

Guide to the Robert E. Upson Family Papers

MS 1578



compiled by Diane E. Kaplan

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Table of Contents

Collection Overview 3
Requesting Instructions 3
Administrative Information 3
 Immediate Source of Acquisition 3
 Conditions Governing Access 4
 Conditions Governing Use 4
 Preferred Citation 4
Biographical / Historical 4
Scope and Contents 4
Collection Contents 5
Appendix 6
Selected Search Terms 7

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 1578

CREATOR: Upson family

TITLE: Robert E. Upson family papers

DATES: 1816-1989

BULK DATES: 1816-1882

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.75 linear feet (3 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers consist of correspondence and business, legal, and financial papers which document the life of Ashahel Upson, a farmer and tinsmith in Southington, Connecticut. The papers also trace the settlement and business ventures of Upson's nine sons in Alabama, Kansas, California, and Montana.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1578>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1578>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

- b. box
- f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Helen R. Upson, 1989.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Robert E. Upson Family Papers (MS 1578). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

For a chart outlining the genealogical relations of the Upson family, please consult the [Genealogical Chart](#).

Scope and Contents

The Robert E. Upson Papers consist of correspondence and business, legal, and financial papers, which document the lives of Ashahel Upson and his nine sons. The elder Upson owned a farm and tin shop in Southington, Connecticut. The papers include accounts of the farm and shop as well as the sale of tin goods by members of the Langdon family. Through correspondence and financial records, the papers trace the careers of the Upson children, several of whom settled in the South and California. The papers also record business ventures by family members in Kansas and Montana. *The Odyssey of a Connecticut Family in Pursuit of the American Dream*, a history of the Upson family, is also included in the papers. Helen Rena Upson, the author of this study, donated the papers to the Manuscripts and Archives Department in 1989; the papers are named in honor of her father.

Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1-4	Correspondence	1820s, 1840s, 1850s, 1860s
Business, legal and financial papers		
b. 1, f. 5	Account book of Levi Langdon	1816-1835
b. 1, f. 6	Account book of Perry Langdon	1823-1850
b. 2, f. 7	Account book of the Perry Langdon store	1830s-1860s
b. 3, f. 8	Account book of Asahel Upson	1826-1841, 1877
b. 3, f. 9	Account book of James Upson	1854-1882
b. 3, f. 10	Upson & Company, El Dorado County, California	1852-1858
b. 3, f. 11	Bradley Manufacturing & Trading Company, Marion, Connecticut	1854
b. 3, f. 12	Suit of Chester Case and Samuel Wilson v. Lauren and James R. Upson in Litchfield Superior Court	1855
b. 3, f. 13	Quindaro, Kansas property	1857-1858
b. 3, f. 14-18	Montana business	1865-1868
b. 3, f. 19	Estate of Gad Upson	1868-1869
b. 3, f. 20	Sermon by Josiah Upson	1850
b. 3, f. 21	<i>The Odyssey of a Connecticut Family in Pursuit of the American Dream</i> , by Helen Rena Upson	1989

Appendix

Robert E. Upson Family

Asahel Upson (1783-1867) m. (1806) Lydia Webster
Asahel Lauren (1807-1885) m. Selina Chatfield
Asahel Warren (1807-1835)
Asahel James Robert (1809-1877) m. (1859) Mary Jones
Asahel DeWitt (1812-1879) m. Harriet Smith
Asahel Edwin (b.1814) m. Priscilla Maxwell (d. 1855)
Asahel Augustus (b. 1816) m. (1849) Dorinda Weeks (d. 1854)
Asahel Augustus (b. 1816) m. (1860) Maria A. Gray
Asahel Josiah (1818-1856) m. Dolly
Asahel Charles (1821-1885) m. (1852) Sophia Upham
Asahel Gad Ely (1823-1866) m. Lucy Langdon (b.1833)

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Families
Merchants
Tin industry -- Connecticut

Geographic Names

Alabama -- Commerce
California -- Commerce
Connecticut -- Commerce
Montana -- Commerce
Southington (Conn.)

Genres / Formats

Account books

Names

Upson, James R.

Families

Langston family
Upson family