

MSA 83

Hoyt Family Papers, 1775-1868

Scope & Content

The papers consist of letters and miscellaneous documents which were written by or belonged to Noah⁵ Hoyt/Hoit (1759-1811), his son Noah⁶ Hoyt (1788-?), and their families of Castleton, Vermont. The earliest document in the collection is a 1775 survey bill for a parcel of land in Castleton. Most of the deeds in the collection date from 1818-1868 – the period of Noah⁶. The bulk of the letters in this collection are from the period 1811-1856 and are by or to the family of Noah⁶ and Hannah Hoyt. The papers occupy .25 linear feet of shelf space (one narrow flip-top archival box).

The papers were given to the Vermont Historical Society by Mr. Edward A. Hoyt, a grandson of Albert Moore Hoyt and son of Edward Hoyt (ms. acc. no. 93.1). Mr. Hoyt assisted with the genealogy information in this finding aid.

Genealogy

Noah⁵ Hoyt was a brother of Nehemiah Hoyt, one of the original settlers of Castleton. Noah⁵ moved to Castleton in 1784 where he was a farmer, a constable and land speculator. He married Sarah Moulton (1757-1857) on June 23, 1782. Their children were Calvin (1785-?), Noah⁶ (1788-?), Sarah (1790-?), and Moore (1796-?).

Noah⁶ who married Hannah Wood in 1816, farmed in Castleton and was a captain in the Vermont militia. Their children were: Delia (1818-?), Sarah (1820-?), and twins Albert Moore (1824-?) and Rollin (1824-?).

The Hoyt house, located on North Street in Castleton, is no longer in the Hoyt family. Mr. Hoyt's aunt, Mabel D. Hoyt (Mrs. John H.), was the last family member to live in the house.

Related Collections

A photograph (c. 1940) of the Hoyt house is in the VHS photograph collection (F-TO-Castleton). Photographs of portraits of Noah⁶ and Hannah Wood Hoyt and their daughter Delia are in the VHS photograph collection (F-PO-Hoyt).

Organization of the Papers

The papers are organized in four series:

- I. Genealogy and background materials
- II. Noah⁵ Hoyt (1759-1811) – Miscellaneous papers
- III. Noah⁶ Hoyt (1788-?) – Letters, deeds, and miscellaneous papers
- IV. Miscellaneous

I. Genealogy and background materials

Genealogical materials (MSA 83, Folder 1) include photocopies from David W. Hoyt's *A Genealogical History of the Hoyt, Haight, and Hight Families* (1984 reprint of 1871 ed.) (VHS 929.2/H854/1984) and a handwritten (1812) family record for Captain Noah⁵ and Sarah Hoyt.

A 1940 map and Castleton Colonial Day program photograph show the location of the Hoyt house and how the dining room looked at that time.

II. Noah⁵ Hoyt, 1759-1811

Miscellaneous papers (MSA 83, Folder 2) include public papers Noah⁵ Hoyt would have kept in his office as a constable such as receipts for taxes, records of land transactions, and a 1775 survey bill. Papers of a more personal nature include his orders as a Brigade Captain in the Vermont militia (1793), his will (1810), and other papers related to his estate.

The deeds in the collection, 1786-1795, concern transactions in which Noah⁵ Hoyt was involved (MSA 83, Folder 3).

III. Noah⁶ Hoyt (1788-?) and his family

The earliest letter in this series is one written to Hannah Wood Hoyt by a friend prior to her marriage (1811). Later letters were written to her by her sister and brother in Connecticut. (MSA 83, Folder 4)

There are a number of letters to Delia, daughter of Noah⁶ and Hannah Hoyt who lived in Castleton as well as her letters to her sister Sarah. (Folders 5 & 6)

E. Moore Hoyt, Noah's⁶ nephew, wrote a series of letters to his cousin Delia, as well as a letter (1861) to his uncle, in which he describes the discovery of oil in West Virginia. (MSA 83, Folder 8)

Miscellaneous letters to Noah⁶, 1817-1856, include several from friends as well as one from his brother, Moore, after the death of their mother.

Deeds in the collection span the period of 1818-1868 (MSA 83, Folder 10-12).

IV. Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous papers in MSA 83 (Folder 14) include an unidentified letter, a hand-writtten poem, and a program from a "family meeting" in New Haven, Conn., March 25, 1852.

Inventory

MSA 83

I. Genealogy

Folder 1 Genealogy and background materials

II. Noah⁵ Hoyt, 1759-1811

2 Miscellaneous papers, 1775-1812

3 Deeds, 1786-1795

III. Noah⁶ Hoyt, 1788-?

4 Letters to Hannah Wood Hoyt, 1811-1841

5 Delia Hoyt letters, 1836-1853

6 Sarah Hoyt letters, 1836-1846

7 Albert M. Hoyt letter, 1838

8 E. Moore Hoyt letters, 1846-1861

9 Miscellaneous letters, 1817-1856

10 Deeds, 1818-1835

11 _____, 1836-1849

12 _____, 1850-1868

13 Miscellaneous papers, 1835-1851

IV. Miscellaneous

14 Miscellaneous family papers

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