



Guide to the John McNeil Family Papers, 1783-1874

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

John McNeil Family Papers, 1783-1874

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society

30 Park Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-228-6688

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

Collection Number:

2000.095, 2008.008

Author of Finding Aid:

Sarah Galligan

Creator:

McNeil, John, 1784-1850

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English

Extent:

1 box

Abstract:

Papers, 1783-1874, of John McNeil and his family. The collection is mostly composed of correspondence but there are some legal papers and receipts. Correspondence is mostly personal but there are some military related items. Correspondents include John McNeil, Elizabeth Pierce McNeil, Benjamin Pierce, and Annie McNeil Wentworth.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The John McNeil Family Papers are composed of two accessions. The first, 2000.095, were a gift of Patricia Gibson Baker, Barbara Gibson Johnson, and Joan Gibson Reid. The second, 2008.008, was a New Hampshire Historical Society Purchase.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Sarah Galligan in December 2014. The finding aid was written by Sarah Galligan in December 2014. 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, John McNeil Family Papers, 2000.095. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date Accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information/ Administrative Information:

John McNeil was born on March 25, 1784 to John and Lucy (Andrews McNeil) of Hillsborough, NH. In 1797, he enlisted in the Army. McNeil was eventually promoted to Brigadier General in 1824 and Colonel in 1826 after service in both the War of 1812 and along the Western Frontier. From 1840 to 1850, he served as Surveyor for the District and Inspector of the Revenue for the Port of Boston, MA. McNeil married Elizabeth A. Pierce, daughter of Governor Benjamin Pierce and sister of future President Franklin Pierce, in 1814. Together, he and Elizabeth had four children: John W.S. McNeil, Elizabeth A.P. McNeil, Frances McNeil, and Benjamin P. McNeil. While serving as Surveyor for the District and Inspector of the Revenue for the Port of Boston, McNeil purchased the homestead of his father-in-law, Benjamin Pierce, in Hillsborough, NH. John McNeil died on February 23, 1850 while on a business trip to Washington, DC.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The John McNeil Family Papers, 1783-1874, contain correspondence and some legal papers and receipts related to John McNeil and some of his family members. The majority of the items in the collection are correspondence to and from McNeil, most of which is personal in nature. There is also some military related correspondence. There is personal correspondence between McNeil and his wife, Elizabeth Pierce McNeil and a few letters between McNeil and Benjamin Pierce. The collection also includes correspondence to McNeil's niece, Annie McNeil Wentworth, who was the daughter of Solomon McNeil and Nancy Pierce McNeil. This correspondence is mostly undated. Among the land deeds in the collection are some between McNeil and Benjamin Pierce concerning the property in Hillsborough, NH.

Arrangement:

The John McNeil Family Papers are organized by type of material and then date.

Contents List

Folder 1	Correspondence, 1817-1822
Folder 2	Correspondence, 1823-1843
Folder 3	Correspondence, 1844-1855
Folder 4	Correspondence, 1856-1874
Folder 5	Correspondence, undated
Folder 6	Legal papers, 1783-1867
Folder 7	Receipts, 1793-1814

Subject Terms**People:**

McNeil, John, 1784-1850
McNeil, Elizabeth, 1788-1855
Pierce, Benjamin, 1757-1839
Pierce, Benjamin Kendrick, 1790-1850
Pierce, Harriet
Wentworth, Annie McNeil

Organizations:

United States. Army

Subjects:

Deeds
Correspondences
United States—History—War of 1812

Locations:

Boston, MA
Concord, NH
Hillsborough, NH
Washington, DC

Occupations:

Colonels
Generals
Governors

Related Materials

The New Hampshire Historical Society contains two other manuscript collections related to John McNeil: John McNeil Orderly Books, 1919.003 and the John McNeil Business and Personal Papers, 1982.072.