



Guide to the Aquila Davis Papers, 1814-1846, 1874, 1883-1889

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Aquila Davis Papers, 1814-1846, 1874, 1883-1889

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society
30 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-6688
<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

1994.004

Author of Finding Aid:

Unidentified; reformatted by Korrena Cowing and updated by Mylynda Gill

Creator:

Davis, Aquila, 1760-1835

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 box ; 0.21 linear feet

Abstract:

The Aquila Davis Papers consist of correspondence mainly to Aquila Davis dated from 1814 to 1889. Davis was a soldier, mill-owner, lumberman, and one of the original settlers of Warner, NH, often representing the town in legislature. The last folder of this collection is primarily correspondence to and from his family members after his death.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Aquila Davis Papers were a gift of Margaret Davis on August 22, 1989. The collection was transferred from the museum on March 21, 1994.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date. The finding aid was written by an unknown person at an unknown date, reformatted by Korrena Cowing in May 2020, and updated by Mylynda Gill in January 2023. 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 material 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, Aquila Davis Papers, 1994.004. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.
Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:

Aquila Davis was born on June 27, 1760 in Amesbury, MA, to Francis (1723-1784) and Elizabeth (Farrin) Davis (1724-1793). His family moved to Warner, NH, when he was six years old. He married Abigail Stevens (1766-1862) on August 10, 1785. They would go on to have ten children that would live to adulthood: Paine (1786-1832), Sarah A. (1788-1856), Abigail W. (1790-1869), Theodore S. (1792-1835), Nathaniel A. (1794-1866), Persis H. (1796-1841), Nathan (1799-1841), Charles (1803-1882), Aquila A. (1806-1866), and James (1809-1842).

Aquila Davis was a mill-owner, lumberman, and one of the original settlers of Warner, often representing the town in legislature. He was also listed as one of the officers of the Warner Lodge No.35, which was a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons that was around for approximately thirty years before it was destroyed in a fire.

Davis served in the Revolutionary War as a private with the 3rd New Hampshire Regiment, Continental Army from 1777 to 1781. He commanded the 30th State Militia Regiment from 1799 to 1807 and was appointed as Brigadier-General of the 4th Brigade from 1807-1809. In 1812, he raised the 1st Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers and was chosen and commissioned as Colonel for this Infantry of Volunteers by President James Madison on January 13, 1813. However, a few days later, Congress repealed the law for raising volunteers so most of the 1st Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers were then transferred to the 45th Regiment of U.S. Infantry. It was for this regiment that Aquila Davis was then appointed as Lieutenant Colonel, serving until 1815.

Aquila Davis died on February 27, 1835 while traveling in Maine. He was buried with Masonic honors in Davisville, a community within Warner named for his father, on March 3, 1835.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Aquila Davis Papers consist of correspondence that covers subjects such as the military, land purchases, timber for masts, personal finances, a sawmill, and land in Maine, primarily in Foxcroft. Most of the correspondence is to Aquila Davis. However, there are also letters to and from his family members that were exchanged after his death. The correspondence in this collection dates from 1814 to 1889.

Arrangement:

This collection is arranged in chronological order.

Contents List

Box 1

Folder 0	Register
Folder 1	Correspondence, 1814-1820
Folder 2	Correspondence, 1822-1826
Folder 3	Correspondence, 1827-1834
Folder 4	Correspondence, 1835-1889

Subject Terms

People:

- Ambrose, Stephen
- Appleton, John
- Baker, Marshal
- Bartlett, Richard, 1794-1837
- Bradbury, John
- Call, Royal
- Cofran, John
- Davis, Alice J. Whittier, 1857-1895
- Davis, Aquila, 1760-1835
- Davis, Betsy, 1788-1850
- Davis, Henry Chase, 1850-1932

Davis, Henry F., 1809-1861
Davis, James S., 1809-1842
Davis, Nathaniel A., 1794-1866
Eliot, Samuel
Evans, Benjamin
Gower, James H.
Greeley, John
Morrill, David Lawrence, 1772-1849
Nesmith, George W., 1800-1890

Organizations:

New Hampshire. Militia

Subjects:

Bounties, Military
Finance, Personal
Lumber
Sawmills
Timber
United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783
United States--History--War of 1812

Locations:

Foxcroft, ME
New Orleans, LA
Warner, NH

Occupations:

Businessman
Lumberman
Politicians
Soldiers

Related Materials

Museum

Flask, 1908.006.01
Canteen, 1908.006.14
Cape, 1989.035.01
Machine, Fluting, 1908.006.16
Sugar Bowl, 1908.006.12 a-b
Pitcher, 1927.022