wright's plan to call an election for an assembly will help to "*reconcile the Province to the blessings of a Civil Government*" and reiterating his wish that Georgia will quickly execute the King's

wishes concerning "*the rebel deserted Property*", hoping that this will "I trust, have a good effect"; hoping that Wright will exercise moderation in his punishment of traitors and of "*those who have been fined & bound over to their good behaviour*", while also "*encouraging and rewarding the Loyalists upon all occasions*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]

92. March 13, 1780 [217]
Letter No. 14 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, hoping to receive authority for letters of marque from the Admiralty for use against Spanish vessels [with enclosures, documents 93 to 96]
93. February 3, 1780 [219]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Clinton in anticipation of his arrival with troops to recapture South Carolina for the King's rule; informing him of what Wright has done and is doing to re-establish civil authority and government in Georgia, following the successful recapture of Savannah from the rebels; hoping that what he is doing on Georgia will be a helpful example for South Carolina; describing the depredations of the rebels during the time of the French-rebel attack on Savannah; hoping that British success at Charleston will "*give a Mortal Stab to the Rebellion and...in a Great Measure break the Spine of it*"; predicting that if Carolina and Georgia are lost, "*it is much to be feared America will be lost*" but if they can be held, "*America may yet be Recovered*"; suggesting that "*if a Body of the Kings Troops were to march from Augusta into Carolina, towards Saludy [Saluda, SC], Broad River [now north Columbia], or even on to Camden [a line that roughly follows Interstate 20 from Augusta to Camden, via Columbia, also the fall line of the Atlantic coastal area], where the Rebels have Laid up a Grand Magazine of Stores and Provisions*", the British Army would gain needed supplies and could also "*Prevent the Carolinians from Escaping or Retreating from Charles Town*" and the coastal plantations; offering additional tactical advice, including a warning that "*granting protections*" can protect villainous rebels as well as loyal inhabitants, and that they can be taken to be full pardons former rebels do not deserve [enclosed with Wright's March 13, 1780 letter to Germain, document 92]
94. February 14, 1780 [224]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Brigadier General [James] Patterson, requesting that at least 500 troops be assigned to Savannah during the time the British Army is seeking to reduce South Carolina; also specifying two blockhouses and batteries with 12 or 15 men each, as well as a post at Augusta with another 500 troops, plus additional military protection in the back country, all specified in detail; suggesting the plan to march into the interior to capture rebel stores and isolate the rebels in Charleston he had suggested in his February 3 letter to Clinton [document 93] [enclosed with Wright's March 13, 1780 letter to Germain, document 92]

[Note: Brigadier General James Patterson had sailed from New York in late December 1779, under General Sir Henry Clinton's command. Upon arrival off the South Carolina coast in early February 1780, Clinton ordered Patterson, commanding 1,400 troops, to land and march inland toward Augusta. His purpose was to tie up rebel militia troops in the South Carolina interior so that they could not reach Charleston to strengthen its defense. Although Wright appears to have been informed that Patterson and his troops were heading toward the back country, his requests were not very realistic in comparison with Patterson's orders. Following the fall of Charleston to the British Army in May 1780, Patterson remained as a commander in South Carolina, as did General Cornwallis.]

95. March 3, 1780 [226]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Clinton, expressing his concern that, as Clinton's army moves toward Charleston, the result will expose Savannah to "*the utmost danger*"; providing details of the dangers [enclosed with Wright's March 13, 1780 letter to Germain, document 92]
96. March 7, 1780 [227]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Vice-Admiral Arbuthnot, concerning the status of the colony's own defenses, with details [enclosed with Wright's March 13, 1780 letter to Germain, document 92]
97. March 13, 1780 [228]
Letter No. 15 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, concerning the lack of a jail in Savannah but need for one; concerning the accounting of deserted properties, which is still underway
98. March 24, 1780 [230]
Letter No. 16 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, concerning the status of Georgia, settlement of the deserted estates issue, and Clinton's proclamation of amnesty [with enclosures, documents 99, 100]
99. March 3, 1780 [232]
Printed copy of proclamation by Sir Henry Clinton "*for restoring Peace and good Government in the several Provinces in Rebellion in North-America*", announcing his promise to pardon all who had rebelled if they declare their allegiance to the King [enclosed with Wright's March 24, 1780 letter to Germain, document 98]
[Note: Although later associated with Clinton's terms of capitulation in May 1780, after the American army defending Charleston had surrendered (see documents 132, 133 below), it was initiated as an offensive measure to weaken American resolve before the siege of Charleston began in April.]
100. March 28, 1780 [233]
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Clinton, suggesting that the language of Clinton's proclamation on pardons [document 99] may be too general, allowing

many real rebels to escape deserved punishment for treason; especially thinking about those Georgians who aided the French-rebel attack on Savannah, who may, if pardoned, fail to abide by the King's law and authority [enclosed with Wright's March 24, 1780 letter to Germain, document 98]

[Note: This is the first evidence in these papers that **Clinton's amnesty/pardon ploy** was going to become controversial, in Georgia and in London. Besides writing to Clinton, Wright also wrote to Germain, who responded (in documents 123, 134) that he agreed with civil Governor Wright over military Generals Clinton and Cornwallis. Wright also adopted for Georgia more stringent and punitive provisions for former rebel leaders seeking to live in Georgia (document 128) and documented certain instances of what he was convinced were negative consequences stemming from the amnesty (documents 132, 133).]

101. July 7, 1780 [235]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 7 from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, stating that the surrender of Charleston, the American army and naval forces, and return of much rebel-held territory in South Carolina to British rule, which occurred just after Wright's most recent letters, must have allayed most of Wright's fears; suggesting that Wright now can concentrate on re-establishing civil government in Georgia, including an assembly; re-informing Wright of an increase to his current estimate for the civil establishment, and the purposes for which it was to be used; assuring him that requests for funds to defray these costs will be honored by the Treasury; expecting better communications between London in England and St. Augustine, Savannah, and Charleston in America following the Charleston victory [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
102. [no date] [237]
Estimate of Civil Establishment of Georgia from June 24, 1779 to June 24, 1780, totaling £2,866 [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5] [for Georgia's estimates for 1780 to 1781 and 1781 to 1782, not found here, see Reel 9 document 5]
103. March 23, 1780 [239]
Printed issue of *The Royal Georgia Gazette*, including list describing properties deserted by rebels plus news of the colonial government's actions
104. November 4, 1779 [241]
Printed copy of proclamation by Wright concerning the prices of goods in Georgia during the difficult time of rebellion and war; enjoining all who sell goods to maintain reasonable prices, and stating what reasonable prices are for a list of itemized products
105. April 4, 1780 [242]
Letter No. 17 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, describing continuing difficulties with and dangers from rebels, especially in the interior area between

Georgia and South Carolina; complaining that now that Charleston has been secured, no military assistance is being provided to defend Georgia [with enclosure, document 106]

106. April 5, 1780 [244]
Extract from minutes of Georgia Council meeting, with consideration of a petition received from inhabitants of Canoochee and Midway, "*concerning the Depredations of the Enemy in those Parts, and praying Protection*"; the Council referring the petition to military authorities since protection is a military matter [enclosed with Wright's April 4, 1780 letter to Germain, document 105]
[**Note:** Midway is a coastal town south of Savannah. The location of 18th Century Canoochee is now a rural area northwest of Midway, whose market town is Hinesville.]
107. April 6, 1780 [245]
Letter No. 18 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting that Clinton's army is "*before Charles Town*" and Arbuthnot's fleet is "*within the bar*"; reporting that the assembly election is about to begin and, he hopes, will go well; reporting with details on other measures being taken in the transition back to British civil rule [Frame 246 microfilmed twice]
108. May 17, 1780 [247]
Letter No. 19 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, concerning methods of executing public matters [with enclosure, document 112]
109. April 6, 1780 [250]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Germain, conveying through Germain to the King an address from several gentlemen inhabitants of Georgia [with enclosure, document 110]
110. [no date] [252]
Address from "*the Judges, Grand Jury, and Several other Inhabitants of the Province of Georgia*", thanking the King for sending military forces to the American southern colonies to deliver "*this Colony from such a Scene of Tyranny Fraud and Cruelty as would have disgraced any Asiatic Country*"; thanking the King for re-establishing civil government in Georgia; describing the distresses of the many Georgia inhabitants who suffered from the depredations of the French and rebels; signed by 66 individuals [enclosed with Wright's April 6, 1780 letter to Germain, document 109]
111. April 6, 1780 [255]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Germain, concerning "*the office of Clerk of the Council being Annexed to that of Secretary*"; referring to and quoting in full his letter to Germain dated November 4, 1779 [see document 82]; given that Germain had nominated a Mr. Thompson [possibly Alexander Thompson, who had been customs collector for the port of Savannah since at

least 1775] for “*that office*”; thanking Germain “*for the Mark of Respect Shown me on that Occasion* [which is not explained here]”

112. [no date] [257]
“*Report of a Committee of [the Georgia] Council, on the Act of parliament concerning Taxation*”, interpreting the act to allow the Collector of Customs at the port of Savannah to continue collecting duties that “*may be applied towards defraying the necessary Expences of Government*”; supporting this unanimous opinion with several reasons [enclosed with Wright’s May 17. 1780 letter to Germain, document 108]
113. May 20, 1780 [259]
Letter No. 20 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, concerning settlement of the status of the deserted estates [with enclosures, documents 114 to 117]
114. [no date] [261]
Copy [by Wright] of letter from Lewis Johnston, James Mossman, and William Telfair, commissioners of a Georgia Board of Police, to Wright, explaining that their Board had been appointed by Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell [during the brief period between December 29, 1778 and July 1779 when, as military commander, he acted as provisional governor in the absence of a functioning civil government]; the Board’s duties had included “*the care and management [of] the plantations and other Effects of all Absentees* [including Negroes], *whither [sic] Loyal Subjects or Rebels*” who lack their own attorneys; detailing how the Board had implemented its duties; relating difficulties after Lieutenant Colonel Jacques Marc Prevost had temporarily replaced Campbell [as military commander and provisional governor at Savannah between July and September 1779] and had employed Benjamin Springer, “*a man of very indifferent character*”, to obtain provisions for the army; stating that Springer and people working with him had collected provisions from the deserted-estate plantations, leading to numerous complaints to the Board of Police of unwarranted “*Plunder & Destruction of Property*”; detailing some of the “*depredations*” of Springer and his men; stating that some of the property taken had shown up in East Florida; stating that “*Things were in this State when the Board of Police was dissolved on the Establishment of Civil Government the 4th March 1779*”; followed by
“*Returns made to the Board of Police soon after its Establishment, of the Negroes, Stock, & Provisions on the Estates under the care of that Board*” listing numbers of Negroes, head of stock, and supplies of rice, corn, and potatoes [enclosed with Wright’s May 20, 1780 letter to Germain, document 113] [for more on **Archibald Campbell** and **Lewis Johnston**, see Reel 5 document 272]
[Note: Several dates appear to compete for the honor of **beginning the second period of wartime British colonial government in Georgia**. This letter (document 114), from the Board of Police Commissioners, states the date to be March 3, 1779. Governor Wright’s first numbered letter written from Savannah to Lord Germain after Wright’s return Georgia is dated July 31, 1779. And Jacques

Marc Prevost's brief term as military provisional governor ended in September 1779, when Wright's resumed his term as British Colonial Governor. These papers do not help much in clarifying the differences of dates.]

115. April 24, 1780 [265]
Copy of report of Commission of Claims [which evidently continued the duties of the Board of Police after re-establishment of civil government, and with some of the same commissioners] to Wright, concerning the status of property "*whether Real or Personal in this Province, which belonged to refugees or absentees*"; reporting that while Springer had "*Pillaged Plundered & Carried off a Considerable Property*", "*the army had had no advantage whatever*"; stating that the Commission of Claims intended "*to prevent such abuses for the future*"; commenting on the causes for the deplorable situation; commenting on a dispute that had arisen concerning whether absentee property of both loyalists and rebels should be managed by civil authorities or whether the military should manage rebel-owned properties; signed by commissioners Martin Jollie and Roger Kelsall [enclosed with Wright's May 20, 1780 letter to Germain, document 113]
116. April 29, 1780 [268]
Letter from Commission of Claims at Savannah to Wright, stating their difficulty in responding to Wright's request to provide a full accounting of properties of absentee owners because "*much the greatest part of the property...had been made away with, wasted and destroyed before we had entered into Office*"; stating further difficulties of trying to recover the property made away with, including slaves and of trying to put the plantations back into productive operating order; suggesting differing treatment of rebel property and loyalist property; concluding that very little property remains under the jurisdiction of the Commission of Claims "*except the Land and the very few improvements on them that has escaped the general waste and devas[ta]tion that has overspread this whole Country*"; signed by commissioners Lewis Johnston, Martin Jollie, and Roger Kelsall [enclosed with Wright's May 20, 1780 letter to Germain, document 113]
117. [no date] [268]
Address of the "*Judges, Grand Jury, and several other Inhabitants*" of Georgia to the King, thanking him for having returned Georgia to loyal rule and the re-establishment of civil government; stating their loyalty to the Crown and to the King; signed by 65 individuals holding positions in the courts and other judicial offices in British colonial Georgia [enclosed with Wright's May 20, 1780 letter to Germain, document 113]
118. May 20, 1780 [272]
Letter No. 21 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting on having accomplished an election in each parish, despite the "*wretched State the Province is Just now in, and partys of Rebels coming from Carolina and*

Plundering, killing, and carrying off the Inhabitants within 5 or 6 miles of the Town"; thinking that he has a "Good assembly" to work with [with enclosures, documents 119 to 121]

119. May 9, 1780 [274]
Copy of speech by Wright to the Georgia General Assembly; welcoming the first such assembly in Georgia for five years; lamenting the tyranny, hardships, and destruction of property during the time of rebel control; celebrating the return of "*peace and true liberty under just laws and his Majesty's protection* [and] the advantages of trade and commerce with the Mother Country; stating that "*The point of taxing America is wholly given up by the King and Parliament, and only a power reserved to impose such duties as may be expedient for the regulation of commerce...and the nett produce of those duties are, in every instance, to be applied to the use of the province*"; giving thanks that "*we have been rescued from ruin and destruction by his Majesty's arms...[and] are now under the protection of Great Britain*"; urging the assembly to embrace "*true and unfeigned loyalty*" to the King and abhor "*treason and rebellion*"; suggesting the many tasks ahead for the civil government and encouraging the assembly to work with him toward "*the general good of the whole empire*"; followed by
May 10, 1780
Copy of address of Upper House of Assembly, congratulating Wright on the auspicious occasion of the meeting of the General Assembly and expressing support for his description of the past and challenge for the future; nevertheless, expressing concern that so much of Georgia remains "*open to the depredations of a rebel banditte, who are lately become so daring as to infest our publick roads*"; signed by John Graham, President of the Upper House; followed by [no date]
Wright's answer to the Upper House's address, announcing, in response to the concerns expressed by the Upper House, that General Sir Henry Clinton has agreed to raise a "*Corps of horse for the more effectual security and protection*" of Georgia
[all enclosed with Wright's May 20, 1780 letter to Germain, document 118]
120. May 10, 1780 [280]
Copy of address of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, responding to Wright's speech, expressing loyalty and gratefulness to the King, especially for his remittance of past quit rents; promising to work loyally and productively with Wright on legislative matters [all enclosed with Wright's May 20, 1780 letter to Germain, document 118]
121. [no date] [282]
Copy of Wright's reply to Commons House, thanking them for their "*Loyal and Dutifull address*" [all enclosed with Wright's May 20, 1780 letter to Germain, document 118]
122. May 25, 1780 [284]

Letter No. 22 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, noting that Colonel [Elijah] Clarke has arrived from Charleston to take over military command at Savannah, upon the departure of [General Augustine] Prevost; concerning the status of Indians, most of whom seem to have gone home and do not appear an immediate threat; stating the need for Clinton's promised corps of horse, while warning against removing other troops from Savannah for duty at Charleston

123. August 3, 1780 [286]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 8 from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, stating that he has no new instructions for Wright's Georgia; commenting that Wright's fear of "*mischievous Consequences*" from Clinton's general amnesty proclamation were "*certainly very proper*"; encouraging Wright to use his governor's power "*to employ Parties of the Militia as Rangers*" against the threat of plunderers; expressing satisfaction with Wright's speech to their Assembly and the two houses' responses; interested in seeing more practical results from the Assembly in producing useful legislation; indicating that the King will remain in control of use of funds generated by remitting quit rents; expressing disappointment that so little valuable property will apparently come from the deserted estates [no draft outgoing letter No. 9 is microfilmed here] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
124. June 9, 1780 [290]
Letter No. 23 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting military news that the rebels have withdrawn from Augusta, that the back country remains dangerous territory for the British, but that he is optimistic about possibilities for future peace in the southern colonies; reporting also on an expected British attack at Camden [which in August, under Cornwallis, was decisively successful [with enclosure, document 125]
125. June 8, 1780 [292]
Printed issue of *The Georgia Royal Gazette*, with British oriented news from South Carolina and Georgia [enclosed with Wright's June 9, 1780 letter to Germain, document 124]
126. June 10, 1780 [294]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Germain, conveying an address from the two houses of the Georgia Assembly to the King; requesting that it be passed on to the King [with enclosure, document 127]
127. June 8, 1780 [296]
Copy of address from Georgia General Assembly to the King, expressing loyalty and gratitude to the King for providing the necessary military protection to defeat the French and rebels attacking Savannah; congratulating the King on the apparent victory of British forces at Charleston; signed by Upper House President [and Lieutenant Governor] John Graham and Commons House

Speaker Samuel Farley [enclosed with Wright's June 10, 1780 letter to Germain, document 126]

128. July 17, 1780 [298]
Letter No. 24 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting he had assented to a bill from the Assembly to disqualify certain people from holding certain public offices, depending on their past loyalties during the rebellion; arguing for its necessity and hoping the King will approve it; reporting having assented to several other bills, including the following: for relief of loyal inhabitants who had suffered property loss, for limiting legal actions and avoiding law suits, for allowing attachment of estates of absent debtors, for regulation of auctions, for relief of owners seeking to prove ownership whose documents have been destroyed, for consolidation of several previous acts pertaining to the town and common of Savannah; hoping for the King's approval of them all, because of their necessity
129. July 19, 1780 [302]
Letter No. 25 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting having received several petitions from loyal inhabitants living in the back country, seeking the protection of the King's government; reporting having written "*very fully*" to General Cornwallis, [whose army at Charleston was celebrating victory there in May; it would soon march toward Camden, where in August he met and defeated another American army] about the military needs in Georgia [this letter may have been the one dated July 3, 1780, referenced in document 137 below]; looking ahead to possible defeat of the northern colonies or to a peace agreement and what policies would be necessary to bring the rebellious colonies back into British control and to resume the task of developing economically prosperous colonies [with enclosures, documents 130, 131]
130. [no date] [304]
Copy of petition of inhabitants of Saint Paul Parish in back-country Georgia to Wright, describing the difficulties of back-country life during the rebellion; requesting that Wright re-establish British rule of law as quickly as possible [enclosed with Wright's July 19, 1780 letter to Germain, document 129]
131. July 10, 1780 [305]
Extract of minutes of Georgia Council, concerning petitions received from inhabitants in Georgia's back country seeking protection of Georgia's colonial government; ordered to communicate to them that Georgia's laws apply for the general welfare of the entire colony, and that the governor and Council also have certain discretionary powers they can use in particular situations [enclosed with Wright's July 19, 1780 letter to Germain, document 129]
132. August 17, 1780 [306]
Letter No. 26 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting that three Georgia rebel leaders, John Glen, former rebel Chief Justice of Georgia, Dr. James

Houstoun, and John Sutcliffe, had come to Savannah and were going about the town as if they "*had Never Committed any the least Offence whatever*", and that Wright had requested an opinion on the situation from [British Georgia's] Attorney General James Robertson, which led to [British Georgia's] Chief Justice Anthony Stokes' ordering that all three men be confined; Glen and Sutcliffe signed oaths of allegiance and were released on bail, but Houstoun refused to sign and remained imprisoned, leading Houstoun to petition through Colonel Clarke, British commander at Savannah, for his freedom; Clarke forwarded the petition to the Attorney General; describing the situation with details [with enclosure, document 133]

[**Note: John Glen** (1744-1799) was born in Charleston but settled in 1767 in Savannah as a practicing attorney. He was an early supporter of the revolutionary movement, serving in the Georgia Commons House of the Georgia Assembly and then as first chairman of the Georgia Provincial Congress. From 1776 to 1778, he served as the State of Georgia's first Chief Justice. Because he had signed an oath of allegiance to Britain after becoming a prisoner of war in 1780, his life was made difficult by the enmity of his fellow Georgians. Not until 1785 was he forgiven and allowed to resume his profession in Savannah. In 1797 he was elected mayor of Savannah. For more on **Dr. James Houstoun** and other member of the remarkable Houstoun family, see note after Reel 1 document 43. **John Sutcliffe** was apparently a common soldier in the Continental Army and before that in the Georgia Militia. His connection with Glen and Houstoun, both active rebel leaders, is not clear from these documents.]

[**Note: James Robertson** was appointed Attorney General of Georgia in January 1776, after his predecessor, loyalist James Hume had escaped from Georgia to East Florida at the end of 1775 after being harassed by rebel leaders in Georgia. Robertson also served in Georgia's colonial government as a member of the Georgia Council and the Assembly (probably the Upper House). In 1782, he left Georgia with the remaining colonial officials. A year after returning to England, he was appointed Chief Justice of the British Virgin Islands. For more on **Anthony Stokes**, see note after Reel 6 document 161.]

133. June 10, 1780 [308]
Copy of Attorney General Robertson's report on the case of John Glen and others, declaring that any rebel leader who has held official position should not be allowed to "*remain here unmolested*"; followed by
June 12, 1780
Copy of Glen's memorial to Wright and the Georgia Council, stating that he had been living in Charleston when the British conquered the city; being granted, as a prisoner of war, a parole of honor, he had requested and gained permission to travel to his previous, and now preferred, home, Savannah; stating that he felt injured to have been apprehended and imprisoned on a charge of presumed treason, regardless of his status as a paroled prisoner of war; expressing his wish to take advantage of General Sir Henry Clinton's proclamation of amnesty so that he can "*return to His Allegiance to His Majesty and to settle in this Province*"; followed by

June 14, 1780

Copy of order of the Council regarding Glen's petition stating that Glen may take the oath of allegiance at any time, but that Governor Wright cannot pardon Glen on the charge of treason, which will have to be resolved by the Commissioners for restoring peace in America; suggesting that Glen petition the commissioners [the Commissioners' formal title was "Commissioners to Restore the Blessings of Peace and Liberty to the Several Colonies in America"]; followed by

June 21, 1780

Copy of Dr. James Houstoun's letter to Colonel Clarke, stating that he has been unable to obtain justice as a prisoner of war from Georgia's civil authorities and thus is appealing to the British military commander in Savannah, pleading for recognition of Clinton's proclamation of amnesty; wishing to return to Charleston according to the provisions of his parole; followed by

June 22, 1780

Copy of Attorney General Robertson's letter to Wright concerning Houstoun's letter to Clarke, stating that he had suggested that Houstoun might legally be released from jail to a guarded house, which was done; stating that nothing more can be done in Houstoun's case until the case brought against him for possible treason is resolved; pointing out that the other two who had been imprisoned had been released on bail after having signed oaths of allegiance to Britain, while awaiting their trials on treason charges but that Houstoun had refused to make his oath of allegiance; concluding that he had done all he could to afford these men the justice to which they were entitled; followed by

July 6, 1780

Copy of letter from James Simpson, Secretary of the Commissioners for Restoring Peace etc., and Attorney General of South Carolina, at Charleston, to Wright, stating that, based on other similar cases, and according to the opinions of Generals Cornwallis and Patterson, the terms of capitulation negotiated by General Clinton, including the possibility of amnesty, must be considered for prisoners of war over possible pending civil court cases; concluding that in Houstoun's case, "*I presume you will judge it expedient, to give the necessary Directions to restore him to the relative situation in which it* [the negotiated capitulation agreement] *places him*"; followed by

August 8, 1780

Copy of letter from British Attorney General to Simpson, in response to his July 6, 1780 letter to Wright, maintaining Georgia civil government's position that Houstoun has been treated differently from the other two men only because Houstoun has refused to make his oath of allegiance to Britain, and that the Governor of Georgia cannot legally pardon a person for treason, meaning that the civil government must proceed with its treason trial to determine Houstoun's guilt or innocence, and that the Governor cannot condone amnesty until the matter of treason has been resolved in the court, concluding thus that the authority of the British civil court system supersedes that of the military capitulation process; hoping that soon all such matters will be resolved by the return of British civil government authority throughout rebellious America [all enclosed with Wright's August 17, 1780 letter to Germain, document 132]

[for more on **General Cornwallis**, see note after document 76 above; for more on **General Patterson**, see note after document 94 above]

134. November 9, 1780 [317]
Draft [outgoing] letter No. 10 from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, instructing Wright to inform all loyal subjects in Georgia of the King's continuing favor and protection of them, especially following "*the glorious Success of Lord Cornwallis at Camden over the whole body of the Southern Rebel Forces on the 16th of August*", expecting that this victory plus additional military successes in the southern area will guarantee re-establishment of British authority and peace in South Carolina and Georgia; hoping therefore that "*the most Obdurate will now be deterred from seditious practices...to Escape the Consequences of continuing in Rebellion to the last*"; informing Wright that since "*Georgia was not within the Jurisdiction of the King's Commissioners...the Treason therefore committed by Mr. Glen and the other capitulants of Charles Town in Georgia, cannot be pardoned by any Act of theirs*", so Wright and the Georgia Council can decide about civil prosecutions and about confining defendants in Georgia while being prisoners of war; concluding therefore in support of Georgia's interpretation of proper rule of law over that suggested by South Carolina [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
[Note: Draft copies of Germain's official letters to Wright numbered 9 and 11 to 16 are not found in the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence but copies are written in the letterbook of Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence in Reel 9 document 5 with respective dates of September 6, 1780, January 3, 1781, February 12, 1781, April 4, 1781, June 4, 1781, August 2, 1781, and September 7, 1781. Germain's tenure as Secretary of State for the Colonies ended in early March 1782. Germain's letter No. 16 of September 7, 1781 appears to be the last letter he wrote to Wright.]
135. August 20, 1780 [320]
Letter No. 27 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, pressing his case for sufficient troops and fortifications to protect Georgia from parties of rebels still present in Georgia's interior, with details [with enclosures, document 137]
136. December 7, 1780 [322]
Draft [outgoing] unnumbered "*separate*" letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, explaining that since the Countess of Huntingdon owns property in Georgia but has no one to manage it for her, the property has been put under the care of Messrs. Telfair and Baillie, but that she is apprehensive they will not be accountable to her for the property; requesting that Wright inform Telfair and Baillie that "*they will Account to her for whatever has come to their hands of her Property*" [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5]
[Note: **Countess of Huntingdon Selina Hastings** (1707-1791) was a strong-willed English lady whose great mission in life was to promote and finance Christian missions and development of the Methodist movement in England,

Wales, and several British colonies. In England and Wales, she financed 64 chapels plus a college to train Methodist ministers. In her foreign missions, located in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, South Carolina, and Georgia, she promoted religious writings by Indians, former slaves, and black loyalists. The mission in Georgia was an “**orphan house**” in **Bethesda**, now a suburban area of Savannah, south of the city, between tidal tributaries of the Little Ogeechee River. (The name and location are preserved in today’s religiously oriented Bethesda Academy, a private boarding and day school for boys in grades 6 through 12, perhaps a direct descendant of Lady Huntingdon’s orphan house.) Lady Huntingdon had earned a reputation for direct, hands-on involvement in her missions. In December 1780, her problem revolved around the turmoil in Georgia concerning “abandoned estates” and properties that had been taken over, perhaps plundered, and perhaps damaged or destroyed, by the rebels. Germain was seeking to ensure that her (that is her mission’s) property was preserved and accounted for to her.

Messrs. Telfair and Baillie had apparently been placed in charge of minding her property in Georgia. The identity of these men is not clear in these documents, but likely possibilities include: Either **William or Edward Telfair**, businessman brothers who lived and worked in Savannah (William was more loyalist-leaning and Edward more rebel-leaning, so William would seem the more likely possibility), and **George Baillie**, Commissary General of Georgia in July 1775, then reporting on theft of “the King’s” military stores to groups of rebels (see Reel 7 documents 179, 191).]

137. July 18, 1780 [324]
Copy of letter from Cornwallis to Wright, in response to Wright’s letter of July 3, 1780 [not microfilmed here; see document 129 above] suggesting that Wright’s first request to General Clinton for military protection for Georgia was based on a different, less secure set of conditions than prevail at the time when Cornwallis is responding; maintaining that since the British now control all of South Carolina, Georgia is already well protected; maintaining that if Georgia’s territory is “*infested with Robbers and that Patrols are necessary on that Account*”, this is a matter for the provincial police; followed by
July 28, 1780
Copy of letter from Wright to Cornwallis, responding to Cornwallis’ July 18, 1780 response [above] to Wright’s letter of July 3, 1780 [not microfilmed here; see document 129 above], acknowledging that circumstances have changed but differing with Cornwallis on how to interpret the current situation; maintaining that Georgia’s security problems come from rebellious people in South Carolina, who cannot be controlled by Georgia police but who could be controlled by a British military presence in Georgia as well as South Carolina
[both enclosed with Wright’s August 20, 1780 letter to Germain, document 135]
138. September 18, 1780 [326]
Letter No. 28 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, describing an attack by inhabitants of the ceded lands [in Georgia’s interior] and of South Carolina on

Colonel Brown's [Florida Ranger militia] troops at Augusta; having had no word of the result, fearing that Augusta may have fallen to the rebels; fearing that a large supply of presents for the Indians stored at Augusta may have fallen into rebel hands [with enclosures, documents 139, 140] [see document 146 below for the outcome of the attack on Augusta]

139. July 27, 1780 [328]
Copy of letter from [Lieutenant Colonel] N[isbet]. Balfour [British commander at the post called Ninety Six or 96] to Wright, stating that large numbers of interior Georgians are still in rebellion, partly because of their displeasure about restrictions in the cession of lands by the Indians, as negotiated by the colonial Georgia government; seeking immediate dispatch of a corps of militia troops, under command of Lieutenant Governor [John] Graham, to Augusta to go into the "*disaffected part of the Country to disarm the rebels*" and to take other necessary steps to regain control [Frame 328 microfilmed twice] [for an outline of microfilmed documents relating to the cession of lands by the Cherokee Indians on this date, see note after Reel 3 document 40]; followed by August 19, 1780
Copy of letter from Wright at Savannah to Balfour, responding to Balfour's July 27, 1780 letter from Ninety Six [above], stating that Colonel Brown's intelligence in Augusta is that most of the interior inhabitants are mostly "*Peaceable & Quiet*" and that Wright will not authorize sending additional militia to Augusta at this time [both enclosed with Wright's September 18, 1780 letter to Germain, document 138]
[Note: **Ninety Six** or **96** was a British frontier fort in upland South Carolina, northwest of Columbia, not close to Georgia territory, a long way straight north of Augusta. For the meaning of the name and history of the place, see note after Reel 7 document 82.]
140. September 18, 1780 [330]
Copy of letter from Wright to Balfour at Charleston, informing him that "*most of the Inhabitants of the Ceded Lands & some others from Carolina, have armed themselves & attacked Coll Brown's Post at Augusta*"; expressing doubt as to the outcome of the attack, since no word has been received from Brown; expressing concern for Savannah's safety; seeking any protection Balfour can help with; especially seeking a British military force to march immediately into the interior country of Georgia [enclosed with Wright's September 18, 1780 to Germain, document 138]
141. September 18, 1780 [332]
Letter No. 29 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, updating Germain on a number of recent issues still unresolved
142. September 18, 1780 [334]
Letter no. 30 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, glorying in the "*reduction*" of Charleston "*& its Dependancies*", followed by victories by Cornwallis at Camden

and by [Banastre] Tarleton at [Catawba Fords]; noting, however, that Georgia still does not enjoy “*security*” because “*these People have been so long in Rebellion & are so greatly alienated from His Majesty’s Government that they will not for sometime return cordially to their former obedience*”; hoping that reliable communication will soon be re-established between Charleston and St. Augustine via Savannah

[Note: Sir Banastre Tarleton, 1st Baronet (1754-1833) was a British officer in his 20s during the Revolutionary War. An effective if brutal military leader, he led loyalist troops in the siege of Charleston and organized Tarleton’s Raiders, a special corps of cavalry and light infantry. Shortly after Cornwallis’ victory at Camden, South Carolina in August 1780, Tarleton’s troops won a subsequent, smaller victory against Brigadier General Thomas Sumter of the South Carolina Militia, at a place variously known as Fishing Creek or Catawba Fords. Soon after, Tarleton’s troops were decisively defeated at the Battle of Cowpens in January 1781. He went on to play a defensive role at Yorktown, surrendered with the rest of Cornwallis’ army, and returned to England under parole. **Thomas Sumter** (1734-1832) a Virginian planter and politician who rose through the ranks of Virginia’s and then South Carolina’s Militia, was a thorn in the side of Cornwallis’ southern army. Leading partisan raids, he harassed the British Army to the extent that Tarleton referred to him as a “gamecock.” After the war, Sumter returned to politics, representing South Carolina subsequently in both the US House of Representatives and the Senate. Years later, Sumter’s military contribution was recognized when the strategically significant, water-surrounded fort in Charleston harbor was famously named Fort Sumter. Later yet, the University of South Carolina’s football team chose the name “Fighting Gamecocks.”]

143. September 18, 1780 [336]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Germain, acknowledging receipt of instructions from Germain about ships of war and navigators, which he promises to put into effect
144. September 18, 1780 [338]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Germain, expressing shock over news of riots and other “*formidable and dangerous Acts of Treason & Rebellion*” at home in England
145. September 18, 1780 [340]
Unnumbered letter from Wright at Savannah to Germain, concerning two acts of Parliament “*relative to the Importation & Exportation allowed by them in favor of Ireland*”
146. September 22, 1780 [342]
Letter No. 31 from Wright at Savannah to Germain, reporting that Colonel Brown and his troops, along with the assistance of the Indians “*who behav’d extremely well*” “*held out against the Rebels from Thursday Morn^g till Monday Morn^g—& the*

two last days without any water" until the rebels heard that reinforcements were on the way, whereupon, "*they immediately made off*" [the dates are probably Thursday morning, September 14 until Monday morning, September 18]

[Note: Although this incoming correspondence ends without explanation here in September 1780, Germain's tenure as Secretary of State for the Colonies continued until early March 1782, and he continued writing letters to Wright in Savannah until at least September 7, 1781 (his letter No. 16, a copy of which is found in the Reel 9 document 5 letterbook of outgoing correspondence).

The only later letters from Wright to Germain in these microfilmed papers are summary documents found in Reel 10 (official letters No. 32 to 48 and 55 to 57 plus a number of unnumbered letters, dated between October 27, 1780 and December 31, 1781, with a final [no date] letter possibly dated in early 1782.)

Reel 9 (Volume 676, 677)

Volume 676—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (outgoing), begin

August 8, 1766 to November 14, 1767

Document 1

[Frames 1 to 5]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 676 begins the official outgoing correspondence in the Secretary of State papers of the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia, starting in 1766. DLAR does not own microfilmed documents in Volumes 666 to 675, which include Letters from Trustees for Establishing the Colony etc. (1732-1752); Grants of Land, Instructions, Petitions, etc. (1732-1752); Letters from Board of Trade A., B., C. (1752-1781); and Abstracts of Grants of Land (1760-1768).

Note: The Secretary of State office maintained records of its outgoing correspondence to the Colony of Georgia in letterbooks. The letterbook microfilmed as DLAR document 1 contains only 10 entries, dated from August 8, 1766 to November 14, 1767, when the Earl of Shelburne was Secretary of State for the Southern Department. Entries in this letterbook record official circular letters from the Secretary of State office and official correspondence from the Secretary of State, mostly to the Governor of Georgia.

Circulars usually contained several documents of various kinds and subjects, from the King, Secretary of State, or other officials, that were shipped across the Atlantic Ocean to the colonial government of Georgia separately from correspondence. The contents of circulars are only generally referred to in this letterbook. Copies of the **Secretary of State's letters**, on the other hand, are written out completely in the letterbooks. These presumably match the original letters—which are not found in these microfilmed papers. Draft copies of these letters, which were filed in with the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence and are microfilmed in Reels 4 and 6 to 8 might or might not be identical to either the original letters or the letterbook copies found here.

Note: The Secretary of State office maintained a numbering system for the documents included in the letterbook microfilmed as DLAR document 1. In this letterbook, these numbers are consecutive through the pages of the letterbook, regardless of whether a document is a circular or a letter by the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State's letters to the Georgia Governor were numbered according to the document number in the letterbook. Since additional documents are also contained in the letterbook, the Secretary of State's letters to the Georgia Governor are not consecutively numbered for the period covered by this letterbook.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the

manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

1. [no date] [1]
Summary index and copies of letters: outgoing correspondence concerning the British Colony of Georgia from Secretary of State office; this letterbook contains 10 numbered pages, with 10 numbered documents; circular documents are referenced with dates from August 8, 1766 to July 11, 1767; letters dated from August 9, 1766 to November 14, 1767 are written out in full:

August 9, 1766

Part of No. 1; reference to circular to the Governor of Georgia from the Earl of Shelburne "*on his Receiving the Seals of the S^othern Department*"; "*Ent^d. At Length in the New York Book Fo^p. 1*"

August 8, [1766]

Part of No. 1; reference to circular "*relative to correspondence*"; "*Ent^d. Folio 2*"
September 13, 1766

Part of No. 1; reference to circular "*for enforcing the Proclamation of 1763*"; "*Ent^d. Folio 5*"

September 22, 1766

No. 2; copy of letter from Earl of Shelburne [Secretary of State for the Southern Department] at Whitehall, to James Wright, [Governor of Georgia]; stating the King's approbation of Wright's conduct "*during the late disturbances*" [following Parliamentary passage of the Stamp Act in 1765]; counseling firmness against any encroachments on royal authority plus an "*administration founded on large Principles of Public Good*"; stating that he does not think the King plans to appoint a lieutenant governor for Georgia

[Note: For more on **William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne**, see note after Reel 1 document 70 in Board of Trade incoming correspondence and note after Reel 6 document 62 in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence. He became Secretary of State for the Southern Department on July 30, 1766, serving in this position until October 20, 1768. The numbers on his letters to Wright are the same as those in this letterbook, so he may have written only six letters to Wright during his tenure as Secretary of State. Of these, Numbers 2, 5, 8, and 10 are found in draft form in the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence (Reel 6, documents 62, 79, 102, and 110 respectively). Two additional letters appear in this letterbook, Numbers 6 and 9.]

December 11, 1766

No. 3; reference to circular concerning estimate for civil establishment of Georgia and quit rents; "*Ent^d. In New York Book Fol 13*"

January 13, 1767

No. 4; reference to circular concerning fees for different offices in Georgia, particularly relating to grants of land; "*Ent^d. at supra Fol 14*"

February 19, 1767

No. 5; copy of letter from Shelburne at Whitehall to Wright, having laid before the King Wright's responses to the Board of Trade's inquiries; stating that the King supports Wright's approach to the Indians; informing Wright that his fellow governor of West Florida has been recalled because of a more bellicose approach to Indian relations; offering further information on Indian relations

April 11, 1767

No. 6; copy of letter from Shelburne at Whitehall to Wright, sending estimate for civil establishment of Georgia from, June 24, 1766 to June 24, 1767 [Shelburne apparently did not write a letter No. 7 to Wright; No. 7 here is a reference to a circular]

July 11, 1767

No. 7; reference to circular enclosing an act passed by Parliament and the new seal for the colony Georgia "*Entered in New York Book Folio 19*" [see summary of this circular in Reel 10 document 14]

July 18, 1767

No. 8; copy of letter from Shelburne at Whitehall to Wright, concerning the Georgia Commons House having "*presumed to disobey an Act of the British parliament for rendering more effectual in America, an Act for punishing Mutiny and Desertion*"; commenting on the "offensiveness" of this action and the importance of resisting it "*within the strict Limits of Equity and Justice*"; stating that the Parliament will not allow any of its policies "*to be questioned, or its Laws to be disobeyed*"; conveying the King's orders that the Commons House immediately and completely comply with the Mutiny Act

October 8, 1767

No. 9; copy of letter from Shelburne at Whitehall to Wright, conveying the King's repeal of an act passed by the Georgia government on "*better ordering and Governing Negroes, & other Slaves in this Province and to prevent the inweighling or carrying away Slaves from their Masters or Employers*"; plus royal orders repealing Georgia a law seeking to invalidate land grants by South Carolina to South Carolina inhabitants of land in Georgia territory but claimed by South Carolina, and a law allocating £1,815 of colonial funding to rebuild the courthouse in Savannah

November 14, 1767

No. 10; copy of letter from Shelburne at Whitehall to Wright, stating that the King approves of Wright's actions to provide recompense to the Creek Indians "*for the Outrages committed upon them in their Village on Oconee River by the Inhabitants of Augusta*"; agreeing that the "back settlers" should be made to observe the laws designed to maintain peaceful relations with the Indians; approving the allocation of £300 of gunpowder duty money toward building a Lazarette [near the coastal mouth of the Savannah River]

[**Note:** In this context, a **Lazarette** is a quarantine station at a point of entry from abroad by sea, where people thought to be infected with contagious diseases could be confined. More generally, a Lazarette was a shelter for "infected" people, from which, like Lazarus, they could hope to emerge well again.]

Volume 677—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Official Correspondence (outgoing), end

February 4, 1768 to June 27, 1782 Documents 2 to 5 [Frames –/1 to 107/218]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between "official" and "other" correspondence.

Note: Volume 677 concludes the outgoing official correspondence in the Secretary of State papers in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: The Secretary of State office maintained records of its outgoing correspondence to the Colony of Georgia in letterbooks. The letterbook microfilmed here contains 132 entries, dated from February 4, 1768 to June 27, 1782, during which time subsequent Secretaries of State for the Colonies included the Earl of Hillsborough (1768 to 1772), Earl of Dartmouth (1772 to 1775), and Lord Germain (1775 to 1782). Entries in this letterbook record mostly official letters from the Secretary of State, mostly to the Governor of Georgia, along with a few letters from Undersecretaries of State also to the Governor, plus occasional enclosures, mostly annual estimates for Georgia's civil establishment government.

Note: In this letterbook, documents were recorded chronologically. As in the previous letterbook [document 1] during the Earl of Shelburne's tenure as Secretary of State for the Southern Department, official letters from the Secretary of State to the Georgia Governor were interspersed with other documents. Until No. 34 (November 15, 1770), during the Earl of Hillsborough's tenure as Secretary of State for the Colonies, every document, including references to non-letter documents, was numbered. Thus, official letters were assigned not consecutive numbers but the numbers of the letters in the letterbook. Beginning with No. 34, only official letters from the Secretary of State to the Governor of Georgia were numbered, while enclosures with letters and letters by Undersecretaries of State were entered into the letterbook without numbers. For official letters, the numbering started over again with No. 1 for each new Secretary of State.

The letters recorded in the letterbook are copies of original letters sent to recipients. Presumably original and copy would match, but the originals are not microfilmed in the Colonial Office papers. Draft copies of these letters, which were filed in with the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, and are microfilmed in Reels 4 and 6 to 8, might or might not be identical to either the original letters or the letterbook copies found here.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of pairs of facing page sides in the letterbook, although each page side was microfilmed separately. When the microfilming was done, archivists added a second set of electronic numbers, above the upper right corner of the microfilmed area of each separate microfilmed frame. Thus there are more or less twice as many electronic numbers as stamped numbers. Both sets of numbers are documented in this Finding Aid, as follows: stamped number/electronic number.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

2. [no date] [/1]

Cover of letterbook containing Volume 677 documents

[Note: This letterbook covers official Secretary of State correspondence during the tenure of three Secretaries of State for the Colonies, a new position created in 1768 to consolidate control of colonial affairs in North America, superseding but not completely replacing separate positions of Secretaries of State for Northern and Southern Departments. The three incumbents were: the Earl of Hillsborough (1768 to 1772), Earl of Dartmouth (1772 to 1775), and Lord Germain (1775 to 1782). For purposes of clarity the contents of the letterbook have here been separated into three separate documents, each covering the tenure of a different Secretary of State. The letterbook begins with a summary index and continues with copies of letters and other documents.]

3. **Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Hillsborough official correspondence to the Governor of Georgia**

[Hillsborough correspondence to Georgia Governor James Wright]

[no date]

No. 1; reference to "*Letter of Notification,.....vide Plant^s. Gen^l. Folio 1*"

[1/5]

[no date]

No. 2; reference to "*D^o. for Collection of Laws.....d^p.....Folio 4*"

February 20, 1768

No. 3; copy of letter from the Earl of Hillsborough [Secretary of State for the Colonies], at Whitehall, to James Wright, Governor of Georgia, concerning dispute between the Georgia Council and Governor and the Assembly on the issue of appointing a royal agent for the colony; concerning the issue of enforcing the Mutiny Act; concerning disturbances with the Indians on the Oconee River and on the St. Marys River; stating that Georgia's new estimate for civil government will be the same as for the previous year; concerning a change proposed by the Board of Trade and Plantations in their policies to alter and diminish encouragement of the development of raw silk, on which Hillsborough wishes Wright's opinion; [for more on the **Earl of Hillsborough** see notes after Reel 2 document 137 and Reel 6 document 118; his term as Secretary of State for the Colonies began officially on February 27, 1768] [for more on **James Wright**, see notes after Reel 1 document 9 and Reel 6 document 118] [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 118] [with three enclosures]

February 4, 1768

Report of Board of Trade about mode of appointing an agent for Massachusetts Bay; "*from Massachusetts Book*"

[no date]

Estimate for civil establishment of Georgia from June 24, 1767 to June 24, 1768, itemized and totaling £3,086 [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 119]

February 5, 1768

Extract of letter from John Pownall [Secretary to Board of Trade], to Richard Phelps [probably at Treasury], stating that it appears to the Board of Trade that progress on the raw silk industry in Georgia "*has not had the desired Effect*"; thus, they had deleted the bounty to the silk industry from the new Georgia estimate for civil establishment; [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 120] [for more on **John Pownall**, see note after Reel 1 document 7]; followed by

[no date]

No. 4; reference to circular "*enclosing a Duplicate of the Address of the H^o. of Commons relative to Manufactures, vide Plantations General Fol. 8*"

February 23, 1768

No. 5; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, stating that Wright should make all efforts to enforce the new law from Parliament "*granting certain Duties in the British Colonies and Plantations &c^a*" [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 122] [the "certain Duties" probably refers to the **Townshend Acts**, including a duty on tea imported into American colonies, enacted by Parliament in 1767]

[no date]

No. 6; reference to circular concerning enclosed report of Attorney and Solicitor General regarding extension of laws passed under Queen Anne and King George I for the colonies; "*v. Plant. Gen. Fol. 14*"

[no date]

No. 7; reference to circular enclosing extract of report of Board of Trade [presumably on silk culture]; "*vide Plant^s. Gen^l. Folio 29*"

[no date]

No. 8; reference to circular enclosing copy of letter from Speaker of Assembly of Massachusetts Bay to several other colonial assemblies in North America; "*v. Plant. Gen. Fol. 56*"

[no date]

No. 9; reference to circular relative to the murder of William Odgers; "*v. Plantations Gen^l. Fol. 60*"

[no date]

No. 10; reference to circular directing the Georgia Governor to assist the customs officials in the discharge of their Duty; "*v. Plant. Gen. fol. 62*"

[no date]

No. 11; reference to circular with instructions to consider [certain unspecified] instructions for "*Alteration or Addition*", paying special attention to instructions on quit rents; "*v. Plant. Gen^l. fol. 79*"

[no date]

No. 12; reference to circular with an instruction "*not to transmit Duplicates of Dispatches to Lords of Trade*"; "*v. Pl. Gen^l. fol. 81*"

[no date]

No. 13; reference to circular with instruction to transmit dispatches by the first opportunity whether by packet or private vessel; "*v. Plant. Gen^l. f. 84*"

[no date]

No. 14; reference to circular with instruction to assist customs officials in the discharge of their duties; "*v. Plant. Gen. F. 85*"

July 20, 1768

No. 15; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, concerning authorization of expenses directly by the Assembly in Georgia, pointing out that this is legal, with some flexibility, and that the governor and council have no such flexibility to overrule the Assembly's decisions; nevertheless agreeing that Wright should be embarrassed that the Georgia Assembly has approved money to pay a salary for [Charles] Garth but still must allow it to be paid; advising that Wright never again allow a law that includes provision for the legislative body to make

direct payments in this manner; apologizing for delivering royal repeals of Georgia laws without any reasons for having done so to guide the colony in the future; enclosing papers with explanations for recent repeals; including comments on some of these explanations for repeal for the law on slaves and the law on South Carolina settlements on Georgia soil [Frames 5/14-15 are microfilmed twice] [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 137] [issues over the appointment of **Charles Garth** as agent for Georgia and payment of his salary, both done independently of the Governor by the Commons House of the Georgia Assembly, began in 1767; see scattered documents in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 starting with document 101, and in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 beginning with document 93] [with two enclosures] July 17, 1767

Copy of petition to the King from the [Board of Trade and Plantations] at Whitehall, signed by [Commissioners] William Fitzherbert, Thomas Robinson, and John Roberts, concerning the Georgia law on slaves, explaining why the Board believes the law should be disallowed [Frame 8/20 is microfilmed a second time as Frame 8/21]

April 16, 1768

Extract of report of Board of Trade on several Georgia laws, including explanation of why the law on slaves should be disallowed followed by

[no date]

No. 16; reference to circular with instructions not to communicate, to either the colonial Council or Assembly, correspondence from the Secretary of State; "v. P. G. f. 105"

September 15, 1768

No. 17; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, concerning Wright's responses about the disallowances of Georgia laws and on the condition of the silk culture; expressing the King's approbation for Wright's successfully settling a boundary with the Indians and convincing them to return fugitive slaves; concerning the situation in which Georgia inhabitant Alexander Wyllly, former speaker of the Georgia Commons House, has represented himself as a representative for Georgia in correspondence between the Assemblies of Georgia and Massachusetts Bay, which the King finds "*unbecoming*" and "*improper*" [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 143; for more on **Alexander Wyllly**, see note after Reel 6 document 143, as well as documents 164, 234, 235, 242 (also copy #37 below)]

November 15, 1768

No. 18; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, sending documents showing that the Parliament is seeking harmonious relationships with the American colonies; announcing that the Queen had just increased the royal family with a princess daughter

December 10, 1768

No. 19; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, expressing approbation for several of Wright's policies and actions in Georgia; stating he is seeking to respond to Wright's inquiry about implementation of new quit rent provisions, which are still being considered; concerning [Sir Matthew] Lamb's comments on the Georgia slave law, which was the legal basis for its disallowance; stating that the Board of Trade is now considering its policy on the silk industry [for more on **Sir Matthew Lamb**, see note after Reel 1 document 18] [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 160]

January 4, 1769

No. 20; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, concerning replacement of the Georgia Chief Justice, who has died [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 162]

March 23, 1769

No. 21; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, concerning the inappropriate actions of the Georgia Assembly, which are causing concern to the King, along with other similar actions in other American colonies; concerning the King's decision about when slaves may be declared as "chattel"; pointing out that the estimate for Georgia's civil establishment for 1768 to 1769 has been reduced by an amount subtracted from the bounty for the silk industry, but that in practice that amount will be added back in after necessary accounting transactions; that may be accomplished by Parliamentary action for a single, more general agricultural bounty now being considered; stating that the King has approved Anthony Stokes to be Chief Justice of Georgia [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 176] [for more on Anthony Stokes, see Reel 5 document 271 and note after Reel 6 document 161] [with one enclosure]
[no date]

Estimate for Georgia civil establishment from June 24, 1768 to June 24, 1769, totaling £3,086 [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 177]

[no date]

No. 22; reference to circular enclosing speech by the King at close of parliamentary session; "*v. Plant^s Gen^l Folio 188*"

[no date]

No. 23; reference to circular enclosing printed copy of act of Parliament encouraging silk culture in the Americas; "*v Plants Gen^l folio 190*"

June 7, 1769

No. 24; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, concerning a quit rent bill, which "*entirely belongs to the Department of the Treasury Board*"; concerning orders of the Council "*directing Grants of Lands in the Colonies to be made to particular Persons*" [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 180]

[no date]

No. 25; reference to circular enclosing additional instructions for prohibition of lotteries; "*v. Pl. Gen. p. 209*"

September 6, 1769

Copy of unnumbered letter from John Pownall [now serving as Undersecretary of State; see note after Reel 1 document 7] at Whitehall to Wright, informing Wright, in Hillsborough's absence on personal business in Ireland, that Wright's recent dispatches have been received and placed before the King

November 2, 1769

No. 26; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, stating that Wright's request for a leave of absence in England, when the timing is right for Wright to leave; hoping that [James] Habersham will conduct the administration of government well in Wright's absence and, thus, that no lieutenant governor will be sent from England [As President of the Georgia Council, Habersham was appointed to serve as acting governor, without the title, during Wright's absence on leave from July 1771 to February 1773; for more on James Habersham, see note after Reel 3 document 9] [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 183]

December 9, 1769

No. 27; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, agreeing with Wright that "*the form and constitution of Government in the American Colonies, calculated for a state of Tyranny, does not correspond with the State of Maturity to which some of them are now grown*"; suggesting that Wright write a paper suggesting reforms; stating that policies are being developed in response to "*illegal, Combinations against importing into the Colonies the Goods & manufactures of Great Britain*", which had been brought to the government's attention in the case of [Jonathan] Bryan, whom Hillsborough states the King wishes be suspended from the Georgia Council and from any other Georgia office he holds [for more on **Jonathan Bryan**, see document and note after Reel 3 document 11 (copy in Reel 6 document 201) and Reel 7 documents 117, 118, 120, 121, and 125] [draft copy of this letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 190]

January 18, 1770

No. 28; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, conveying copies of a speech by the King and addresses of both houses of Parliament and the

King's response to them, at the time of opening of the new parliamentary session [no draft copy in microfilmed Secretary of State official incoming correspondence]

February 17, 1770

No. 29; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, expressing the King's satisfaction that the Georgia Assembly has convened to do business properly; concerning the news that associations had met in Georgia favoring non-importation; hoping that no non-importation resolution would be adopted in Georgia [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 196]

March 7, 1770

Copy of unnumbered letter from Pownall at Whitehall to Wright, sending a copy of Parliament's approved estimate for Georgia civil government from midsummer 1769 to midsummer 1770, totaling £3,086 [with one enclosure]

[no date]

Estimate for civil establishment of Georgia from June 24, 1769 to June 24, 1770 totaling £3,086

April 14, 1770

No. 30; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, informing Wright of the King's approval of the appointment of [James] Hume to be Georgia's Attorney General during Charles Pryce's absence in England due to illness [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 200] [for more on **Charles Pryce** and **James Hume** as Attorneys General, see document and note after Reel 3 document 10, as well as Reel 6 documents 197, 199, and 201]

June 12, 1770

No. 31; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, congratulating Wright that his colony of Georgia "*continues in a state of such good Order and Tranquillity*" [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 203]

July 31, 1770

No. 32; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, objecting to a resolution adopted by the Georgia Assembly requiring that that a "*suspending Clause*" be inserted into certain bills; pleased that the Assembly has defeated a resolution similar to one passed in the Virginia House of Burgesses "*to introduce an Association against Importing Goods from Great Britain*" or other such actions; hoping that Wright will deal strongly with the action by the Assembly, issuing independently a writ for elections for representatives in the [southern, coastal] Parishes of St. David, St. Patrick, St. Thomas, and St. Mary; reminding Wright that only the crown can call an election; concerning filling vacancies on the Georgia Council [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 213] [for more on the elections in these

parishes, see Reel 3 document 15 and the note after it, and document 37 and several following, as well as and Reel 6 document 207]

[no date]

No. 33; reference to circular advising Georgia of "*the taking of Port Egmont in Falkland's Islands by the Spaniards*"; "*v. Pl. Gen. p. 327*]

[Note: This is the last referenced circular included in this letterbook. For the remainder of this letterbook, enclosures and letters from Undersecretaries of State and enclosures with letters are unnumbered; therefore, the Secretary of State's letters to Governor Wright and then to acting governor Habersham are numbered consecutively, starting with No. 34.]

November 15, 1770

No. 34; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, commending Wright on not allowing in Georgia "*those pernicious & unwarrantable Doctrines, which have been propagated by the Faction at Boston & have found but too easy an Admission into other Colonies, & excited a Spirit of Disorder & Licentiousness, disgraceful to all legal government, & destructive of that Liberty which (it is pretended) they are calculated to preserve*"; expecting certain disputes on the frontier between settlers and Indians; discouraging Wright from sending a group of Indians to England because of the expense [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 222]

December 11, 1770

No. 35; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, approving Wright's issuing writs of election in the southern, coastal parishes; commenting on proposed election reforms for Georgia, supporting some but opposing a proposal to limit the duration of an Assembly [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 226]

February 11, 1771

No. 36; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, expressing sorrow that Wright has not been able to obtain justice in the case of Creek Indians who murdered settlers on the Oconee River; advising that "*the best security we can have on the part of the Savages for satisfaction for outrages of this Kind...is a strict adherence to Principles of Justice & Humanity, which never fail of making strong impressions on the Minds of the Savages*" [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 231]

February 12, 1771

Copy of unnumbered letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, enclosing the estimate for the Georgia civil establishment "for the Year 1771", totaling £3,086 [with one enclosure]

[no date]

Estimate of civil establishment for Georgia from June 24, 1770 to June 24, 1771, totaling £3,086

May 4, 1771

No. 37; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, objecting to the appointment of Alexander Wyly as Clerk of the Georgia Council, unless more proof can be offered of his appropriate conduct; agreeing with Wright that the Georgia Assembly has arrogated to itself powers that go beyond its proper legislative powers and, thus, approving Wright's having dissolved the Assembly; commending the actions of the Council in this situation; informing Wright that he has done right in not yet taking advantage of a leave of absence, and that the King has placed a hold on any such leaves unless it is to move a governor from one colony to another [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 242; see also Reel 6 document 143 and note after it, as well as documents 164, 234, and 235 in that reel]

July 3, 1771

No. 38; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Wright, informing Wright that the King has approved a 1770 Georgia law on slaves but has disallowed a 1768 Georgia law "*laying a Duty on raw Neat Hides imported [to Britain from Georgia]*" [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 250] [with two enclosures]

June 7, 1771

Copy of the King's order approving Georgia's 1770 law on slaves and

June 7, 1771

Copy of the King's order disapproving a 1768 Georgia law laying a duty on raw neat hides exported from Georgia and preventing export from Georgia of tanned leather

[Hillsborough correspondence to acting governor of Georgia James Habersham]

[Note: Wright left Georgia for an extended leave of absence in England on July 10, 1771. He returned to resume his governorship of colonial Georgia in February 1773. During Wright's absence, President of the Georgia Council James Habersham served as acting governor in Wright's place. As decided in advance between Hillsborough and Wright, Habersham was not named Lieutenant Governor, nor was someone in Britain named to that position during Wright's leave.]

December 4, 1771

[30/66]

No. 39; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to President [of the Georgia Council and acting governor James] Habersham, expressing the King's approbation of his actions; reinforcing the principles of loyalty and duty for a proper Assembly; suggesting that the Georgia Assembly has not followed those principles because "*they have been either rashly taken up in a moment of inconsiderate Heat or from the Suggestions & Misleadings of ill-disposed & designing Men*"; ordering Habersham to make clear, when a new Assembly is elected and convened, the King's "*Disapprobation of the Conduct & Proceedings of the late Assembly and his Majesty's Resolution to resist with Firmness every*

Attempt to violate the Constitution" and to dissolve the next Assembly if it also takes improper actions [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 253]

[**Note:** Hillsborough's letters numbered 39 to 45 continued the numbering of his letters to Wright but were directed to James Habersham, who served as acting governor during Wright's leave of absence in England. No. 45 was the last letter Hillsborough wrote to Georgia governors before he was replaced as Secretary of State for the Colonies by the Earl of Dartmouth in August 1772.]

January 11, 1772

No. 40; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, concerning Indian affairs, supporting the concept of getting the Cherokee Indians to cede additional land, but apprehensive about the "*almost unsurmountable Difficulty*" of successful negotiations; ordering Habersham to negotiate only directly with the Indians and not through the traders with the Indians, whose main interest is getting the Indians' debts paid off to them; agreeing that both Indians and settlers must be brought to justice for injuries they have caused each other; expressing happiness that inhabitants at Ebenezer [settlement about 25 miles up the Savannah River from Savannah; see note after Reel 3 document 59] have resolved to get into the silk industry [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 261]

February 5, 1772

No. 41; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, concerning the King's disallowance of an act and four ordinances passed in February and May 1770 [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 266] [with one enclosure]

January 15, 1772

Order of the King disallowing an act and four ordinances concerning appointments by the Assembly of certain officials for the ports of Savannah and Sunbury and insisting that any appointments in Georgia be made by or with the approval of the Governor

February 5, 1772

No. 42; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, expressing hope, based on a positive report from [George] Galphin on relations with the Lower Creeks, for good relations with the Indians, but warning of the need for vigilance in maintaining order among the Georgia inhabitants in the "*Back Settlements*" [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 265] [for more on **George Galphin**, see note after Reel 3 document 68]

April 1, 1772

No. 43; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, lamenting both the "*lawless behaviour of the back settlers on the one hand and the violence and outrages of the Savages on the other*", both of which reduce the "*progress*

which the Colony of Georgia is so rapidly making to wealth and importance"; enclosing the estimate for Georgia's civil establishment for 1772, totaling £3,186 [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 268] [with one enclosure]

[no date]

Estimate for civil establishment for Georgia from June 24, 1771 to June 24, 1772, totaling £3,186, including a £100 increase from the previous year for bounties for *"improving the manufacture of Raw Silk"*

June 6, 1772

No. 44; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, expressing satisfaction that the Indian traders are not trying to negotiate separately with the Indians to cede land for payment of their debts; hoping the Georgia government's negotiations with the Indians will succeed in approval of an agreement for the Indians to cede land [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 270]

August 7, 1772

No. 45; copy of letter from Hillsborough at Whitehall to Habersham, expressing satisfaction that the punishment of Indians who murdered John Carey was a positive sign to the Indians; wishing to pursue Wright's plan for cession of lands by the Indians; approving of Habersham's strong stance against improper actions by the Georgia Assembly [he had dissolved the recently elected Assembly]; wishing that as soon as Habersham thinks it proper, he should call new elections and convene a new Assembly [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 281] [for more on **Carey's murder**, see Reel 3 document 67 (copy at Reel 6 document 263), document 68 (copy at Reel 6 document 264), document 72 (copy at Reel 6 document 272)]

[scrivener's note]

"The Earl of Hillsborough Resigned the Seals the 13th August 1772 and the Earl of Dartmouth Received the Seals on the following Day"

[**Note: William Legge, 2nd Earl of Dartmouth** (1731-1801), replaced the Earl of Hillsborough as Secretary of State for the Colonies on August 13 (also recorded as August 27), 1772. He held the office until November 10, 1775.]

4. **[Secretary of State for the Colonies the Earl of Dartmouth official correspondence to the Governor of Georgia]**

[Dartmouth correspondence to acting governor of Georgia James Habersham]

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November 4, 1772

[40/85]

No. 1; copy of letter from the Earl of Dartmouth, Secretary of State for the Colonies, at Whitehall, to Habersham, assuring him of the King's approbation in his policies and actions; stating that Wright's plan for a cession of Indian lands will shortly be approved by the government and will soon be acted on [draft copy

of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 285] [Dartmouth's outgoing correspondence is recorded in a continuation of the same letterbook that records Hillsborough's outgoing correspondence; besides numbered letters from Dartmouth to Habersham, and then to Governor Wright after he returned from leave in England in February 1773, the letterbook records letters from Undersecretary of State William Knox and documents enclosed with letters, which are unnumbered; therefore, the Secretary of State's letters to the Georgia Governor, are numbered consecutively] [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 285]

[Dartmouth correspondence to Georgia Governor James Wright]

December 12, 1772

[40/86]

No. 2; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright [in London], informing Wright that his plan for cession of Indian lands in Georgia has been approved by the Board of Trade and Plantations almost as Wright proposed it; stating that he will "*have the Principal Direction of this Important Business*"; therefore, Wright is ordered to prepare to return to Georgia and resume his duties as governor; providing instructions for the negotiations, including seeking assurance that the crown will not guarantee any payments on debts to the Indian traders; dictating other specific provisions and procedures in the proposed agreement; hoping for the early sale and settlement of the lands; expecting that a certain amount will be held back from every land sale and put into a fund for security preparations and fortifications on the frontier to protect the settlers [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 287]

January 6, 1773

No. 3; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright [probably at sea on his way to Savannah], reporting that the King has decided to assist the improvement of Georgia by remitting all quit rents on Georgia land for ten years, and that this provision should be included in each land sale document [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 1]

March 3, 1773

Copy of unnumbered of letter from William Knox, [Undersecretary of State], at Whitehall to the "*Governor of Georgia*" [Wright was by this time back in Savannah], sending the estimate for civil establishment in Georgia for the current year totaling £3,086 [with one enclosure]
[no date]

Estimate of civil establishment for Georgia from June 24, 1772 to June 24, 1773, totaling £3,086 [not including the previous year's £100 for bounties to encourage the raw . industry] [copy in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 7 document 4]

April 10, 1773

No. 4; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright [at Savannah, having arrived there in February 1773], concerning Edward Wilkinson of South Carolina, who holds a large debt by the Indians, which he proposes to be paid by crediting to him a tract of land in South Carolina, which, according to Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District John Stuart, he deserves; requesting that Wright give Wilkinson consideration with other creditors for land in Georgia from the upcoming session, if and when it is approved [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 8]

June 10, 1773

No. 5; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, having learned of Wright's successful return to Savannah, reporting that, while Wright was returning, the Cherokee Indians had agreed to meet at Augusta to talk about a cession agreement [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 10]

October 6, 1773

Copy of unnumbered letter from Knox at Whitehall to Wright, informing him that his recent correspondence, received while Dartmouth was "*gone into the Country*", had been forwarded to the King

October 28, 1773

No. 6; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, congratulating Wright on his expeditious implementation of the plan for a cession of Indian lands; commenting on the potential pitfalls in the negotiations; commenting that the "*inhuman Murder of the two young Cherokees upon Broad River, after such Pledges of mutual good Will & Friendship, was a very unfortunate Event*"; expressing unhappiness that the "*Perpetrator of that horrid Act of Barbarity has escaped from Justice*"; hoping that Wright will yet be able to carry out justice in this case [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 26]

January 8, 1774

No. 7; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, congratulating Wright on having brought "*Peace and Tranquility...throughout the Province*" [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 30]

February 5, 1774

No. 8; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, concerning South Carolina claims to Georgia lands, the situation is as yet unresolved; stating that South Carolina's attempts to loosen dependency ties on Britain will be resisted [draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 32]

March 2, 1774

No. 9; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, approving of Wright's report on the status of Georgia and his "*appropriate*" conveyance of it to London; stating that he had "*always thought*" that Wright's scheme to obtain new settlement lands by cession from the Indians, despite the obstacles, would be successful; hoping that "*the Settlement will soon be perfected to your satisfaction*" [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 46]

April 30, 1774

Copy of letter from Pownall at Whitehall to Wright, enclosing Georgia's approved estimate for the civil establishment for the current year, totaling £3,086 [with reference only to estimate from June 24, 1773 to June 24, 1774]

May 4, 1774

No. 10; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, hoping that the murders by Indians of settlers near the Oconee River that were unauthorized by the Creek Nation will not have further negative consequences; stating that British troops may not be kept in Georgia because they are being concentrated in particular deployment places in the colonies, but that that does not mean that Georgia is defenseless; stating the King's disapproval of the Georgia Assembly's attempt to appoint a royal agent for Georgia rather than the Upper House [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 66]

June 1, 1774

No. 11; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, stating his understanding that the leader of the party who murdered settlers on the Oconee has somehow been killed, that this should resolve the situation, and that relations seem good enough with the Indians not to anticipate war with them [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 69]

July 6, 1774

No. 12; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, hoping that stopping trade with the Creek Indians would not have become necessary but trusting in Wright's judgment; still not expecting to need to have British military forces at hand in Georgia for possible war with the Indians [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 79]

August 3, 1774

No. 13; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, stating uncertainty whether the King will change current plans for the disposition of land in the colonies, despite a report of the Georgia Surveyor General on the subject, which the Board of Trade is considering [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 83]

October 5, 1774

No. 14; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, stating unhappiness that "*the disagreeable dispute with the Creek Indians*" continues; expressing hope that the dispute can still be resolved without resort to military force; suggesting that British acceptance of existing assurances from the Creeks may be the best approach, since military forces are not available to accomplish a more favorable resolution by force [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 90]

November 2, 1774

No. 15; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, reiterating his hope that the Creek Indian dispute can be resolved peacefully; stating his confidence that those "*discontented in your Government*" will not choose to follow the unfortunate example of South Carolina's "*so-called*" Sons of Liberty; suggesting that funds raised in Georgia will be allowed to be spent in Georgia for purposes consistent with its colonial government's needs [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 108]

December 10, 1774

No. 16; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, expressing satisfaction that the Creek Indian situation will probably be resolved "*upon your own terms*"; expressing sorrow that Wright had reacted negatively to Dartmouth's words about the disposition of land [in his letter dated August 3, 1774 above]; stating that his concern is to maintain a general policy which can also satisfy the needs of particular colonies [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 112]

January 4, 1775

No. 17; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, expressing pleasure that inhabitants of Georgia had protested against "*the Attempts made to involve that Colony in the unwarrantable Measures which have been but too generally pursued in America to excite an Opposition to the Laws & Authority of this Kingdom*"; promising to seek ways "*to improve that favorable Appearance...[of]... the friends of Government and the Constitution*" so that they may be rewarded; enclosing royal reconfirmation of one Georgia act and disallowance of another; [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 119] [with two enclosures]

December 19, 1774

Copy of royal order reconfirming act of Georgia setting fees for several public officers

December 19, 1774

Copy of royal order disallowing act of Georgia setting a tax on the importation of "*Negroes, or other Slaves, Goods, Wares and Merchandizes*" [Frame 56/116 microfilmed twice]

February 1, 1775

No. 18; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, stating that "*If M^r. Bryan should fall a sacrifice to his fraudulent Transactions he will owe it to his own rashness & Timerity*"; expressing disappointment that some of Wright's "neighbours" in Georgia "*should have adopted the Measure of choosing Delegates to meet in Provincial Congress*"; counting on Wright to "*suppress such unwarrantable Proceedings*"; stating that the King has asked the Lords of the Admiralty to direct Admiral [Samuel] Graves "*to station one of his small cruizers in the River Savannah; and General Gage has Orders to send you a Detachment of 100 Men from the Garrison of St. Augustine*" [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 125]

March 3, 1775

No. 19; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, expressing support for those Georgia inhabitants who are remaining loyal as their neighbors are engaging in disloyal activities; informing Wright that his proposal of several years ago concerning collection of royal quit rents is being considered, along with a differing act of North Carolina, as guidance for a new bill in Parliament; suggesting that Wright seek to combine the two proposed approaches into one with the best of each [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 129]

May 3, 1775

No. 20; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, concerning land-grant claims of ship masters who has served in the British Navy during the last war [the French and Indian War/Seven Years War]; reiterating support for those resisting the "*present Disorders in America*" [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 145]

May 3, 1775

Copy of letter from Pownall at Whitehall to Wright, enclosing the adopted estimate for Georgia's civil establishment for the current year [June 24, 1774 to June 24, 1775, totaling £3,086; [enclosure referenced only]

July 5, 1775

No. 21; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, stating that the state of disorders in the northern colonies and in South Carolina has become a serious situation; encouraging Wright to maintain control against similar disorders in Georgia; stating that "*The advices received from every Quarter contain evidence of an intention, in almost all the Colonies to the Northward, to take up Arms against the Government of this Kingdom*"; with reference to "*Vid. New Hampshire Entry Page....99. Letter 1*" [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 156]

August 2, 1775

No. 22; copy of letter from Dartmouth at Whitehall to Wright, informing Wright that the King has approved the Navy's stationing a warship at the mouth of the

Savannah River, has granted leave for Wright to return to England, and has appointed [John] Graham to administer the Georgia government during his absence [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 174] [for more on **John Graham**, see note after Reel 7 document 171]

October 4, 1775

Copy of letter from Pownall at Whitehall to Wright, writing in Dartmouth's absence; stating that the disputes in the American colonies will have to be resolved by British military might, possibly including "*An Expedition...to the Southward, in the open part of the Winter*"; stating that English inhabitants support the king and abhor the disputes; commenting on the current "*stoppage of the Mails and the illegal Seizure of the Letters*" and on plans to keep the mail flowing [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 185]

November 7, 1775

Copy of letter from Pownall at Whitehall to Wright, confirming, per Dartmouth's instructions, plans for a southern expedition of seven regiments of infantry and an accompanying naval force; enclosing confidential information about the plans to Wright, along with orders to be passed on to Governor [Josiah] Martin and Lord William Campbell [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 209]

[Note: [Josiah Martin (1737-1768), was the last royal governor of North Carolina, from August 1771 until May 1775, when, physically run out of New Bern, he and his government effectively lost control over the colony; he continued intriguing to re-establish his colonial government until Cornwallis' failure to win the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in March 1781]

[Note: Lord William Campbell (1730-1778), was the last royal governor of South Carolina, from June until September 1775, when he left Charleston for the safety of his family and himself, ending colonial government in South Carolina]

December 15, 1775

Copy of letter from Pownall at Whitehall to George Green [who had recently been appointed to his position], informing Green that the King has no further use for his service as Secretary and Register for the colony of Georgia and that his appointment was revoked [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 220]

5. **[Secretary of State for the Colonies Lord Germain official correspondence to the Governor of Georgia]**

[Germain correspondence to Georgia Governor James Wright]

December 23, 1775

[65/134]

No. 1; copy of letter from Lord Germain at Whitehall to Wright, stating that the expedition to the southern colonies is about to leave England; sending the appointment of [Josiah] Tattnall to the Georgia Council in [James] Habersham's place [Habersham had died in November 1775]; informing him that George Green had been relieved of his recently approved position because of "*very improper Conduct*" [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 221]

[Note: Lord George Germain, 1st Viscount Sackville (1716-1785) replaced the Earl of Dartmouth as Secretary of State for the Colonies on November 10, 1775. He served during the wartime Lord North administration, until early March 1782. For more on **Josiah Tattnall**, see note after Reel 7 document 221. For more on **James Habersham**, see note after Reel 3 document 9.]

[Note: This No. 1 is the first letter Germain wrote to Wright following Germain's becoming Secretary of State for the Colonies, when Wright and his Georgia colonial government were in "exile" in London; compare this with Germain's March 31, 1779 No. 1 letter to Wright at Savannah, in anticipation of his return there, which actually occurred in July 1779.]

May 24, 1776

Copy of letter from Knox at Whitehall to the "*Gov^r. of Georgia*" [Wright], informing him that the approved estimate for the civil establishment in Georgia for the current year [from June 24, 1775 to June 24, 1776] totals £3,086

April 2, 1777

Copy of letter from Knox at Whitehall to Wright, informing him that the approved estimate for the civil establishment in Georgia for the year from June 24, 1776 to June 24, 1777 totals £2,810 [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 44] [with one enclosure]

[no date]

Copy of estimate for the civil establishment of Georgia for the current year, totaling £2,810 [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 45]

June 3, 1778

Copy of letter from Knox at Whitehall to Wright, informing him, that the approved estimate for the civil establishment of Georgia from June 24, 1777 to June 24, 1778 totals £2,866 [with one enclosure]

[no date]

Estimate for the civil establishment of Georgia from June 24, 1777 to June 24, 1778, totaling £2,866 [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 49] [for Georgia's estimate for 1778 to 1779, not found here, see Reel 8 documents 63, 90]

January 19, 1779

Copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Lieutenant Governor [John] Graham [in England], informing him that he is to prepare immediately to return to

Savannah to take up his governmental position there again; note at end of letter, *"A similar letter of the same date with the preceeding was addressed to Chief Justice Stokes"*

March 8, 1779

Copy of unnumbered letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright [in England], informing him that military news from Georgia sounds sufficiently positive that Wright should immediately prepare to return to Savannah to re-convene Georgia's colonial civil government; asking Wright to notify other Georgia government officials in England to prepare to embark for Savannah [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 57]

March 31, 1779

No. 1; Copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright [in England], ordering Wright to prepare to return to Savannah as soon as word is received of British victory in recapturing Savannah; expecting that by the time he arrives, Britain's military forces will be pushing into "*Carolina*"; entrusting to Wright a royal declaration re-establishing the King's Peace and civil government; with instructions on how to go about re-establishing civil government, starting with the Council, followed later by an Assembly, and also including a process to make reparations to those who sustained injuries and losses by remaining loyalists; suggesting that establishing a permanent fund "*for the Provincial Expence, & fixing a Ratio for the Contribution of Georgia to the general Charge of the Empire would be no more than suitable Return for the generosity of Parliament in relinquishing all purpose of imposing Taxes in the Colonies, except as Regulations of Trade, and war*"; suggesting that taking this step would be rewarded by "*peculiar Favour*" and "*some extraordinary Indulgence*", especially by the King's remitting arrears of quit-rent payments due him; expecting that if Georgia's new civil government succeeds, many loyalists from other colonies will come to Georgia, where they will be offered "*gratuitous Allotments of Land as determined by the Governor and Council*"; concluding with an "*Additional [royal] Instruction,*" dated March 29, 1779, dictating how the Council should be re-established and its membership [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 58]

[Note: This No. 1 is the first letter Germain wrote to Wright in London, in anticipation of his return to re-establish British civil government in Savannah, where he arrived in July 1779. Compare this with Germain's December 23, 1775 No. 1 letter to Wright following Germain's becoming Secretary of State for the Colonies, when Wright and his Georgia colonial government were in "exile" in London.]

March 31, 1779

No. 2; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright [still in England], looking forward with optimism to Georgia's reemergence as a viable colony, to be followed soon, it is hoped, by South Carolina; but instructing Wright to hold back

until military victory is ensured [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 59]

March 31, 1779

Copy of letter from Knox at Whitehall to Wright, conveying the orders Wright is to carry with him to deliver to Colonel [John] Stuart and Brigadier General [Archibald] Campbell [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 62]

July 9, 1779

No. 3; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright at Savannah [where Wright actually arrived on July 14, 1779]; looking forward to Wright's immediately upon arrival re-establishing civil government in Georgia; stating that rebel power in South Carolina is being diminished to the point that "*an Attack upon the King's Troops in Georgia* [is] *entirely removed*"; informing Wright that Spain has entered the war, alongside France, against Britain; regardless of the foes, predicting eventual victory for Britain; reporting that Mr. Telfair [see note after Reel 8 document 136], appointed by Campbell one of several Commissioners of Claims, has informed him that many estates in Georgia are deserted; desiring that the Georgia government welcome loyalists from the Carolinas into Georgia to take over these estates and turn them into prosperous plantations; informing Wright that, due to John Stuart's death and the civil governmental needs of Georgia, Stuart's position will be divided between two districts, [Alexander] Cameron appointed to the district facing on the Mississippi River and Col. [Thomas] Brown to the district facing on the Atlantic Ocean [for more on **Alexander Cameron** and **Colonel Thomas Brown**, see note after Reel 8 document 64] [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 64]

October 27, 1779

No. 4; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, expressing happiness that Wright has arrived safely in Savannah and begun the task of re-establishing colonial Georgia; expressing the hope that General Sir Henry Clinton's army would by now be attacking Charleston; approving Wright's plans for taking control over slaves coming into Georgia from the Carolinas; hoping that control of these slaves will help convince Carolina planters to come to Georgia too [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 76]

January 19, 1780

No. 5; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, expressing joy upon receiving positive news about the unsuccessful French/rebel attack on Savannah; expressing confidence that Wright can now, having defeated the enemy, settle down to re-establishing a tranquil and prosperous Georgia colony; agreeing with Wright's approach to former rebel supporters, that they should be punished for their disloyalty by losing their property and that compensation should be paid to loyalists who lost property; approving the test Wright will use to

differentiate loyal from disloyal inhabitants; providing instructions on how to handle slave property, its management when not held by a master, its confiscation from rebel supporters, and its return to loyal inhabitants; providing instructions on various other matters, including how to manage former British militia members, military officers, and refugees, providing for a jail and other public buildings and funding these expenses by a proposed contingent expense estimate totaling £5,000 per year; concerning the utility of a corps of horse to control the countryside and frontier; concerning meeting the need for ammunition; all considered in detail [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 84]

January 22, 1780

Copy of letter from Knox at Whitehall to Wright, enclosing instructions for Sir Henry Clinton, which Wright is to forward to the location of Clinton's headquarters, which is not known in London [copy Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 85]

June 7, 1780

No. 6; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, expressing a sense of suspense at not having yet heard the results of Clinton's effort to capture Charleston [in fact, the American army and naval forces at Charleston had officially surrendered on May 12, 1780]; informing Wright that Clinton should have informed him of plans for a major new armament, which sailed from several ports (Brest, Plymouth, and Cadiz) in late April and early May, bound for North America, via a port in the West Indies; encouraging Wright toward holding new elections and strengthening the civil government; encouraging rewarding loyalists, also to give energy to the colonial government [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 91]

July 7, 1780

No. 7; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, expressing joy at the "*Glorious & Important events of y^e surrender of Charles Town*" and of the army and naval forces defending it; stating that Georgia can no longer be in danger from the rebels; informing Wright of an increase in Georgia's civil establishment estimate for the current year, although an error by the Board of Trade had inadvertently omitted it from the budget that was approved; nevertheless, that warrants received for expenditures of that increased amount would be honored [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 101]

July 13, 1780

Copy of letter from Knox at Whitehall to the "*Governor of Georgia*", informing Wright of the approved estimate for Georgia's civil establishment from June 24, 1779 to June 24, 1780, totaling £2,866 [with one enclosure]
[no date]

Estimate for Georgia's civil establishment from June 24, 1779 to June 24, 1780, totaling £2,866 [copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 102]

August 3, 1780

No. 8; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, responding to Wright's "*representation*" to Clinton of the "*mischievous Consequences you apprehended His Proclamation offering General Pardon might be attended with*"; stating that it was "*certainly very proper*"; agreeing that Georgia is not covered by the Proclamation, and that those accused of crimes must still be adjudicated in the Georgia courts and are not pardoned by the Proclamation; agreeing with Wright that Georgia needs a corps of horse for internal protection of law and order, and that Clinton is supposed to be providing it; expressing impatience to hear the results of the meeting of the new Assembly in Georgia; supporting creation of a fund from quit-rent payments to support Georgia's civil government; expressing dismay that so little benefit is coming from deserted estates for grants for support of loyalist refugees; hoping that Wright can improve that situation [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 123] [for more on Clinton's proclamation of amnesty and Wright's response to it, see Reel 8, documents 99, 100 and note after, 132, and 133]

September 6, 1780

No. 9; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, informing Wright of a complaint of lack of lumber on the West Indian island of St. Lucia for construction of a barracks and other buildings; suggesting that Wright inform economic interests in Georgia of the current market for such lumber in St. Lucia and that the British Navy will be helpful with protection, especially for convoys [no draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence]

November 9, 1780

No. 10; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, recognizing the "*glorious Success of Lord Cornwallis at Camden* [Camden, South Carolina]...*followed by the destruction of Sumpter's* [Sumter's] *detachment...will have removed all apprehensions of further disturbance from the Rebel Troops, and must crush every hope in the secret abettors of the Rebellion of again subverting the King's Authority in South Carolina or Georgia*"; stating that Cornwallis will inflict "*Punishment*" on those who were involved in the "*Revolt*"; reiterating that Clinton's pardon proclamation and the claims commission established in South Carolina have no jurisdiction in Georgia [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 134] [for more on British **Major General Charles Cornwallis**, who defeated American Major General Horatio Gates at the **Battle of Camden**, and on British **Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton**, who defeated South Carolina Militia **Brigadier General Thomas Sumter** at the **Battle of Catawba Fords** (or Fishing Creek), see Reel 8 document 142 and the note after it]

December 7, 1780

Copy of “*separate*” letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, concerning the Countess of Huntingdon’s request for assistance from Wright in her gaining assurance that Messrs. Telfair and Baillie will be accountable to her for “*whatever has come to their hands of her Property*” [draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 136] [for more on the **Countess of Huntingdon**, her request, and **Messrs. Telfair and Baillie**, see note after Reel 8 document 136]

January 3, 1781

No. 11; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, expressing dismay at the number of Georgians who have “*retained their Rebellious Sentiments*” by joining with “*the marauding party of Carolinians from the Ceded Lands in the [unsuccessful] Attack upon Augusta*”; hoping that Wright will be able to execute fully his planned measures “*for putting it out of their power to do further mischief*”; informing Wright of new hostilities with the Dutch; suggesting that, with so many enemies of Britain about, “*it becomes the Duty of every Loyal Subject to exert his best Endeavours in the Public Service*”; stating that the King is counting on his loyal Georgia subjects to defend their province [no draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence]

January 8, 1781

Copy of unnumbered letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, recommending Charles Goodwin, “*a Practitioner of the Law*” with a high reputation, to Wright’s “*Countenance and Protection*”

February 12, 1781

No. 12; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, expressing satisfaction at the report of Tarleton’s defeat of Sumter; stating that Major General [Alexander] Leslie [who in 1782 replaced Cornwallis as British commander in the South] and his detachment are to have entered the Cape Fear River to reinforce Cornwallis’ army at Charlestown; stating that “*I flatter myself the Rebellion is long since intirely quelled in South Carolina*” and that by now, the British Army was well on its way through North Carolina to Virginia, where further reinforcements under General [Benedict] Arnold [who had recently changed sides from being an American general to being a British general] are expected; expecting that these ongoing events will further discourage remaining rebels, and encouraging Wright to exhort faithful loyalists and the Georgia Assembly to take positive steps to strengthen the British constitution in Georgia and to punish “*seditious*” “*Miscreants*”; encouraging Wright that “*You cannot be too vigilant to check the first appearance of Revolt and by prompt & vigorous Exertions nip Sedition in the Bud, and compel Obedience by the dread of Punishment, where the mild Influence of Lenity [meaning kindness or gentleness] Forbearance and Forgiveness have been found to have no Effect*”; expressing happiness that the “*dreadful Hurricanes*” that had devastated the Leeward Islands and Jamaica did

not reach South Carolina or Georgia [no draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence]

April 4, 1781

No. 13; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, stating that he will continue to seek Navy assistance in defending Georgia with marine guards; stating that the situation seems “more pleasing” as the British Army continues to gain against the rebel armies of [Nathanael Greene] and [Daniel] Morgan and with British Major [James Henry] Craig [operating separately] in [North] Carolina; hoping that additional reinforcements sent from Cork will arrive soon; expressing unhappiness that progress is not being made in South Carolina, as it is in Georgia, toward re-establishing civil government; encouraging Wright toward greater efforts to defend Georgia, including use of letters of marque, that are on their way to Georgia, against Spanish shipping [no draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence]

May 2, 1781

Copy of unnumbered letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, introducing Rev. [?] Stewart, who is going to Georgia as “*Curate to M^r. Smythe* [Rev. Hadden Smith], *the Rector of Christ Church*” [in Savannah], whose ill health requires him to return to England; asking that Stewart be supported by the Georgia government

June 4, 1781

No. 14; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, expressing satisfaction at “*the agreeable Intelligence of Lord Cornwallis’s Victory at Guildford* [the Battle of Guilford Court House in North Carolina, fought on March 15, 1781]”, counterbalanced by Wright’s description of “*the Murders and Devastation committed by the Rebel Banditti upon the Loyal and Peaceable Inhabitants and their possessions on the Frontiers of the province*”; commenting on the scarcity of horses and horse accoutrements for use by Cornwallis’ army, which explains why Cornwallis cannot spare a horse corps for protection on Georgia’s frontier; agreeing that Wright should detach 60 troops from the Georgia Militia to “*keep continual watch upon the Frontiers*”; authorizing him to pay these militia for this purpose as if they were in the regular service, using a £5,000 contingent fund made available for this purpose; stating that although two new Georgia acts seem satisfactory, they still need to be reviewed and approved; complimenting Georgia on the steps it has succeeded with in establishing and strengthening civil government [no draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence]

August 2, 1781

No. 15; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, stating that a Georgia act using export duties to pay for “*the contribution of Georgia to the General Charge of the British Empire*” appears proper but still needed official approval by the Board of Treasury; in the meantime, quit rent collections can be used for this

purpose; expressing hope that British military successes are continuing in North Carolina; stating that arms and "*a considerable Quantity of Horse Furniture*" is being sent by ship to Georgia, as well as a shipment of Indian presents [no draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence]

August 2, 1781

Copy of unnumbered letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, recommending a Mr. Sullivan, trained as an attorney, for Wright's protection as he seeks employment in Georgia

June 22, 1781

Copy of royal order confirming the Georgia act to use certain duties in Georgia on the export of "*goods, wares and Merchandize*" in Georgia to pay for Georgia's contribution "*to the general charge of the British Empire*"

August 14, 1781

Copy of letter from Knox at Whitehall to Wright, informing him of Georgia's approved estimate of civil establishment from June 24, 1780 to June 24, 1781, totaling £2,986 [with one enclosure]

[no date]

Copy of estimate for Georgia's civil establishment from June 24, 1780 to June 24, 1781, totaling £2,986

August 29, 1781

Copy of letter from Knox at Whitehall to Wright, enclosing an invoice for "*a Supply of Goods for Presents to the Indians in the South District of North America*"; stating that Savannah has been selected as "*the most convenient place for depositing these Goods*" except that Governor Patrick Tonyn of East Florida has stated that his colony is "*in great want of them*" since the Spanish have just captured Pensacola [ending British rule in its colony of West Florida] and might soon attack St. Augustine; therefore, requesting that Wright "*send a portion of the several Articles now sent out to you to Gov^r Tonyn to be distributed under his direction*"; stating that two more shiploads of Indian presents meant for Pensacola were now at Jamaica and would be diverted to either Savannah or Charleston; stating that if they cannot be safely sent to these places, the goods will be sent to New York to be redistributed later to Savannah or Charleston

September 7, 1781

No. 16; copy of letter from Germain at Whitehall to Wright, expressing unhappiness that reportedly some "*Loyal & Peaceable Inhabitants of Georgia were still subject to Depredations and Cruelty of marauding Parties of Rebels from Carolina*" after Cornwallis' army had subdued Georgia but then moved his army northward; asking that all requests for military support and resources go through the British military commanders in North America and not be directed to the Treasury in London; yet, seeking to assist Georgia with its request for a corps of horses by finding funding, without using any of the £5,000 additional amount

already authorized; stating that in South Carolina, the marauders had “*dispersed*” since General Greene’s American army had left South Carolina; predicting that South Carolina “*will become the Friend and Protector of Georgia, instead of furnishing marauding Parties to distress & persecute its Inhabitants*”; stating that the supply of goods, arms, and ammunition being sent to Georgia should help it to “*secure the Friendship and reward the Service of the Savages*”; and hoping to “*get on board*” 200 sets of horse furniture [no draft copy in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence]

[Note: On October 19, 1781, General Cornwallis surrendered his entire British army to American forces at **Yorktown**. Although not apparent at the time, this effectively decided the outcome of the military contest for American independence, with Britain the loser. By March 1782, the result had become quite clear, with the result that on March 20, Prime Minister Lord North’s “war government” fell on a vote of no confidence in Parliament. Shortly thereafter, Lord Germain, who had served in North’s government since 1775, resigned as Secretary of State for the Colonies. During a brief period of political unsettlement, the Secretary of State position changed hands several times, with **William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne** (who in the 1760s had served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department) serving from March to July 1782, then **Thomas Townshend** from July 1782 to April 1783, and, after a hiatus, Townshend again from December 1783 to 1789. Germain was the last Secretary of State for the Colonies. Beginning with Shelburne’s return, the position was redefined and renamed as Secretary of State for the Home Department or, more succinctly, **Home Secretary**.]

[W. Ellis correspondence to Georgia Governor James Wright]

March 6, 1782

[104/212]

No. 1; copy of letter from W. Ellis [clearly a top official in the Secretary of State office but not identified here by full name or title] at Whitehall to Wright, expressing concern for more negative reports of safety in Georgia; confirming that he was aware that Clinton had sent to Georgia a detachment of 200 men “*besides a few Artillery*” and that Clinton proposed sending more troops if General Greene made a move in Georgia’s direction; given this, it was assumed that Georgia had “*escaped the Danger you apprehended threatened you, and that the Planters will have been able to pursue their Occupations in safety*”; stating that the House of Commons has been discussing the “*conduct of the American War*”; stating that he has forwarded to the Treasury Georgia’s bills and accounts received, with payment recommended

March 9, 1782

Copy of “*separate*” letter from Ellis at Whitehall to Wright, stating that the King has approved the request from the Georgia government that Lieutenant Governor [John] Graham succeed [Alexander] Cameron [who had died in January at Savannah] as Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Western

Division of the South District [which by this time consisted of interior far western Georgia, following Spain's re-conquest of West Florida in 1781]

June 27, 1782

Copy of letter from Evan Nepean at Whitehall to Wright, informing him that the estimate for Georgia's civil establishment from June 24, 1781 to June 24, 1782 had been approved, totaling £2,986 [with one enclosure]

[no date]

Estimate for Georgia's civil establishment from June 24, 1781 to June 24, 1782, totaling £2,986

[Note: Evan Nepean (1752-1822) was appointed at age 29 in March 1782 to the office of **Permanent Undersecretary** of the newly established **Home Department**. This position was similar to the position John Pownall held for a number of years as Undersecretary of State and before that as Secretary for the Board of Trade and Plantations. Nepean held this position until 1791. He went on to a number of other high-level governmental positions during a long career of public service.]

Reel 10 (Volume 678, 679, 680)

Volume 678—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Summaries of Official Correspondence (incoming), begin

February 15, 1762 to March 30, 1772

Documents 1 to 100

[Frames 1 to 132]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 678 contains summaries of official incoming correspondence included in the Secretary of State papers in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia, starting in 1766 (with an enclosure dated in 1762). Only seven letters in Volume 678 are outgoing, two of them summaries of circular letters sent by the Secretary of State office, and five summaries of numbered letters from Secretary of State for the Southern District, the Earl of Shelburne, to Governor James Wright of Georgia. Three additional summarized documents are support documents for official incoming correspondence. All the remaining summarized documents are official correspondence from Georgia Governor James Wright (except for ten from acting Georgia governor James Habersham) to the Secretary of State.

Note: The Secretary of State office maintained records of its incoming and outgoing correspondence, in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia, in several ways, including official manuscript letters and other manuscript and printed documents, draft copies of outgoing official correspondence, letterbooks containing full texts of official letters and references to other documents, and, in Volume 678, letterbooks containing summaries of official letters and of other documents. All except two of the official letters summarized in Volume 678 are also found as originals, drafts, or copies of official letters elsewhere in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia. For these letters, references are included in this Finding Aid to the locations among the microfilmed documents of the full texts of official letters and other documents. For the two official letters summarized in Volume 678 that are not found in full text anywhere in these microfilmed documents, regular document entries are included (documents 13 and 17).

Note: Starting with the Earl of Shelburne in 1766, and continued by the Earl of Hillsborough, the Secretary of State office maintained a numbering system for official letters written by the Secretary of State to the Georgia Governor and letters written by the Georgia Governor to the Secretary of State. These numbers are identified in the summaries listed in the letterbook contained in Volume 678.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the

manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

1. January 12, 1767 [1]
Summary of circular from [Secretary of State for the Southern Department the Earl of Shelburne] to Georgia Governor [James Wright], transmitting account of fees for different colonial offices, especially for land grants
[Note: For more on **William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne**, see note after Reel 1 document 70. For more on **James Wright**, see note after Reel 1 document 9. As historical context, Georgia was founded by investor/trustees as a proprietary colony in 1732; in 1752 the British King took over the proprietorship, creating in its place a royal colony, which existed until 1782, except temporarily between 1776 and 1779. James Wright served as colonial Georgia's Governor from 1760 until 1782.]
2. November 18, 1766 [1]
Summary of letter from Governor James Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 73]
3. November 18, 1766 [1]
Summary of letter from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 74] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 6 document 75]
4. November 18, 1766 [2]
Summary of letter from Wright to Board of Trade and Plantations, "*transmitted by* [Secretary to the Board of Trade] *M^r* [John] *Pownall*" [see original letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 87] [for more on **John Pownall**, see note after Reel 1 document 7]
5. November 29, 1766 [2]
Summary of letter from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 76; see also similar letter to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 88]
6. February 15, 1762 [3]
Summary of copy of Wright's answers to Board of Trade's queries about the colony of Georgia to Board of Trade, "*sent by the Board of Trade*" [enclosures in Wright's November 29, 1766 letter to Shelburne (Reel 6 document 76; summary in document 5 above) and in Wright's similar letter of same date to Board of

Trade (Reel 2 document 88); see copy of answers in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 77 and in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 89]

7. February 19, 1767 [4]
Summary of letter No. 5 from [Shelburne] to [Wright] [see letterbook copy of letter in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 1; see also draft copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 79]
8. January 5, 1767 [4]
Summary of letter No. 1 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 80] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 6 documents 81 to 84]
9. January 5, 1767 [5]
Summary of letter No. 2 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 86]
10. April 11, 1767 [5]
Summary of letter No. 6 from [Shelburne] to [Wright] [see letterbook copy of letter in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 1] [Shelburne apparently did not write a letter No. 7 to Wright; No. 7 in the Reel 9 document 1 numbered letterbook is a reference to a circular]
11. February 16, 1767 [6]
Summary of letter No. 3 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 87]
12. April 6, 1767 [6]
Summary of letter No. 4 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 88; see also similar letter to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 95] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 6 documents 89 to 101 and Reel 2 documents 96 to 108]
13. May 15, 1767 [8]
Summary of letter No. 5 from Wright to [Shelburne], concerning Georgia's annual finances, including payment of local tax money "*for the necessary and ordinary Services of the Year*", with expenditure of all local money to be paid out by the Treasurer, by order of the Governor and Council; documenting a few additional "*imposts*" to pay for lighthouse repairs, on deer skins to be exported, and for forts at Cockspur Island and at Augusta, a guard house at Savannah, and repairs at Fort Frederica; concerning payment of quit rents and a 1762 bill to improve collections, passed by the Georgia Assembly, which the Board of Trade has not yet approved; concerning procedures for the grant of lands; with references to

several enclosures, including 1) an account of quit rent arrears as of March 25, 1767, totaling £2,081.15.0; 2) account of grants registered as of March 25, 1767, totaling 546,770½ acres plus 400 acres granted "*in 1763 by the Governor of South Carolina, within the Limits of the Province of Georgia*"; and 3) Georgia act granting to the Crown £1,843.11.4¾ for support of Georgia government, with details; [neither originals nor copies of this letter or its enclosures are microfilmed in the Georgia Colonial Papers]

14. July 11, 1767 [10]
Summary of circular from [Shelburne] to Wright, including an act passed by Parliament plus a new seal for the colony
15. July 18, 1767 [10]
Summary of letter No. 8 from [Shelburne] to Wright [see draft letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 102; see also letterbook copy of letter in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 1]
16. June 15, 1767 [10]
Summary of letter No. 6 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 103; see also extract from this letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 125; see also similar letter to Board of Trade with same date in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 112]
17. July 20, 1767 [14]
Summary of letter No. 7 from Wright to [Shelburne], enclosing table of fees for Georgia government, especially those pertaining to land grants; these fees are about 10% lower than in South Carolina; stating that he has resisted Assembly attempts to establish fees itself, which it sees as a form of taxation and thus under its jurisdiction rather than the government's direct control [no original or copy of this letter is found in the microfilmed Georgia Colonial Papers]
18. October 8, 1767 [14]
Summary of letter No. 9 from [Shelburne] to Wright, enclosing royal orders and repealing several Georgia laws [see letterbook copy of letter in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 1]
19. August 14, 1767 [15]
Summary of letter No. 8 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 105] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 6 documents 106, 107]
20. August 15, 1767 [15]

Summary of letter No. 9 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 108] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 6 document 109]

21. November 14, 1767 [16]
Summary of letter No. 10 from [Shelburne] to Wright [see draft letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 110; see also letterbook copy of letter in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 1]
22. November 17, 1767 [16]
Summary of letter No. 10 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see letterbook copy of letter in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 1]
23. September 21, 1767 [17]
Summary of letter No. 11 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 112]
24. October 24, 1767 [17]
Summary of letter No. 12 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 113; see also similar letter with same date by Wright to Board of Trade, in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 121] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 2 document 122 and Reel 6 document 114]
25. October 31, 1767 [17]
Summary of letter No. 13 from Wright to [Shelburne], including summaries of two enclosures [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 115] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 6 documents 116, 117]
26. December 8, 1767 [19]
Summary of letter No. 14 from Wright to [Shelburne] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 121]
27. May 23, 1768 [20]
Summary of letter No. 6 [the logic of the choice to use this number to identify this summary of a letter is not clear] from Wright to the Earl of Hillsborough [Secretary of State for the Colonies], including extensive direct quotes and references to several enclosures [see original, unnumbered letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 6 documents 124 to 130]
[Note: William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne, served as Secretary of State for the Southern Department from July 30, 1766 to October 20, 1768. **Wills Hill, 1st Earl of Hillsborough** was appointed to the new position of Secretary of State for the Colonies on February 27, 1768, a position he held until August 27, 1772.

The official overlap of Shelburne and Hillsborough in different Secretary of State positions between February and October 1768 may have been as confusing then as it seems now. Furthermore, Hillsborough had previously been President of the Board of Trade for most of the time between 1763 to 1766 and was identified with that important office as well. Something here might explain how this letter was identified by No 6. It seems most likely that in May 1768, Wright was writing to Hillsborough as Secretary of State for the Colonies, which does not help at all in explaining the use of No 6. For more on Hillsborough, see note after Reel 2 document 137.]

[Note: Under Shelburne's direction, the contents of the summary letterbook consisted of mostly brief third-person summaries, along with references to attached documents. During the early part of Hillsborough's time as Secretary of State, the method shifted, first to expanding summaries, then to including selected direct quotes, and finally to writing out full copies of letters. Despite these shifts, this Finding Aid continues to use the term "summary" to describe each entry in this letterbook.]

28. May 30, 1768 [32]
Summary of letter No. 1 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 131]
29. May 30, 1768 [33]
Summary of letter No. 2 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 132]
30. May 30, 1768 [34]
Summary of letter No. 3 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 133]
31. May 31, 1768 [36]
Summary of letter No. 4 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 134]
32. May 31, 1768 [36]
Summary of letter No. 5 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 135] [no original letter, copy of letter, or summary of letter No. 6 from Wright to Hillsborough is found in the microfilmed Colonial Papers of Georgia]
33. May 31, 1768 [37]
Summary of letter No. 7 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 136]
34. June 8, 1768 [39]
Summary of letter No. 8 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 138; see

also copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 134; see also similar letter with same date to Board of Trade, in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 138] [see enclosure with Board of Trade letter, document 135]

35. July 1, 1768 [42]
Summary of letter No. 9 from Wright to [Hillsborough], including an enclosure [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 139; see also copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 137] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 2 document 140]
36. July 4, 1768 [45]
Summary of letter No. 10 from Wright to [Hillsborough], with reference to an enclosure [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 141] microfilmed enclosure is at document 142]
37. August 5, 1768 [46]
Summary of letter No. 11 from Wright to [Hillsborough] , with a note referencing summary of enclosures "*look for this after the entry of Gov^t Wright's Letter No. 21*" [see document 47 below] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 144; see also similar letter with same date to Board of Trade, in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 144] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 2 documents 145 to 148 and Reel 6 documents 145 to 148]
38. August 6, 1768 [51]
Summary of letter No. 12 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 149; see also similar letter with same date to Board of Trade in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 149]
39. August 6, 1768 [54]
Summary of letter No. 13 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 150; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 154]
40. August 6, 1768 [54]
Summary of letter No. 14 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 151; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 155]
[Note: No original letter, copy of letter, duplicate letter, or summary of letter identified as No. 15 from Wright to Hillsborough is found in these microfilmed

documents. However, Reel 6, document 158, a letter dated September 17, 1768, which is identified as No. 13 (despite there being another No. 13 above and in document 150) is actually Wright's Letter No. 15. Wright himself refers in his letter No. 21 (document 157 below) to his "*letter N^o. 15. of the 17th of Sept^r*". The scriveners of the Secretary of State office figured this out when they came to summarizing document 48 below.]

41. October 3, 1768 [55]
Summary of letter No. 16 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 152]
42. October 3, 1768 [55]
Summary of letter No. 17 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 153]
43. October 4, 1768 [56]
Summary of letter No. 18 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 154]
44. October 4, 1768 [56]
Summary of letter No. 19 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 155]
45. October 5, 1768 [57]
Summary of letter No. 20 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 156]
46. October 5, 1768 [61]
Summary of letter No. 21 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 157]
47. Monday, November 18, 1768 [actually 1765] [62]
[Scrivener's note before this document states that "*This appears to belong to Go^r. Wright's Letter No. 11*" See document 37 above. The [corrected] date on the document is the date East Florida Governor James Grant and Superintendent of Indian Affairs John Stuart signed the Treaty of Picolata with the Creek Indians. This is a piece of James Wright's "*true copy*" of the proceedings. The entire copied proceedings are found as an attachment to Wright's similar letters, dated August 5, 1768, to the Board of Trade and Secretary of State (No. 11), in Reel 2 document 145 and Reel 6 document 145, respectively.]
48. September 17, 1768 [63]
Summary of letter "No. 13/15" from Wright to [Hillsborough] [here, the archivists made the connection that Wright's September 17 letter was not No. 13 but No. 15; see note after document 40 above] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 157]

49. October 20, 1768 [64]
Summary of letter No. 22 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 161]
50. December 13, 1768 [64]
Summary of letter No. 24 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 163; see also copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 156]
51. December 14, 1768 [64]
Summary of letter No. 25 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 164; see also copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 157]
52. December 24, 1768 [65]
Summary of letter No. 26 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [with enclosure, document 53] [see duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 165; see also Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 158] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 2 documents 159, 160 and Reel 6 documents 166, 167]
53. December 24, 1768 [66]
Extract from minutes of Commons House of Georgia Assembly, containing an address to Wright [enclosed with Wright's December 24, 1768 letter to Hillsborough, document 52] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 167; see also Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 159]
54. November 18, 1768 [67]
Summary of letter No. 23 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 168] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 6 documents 169 to 171]
55. December 26, 1768 [69]
Summary of letter No. 27 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 172; see also copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 161]
56. January 14, 1769 [73]
Summary of letter No. 28 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 173; see

also copy of letter, unnumbered, in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 151]

57. December 24, 1768 [73]
Summary of petition to the King from Commons House of Georgia Assembly, [see original petition in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 174]
58. January 30, 1769 [74]
Summary of letter No. 29 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 175; see also copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 162]
59. March 8, 1769 [75]
Summary of letter No. 30 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 178; see also copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 163]
60. March 21, 1769 [77]
Summary of letter No. 31 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 179]
61. June 26, 1769 [77]
Summary of letter No. 32 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 181; see also copy of letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 2 document 164]
62. July 3, 1769 [79]
Summary of letter No. 33 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 182]
63. August 15, 1769 [80]
Summary of letter No. 34 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 184; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 1]
64. August 15, 1769 [83]
Summary of letter No. 35 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 185; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 2]

65. September 20, 1769 [84]
Summary of letter No. 37 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 188; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 8]
66. August 15, 1769 [85]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to John Pownall [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 186]
67. September 1, 1769 [85]
Summary of letter No. 36 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 187]
68. November 8, 1769 [85]
Summary of letter No. 38 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 191; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 3] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 3 documents 4 to 7 and reel 6 documents 192 to 195]
69. January 20, 1770 [86]
Summary of letter No. 39 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 198; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 9]
70. February 1, 1770 [87]
Summary of letter No. 40 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see copy of letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 199; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 10]
71. March 1, 1770 [87]
Summary of letter No. 41 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 201; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 11]
72. April 12, 1770 [88]
Summary of letter No. 42 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 202; see also Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 12]
73. May 10, 1770 [88]

Summary of letter No. 43 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 205; see also another duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 13]

74. May 11, 1770 [89]
Summary of letter [No. 44] from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see duplicate letter (identified as No. 44) in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 206; see also another duplicate letter (identified as No. 44) in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 14] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 3 documents 15 to 18 and Reel 6 documents 201 to 210] [Frame 92 microfilmed twice]
75. May 28, 1770 [93]
Summary of letter No. 45 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 211]
76. July 20, 1770 [94]
Summary of letter No. 46 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 214; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 20] [see referenced enclosure(s), Reel 2 document 21 and Reel 6 documents 215 to 217]
77. July 23, 1770 [97]
Summary of letter No. 47 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 218]
78. August 22, 1770 [98]
Summary of letter No. 48 from Wright to [Hillsborough], followed by added note about receipt of Parliamentary acts and King's speech not found with original microfilmed letter [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 219] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 6 document 220]
79. November 23, 1770 [98]
Summary of report by Board of Trade on a February 1770 Georgia law concerning election of Commons House members [see original report in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 223]
80. October 8, 1770 [101]
Summary of letter No. 49 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 224; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 30] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 6 document 225]

81. December 8, 1770 [102]
Summary of letter No. 50 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 227; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 31] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 3 documents 32, 33 and Reel 6 documents 228, 229]
82. December 13, 1770 [104]
Summary of letter No. 51 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 230; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 34]
83. January 18, 1771 [108]
Summary of letter No. 52 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see duplicate letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 234] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 6 document 235]
84. January 18, 1771 [110]
Summary of letter No. 53 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 236]
85. February 28, 1771 [110]
Summary of letter No. 54 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 237; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 35]
86. February 28, 1771 [110]
Summary of letter No. 55 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 238; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 36] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 3 documents 37 to 39 and Reel 6 documents 239 to 241]
87. April 30, 1771 [115]
Summary of letter No. 56 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 243; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 51] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 6 documents 244 to 246]
88. May 8, 1771 [117]
Summary of letter No. 57 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 247; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 52]

89. May 8, 1771 [117]
Summary of letter No. 58 from Wright to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 248; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 53]
90. May 8, 1771 [118]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to Pownall [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 249]
91. August 3, 1771 [118]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from James Habersham [President of the Georgia Council and acting governor of Georgia during Wright's leave of absence] to [Pownall] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 251]
92. August 3, 1771 [118]
Summary of letter No. 1 from James Habersham [President of the Georgia Council and acting governor of Georgia during Wright's leave of absence] to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 252; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 54]
93. September 26, 1771 [120]
Summary of letter No. 2 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 254; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 57] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 3 document 58 and Reel 6 document 255]
94. September 30, 1771 [122]
Summary of letter No. 3 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 256; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 59]
95. October 23, 1771 [123]
Summary of letter No. 4 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 257; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 63]
96. October 31, 1771 [124]
Summary of letter No. 5 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 258; see

also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 64] [see referenced enclosure(s), Reel 3 document 65 and Reel 6 document 259, 260]

97. November 27, 1771 [127]
Summary of letter No. 6 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 262; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 66]
98. December 30, 1771 [129]
Summary of letter No. 7 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 263; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 67] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 3 document 68 and Reel 6 document 264]
99. January 16, 1772 [130]
Summary of letter No. 8 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 267; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 69]
100. March 30, 1772 [131]
Summary of letter No. 9 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 269; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 70]

Volume 679—Itemized, Annotated Contents

Secretary of State Summaries of Official Correspondence (incoming), continued

April 24, 1772 to August 17, 1780

Documents 101 to 228

[Frames 1 to 178]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 679 continues from Volume 678 letterbook summaries of official incoming correspondence contained in the Secretary of State papers in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia. None of the summarized documents is an outgoing document and all are summaries of official correspondence from Georgia Governor

James Wright (except for six from acting Georgia governor James Habersham) to the Secretary of State.

Note: The Secretary of State office maintained records of its incoming and outgoing correspondence, in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia, in several ways, including official manuscript letters and other manuscript and printed documents, draft copies of outgoing official correspondence, letterbooks containing full texts of official letters and references to other documents, and, in Volume 679, letterbooks containing summaries of official letters and of other documents. Almost all of the official letters summarized in Volume 679 are also found as original, draft, or copies of complete official letters elsewhere in the Georgia Colonial Papers. For these letters, references are included in this Finding Aid to the locations among the microfilmed documents of the full texts of official letters and other documents. Only two of Wright's numbered official, numbered letters, which are found in the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence (No. 33 and No. 63, both to the Earl of Dartmouth) are not found in the summaries.

Note: Starting with the Earl of Shelburne in 1766, continued by the Earl of Hillsborough (Volume 768), by the Earl of Dartmouth, and Lord Germain (Volumes 679 and 680), the Secretary of State office maintained a numbering system for official letters written by the Secretary of State to the Georgia Governor and letters written by the Georgia Governor to the Secretary of State. These numbers are identified in the summaries listed in the letterbook contained in Volume 679.

Note: Under Shelburne's direction, the contents of the summary letterbook consisted of mostly brief third-person summaries, along with references to attached documents. During the early part of Hillsborough's time as Secretary of State in 1772, the method shifted (as seen in the Volume 678 letterbooks), first by expanding summaries, then by including selected direct quotes, and finally by writing out full transcripts of letters. During the Earl of Dartmouth's time as Secretary of State, the letterbooks continued to record full transcripts of letters. Despite these shifts, this Finding Aid continues to use the term "summary" to describe each letter entry.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

101. April 24, 1772 [1]
Summary of letter No. 10 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 271; see

also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 71] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 3 documents 72, 73 and Reel 6 document 272]

102. April 30, 1772 [4]
Summary of letter No. 11 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 274; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 74]
103. June 15, 1772 [10]
Summary of letter No. 12 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 277; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 76]
104. June 15, 1772 [11]
Summary of letter No. 13 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 278; see also duplicate letter in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 77]
105. August 12, 1772 [13]
Summary of letter No. 14 from Habersham to [Hillsborough] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 6 document 282] [see enclosures referenced here in Reel 6 documents 283, 284; see summarized enclosure (Report of Board of Trade on Indian relations dated November 9, 1772) in Reel 6 document 286]
[Note: William Legge, 2nd Earl of Dartmouth (1731-1801), replaced Hillsborough as Secretary of State for the Colonies on August 27, 1772, serving in this position until November 1775. Habersham continued as acting governor in Savannah until Governor Wright returned to Savannah in February 1773. His last two official, numbered letters as acting governor, to the Secretary of State, were his Letter Number 14 to Hillsborough, dated August 12, 1772 (Reel 6 document 286, summarized here), and his Letter No. 1 to Dartmouth dated January 3, 1773 (Reel 7 document 3, summarized in document 106 below). Dartmouth sent Habersham two numbered letters before the end of 1772 (No. 1 dated November 4, 1772, draft in Reel 6 document 285, and No. 2 dated December 12, 1772, draft in Reel 6 document 287).]
106. January 12, 1773 [21]
Summary of letter No. 1 from Habersham to Dartmouth [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 2] [see possible enclosure in Reel 7 document 3]
107. March 24, 1773 [22]

Summary of letter No. 1 from Wright [having returned to his gubernatorial duties at Savannah in February, restarting his letter numbering] to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 5] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7, documents 6, 7]
[Note: As Georgia Governor, Wright sent 67 official, numbered letters to Dartmouth as Secretary of State for the Colonies. No. 67 is dated January 3, 1776. All of these letters (including two No. 35 letters with different dates) are microfilmed in the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence (in Reels 6 and 7). All of these except for No 33 and No 63 are summarized in the Reel 10 letterbooks.]

108. April 8, 1773 [24]
Summary of letter No. 2 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 9]
109. May 12, 1773 [25]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 11]
110. June 16, 1773 [25]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 12]
111. June 17, 1773 [25]
Summary of letter No. 3 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 14]
112. May 12, 1773 [28]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Undersecretary of State William Knox] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 19]
113. August 10, 1773 [28]
Summary of letter No. 4 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 20]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 21 to 24]
114. August 16, 1773 [31]
Summary of letter No. 5 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 25]
115. September 15, 1773 [32]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 27]
116. September 15, 1773 [32]

Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [John Pownall, Undersecretary of State] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 28]

117. September 30, 1773 [33]
Summary of letter No. 6 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 29]
118. October 30, 1773 [33]
Summary of letter No. 7 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 31]
119. December 20, 1773 [34]
Summary of letter No. 8 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 33]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 35 to 43]
120. December 27, 1773 [34]
Summary of letter No. 9 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 44]
121. January 4, 1774 [36]
Summary of letter No. 10 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 45]
122. January 31, 1774 [37]
Summary of letter No. 11 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 47]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 48 to 49]
123. March 2, 1774 [41]
Summary of letter No. 12 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 50]
124. March 12, 1774 [42]
Summary of letter No. 13 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 52]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 53 to 58]
125. March 12, 1774 [43]
Summary of letter No. 14 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 59]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 60 to 63]
126. March 14, 1774 [46]

- Summary of letter No. 15 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 64]
127. March 10, 1774 [46]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to Undersecretary of State John Pownall; [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 51]
128. March 21, 1774 [47]
Summary of letter No. 16 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 67] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 68]
129. April 18, 1774 [48]
Summary of letter No. 17 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 70] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 71 to 73]
130. April 26, 1774 [50]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 74]
131. April 26, 1774 [51]
Summary of letter No. 18 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 75]
132. May 4, 1774 [52]
Summary of letter No. 19 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 77]
133. May 4, 1774 [54]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 78] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 81]
134. May 18, 1774 [54]
Summary of letter No. 20 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 80]
135. May 24, 1774 [55]
Summary of letter No. 21 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 82]
136. June 28, 1774 [56]

- Summary of letter No. 22 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 84]
137. July 25, 1774 [57]
Summary of letter No. 23 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 85]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 86 to 88]
138. August 18, 1774 [59]
Summary of letter No. 24 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 91]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 92, 93]
139. August 24, 1774 [59]
Summary of letter No. 25 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 94]
140. August 24, 1774 [60]
Summary of letter No. 26 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 95]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 96 to 101]
141. September 6, 1774 [62]
Summary of letter No. 27 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 102]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 103 to 104]
142. September 23, 1774 [63]
Summary of letter No. 28 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 109]
143. October 1, 1774 [64]
Summary of letter No. 29 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 110]
144. October 13, 1774 [65]
Summary of letter No. 30 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 113]
[microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 114]
145. October 21, 1774 [66]
Summary of letter from Wright and John Stuart, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Southern District, to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 115] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 116]

146. October 24, 1774 [67]
Summary of letter No. 31 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 117] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 118]
147. November 16, 1774 [69]
Summary of letter No. 32 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 120] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 121] [summary of letter No. 32 is transcribed in the letterbook and microfilmed a second time in Frame 70; the second transcription has not been assigned a separate document number] [Note: This letterbook does not contain a summary of Wright's December 12, 1774 letter No. 33. See the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 122 for a duplicate of this letter.]
148. November 13, 1774 [69]
Summary of letter No. 34 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 123] [microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 124] [summary of letter No. 34 is transcribed in the letterbook and microfilmed a second time in Frame 71; the second transcription has not been assigned a separate document number]
149. December 19, 1774 [72]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 126]
150. December 19, 1774 [73]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 127]
151. December 20, 1774 [73]
Summary of letter No. 35 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 128]
152. January 21, 1775 [75]
Summary of letter No. 35 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [this is a second letter No. 35; apparently Wright lost track of his numbering, and the error was not subsequently corrected] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 130]
153. February 1, 1775 [75]
Summary of letter No. 36 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 131] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 132 to 135]
154. February 13, 1775 [77]

- Summary of letter No. 37 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 136]
155. February 13, 1775 [78]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 137]
156. February 14, 1775 [79]
Summary of letter No. 38 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 138]
157. February 24, 1775 [79]
Summary of letter No. 39 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 139]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 140, 141]
158. March 23, 1775 [80]
Summary of letter No. 40 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 142]
159. March 23, 1775 [82]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 143]
160. March 24, 1775 [82]
Summary of letter No. 41 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 144]
161. March 24, 1775 [83]
Summary of letter No. 42 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 146]
162. April 24, 1775 [85]
Summary of letter No. 43 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 147]
163. May 1, 1775 [85]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 149]
164. May 1, 1775 [86]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 148]
165. May 1, 1775 [86]

- Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 150]
166. May 2, 1775 [87]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 151]
167. May 2, 1775 [87]
Summary of letter No. 44 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 152]
168. May 2, 1775 [88]
Summary of letter No. 45 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 153]
169. May 12, 1775 [88]
Summary of letter No. 46 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 154]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 155, 156]
170. May 25, 1775 [89]
Summary of letter No. 47 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 157]
171. June 9, 1775 [90]
Summary of letter No. 48 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 158]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 159 to 165]
172. June 17, 1775 [92]
Summary of letter No. 49 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 166]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 167, 168]
173. June 17, 1775 [94]
Summary of letter No. 50 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 169]
[microfilmed enclosures are at Reel 7 document 170, 171]
174. June 17, 1775 [94]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 171]
175. June 20, 1775 [96]

Summary of letter No. 51 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 172]
[microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 173]

176. July 8, 1775 [98]
Summary of letter No. 52 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 175]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 176 to 181]
177. July 10, 1775 [100]
Summary of letter No. 53 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 182]
178. July 11, 1775 [102]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 183]
[microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 184]
179. July 18, 1775 [102]
Summary of letter No. 54 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 186]
[microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 187]
180. July 29, 1773 [107]
Summary of letter No. 55 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 188]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 189 to 193]
181. August 7, 1775 [109]
Summary of letter No. 56 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 195]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 196 to 201]
182. August 16, 1775 [110]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 194]
183. August 17, 1775 [110]
Summary of letter No. 57 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 202]
[microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 203, 204]
184. September 16, 1775 [113]
Summary of letter No. 58 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 210]
[microfilmed enclosure is at Reel 7 document 211]

185. September 23, 1775 [115]
Summary of letter No. 59 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 212] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 213 to 215]
186. September 26, 1775 [118]
Summary of letter No. 60 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 7 document 216] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 7 documents 217 to 219]
187. December 9, 1775 [120]
Summary of letter No. 64 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 14] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 8 documents 15 to 20]
188. December 11, 1775 [124]
Summary of letter No. 65 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 21]
189. December 19, 1775 [125]
Summary of letter No. 66 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 22]
190. October 14, 1775 [126]
Summary of letter No. 61 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 1] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 8 documents 2 to 5]
191. November 1, 1775 [129]
Summary of letter No. 62 from Wright to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 6] [microfilmed enclosures include Reel 8 documents 7, 8]
[Note: This letterbook does not contain a summary of Wright's November 16, 1775 letter No. 63 to Dartmouth. See the original letter in the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 9, along with its enclosures, documents 10 to 13.]
192. January 3, 1776 [132]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright [at Savannah] to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 28]
[Note: Wright's letter No. 67 to Dartmouth, dated January 3, 1776, is not included in these summaries. The original letter is found in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 23 (its enclosures are in Reel 8 documents 24 to 27). This unnumbered letter and letter No. 67 are the latest of

Wright's microfilmed official correspondence to Dartmouth written at Savannah before he and his government were forced to escape to safety on a British warship at the mouth of the Savannah River.]

[Note: Possible letter No. 68 and letter No. 69 are not microfilmed in this collection. They may have been written but never sent or delivered. They would have been dated between January 3 and March 10, 1776, the date of Wright's last letter No. 70 to Dartmouth (document 194 below). If written in January or February, these would have been written in Savannah. If dated in March, they likely were written at Cockspur Island.]

[Note: In late February or early March 1776, Wright was forcibly removed from his home (the governor's residence), as were other high officials of the Georgia colonial government. To find safety, they fled to Cockspur Island, at the mouth of the Savannah River, where British warships were stationed. Wright and members of his rump government tarried at Cockspur, on board the warship *HMS Scarborough*, for most of a month, hoping for an opportunity that did not come for them to return to their homes and to their colonial rule of Georgia. Finally, they sailed away, first to North Carolina (seeking unsuccessfully to connect with General Sir Henry Clinton), then to Boston (just as it was being evacuated by the British), then to the British North American forward naval base at Halifax, Nova Scotia, and finally on to England. British colonial rule in Georgia remained in name only, in England, until after the British Army captured Savannah in the last days of 1778. Wright returned to re-establish British colonial rule in Georgia in July 1779.]

193. March 26, 1776 [134]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright on British warship *Scarborough* [at Cockspur Island] at the [mouth of the] Savannah River to [Lord George Germain] [see original letter, which Wright identified as letter No. 3 to Germain, in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 29] [Germain replaced Dartmouth as Secretary of State for the Colonies on November 10, 1775, holding the office until February 1782; Wright did not learn of Germain's having replaced Dartmouth until March 1776; for more on **Lord George Germain**, see note after Reel 8 document 29]
194. March 10, 1776 [135]
Summary of letter No. 70 from Wright, [aboard the British warship *Scarborough*] at Cockspur Island to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 30]
195. March 13, 1776 [137]
Summary of duplicate [unnumbered] letter from Wright on board the *Scarborough* at Cockspur Island to [Dartmouth] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 31] [between writing document 195 and 196, Wright learned that Germain had replaced Dartmouth as Secretary of State for the Colonies; see document 193 above]

196. March 14, 1776 [137]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 32]
197. March 14, 1776 [138]
Summary of letter No. 1 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 33] [evidently, Wright felt obligated to restart numbering of his official letters to Germain, since an uncertain period of “non-rule” had begun]
198. March 20, 1776 [139]
Summary of letter No. 2 from Wright on board the *Scarborough* at Cockspur Island to [Germain], with PS dated March 26, 1776 [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 34]
199. March 27, 1776 [141]
Summary of letter No. 4 from Wright on board the *Scarborough* at Cockspur to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 38] [see referenced enclosures in Reel 8 documents 39, 40]
200. April 26, 1776 [142]
Summary of letter No. 5 from Wright at, Halifax, to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 41] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 42 (Wright’s letter to Sir Henry Clinton seeking to meet with him in North Carolina)]
[Note: No documents are summarized here with a date between April 26, 1776 and July 31, 1779. The Secretary of State official incoming correspondence contains several documents (Reel 8 documents 43 to 57, not summarized here) dated during this interim.]
[Note: During this period, as the British saw it, Wright was on a leave of absence, and the “exiled” Georgia colonial government was waiting for an opportunity to re-establish itself in Georgia. By late 1778, that opportunity appeared to be approaching. In early 1779, word reached England that a British army under Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell, which had arrived in Georgia in fall 1778 had by the end of December, defeated an American army and recaptured Savannah. Germain ordered Wright and the other high officials with him to return to Georgia and resume civil colonial government.]
201. July 31, 1779 [144]
Summary of duplicate letter No. 1 from Wright at Savannah to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 65] [see referenced enclosures in Reel 8 documents 66 to 68]
[Note: When he returned to Savannah, Wright started a new period of British colonial rule and restarted the numbering of his official letters to Germain from No. 1. Wright worked from July until September to re-establish a functioning civil

government, after which the military rule of colonial Georgia that had been in effect since December 29, 1778, was ended.

This new period of British colonial rule in Georgia was destined to last from September 1779 until July 11, 1782, when Britain conceded defeat as the Revolutionary War wound down. Governor Wright and the other high former colonial Georgia officials then vacated Savannah for a second time, along with many loyalists, this time returning to England not to return. The British Colony of Georgia had ceased to exist.]

202. July 31, 1779 [145]
Summary of duplicate letter No. 2 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 69] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 70]
203. August 1, 1779 [146]
Summary of duplicate letter No. 3 from Wright to [Germain], with PS dated August 3, 1779 [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 72]
204. August 9, 1779 [147]
Summary of duplicate letter No. 4 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 73] [see Reel 8 document 71 and referenced enclosures in Reel 8 documents 74, 75] [no letters No. 5, 6, or 7 are found among the microfilmed documents here, including the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence and these summaries]
205. November 5, 1779 [148]
Summary of letter No. 8 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 77] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 78]
[Note: The enclosure is a “diary” of the “Siege of Savannah” in September and October 1779, during which American and French forces fought unsuccessfully, with heavy casualties, to wrest control of Savannah from the British. During the battle, Polish Count Pulaski was mortally wounded.]
206. November 6, 1779 [150]
Summary of letter No. 9 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 79] [see referenced enclosures in Reel 8 documents 80, 81]
207. November 4, 1779 [152]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 82]
208. November 9, 1779 [153]

Summary of letter No. 10 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 83]

209. January 20, 1780 [154]
Summary of letter No. 11 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 86]
210. February 10, 1780 [156]
Summary of letter No. 12 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 87] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 88]
211. February 18, 1780 [158]
Summary of letter No. 13 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 89]
212. February 18, 1780 [159]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 89]
213. March 13, 1780 [159]
Summary of letter No. 14 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 92] [see referenced enclosures in Reel 8 documents 93 to 96]
214. March 13, 1780 [159]
Summary of letter No. 15 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 97]
215. March 24, 1780 [160]
Summary of letter No. 16 from Wright to [Germain], with PS dated March 28, 1780 [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 98] [see referenced enclosures in Reel 8 documents 99 to 100] [Note: The enclosures relate to Sir Henry Clinton's controversial March 3, 1780 proclamation of amnesty or pardon for prisoners of war captured at Charleston; document 99 is a printed copy of the proclamation, and document 100 registers Wright's opposition to the amnesty/pardon. See also notes after each document.]
216. April 4, 1780 [163]
Summary of letter No. 17 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 105] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 106]
217. April 6, 1780 [164]

Summary of letter No. 18 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 107]

- 218. April 6, 1780 [166]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 109] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 110]
- 219. April 6, 1780 [167]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 111]
- 220. May 17, 1780 [168]
Summary of letter No. 19 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 108] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 112]
- 221. May 20, 1780 [169]
Summary of letter No. 20 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 113] [see referenced enclosures in Reel 8 documents 114 to 117] [Frame 169 microfilmed twice]
- 222. May 20, 1780 [170]
Summary of letter No. 21 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 118] [see referenced enclosures in Reel 8 documents 119 to 121]
- 223. May 25, 1780 [171]
Summary of letter No. 22 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 122]
- 224. June 9, 1780 [172]
Summary of letter No. 23 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 124] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 125]
- 225. June 10, 1780 [173]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 126] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 127]
- 226. July 17, 1780 [173]
Summary of letter No. 24 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 128]

227. July 19, 1780 [175]
Summary of letter No. 25 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 129] [see referenced enclosures in Reel 8 documents 130, 131]
228. August 17, 1780 [177]
Summary of letter No. 26 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 132] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 133]

Volume 680—Itemized, Annotated Contents
Secretary of State Summaries of Official Correspondence (incoming),
end

August 20, 1780 to December 31, 1781 Documents 229 to 265 [Frames 1 to 30]

Note: See notes in the Summary Contents at the beginning of this Finding Aid about the differing filing systems of the Board of Trade and the Secretary of State office, especially on the distinction between “official” and “other” correspondence.

Note: Volume 680 continues from Volume 679 and concludes letterbook summaries of official incoming correspondence contained in the Secretary of State papers in the microfilmed papers of colonial Georgia.

Note: The Secretary of State office maintained records of its incoming and outgoing correspondence in the Colonial Papers of Georgia in several ways, including official manuscript letters and other manuscript and printed documents, draft copies of outgoing official correspondence, letterbooks containing full texts of official letters and references to other documents, and letterbooks containing **summaries** of official letters and of other documents. Through document 236 (summary of letter No. 31 from Wright to Germain), all of the official letters summarized in Volume 680 are also found as originals, drafts, or copies of official letters elsewhere in the Georgia Colonial Papers. For these letters, references are included in this Finding Aid to the locations among the microfilmed documents of the full texts of official letters and other documents. Summaries of documents 237 to 265 are found in these microfilmed papers only as summaries in this letterbook. For these documents, regular document entries are included here in the Finding Aid.

Note: Under Shelburne’s direction, the contents of the summary letterbook consisted of mostly brief third-person summaries, along with references to attached documents. During the early part of Hillsborough’s time as Secretary of State in 1772, the method shifted (as seen in the Volume 678 letterbooks), first by expanding summaries, then by including selected direct quotes, and finally by writing out full transcripts of letters. During the Earl of Dartmouth’s time as Secretary of State (Volume 679), the letterbooks

continued to record full transcripts of letters. Despite these shifts, this Finding Aid continues in Volume 680 to use the term “summary” to describe each letter entry.

Note: Starting with the Earl of Shelburne in 1766 and continuing under the Earl of Hillsborough, the Earl of Dartmouth, and Lord Germain, the Secretary of State office maintained a numbering system for official letters written by the Secretary of State to the Georgia Governor and letters written by the Georgia Governor to the Secretary of State. These numbers are identified in the summaries listed in the letterbooks contained in Volumes 678, 679 and 780.

Note: The British Public Records Office archivists who microfilmed the original manuscript documents placed stamped numbers in the upper right corner of the manuscript(s) included on each microfilmed frame. A frame may include one or more manuscript sides.

Note: DLAR Document Numbers appear at the left margin. Frame numbers appear in brackets at the right margin. Document numbers run from Volume to Volume through a complete Reel. Frame Numbers start over with each Volume.

- 229. August 20, 1780 [1]
Summary of letter No. 27 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 135] [see referenced enclosure in Reel 8 document 137]
- 230. September 18, 1780 [3]
Summary of letter No. 28 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 138] [see referenced enclosures in Reel 8 documents 139, 140]
- 231. September 18, 1780 [3]
Summary of letter No. 29 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 141]
- 232. September 18, 1780 [4]
Summary of letter No. 30 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 142]
- 233. September 18, 1780 [5]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 143]
- 234. September 18, 1780 [5]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 144]

235. September 18, 1780 [6]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 145]
236. September 22, 1780 [6]
Summary of letter No. 31 from Wright to [Germain] [see original letter in Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 146; this is the last document microfilmed in Reel 8, which is the last Reel of Secretary of State official incoming correspondence]
[Note: The remaining 29 summary documents in Reel 10 are not found elsewhere in these microfilmed papers as original, copy, or duplicate documents. They exist only as summaries, but summaries that for a number of years had actually been recorded as full transcriptions, so the letters are available to scholars, not as original documents, but as **contemporary transcriptions by Secretary of State office scriveners**. This Finding Aid contains entries of the contents of each of these documents.]
237. October 27, 1780 [7]
Summary of letter No. 32 from Wright to [Germain], reporting on the successful British attempt to regain control of Augusta as part of an ongoing effort "*to root out Rebellion in this Province*"; seeking all the help he can get to accomplish this [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
[Note: Following a pattern of British military successes in the South, including failure in October 1779 of an American/French siege to retake Savannah, and British occupation of Charleston in May 1780, Augusta fell to British control in September 1780. In June 1781, the British were ousted from Augusta for a final time, leaving the Georgia interior after than in American control.]
238. December 1, 1780 [8]
Summary of letter No. 33 from Wright to [Germain], reporting that 400 Negroes (about one quarter of all male Negroes in Savannah) are working on redoubts, batteries, parapets, and other fortifications at Savannah; expecting the work to be completed in January; stating that this has been a hardship for the colonial population, who themselves rely on the work of these slaves; enclosing an address from the Georgia Council, along with several new laws deemed "*necessary in these yet very perilous Times*", including a law giving Wright the authority to call up Negroes to defend Savannah with the militia, but "*only in time of Alarms actually fixed*" [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
239. December 20, 1780 [8]
Summary of letter No. 34 from Wright to [Germain], expressing satisfaction that Germain has supported him in his negative views on Clinton's proclamation of amnesty [issued during his siege of Charleston, which he had subsequently won in May 1780, and that Wright's position had since been vindicated; updating

news on other matters, including the status of deserted estates and the property of "*notorious Rebels*" [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]

240. January 23, 1781 [10]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain]; stating that he will comply with new instructions about letters of marque and reprisal, but complaining that the Admiralty has not yet authorized issuing such letters [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
241. January 23, 1781 [11]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain], acknowledging receipt of instructions for payment of maintenance of prisoners of war; stating that Georgia has "*hitherto*" not had any prisoners of war but would comply if it did capture any [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
242. January 23, 1781 [11]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain], acknowledging receipt of a King's speech to Parliament and addresses of each house to the King; expressing undiminished loyalty to the King and to Britain; stating that "*I have not the least Doubt but she will still rise Superior to all her Enemies*" [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
243. January 23, 1781 [11]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain], acknowledging with happiness news that the Queen had given birth to a new prince [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
244. January 25, 1781 [12]
Summary of letter No. 36 from Wright to [Germain], reporting on the pleasure of British military successes in South Carolina under General Cornwallis and Tarleton [see Reel 8 document 142 and note following], but feeling that South Carolina is by no means yet secure in British control, and remaining pessimistic that the Navy will protect South Carolina and Georgia successfully; reporting that the Georgia Assembly has approved a bill granting to the King certain duties for the benefit of the Empire [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
245. December 21, 1780 [13]
Summary of letter No. 35 from Wright to [Germain], requesting leave of absence from the government of Georgia to return to England "*as Circumstances may happen or appear in the Course of next summer, and to remain there for such*

time as His Majesty in His great Wisdom may think proper. Possibly my Lord I might be useful for a While" [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]

246. February 25, 1781 [13]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain], responding to an inquiry about how to help Lady Huntingdon with her orphan house; stating that he thought [George] Baillie had been given charge [over its protection and management] by Colonel [Archibald] Campbell, but that more recently some power had been given to [perhaps Josiah] Tattnall and [?] Hall "*who have now the Management of it*"; recommending that these two men, who are "*(both very good Men)*" should be given full power of attorney "*to call M^r Baillie to an Account for his transactions &c in case he should refuse so to do*" [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
[Germain's "*separate*" letter to Wright on this subject, dated December 7, 1780, is found as a draft outgoing letter in the Secretary of State official incoming correspondence, Reel 8 document 136; a copy of this letter is also found in the Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5; for more on **Lady Huntingdon**, her orphan house, and those who were supposed to be protecting her interests in Georgia, see the note after Reel 8 document 136]
[**Note:** According to Germain's "*separate*" letter to Wright, Lady Huntingdon had been relying on **George Baillie** and a **Mr. Telfair** (perhaps either William or Edward) to manage her property, including an "*orphan house*" at Bethesda, near Savannah. Lady Huntingdon's initial request for assistance sought to get Baillie and Telfair to account to her for their management. In response, Wright instead suggested checking with alternative managers, a **Mr. Tattnall** and a **Mr. Hall**, about the status of the orphan house under Georgie Baillie's prior protection. Politically, neither pair of managers sounds very logical. George Baillie was a loyalist. William Telfair was a loyalist, but his brother Edward Telfair was a rebel leader. Which of these two was paired with George Baillie is not clear, if indeed either was. Wright's letter identifies only one prior property manager/protector, George Baillie.
The two subsequent property managers/protectors seem even more politically anomalous. The loyalist family of Josiah Tattnall had left Georgia for England in 1776. When a son, also Josiah Tattnall, returned to America late in the war, he chose to join the Continental Army under General Anthony Wayne. After the war, this Josiah Tattnall served as a Georgia State Representative and as a U.S. Senator. His son, a third Josiah Tattnall, grew up to be a high-ranking career officer in the U.S. Navy from the War of 1812 through the Civil War. The identity of Mr. Hall is even less clear. Dr. Lyman Hall is a prominent possibility, but he too supported the Revolution, serving in the Continental Congress, and signing the Declaration of Independence for Georgia (for more on Dr. Hall, see note after Reel 6 document 146.)]

247. March 5, 1781 [14]

Summary of letter No. 37 from Wright to [Germain], reporting that small parties of rebels from South Carolina have been making trouble in ceded territory near Augusta, including “*assassinating*” eleven people who had been loyalists; one of those targeted was [?] Moore, mayor of Augusta, who fortunately was only wounded slightly; this unrest in the back country has led to a petition from loyal inhabitants to both houses of the Georgia Assembly; repeating his request for a troop of horse to be assigned to Georgia’s interior to maintain peace; expressing apprehension for the safety of forts at Augusta, Sumter, Pickens, and Clarke [apparently frontier posts in the Georgia back country, not, for instance, Fort Sumter at Charleston or Fort Pickens at Pensacola]; fearing that, without the last-ditch assistance of a troop of horse, the remaining loyal inhabitants will leave the back country, opening it completely for rebel settlement [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers, nor are three mentioned enclosures found microfilmed here]

248. March 9, 1781 [17]
Summary of letter No. 38 from Wright to [Germain], commenting on the long distance of General Cornwallis and his army from Georgia and his inability, therefore, to protect Georgia; reporting having approved five bills, one granting to the King revenues from certain export duties; one taking additional steps to protect the colony against rebels; one addressing the problem of public bonds and mortgages which debtors have left unsatisfied; one dealing with “*relief of the People called Quakers*”, who have generally been loyalists and some of whom have been imprisoned and abused by the rebels; and one about erecting and repairing fortifications and other defense works [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
249. April 2, 1781 [19]
Summary of letter No. 39 from Wright to [Germain], informing Germain of the “*signal victory*” of the British [actually more a bloody, inconclusive battle] under General Cornwallis against General [Nathanael] Greene on March 15, 1781 at Guilford [Court House] in North Carolina; reporting on more violence in the back country perpetrated by rebels from South Carolina; reiterating his request for a troop of horse; reporting the threat to East Florida and Georgia of an approaching Spanish fleet of 38 vessels, but reporting that the fleet had departed [while tempting to think this fleet was on its way to join Comte de Grasse’s French fleet that helped seal the fate of Cornwallis’ army at Yorktown, Virginia, the timing is wrong, and during summer and fall 1781, de Grasse’s fleet apparently was all French with no significant Spanish involvement]; enclosing a letter dated April 2, 1781 from Cornwallis to Wright [not found in these microfilmed papers] [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
250. April 9, 1781 [20]
Summary of letter No. 40 from Wright to [Germain], sending copies of recently passed Georgia laws; acknowledging with thanks the King’s order to remit quit

rents in arrears for loyal inhabitants; again requesting a troop of horse to help protect these loyal inhabitants and other inhabitants of Georgia; enclosing an abstract of a memorial from Lewis Johnston, Treasurer of Georgia, to Wright, concerning the proper allocation of public monies [an extract from this letter is found in Board of Trade incoming correspondence, Reel 3 document 99; see also documents 98 and 100 for related information] [no full original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]

251. April 24, 1781 [21]
Summary of letter No. 41 from Wright to [Germain], reporting having received “alarming” intelligence of numerous armed rebels in parts of South Carolina and Georgia; pointing out the long distance of Cornwallis’ army from Georgia from the loyal inhabitants who are being treated in a “*shocking manner*” by the rebels; stating that his defensive forces are too weak to send a detachment into the interior; despairing that he can get no military protection; enclosing a letter to Cornwallis dated April 23, 1781 [not found in these microfilmed papers] [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
252. May 1, 1781 [22]
Summary of letter No. 42 from Wright to [Germain], stating that “*Things are by no means in that peaceable and secure State that Your Lordship supposes and expects, indeed I may say quite the reverse*”; expecting that both Augusta and Ninety-Six may be in danger of capture, with several hundred armed rebels in the area; stating that “*we have done all we could*” [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers] [Ninety-Six, or 96, was a British frontier post in upland South Carolina, a fair distance north of Augusta; for more on 96, see note after Reel 7 document 82]
253. May 1, 1781 [22]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain], acknowledging receipt of addresses by the King to each house of Parliament [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
254. May 1, 1781 [23]
Summary of [unnumbered] letter from Wright to [Germain], acknowledging receipt of orders allowing reprisals against vessels of the “*States General of the United Provinces*” and for the issue of letters of marque [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
255. May 5, 1781 [23]
Summary of letter No. 43 from Wright to [Germain], agreeing that General Cornwallis’ victories in North Carolina have been “*rapid*” and reveal a real advantage of the British over the American forces; but expressing less certainty about the location of Cornwallis’ army, so far away from Georgia; warning that the rebellion is far from quelled in South Carolina, and that Georgia’s interior is

sparsely settled and not at all peaceful and secure for the British settlers; enumerating estimates of armed rebel groups in the Augusta area; stating that the Assembly is now cooperating with needed legislation, but that this will not substitute for troops; despite his pessimism, stating that his sentiments and efforts continue to be those of a determined and committed loyalist to the King [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]

256. May 25, 1781 [24]
Summary of letter No. 44 from Wright to [Germain], reporting that Augusta has been lost to the rebels [the British officially capitulated on June 5, 1781, but apparently the end was visible earlier], despite the greatest of efforts to retain control over it; reporting having captured a rebel vessel with a load of lumber headed for the West Indies; apologizing for reporting so many disagreeable facts [with an enclosure, not found in these microfilmed papers] [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
257. May 30, 1781 [25]
Summary of letter No. 45 from Wright to [Germain], reporting that Fort Galphin [located at Silver Bluff, 12 miles down the Savannah River toward Savannah from Augusta; built in 1760 by the British and named for the owner of the property; by 1779 Galphin had sided with the rebels, so the British changed the name to Fort Dreadnaught; Wright, however, used its earlier, more familiar name], where "*Provisions, Stores, Indian Goods &c &c were deposited*", had surrendered to rebels on May 21, 1781 and reports suggested that [Colonel Thomas] Brown, British militia commander in Augusta, was in danger of losing it too; guessing that the number of armed rebels was between 1,000 and 1,500 [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
258. June 12, 1781 [26]
Summary of letter No. 46 from Wright to [Germain], reporting that Colonel [Elijah] Clarke [British commander at Savannah] had arrived with troops from St. Augustine to attempt to relieve Augusta, but that word had been received that Brown had been forced to capitulate after Colonel [Sir James Moncrief] Grierson [an Augusta loyalist, who commanded a redoubt at Augusta called Fort Grierson] was killed and Brown's soldiers laid down their arms; sharing good news that the "*Corke Fleet*" had arrived and hoping that it will "*once more rescue these Provinces from the Hands of the Rebels*" [on the fleet from Cork, Ireland, see copy of Germain's April 4, 1781 letter No. 13 to Wright in Secretary of State outgoing correspondence, in Reel 9 document 5] [with two enclosures, not microfilmed here] [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
259. June 14, 1781 [26]

Summary of letter No. 47 from Wright to [Germain], enclosing memorial from him to Treasury and an estimate of expenses for troops in Savannah; hoping for approval of both [neither enclosure is microfilmed here] [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]

260. June 14, 1781 [26]
Summary of letter No. 48 from Wright to [Germain], reporting on the severity of need to purchase provisions “*for the Refugees of Militia on Duty*”; reporting that the rebels control all territory between Ebenezer and Augusta [Ebenezer was located about 25 miles north of Savannah on the river; for more on the location, see note after Reel 3 document 59]; reporting that bands of rebels are now mounted on horses; giving details of provisions needed by both inhabitants and militia; stating that “*We cannot go on. The People are ruined & can pay no taxes. In short My Lord, Our prospect is wretched, and if we are not relieved in a few days, so that the People may return home and see what may be left, or they can save or pick up, a famine will ensue. The Causes of all this Distress and Misery are most evident, but I shall say no more, but pray God grant us Peace*”
[Note: No original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers. Also, no official letters No. 49 to No. 55 written by Wright to Germain between June 14 and December 18, 1781 are found in these microfilmed papers, as originals, copies, duplicates, or summaries. Note also that the microfilmed Secretary of State official incoming correspondence ends even earlier with a document dated September 22, 1780 (the last document in Reel 8). The latest date in the summary letterbooks in Reel 10 is a document dated December 31, 1781 (although document 264 with “no date” might be dated to early in 1782). Thus documentation is lacking in these microfilmed papers of the colony’s official correspondence for more than six months before the official demise of the colony. Why the collection of official correspondence appears to have ended in September 1780 but the transcription of this correspondence into a letterbook continued until the end of 1781, and then ended, is not clear.]
[Note: This six-month gap comes during what appears to be a time of prolonged and extreme “*Danger & Distress*”, as Wright puts it in his next microfilmed letter No. 56 (document 261). During the gap in correspondence, General Cornwallis’ army in Virginia was besieged at Yorktown and surrendered on October 19, 1781. This must have confirmed Wright’s worst fears (see document 261). The lack of British military protection for Savannah soon became evident as General “Mad” Anthony Wayne left Virginia at the head of an American force of about 500 troops. Their orders were to subdue Savannah and end British rule in Georgia. This army arrived in Georgia in January 1782 and soon occupied Ebenezer. The 1,000 British troops in Savannah slowed Wayne down, but, with friendly intelligence assistance from some Creek Indians, while other Creeks were fighting with the British, Wayne began to wear down the British defenses in what amounted to a siege. By June 1782, British resistance had become so weak that the British troops and colonial government sought refuge in Charleston, while the British loyalist militia, along with many Georgia loyalist inhabitants, headed for St. Augustine, with American forces close behind. The

small-scale hostilities in Georgia at this time were among the last military actions of the Revolutionary War.

As of July 11, 1782, the British colony of Georgia ceased officially to exist, presumably by act of Governor James Wright, perhaps at Charleston before he and many other loyalists departed for England. Wright himself was in England by early September 1782. British East Florida did not hold out much longer but was evacuated in more orderly fashion after the 1783 peace treaty was signed.

None of this history is documented in the British colonial official correspondence. After document 261, summary of Wright's Letter No. 56 dated December 18, 1781, which essentially predicts the demise of the British Colony of Georgia, the four remaining summary documents in the letterbook record more immediate and local concerns. By comparison with the previous distraught correspondence, reflecting imperial disintegration in Georgia, these last four summary documents of official correspondence record fairly mundane matters of financial accounting and appointments.

Additional microfilmed documents in the Secretary of State "other" (as opposed to "official") correspondence with dates between May 4, 1782 and February 8, 1785 (including a few enclosed documents dated as far back as January 1779) are found in Reel 5, Volume 657, documents 249 and 256 to 275. These record a number of post-colonial efforts in England to address claims of loyalists to the British government for their losses and to settle the financial affairs of certain former Georgia inhabitants.]

261. December 18, 1781 [27]
Summary of letter No. 56 from Wright to [Germain]; reporting that British Colonial Georgia is still (or again) in great "*Danger and Distress*" from a "*formidable force*" of rebels, including armies under Generals St. Clair, Wayne, and Greene approaching, plus word that the Marquis de Lafayette is also on his way and that a direct attack may be planned on Savannah; reporting also intelligence that Creek Indians have intercepted letters telling General Greene to prepare to coordinate an attack with Spanish forces that now control Pensacola, and that this attack is part of a planned effort [which did not occur as planned] to subdue East Florida, Georgia, and Charleston in South Carolina; concluding that all these pieces of bad news are the "*Consequences of not protecting and holding these two Provinces*"; stating that he had predicted this result "*from the moment Lord Cornwallis went into Virginia*"; exclaiming that "*God knows what will become of us; but without immediate Assistance, I think we shall not be able to stand it; and if we fall, I much fear that St. Augustine & Charles town will soon follow*" [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
262. December 18, 1781 [28]
Summary of letter No. 57 from Wright to [Germain], enclosing a copy of his account of £5,000 of expenses between January 24 and November 5, 1781 "*which I trust will be approved of*"; also enclosing accounts for supporting the "*Troops of Horse, Refugees, Militia &c, which I also trust will be approved of*"

[this is Wright's last microfilmed, official, numbered letter as Governor of Georgia to Germain, written at Savannah] [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]

263. December 31, 1781 [28]
Summary of letter from the Georgia Council to [Germain], signed by seven individuals, members of the Council, recommending that Lieutenant Governor John Graham be appointed to succeed [Alexander] Cameron, who had recently died, as Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Western Division of the Southern District; including justification for the recommendation; signed by Anthony Stokes, Lewis Johnston, Josiah Tattnall (see note after Reel 7 document 221 and note after document 246 above), Martin Jollie, [James] Robertson, James Simpson and James Wright [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]
264. [no date] [received by Secretary of State office March 8, [1782] [30]
Summary of "*separate*" letter from Wright to [Germain] requesting that Georgia Lieutenant Governor [John] Graham be appointed Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Western District, replacing [Alexander] Cameron, who had recently died [with enclosed letter from the Georgia Council, document 263] [see the next-day response of "the King" approving the appointment, in Secretary of State official outgoing correspondence, Reel 9 document 5, dated March 9, 1782]
265. December 15, 1781 [30]
Summary of letter from Lieutenant Governor John Graham to [Germain], requesting consideration again to become a Superintendent of Indian Affairs, having been passed over once before, when John Stuart had died [in 1779] [no original, copy, or duplicate letter of this summary letter is found in these microfilmed papers]

*****End of Reel 10 and of the Finding Aid*****