Guide to the Robert E. Upson Family Papers

MS 1578

compiled by Diane E. Kaplan

June 1991

Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
mssa.assist@yale.edu
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
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http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/

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: http://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 http://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

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Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection are in the public domain.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
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

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