FORT CONSTITUTION
RECORDS, 1839-1870, 1907
(Bulk, 1846-1863)
316 Items, 1 Box

BACKGROUND:

Fort Constitution was built on the remains of the earthworks of the Revolutionary War Fort William and Mary on Fort Point in New Castle, NH. It was completed in 1808. During the time that Colonel Walbach was commander of the Fort, from 1808-1821, he built a tower to guard the beaches to the South from landing parties. During the War of 1812 and again as the Civil War began, the walls were repaired but as the Fort saw little action it gradually fell into disrepair. See the pamphlet "History of Fort Constitution and Walbach Tower" by Thomas B. Frost, 1865 for further details.

James Davidson came to Ft. Constitution in 1827. He married a daughter of Capt. Christopher Amazeen of New Castle. In 1835 he went with his regiment, the 3rd U.S. Artillery to Florida to put down the Seminole uprising. From there he was assigned to New York and Maine. Davidson resigned in Dec. of 1846 to fight in the Mexican War. He returned to the company in 1848 at Connecticut and on July 30, 1852 was transferred back to Fort Constitution. He was in charge of a vacant post until April 1861 when Gov. Icabod Goodwin commissioned him Captain in the Second NH Regiment and detached the garrison to the Fort. For the next two years, he helped train many men in different companies who were then sent to the front. In March of 1863 Captain Sales was put in command and Davidson returned to his original position as Ordnance Sergeant.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

The bulk of these records reflect the career of James Davidson as Ordnance Sergeant and temporary Captain at Fort Constitution. There are a few papers from Davidson's early career including enlistment papers, statement of service, documents regarding property he owned, his quarters and a theft at his house. Series I contains various types of financial records such as Ordnance, treasury, fuel, housekeeping and quartermaster accounts. Series II includes orders, muster rolls and court martial papers. There are also enlistments papers for 1861 and morning reports from Captains Dunbar, Begley and Gillis.

Fld 1  Sgt. James Davidson, personal & professional papers, 1842-1874 (16 items)
SERIES I: FINANCIAL RECORDS
Fld 2  Ordinance records, 1846-1869 (15 items)
Fld 3  Post Treasury accounts, 1851-1853 (14 items)
Fld 4  Receipts, 1853-1962 (11 items)
Fld 5  Summary statements, 1853-1863 (6 items)
Fld 6  Quartermaster stores records, 1853-1863 (10 items)
Fld 7  Fuel accounts, 1845-1869 (9 items)
Fld 8  Treasury audits, 1855-1864 (15 items)
Fld 9  Quarterly accounts current, 1857-1861 (9 items)
Fld 10 Housekeeping records, 1859-1870 (10 items)

SERIES II: ENLISTMENTS & ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS
Fld 11 Military Orders, 1839-1865 (10 items)
Fld 12 Muster rolls, 1848 (4 items)
Fld 13 Court martials, 1849-1868 (8 items)
Fld 14 Enlistment misc., 1855-1865 (7 items)
Fld 15 Enlistments "A", 1861 (7 items)
Fld 16 Enlistments "B-C", 1861 (6 items)
Fld 17 Enlistments "D-E-F", 1861 (6 items)
Fld 18 Enlistments "G-H", 1861 (7 items)
Fld 19 Enlistments "J-L", 1861 (7 items)
Fld 20 Enlistments "M-N-O", 1861 (6 items)
Fld 21 Enlistments "P-R-S-T", 1861 (7 items)
Fld 22 Enlistments "W-Y", 1861 (7 items)
Fld 23 Morning Reports, 1861 (10 items)
Fld 24 Morning Reports, Capt. Dunbar, Winnecunet Guards 1861 (26 items)
Fld 25 Morning Reports, Capt. Gillis, 1861 (28 items)
Fld 26 Morning Reports, Capt. Bruce & Lt. Begley, 1861
(28 items)

Fld 27 Army manuals, 1855, 1907 (2 items)
Fld 28 Envelopes (25 items)

CARDS MADE FOR CATALOG:

Davidson, James
Dunbar, C.F. (Winnecunet Guards)
Gillis, G.N. (Milford Vols)
Bruce, John N.
Begley, J.R.
Civil War-Ft. Constitution
Newcastle, NH
Amazeen Family-enlistments
Names of persons enlisted at Fort Constitution in 1861
listed in folder 45-2 of Acc # 1990-101

George Amazeen
Henry C. Amazeen
John S. Amazeen
Luther Amazeen
Nathaniel Amazeen
J. Newton Austin
Alden Bennett
Orion Bickford
John Campbell
Harrison Card
John A. Chadburne
George P. Cleaves
James Davidson
Thomas J. Davis
John Dillon
Harrison Downing
Horace Emerson
James Flynn
Joseph W. Gardner
Alonzo Gilson
Andrew Hall
Frank Hall
Stacy Hall
William K. Holbrook
Benjamin Hoyt
Jabez Jones
Charles Joy
John Lear
Nathan Lear
Alfred Libby
George Libby
Joseph Libby
Abram Meloon
Frank Marshall
Franklin Neal
John Neal
Everett Ober
Robert Oliver
Rodney Perham
John Place
Phineas Ricker
Henry Sargent
Frank Smith
Lewellen Trefethen
William Trefethen
Austin White
John White, Jr.
Sullivan White
Barnabas Yeaton
Eben Yeaton
Nathaniel Yeaton
Stephen Yeaton