

Guide to the Broadwell Papers

65.1

Special Collections
Benjamin F. Feinberg Library
SUNY Plattsburgh
Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901

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Revised by
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Introduction

This collection consists of approximately 314 items relating to David Broadwell (1748-1816) and his son David Benton Broadwell (1795-1871).

David Broadwell was born in Morristown, New Jersey and served in a militia during the Revolutionary War. He was married three times. His first wife died unexpectedly and he soon after married Sabera Wilcox, with whom he had five children: William, Stephen, Noah, Aaron, and Rachel. Broadwell also outlived this wife and later married Elizabeth Carrol (1765-1839). Elizabeth Carrol had five children, but only David Benton Broadwell lived to adulthood.

In 1803, David Broadwell moved his family to Clinton County, New York, where he constructed a forge and saw mill. In 1812, he was appointed Commissioner of Highways for Plattsburgh. Also during this period, Broadwell served in the 36th Regiment in War of 1812. Little else is known about the remainder of Broadwell's life in upstate New York.

David Benton Broadwell, was born in Morristown, New Jersey, and was nine years old when his parents moved to the Plattsburgh area. When David Broadwell died in 1816, the younger David and his half brother, Noah, gained all rights to the family land in Waterbury, Vermont. David Benton Broadwell also inherited the family farm.

In 1820, the younger Broadwell became a corporal in the New York State militia and married his first cousin, Susan Parrot (1800-1881). He fathered eight children by Parrot, but only four survived childhood: Harriet, Stephen, Julie Ann and Dewitt. Also at this time, Broadwell served as Town Supervisor of Plattsburgh and Schuyler Falls. He later became Justice to the Court of Common Pleas.

The majority of the documents in the Broadwell collection focus primarily on receipts from David Benton Broadwell's lumber business and are arranged chronologically.

Background Sources in Special Collections

Broadwell, Andrew S. *History of the Broadwell family of Clinton County, New York From 1664-1962*. Rouses Point, New York, 1962.

Hurd, Duane H. *History of Clinton and Franklin Counties, New York, With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of its Prominent Men and Pioneers*. Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis and Co., 1880.

Contents

This collection is housed in a half Hollinger box containing 17 folders. Folder 16 contains miscellaneous and undated material which includes a list of debts owed by David Broadwell.

Box 1

- 1/1: David Broadwell 1800-1815 (11 items)
- 1/2: David Benton Broadwell 1820, 1829 (2 items)
- 1/3: Indentures and land correspondence (3 items)
- 1/4: Baptist Meeting House (West Plattsburgh) (3 items)
- 1/5-1/15: Business transactions
 - 5: 1815-1825 (14 items)
 - 6: 1827 (18 items)
 - 7: Jan-Feb. 1828 (39 items)
 - 8: March-May 1828 (32 items)
 - 9: June-Sept. 1828 (6 items)
 - 10: 1829 (18 items)
 - 11: 1830-1850 (16 items)
 - 12: 1851 (20 items)

13: 1852 (66 items)

14: 1853-1854 (42 items)

15: 1857-1868 (10 items)

1/16: Miscellaneous and undated material (26 items)

1/17: Unrelated material (18 items)