

Guide to the William H. Abbott Papers, 1857-1893

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

William H. Abbott Papers, 1857-1893

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society

30 Park Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-228-6688

<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

1986.042

Author of Finding Aid:

Unidentified; rewritten and reformatted by Sandra L. Wheeler

Creator:

Abbott, William H., circa 1837-1896

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

2 boxes ; 0.83 linear feet

Abstract:

This collection is comprised of the diaries and personal accounts of William H. Abbott, a cabinetmaker, which he kept in yearly volumes of standard pocket diaries from 1857 to 1893. They include information such as weather, travel, hours worked each day, who he saw, letters written, and jobs accomplished.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

New Hampshire Historical Society collection.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date. The finding aid was written by an unidentified person at an unknown date, and rewritten and formatted by Sandra L. Wheeler in November 2015. This finding aid follows the standards set forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, William H. Abbott Papers, 1986.042. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information

William H. Abbott was a cabinetmaker in Fisherville (now Penacook), New Hampshire, though he told the 1880 census enumerator that his business was "shipping carriages." He was born about 1837 in Massachusetts to Jacob and Harriet Abbott. He had a sister, Ami M. Dunklee (Mrs. G. W.), and a relative, perhaps a brother, Jacob Abbott, in Nashua, NH.

William H. Abbott married Adaline (Addie) Connor, daughter of Asa and Esther (Farington) Conner, born in Boscawen on January 10, 1838. They had one child, Alice, born February 9, 1867 in Concord. William died at Concord on August 21, 1896; Addie died there on April 1, 1904.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The William H. Abbott Papers, 1857-1893, primarily contain the diaries and accounts of William H. Abbott, a cabinet maker in Fisherville, NH. Diary and personal account entries were kept

intermixed in yearly volumes of standard pocket diaries. Entries include weather, travel, hours worked each day, who he saw, letters written, and jobs accomplished. For example: Wednesday, April 30th, 1860, “finished a job of 50 four dr bureaus.” Also included are also receipts for groceries, milk, lumber, and city water. Other materials in this collection include correspondence, bills and receipts, newspaper clippings, advertisements, a volume of names of members of the Baker Memorial M.E. Church and Congregation, and the bylaws of the Kearsarge Savings Bank and the Horace Chase Lodge, No. 72.

Arrangement:

The collection has been divided into series by genre and then arranged chronologically within each series.

Series A. Diaries/accounts, 1860-1890, undated

Series B. Correspondence, 1857-1893

Series C. Bills and receipts, 1863-1890

Series D. Printed materials, undated

Series E. Miscellaneous, 1874-1890

Contents List

Box 1

Folder 0 Inventory

Series A. Diaries/accounts, 1860-1890, undated

Extent: 28 folders

Scope and Content: Series A consists of the diaries, account books, and time books of William H. Abbott, dating from 1860 to 1890, with one undated volume. The diaries include daily entries on the weather, personal visitors and visitors to town, the hours he worked, and some references to his work in cabinetmaking.

- Envelope 1 Diary and account book, 1860
- Envelope 2 Diary and account book, 1863
- Envelope 3 Diary and account book, 1864
- Envelope 4 Diary and account book, 1865
- Envelope 5 Account book, 1866
- Folder 6 Diary and account book, 1866-1867
- Envelope 7 Account book, 1867-1868
- Envelope 8 Diary and account book, 1871
- Envelope 9 Diary and account book, 1873
- Envelope 10 Diary and account book, 1874
- Envelope 11 Diary and account book, 1875
- Envelope 12 Diary and account book, 1876
- Envelope 13 Diary and account book, 1877
- Envelope 14 Diary and account book, 1878
- Envelope 15 Diary and account book, 1878-1879

Box 2

Envelope 1 Diary, 1880

- Envelope 2 Account books, 1879 November and December-1882
- Envelope 3 Diary and account book, 1883-1884
- Envelope 4 Account books, 1883-1886
- Envelope 5 Diary and account books, 1884 August-1885
- Envelope 6 Diary, 1885 November-1887 December
- Envelope 7 Account book, 1886-1887
- Envelope 8 Account book, 1887-1888
- Envelope 9 Diary, 1888 January-1890 June
- Envelope 10 Account books, 1888-1890
- Envelope 11 Workmen's Time Book, 1883-1886
- Envelope 12 Workmen's Time Book, 1886-1889
- Envelope 13 Account book, undated

Series B. Correspondence, 1857-1893

Extent: 3 folders

Scope and Content: This series contains correspondence from 1857 to 1893. The letters cover a number of topics including a house and land for sale; family correspondence with daily updates; life insurance correspondence and receipts; and a few Civil War letters from Hilton Head and Beaufort, SC, and St. Augustine, FL. Also included is a letter from Nehemiah G. Ordway at the U.S. House of Representatives discussing updates on his farm and a meeting notice for the Horace Chase Lodge, No. 72.

- Folder 14 Correspondence, 1857-1865
- Folder 15 Correspondence, 1866-1893
- Folder 15A Life Insurance correspondence and receipts, 1866-1893

Series C. Bills and receipts, 1863-1890

Extent: 5 folders

Scope and Content: This series contains the daily bills and receipts of William H. Abbott from 1863 to 1890. Includes receipts from such businesses as the M. Harris Woolen Co., the Abbot-Downing Company, the City Water Works, E. B. Hutchinson, Concord city taxes, and George B. Whittredge.

- Envelope 16 Bills and receipts, 1863-1874
- Envelope 17 Bills and receipts, 1875-1877
- Envelope 18 Bills and receipts, 1878
- Envelope 19 Bills and receipts, 1883-1886
- Envelope 20 Bills and receipts, 1887-1890

Series D. Printed materials, undated

Extent: 1 folder

Scope and Content: This series contains a variety of newspaper clippings and advertisements, all undated. Includes such writings as "Tribute to Woman" by F.R., "The Mystery of Nature" by Theodore Tilton, "The Art of Making Money Plenty in Every Man's Pocket" by Doctor Franklin, and "Vincit Veritas" by U.T. Holmes.

- Folder 21 Miscellaneous news clippings and advertisements, undated

Series E. Miscellaneous, 1874-1890

Extent: 1 folder

Scope and Content: This series contains one folder of miscellaneous materials, including an account book for the Spring Street House, a volume of names of members of the Baker Memorial M.E. Church and Congregation, a journal, lists, poetry, a recipe for Hop Bitters, printed forms, and by-laws of the Kearsarge Savings Bank and the Horace Chase Lodge, No. 72.
Folder 22 Miscellaneous, 1874-1890

Subject Terms

People:

Abbott, Adaline Connor, 1837-1904
Abbott, Jacob
Abbott, William H., circa 1837-1896
Connor family
Dunklee, Ami Abbott
Ordway, Nehemiah G. (Nehemiah George), 1828-1907
Rogers, H. E.

Organizations:

Horace Chase Lodge, No. 72
Kearsarge Savings Bank

Subjects:

Account books
Accounts
Correspondence
Diaries
Formulas, recipes, etc.
Freemasons
Insurance
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865

Locations:

Fisherville, NH
Penacook, NH

Occupations:

Cabinetmakers