



Guide to the Kent Family Diaries, 1755-1796, 1843-1885

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Kent Family Diaries, 1755-1796, 1843-1885

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society

30 Park Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-228-6688

<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

2007.035

Author of Finding Aid:

Suzanne Huggard

Creator:

Kent, Jacob, 1726-1812

Kent, Richard Peabody, 1805-1885

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

3 boxes

Abstract:

The Kent Family Diaries is comprised of the journals of Jacob Kent (1726-1812) and the diaries of Richard Peabody Kent (1805-1885). Jacob's journals, 1755-1796, describe military campaigns and accounting lists of goods procured and sold. Richard's diaries, 1843-1885, describe his daily life including important political events and news from the Civil War.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Kent Family Diaries were a gift of the Kent Family in 2007.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Suzanne Huggard. The finding aid was also written by Suzanne Huggard. 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:

No special physical characteristics or technical requirements exist for this collection.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Researchers are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Kent Family Diaries, 2007.051. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date Accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information/ Administrative Information:

Jacob Kent was born in 1726. He was one of the early settlers of Newbury, VT. He served in military campaigns under Captain John Hazzen during the French and Indian War. Kent also served in the military during the American Revolution, specifically the Saratoga Campaign. Jacob Kent also boarded horses, oxen, sheep, and cows at his home. His journals suggest he was also involved in logging. He died in 1812.

Richard Peabody Kent was born on December 21, 1805. He lived most of his life in Lancaster, NH, where he worked as a merchant. Richard Kent was engaged in his community and kept detailed notes on his life in his diaries, which he maintained until his death on March 30, 1885.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Kent Family Diaries contain the journals of Jacob Kent kept between 1775 and 1796 and the diaries of Richard P. Kent kept between 1845 and 1885. Jacob Kent wrote about

his daily life and work. In 1760, he recorded information about military campaigns in which he took part under Captain John Hazzen. He lists the members of his regiment and the supplies they carried. Kent's diaries also discuss his accounts and the beginning construction of the town of Newbury, VT.

Richard Peabody Kent kept his diaries between 1843 and 1885. His diaries discuss various aspects of his daily life in Lancaster, NH. He frequently refers to his wife, Emily. For many years, he records the descriptive statistics on the town. Kent makes note of local events, national events, and some international events. Kent writes about the nomination of presidents and governors. His two sons served in the Civil War, and Kent wrote about many of the battles and campaigns. Kent dictated the last few entries of the diary to his son before his death in March 1885. Summaries of the diaries written by the processor are in folders preceding the diaries.

Arrangement:

The Kent Family Diaries are organized according to author and then chronologically. Jacob Kent's diaries are followed by Richard Peabody Kent's diaries.

Contents List

Box 1

- Folder 1 Collection overview; copies of several pages from *History of Coos County*, 1888, pertaining to the Town of Lancaster with a biographical sketch of Richard P. Kent
- Folder 2 Diary (no pages, end boards only, with account lists), 1755
Diary, 1760-1776
Diary, 1777-1796
- Folder 3 Summary – Richard Peabody Kent Diaries, 1843-1848
- Folder 4 Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1843-1848
- Folder 5 Summary – Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1849-1855
- Folder 6 Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1849-1855

Box 2

- Folder 1 Summary – Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1856-1859
- Folder 2 Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1856-1859
- Folder 3 Summary – Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1860-1865
- Folder 4 Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1860-1865
- Folder 5 Summary – Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1866-1871
- Folder 6 Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1866-1871
- Folder 7 Summary – Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1872-1877
- Folder 8 Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1872-1877

Box 3

- Folder 1 Summary – Richard P. Kent Diaries, 1878-1885
 - Folder 2 Letters found in 1885 diary
- Diaries, 1878-1885 are in small envelopes in the back of the box

Subject Terms

People:

Beecher, Henry Ward, 1813-1887
Buchanan, James, 1791-1868
Garfield, James A. (James Abram), 1831-1881
Gove, William H. (William Hazeltine), 1817-1876
Hazzen, John
Kent, Jacob, 1726-1812
Kent, Emily
Kent, Richard Peabody, 1805-1885
Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865
Pierce, Franklin, 1804-1869

Subjects:

Diaries
Fires
Military Campaigns
United States – History – Civil War, 1861-1865
United States – History – War of 1812

Locations:

Boston, MA
Manchester, NH
White Mountains, NH and ME

Occupations:

Merchants

Related Materials

Archival Collections at the New Hampshire Historical Society:
Cross-Kent Correspondence, 2005.021. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.