

Thomas Jefferson letterMSS.86.7

Thomas Jefferson letter

1793-01-11



SCHOOL *of* LAW

Title Statement

Thomas Jefferson letterMSS.86.7

Publication Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MSS.86.7

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

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Unit ID

/repositories/4/resources/671

Unit Date

1793-01-11

Language

English

Creator

Jefferson, Thomas, 1743-1826

Creator

Fenner, Arthur, 1745-1805

Extent

1 letters

Repository

Arthur J. Morris Law Library Special Collections

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

This letter from Thomas Jefferson to the governor of Rhode Island, Arthur Fenner, was found in a folder in November 2011. It was given to Larry Wenger, then director of the Law Library, by Tom Weil sometime in 1986. (See: Larry Wenger to Marsha Trimble memorandum of Aug. 6, 1986). There is no other document referring to the provenance of the letter.

Biographical / Historical

On December 31, 1792, President George Washington signed into law "An Act Concerning the Registering and Recording of Ships or Vessels" that outlined the process and criteria for registering ships and vessels as those of the United States. After March 31, 1793, only those vessels registered according to this Act or its predecessor (with fishing and coasting vessels excepted) would be entitled to the benefits of trading as ships of the United States. On January 11, 1793, Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson sent out authenticated copies of the Act enclosed in a circular letter, including in this letter to Rhode Island governor Arthur Fenner.

Keywords

Ships -- Registration and transfer -- United States

Circular letters

Description of Subordinate Components

Thomas Jefferson Circular Letter to the Governor of Rhode Island, 11 January 1793

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/75444

Unit Date 11 January 1793

Mixed Materials MSS 86-7 (box)