Guide to the Yates Family Papers

MS 568

compiled by Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

October 1980

Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
mssa.assist@yale.edu
http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/

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Yates family papers
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 568

CREATOR: Yates family

TITLE: Yates family papers

DATES: 1678–1923

BULK DATES: 1714–1868

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3 linear feet (7 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Principals in this collection are the Yates family of Schenectady, New York, the Delancy family and James Duane (1733-1797) and his descendants. The major part of the papers is made up of financial and legal papers relating to land transactions in New York state between the 1760s and the 1820s. Included are leases, rent receipts, boundary agreements, survey field books, account books and charts. Most of the correspondence consists of letters from Yates family members to their land agent, Charles Fuller. Of these, approximately fifty were written by Ann Elizabeth Delancy Yates, widow of Joseph Christopher Yates, governor of New York state. Other correspondents are James Duane and his descendants and members of the Delancy family.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0568

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 http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0568.

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
The Yates Family Papers were purchased in 1968 from the Winterthur Museum, which had acquired them from the estate of Helen Delancy Watkins of Schenectady, N.Y.

Conditions Governing Access
The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use
Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

Preferred Citation
Yates Family Papers (MS 568). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical
James Duane: jurist, mayor; admitted to N.Y. bar, 1754; member of Committee of Correspondence, 1774; delegate, Continental Congress, 1774-1784; member, N.Y. Provincial Convention, 1775, 1776, 1777; helped draft Articles of Confederation; advocated ratification of U.S. Constitution; first mayor of N.Y.C., 1784; member, N.Y. Senate, 1782-1785, 1789-1790; first U.S. judge, district of N.Y., 1789-1794.

Scope and Contents
The Yates Family Papers consist of 2.5 inches of correspondence, and 30 inches of legal and financial papers and descriptions of land holdings of the Yates family of Schenectady and other New York families. Most of the collection has to do with land. There are a few copies of seventeenth-century documents, but the concentration of legal and financial papers falls between the 1760s and the 1820s. The bulk of the correspondence consists of letters from Yates family members to the land agent Charles Fuller (fl. 1845–1869) and others concerning land holdings and transactions and the collection of rents. Approximately fifty of the letters are from Ann Elizabeth (Delancy) Yates, widow of the New York State Governor Joseph Christopher Yates (1768–1837), written during the 1840s and 1850s. Other persons represented include Christopher Yates and his descendents from mid-eighteenth century to mid-nineteenth century, and James Duane (1733–1797) and his descendents, and members of the Delancy family.
## Collection Contents
### Inventory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Correspondence</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yates family</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 1 - 2</td>
<td>Christopher Yates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 3</td>
<td>____ Yates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard August Yates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 4 - 6</td>
<td>Ann Elizabeth (Delancy) Yates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 7</td>
<td>____ Yates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephen Yates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Others</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 8</td>
<td>James Duane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 9</td>
<td>Will Cockburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>William Seeber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Delancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 10</td>
<td>John Delancy Watkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James C. Yates Paige</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 11</td>
<td>Charles Fuller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 12</td>
<td>Delancey W. Watkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 13</td>
<td>Unidentified</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legal and financial papers</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 14 - 32</td>
<td>1678–1764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3, f. 33 - 40</td>
<td>1765–1771 March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 4, f. 41 - 44</td>
<td>1771 June–1772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 5, f. 45 - 55</td>
<td>1773–1780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 6, f. 56 - 68</td>
<td>1781–1810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 7, f. 69 - 79</td>
<td>1811–1924, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maps, charts, and field books</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 7, f. 80 - 87</td>
<td>1735–1787, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

Geographic Names
New York (State) -- History
Schenectady (N.Y.) -- History

Genres / Formats
Account books
Deeds

Names
Duane, James, 1733-1797
Fuller, Charles, fl. 1845-1869
Yates, Ann Elizabeth Delancy
Yates, Christopher
Yates, Joseph Christopher, 1768-1837

Families
Delancey family
Yates family