

Davis Family Papers

1807 - 1873

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Finding Aid Prepared by
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DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Creator: Janice Woods

Title: Davis Family Papers

Collection No. 119

Dates of Processing: August - September 2012

Volume: .25 Linear feet in one box

Restrictions: None

Accession Date: February 1997

Access: During open library hours: 12 PM to 4 PM every Thursday; 10 AM to 4 PM every 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month; and by appointment

Related Collections: None

Abstract:

This collection contains a small numbers of papers documenting the family of Sylvanus and Mary Davis of Tewksbury Township, NJ. The documents describe costs of funeral services, estate inventories, and assorted receipts. It is a useful source of information for Davis family genealogy and for studying the family dynamic in a farming community in the early nineteenth century.

Biographical/Historical Information:

Sylvanus D. Davis was born in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. He petitioned for citizenship in October of 1808, and established a farm in Tewksbury Township, Hunterdon County. Sylvanus bought four acres of land from Joseph and Ann Heiler for \$207.00 on August 17, 1816. He and his wife Mary raised their daughters and a son, John.

John was the executor for Sylvanus' estate ca. April, 1830 as well as for his mother Mary's death ca. June of 1834. John Davis is listed on an 1857 document certifying the number of children in school in District 7, as having seven children. Mortgage records for property in Chester, Morris County lists Mary Davis as holding the original mortgage and discharging it to John Davis on April 8, 1873.

Scope and Content:

This collection is arranged in four folders of documents. There is one each for the life and death of Sylvanus Davis and Mary Davis; one folder for mortgage information; and one folder for miscellaneous documents such as receipts and other ephemera.

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1:

Folder 1: Sylvanus D. Davis (ca. October 1808 - April 1830)

- Receipt for goods from Jacob Kline and Sons
- Receipt paid in full from Thomas D. Jenkin
- Petition for Citizenship by Sylvanus Davis
- Receipt for tuition for a daughter's school
- Deed for 4 acres of land from Joseph and Ann Heiller to Sylvanus D. Davis
- Will written by Sylvanus D. Davis
- Inventory of goods

Folder 2: Mary Davis (ca. 1834 – 1835)

- Receipt from Joseph Bartles for grave and appraisal of goods
- Receipt from G. Masewell for letters and inventory
- Inventory of goods
- Receipt from William Cook
- Receipt from Asa Osborn for the accounts of Mary Davis
- Receipt from Dr. Wm. Johnson and John Honeyman for medical services
- Accounting of the estate of Mary Davis

Folder 3: Mortgage; Mary Davis mortgage to John Davis

Folder 4: Miscellaneous documents

- The listing of children in District 7
- A receipt for limestone