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## Collection Summary

**Repository:** Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries

**Creator:** Livingston, Margaret Lewis, 1780-1860

**Title:** Margaret Lewis Livingston Papers

**Dates:** 1826-1842

**Quantity:** 0.2 cubic feet (1 box)

The collection contains 70 letters from Margaret Lewis Livingston to her second-eldest daughter, Gertrude "Gitty" Livingston Lowndes,

**Abstract:** which document her life as a wealthy wife and mother who split her time between New York City and her Hudson Valley estate in Staatsburgh, NY.

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## Biographical Note

Margaret (Lewis) Livingston (1780-1860) was born in Hyde Park, New York to Geraldine Livingston and Gen. Morgan Lewis. She married Maturin Livingston (1769-1847) around 1798 and the two had twelve children. Her second-eldest daughter, Gertrude "Gitty" Laura Livingston (1805-1883), married Rawlins Lowndes (1801-1877), a businessman from Charleston, South Carolina.

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## Scope and Content Note

The collection contains 70 letters from Margaret Lewis Livingston to her second-eldest daughter, Gertrude "Gitty" Livingston Lowndes, which document her life as a wealthy wife and mother who split her time between New York City and her Hudson Valley estate in Staatsburgh, NY.

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## Arrangement

The collection is arranged chronologically.[Top](#)

## Access and Use

### Access

This collection is open for research according to the [regulations of the Vassar College Archives and Special Collections Library](#) without any additional restrictions.

### Restrictions on Use

Permission to quote (publish) from unpublished or previously published material must be obtained as described in the [regulations of the Vassar College Archives and Special Collections Library](#).

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## Related Material

### Related Materials

- [Mother to Daughter: Letters of Margaret Lewis Livingston to her daughter, Gitty Livingston Lowndes](#) by Mary Mistler (2020), is a transcribed and annotated collection of the letters in the Margaret Lewis Livingston Papers.

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## Subject Headings

### Names:

- Livingston Family
- Lowndes, Gertrude Livingston, 1805-1883

### Subjects:

- Family--New York (State)
- Women--Social conditions

### Places:

- New York (N.Y.)--Social life and customs

### Document Types:

- Correspondence

### VCL Categories:

- Family
- Local History

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## Encoding Information

Encoded by Emma Gronbeck, February 2026.

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

Margaret Lewis Livingston Papers, Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries.

### Processing Information

Original processing date unknown. The letters in this collection were formerly part of the [Autograph Files](#) collection, but were separated and re-processed as their own collection by Emma Gronbeck, February 2026.

### Acquisition Information

Gift of Lydig Hoyt and Geraldine (Morgan) Thompson, great-great-grandchildren of Margaret Lewis Livingston, June 1951.

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## Container List

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Folder 1  | List of letters from Margaret Lewis Livingston to Gertrude "Gitty" Livingston Lowndes, 1951 Jun |
| Folder 2  | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1826 Dec - 1827 Feb [3 letters]           |
| Folder 3  | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1834 Jan-Dec [11 letters]                 |
| Folder 4  | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1835 Jan [2 letters]                      |
| Folder 5  | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1837 Jan-Apr [8 letters]                  |
| Folder 6  | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1838 Jan-May [14 letters]                 |
| Folder 7  | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1838 Jun-Dec [11 letters]                 |
| Folder 8  | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1840 Jan-Dec [11 letters]                 |
| Folder 9  | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1841 Jan-Mar [6 letters]                  |
| Folder 10 | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1842 Dec 16 [1 letter]                    |
| Folder 11 | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, undated [3 letters]                       |
| Folder 12 | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1826 Dec - 1837 May [transcripts]         |
| Folder 13 | Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1838 Jan-Dec [transcripts]                |

Folder 14 Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, 1840 Jan - 1842 Dec [transcripts]

Folder 15 Letters from Margaret Livingston to Gertrude Lowndes, undated [transcripts]

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