



Record Group: Legislature
Series: Inventories of Damages by the British and Americans in New Jersey, 1776-1782
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Legislative History

In order to enable the state legislature to devise a means for relief of New Jersey citizens who had suffered personal damages during the Revolutionary War, the Council and General Assembly passed an act on 20 December 1781 to procure an estimate of damages done in the state by the British troops or their adherents, by the Continental Army, or by the militia of New Jersey or of neighboring states (Chap. V, Laws of 1781, p. 6). The act authorized appraisers in each county to make inventories for each damage claim, and required them to file these inventories with the legislature at their first sitting after each annual election.

An amendment to the act, dated 27 December, stipulated that the appraisers were to meet beginning in August 1782. The inventories, however, are dated as late as 1786; and the appraisers recorded in most of the volumes are not those appointed in 1781. Finally, it should be noted that there are no inventories on file for Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Monmouth, Salem, or Sussex counties.

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& Acct. of James Whitall, Red Bank, 1779

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