Guide to the Gilmore, Carr, and Tappan Papers, 1847-1907

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:
Gilmore, Carr, and Tappan Papers, 1847-1907

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

Collection Number:
1991.056

Author of Finding Aid:
Unidentified; reformatted and revised by Korrena Cowing and updated by Abigail Dollries

Creator:
Carr, Daniel, 1801-1887
Gilmore, Joseph Albree, 1811-1867
Tappan, Mason W. (Mason Weare), 1817-1886

Language:
The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:
1 box, approximately 257 items ; 0.33 linear feet

Abstract:
The Gilmore, Carr, and Tappan Papers contain correspondence from Joseph A. Gilmore, Daniel Carr, and Mason W. Tappan primarily relating to the Concord & Claremont Railroad. Correspondence in this collection dates from 1847 to 1907. The papers discuss logistical details for managing the railroad as well as political topics pertaining to the Civil War.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:
The Gilmore, Carr, and Tappan Papers were purchased by the New Hampshire Historical Society on June 14, 1991.

Processing Information:
This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date. The finding aid was written by an unknown person at an unknown date, reformatted and revised by Korrena Cowing in August 2020, and updated by Abigail Dollries in May 2025. 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 in this collection are paper based and have no special 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. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:
Item title, Gilmore, Carr, and Tappan Papers, 1991.056. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:
Joseph A. Gilmore was born June 10, 1811 in Weston, VT, and spent his early years in Boston, MA, before moving to Concord, NH, in 1842. He was a grocery store owner in Concord, NH, in 1842; a railroad construction agent in 1848; and superintendent of the Concord & Claremont Railroad in 1856-1866. He became a successful New Hampshire politician, serving in the New Hampshire Senate in 1858 to 1860 and as governor from 1863 to 1865. Gilmore married Ann Page Whipple (1808-1893), daughter of Achsah Page Tenney and Samuel Whipple, on July 10, 1832 and together they had 11 children. Gilmore died in Concord on April 17, 1867 and is buried at Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA.

Daniel Carr of Bradford, NH, was born in Newbury, MA, to Moses and Abigail Carr on August 2, 1801. He was a merchant, in the railroad business, and active in New Hampshire politics. He married first Rhoda Bartlett (1800-1836) on February 20, 1827, and second Caroline L. Tappan

(1819-1898) on January 1, 1839. He had one child with Rhoda: William A. (1828-1918); and two children with Caroline: Frank Tappan (1844-1919) and Kate Elizabeth (1846-1942). He died in Hopkinton, NH, on August 17, 1887.

Mason W. Tappan was born in Newport, NH, on October 20, 1817 to Weare Tappan and Lucinda (Atkins) Tappan. He was raised in Bradford, NH, and became a lawyer and politician, serving in the New Hampshire House of Representatives from 1853 to 1855 and as a U.S. Congressman from 1855 to 1861. He was a Colonel in the Civil War and commanded the first New Hampshire Infantry. After, he practiced law and was Attorney General of New Hampshire from 1876 to 1886. Tappan married first to Emeline Worth (1818-1870) on May 2, 1848; second to Mary E. Jenkins on June 4, 1872; and third to Imogene Atwood (1860-1932) on May 8, 1877. He had a son, Frank Mason, through his first marriage and a daughter, Helen Lucinda, through his third marriage. Mason Weare Tappan died in Bradford on October 24, 1886.

Harrison Darling Robertson was a merchant from Warner, NH, born in 1806. He married first Sarah Ann Evans (1808-1856) and second Martha W. Bailey (1816-1896). Harrison had at least three children with Sarah Evans: Sarah, John, and Katie. He died on June 9, 1862 in Warner.

Collection Scope and Content Note:
This correspondence relates to the development of the Concord & Claremont Railroad with materials primarily written by Joseph A. Gilmore, Daniel Carr, and Mason W. Tappan. The subjects of these letters relate to land purchase for right of way, depots, and bridges. The papers also included contracts for wood, investment subscriptions, and other financial receipts, as well as freight receipts for items transported to Bradford on the Concord & Claremont Railroad amongst others. Correspondents include Gen. Joseph Low and Onslow Stearns. One letter by Mason Weare Tappan to brother-in-law Daniel Carr discusses the "whine of political life" and the situation in Washington, DC. Additionally, two letters from the Civil War appear in these papers, one from Moses Seavey in the 16th New Hampshire in 1862 and the other from William D. Angell in 1865 in the 6th New Hampshire Volunteers. Materials in this collection date from 1847 to 1907.

Arrangement:
The materials in this volume are organized by author name and chronologically.

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Box 1

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Folder 2	Joseph A. Gilmore letters to Harrison D. Robertson, 1849 March-October
Folder 3	Joseph A. Gilmore letters to Harrison D. Robertson, 1850
Folder 4	Joseph A. Gilmore letters to Harrison D. Robertson, 1851
Folder 5	Joseph A. Gilmore letters to Harrison D. Robertson, 1852
Folder 6	Joseph A. Gilmore letters to Harrison D. Robertson, 1853, 1856, 1858-1859
Folder 7	Joseph A. Gilmore letters to Harrison D. Robertson, 1861
Folder 8	Joseph A. Gilmore letters to Harrison D. Robertson, 1862
Folder 9	Joseph A. Gilmore letters to Daniel Carr, 1848-1851, 1862-1865

Folder 10 Joseph A. Gilmore letters to others, 1849
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Folder 12 Daniel Carr letters to Mason W. Tappan and others, 1849-1862
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Folder 14 Daniel Carr Concord & Claremont Railroad records, 1848-1852, 1867-1907
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Subject Terms

People:

Angell, William D., 1834-1865
Carr, Daniel, 1801-1887
Carr, William A., 1828-1918
Gilmore, Joseph Albree, 1811-1867
Low, Joseph, 1790-1859
Robertson, Harrison D., 1806-1862
Seavey, Moses J., 1841-1863
Stearns, Onslow, 1810-1878
Tappan, Mason W. (Mason Weare), 1817-1886

Organizations:

Boston and Maine Railroad
Concord & Claremont Railroad
United States. Army. New Hampshire Infantry Regiment, 6th (1861-1865)
United States. Army. New Hampshire Infantry Regiment, 16th (1862-1863)

Subjects:

Correspondence
Railroads
Receipts (Acknowledgements)
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865
Politics and government

Locations:

Boston, MA
Bradford, NH
Claremont, NH
Concord, NH

Related Materials

Archives

Letters written by Mason Weare Tappan to correspondents like Joseph A. Gilmore and other prominent New Hampshire Republican Politicians can be found in the Mason Weare Tappan Papers.

Mason Weare Tappan Papers, 1982.020