Guide to the Levi Call (1847-1916) Papers, 1855-1912

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:
Levi Call Papers, 1855-1912

Repository:
New Hampshire Historical Society
30 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-6688
http://www.nhhistory.org/

Collection Number:
1979.028

Author of Finding Aid:
Jean G. Johnson. Rewritten and formatted by Sandra L. Wheeler

Creator:
Levi Call, 1847-1916

Language:
The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:
3 boxes contain 56 volumes

Abstract:
These diaries and account books record the work and travels of Levi Call (1847-1916) in Dunbarton and Concord, NH. He owned a farm, was a pump repairer for the Water Commissioners in Concord, moved and built several buildings, lent money, and traveled across the United States from June, 1884 to June, 1885.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:
This collection was purchased in 1979.

Processing Information:
This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown time. The finding aid was written by Jean G. Johnson in August, 1979 and rewritten and formatted by Sandra L. Wheeler in April, 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:
The materials are on paper in bound volumes; there are no technical requirements for use.

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:
Levi Call Papers, 1979.028. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information

Levi Call (1847-1916) was married to Mary Ann (died 1921). As a young man, he lived in Dunbarton (Page's Corner), NH; later he and Mary Ann lived in Concord. He worked for the Water Commissioners in Concord as a pump repairer and is listed in the 1860 Concord City Directory as a building mover. He built two dwellings on Mills St, Concord (now Spruce St), where they resided after 1880. The diaries record farm work in Dunbarton and later on a purchased farm known as "The Boulders" in Hopkinton. He did a variety of work for ready cash, which included road work, and frequently loaned money. He traveled across the United States from June, 1884 to June, 1885, making observations throughout.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Levi Call Papers, 1848-1915, contains 56 volumes of diaries ranging from 1857 to 1912. The diaries include information about his personal and business life as well as his observation from travels across the United States made from June 1884 to 1885. The collection also includes twelve volumes of cash accounts, which are good summaries of personal expenditure including balances from numerous band accounts throughout the state, rents collected, yearly personal inventories, tool purchases, and cash given to his wife. A specific volume "Sundry Accounts" includes records of labor and material for a stable on Essex Street, the buildings on Mills Street (Spruce Street), a house on Rumford Street, and a farm (location not identified).

Arrangement:

The diaries and account books are in bound volumes. The author wrote chronologically.

Contents List

[Notes about the contents of entries were made by the author of the original finding aid.]

Diaries

1885-1856	business activity, pump and water main repair with the names of building owners or locations of the work
1858	work on the water system
1859	work on the water system
1860	work on the water system
1861	accounts and activities
1862	
1863	
1864	July 11, moved buildings on Camp Grounds November 2, sink pipe to State House
1865	water
1866	water
1867	water
1868	water
1869	water
1870	August 1, St. Paul's School dry spring
1871	rode to City, Concord, East Concord and Plains
1872	more farm and household chores; April 8, commenced to take down old Page house, completed April 22 (Dunbarton)
1873	May 19, raising house on Mills St. (now Spruce St.)
1874	March 10, rode to Town Meeting (Dunbarton) with Caleb Page
1875	mostly farm building, less pipe and water work
1876	October 30, paid Concord taxes $66.50 (Mills St. property); still living in Dunbarton

1877

1878

1879 April 14, received of F.B. Brown $3.00 in full for house rent, paid to date (gave $3.40 on old bills)

1880 address inside cover for first time is 24 Mills St., Concord, NH. January 27, made foot stove box

1881

1882 complaints about taxes; page 24 in “Cash Accounts” section of diary gives list of complaints1883chores, etc. August 24, rode to Page Corner (Dunbarton) went fishing on Turkey Pond

1884 tourist in Boston May 9 – 13, visited History Hall, Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Navy Yard, Markets, Old South Church. June 30, started for California via Walla Walla, WA to San Francisco and Sacramento

1885 returned to Concord from cross country trip on June 16. Good comments throughout the trip

1886

1887

1888

1889

1890

1891

1892

1893 July 18, visited cemeteries and trimmed them, North Boscawen, Webster – grandfather’s and father’s plots

1894

1896 chores, gardening

1897 September 2, dedicate the new summer house on the big boulder rock in pear orchard, southeast of house and named the farm “The Boulders” (Hopkinton)

1898

1899 taxes on Boulder Farm $28.52, tax rate $1.24

1900

1901

1902

1903 July 18, went to Pleasant St. to circus procession

1904

1905

1906

1907

1908

1909
1910 mentions house work and Mary Ann in Woburn, MA for 15 weeks, sounds disgusted and lonely
1911
1912 last volume, handwriting shows age

Account Books (personal accounts)
1848-1858
1862-1864
1864-1868
1868-1874
1875-1878
1879-1881

Sundry Accounts (one volume; labor and materials on various properties)
1862-1880
1864 building on Rumford St, near Cambridge, labor and kinds of material
1865-1866 expenses of material and labor on unspecified building, perhaps Rumford Street
1870 expenses of stable on Essex St., sold 1871
1870 improvements on farm
1873-1874 expenses of buildings on Mills St. (Spruce St.), numbers 24-26
1880 large double house on Mills St.

Subject Terms

People:
Call, Levi, 1847-1916
Call, Mary Ann
Organizations:
New Hampshire – Concord – Water Commissioners
Subjects:
Account books
Diaries
Travel Journals – United States
Locations:
Concord, NH
Dunbarton, NH
Hopkinton, NH
Occupations:
Builder

Farmer
Pump repairer