

THETFORD TOWN DOCUMENTS
1770-1929

4 Boxes

Provenance: Estate of Charles W. Hughes, 1999

Processed by M.H. Wiencke, December, 2000 and March, 2004

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SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection M33 comprises a miscellany of documents, assembled by C.W. Hughes and M.B. Slade, some of which came to us after Mr. Hughes' death, while the rest were later found in his house. They date from 1770-1929, but like the M31 collection, which they resemble and complement, they are mostly of the first half of the 19th century. Perhaps most notable are the documents relating to the use of U.S. Surplus Revenue Funds after 1838; the Congregational Church papers dealing with church discipline; the many personal property (poll tax) lists of 1820 and 1831; and a written description of the course of the Connecticut and Passumpsic River Railroad in 1847.

The papers are stored in four boxes. Box 1 contains the personal property lists. Box 2 contains tax papers, Selectmen's orders, Surplus Revenue accounts, items relating to the poor, school papers, and various legal documents. Box 3 contains road and construction documents, including the account of the Railroad; and voting and Town Meeting records. Box 4 holds legal papers, military documents, some records relating to the poor, some records of vital statistics, and the various Congregational Church papers.

A few personal letters, and a large packet of J. Emerson's financial documents, also found with the above papers, have been stored in other files.

BOX AND FOLDER INVENTORY

Box 1 Personal Property lists, for Poll Tax, last names alphabetized

- Folder 1: Letters A-C, 1820
- Folder 2: Letters G-P, 1820
- Folder 3: Letters R-W, 1820
- Folder 4: Letters A-C, 1831
- Folder 5: Letters D-H, 1831
- Folder 6: Letters I-N, P-Q, 1831
- Folder 7: Letters R, S, 1831
- Folder 8: Letters T, W, 1831
- Folder 9: Lists of Property holders, 1831, Avery to Wheeler; Financial summary 1831, e.g. Sheep 6806, by category; financial summary 1831 with acres and houses added; 7 financial disclosure notes for 1831
- Folder 10: Letters A, C, 1832
- Folder 11: Letters B, D, E, F, 1832
- Folder 12: Letters G-J, 1832
- Folder 13: Letters K-M, 1832
- Folder 14: Letters P, S; 1832; one 1841

Box 2

- Folder 1: Tax papers, miscellaneous, some written by hand, some on forms. 1781 -1889
1781 -1809 Various short statements on taxes. Long tax list of perhaps 1790 (BS), double page; another bound in thread, small, 1801-1802; 2 similar pages, no date Two handwritten tax lists, 1791 and 1793. Long explanatory handwritten statement of 1806. Printed tax forms 1801,1802,1812. 1806 State Treasurer's receipt of taxes. Printed warrant for sale of land for taxes, 1809. 1817 tax form written and signed by Asa Burton, for salary of \$307 for 1813, and one small sum part of salary for 1812.
Tax papers, some printed forms, 1840-1889. One handwritten of 1871. Small tax list, n.d.
- Folder 2: Selectmen's orders: 5 long lists, 1781,1785,1792,1799,1809; a scroll of 1833; and two later lists 1861 and 1876.
- Folder 3: Selectmen's orders: small slips, 1781 -1821, a longer statement of 1875, a few of 1859-1912. Several n.d.

Box 2, cont.

- Folder 4: On poor. Long 1820 account of the case of James Strong; John Strong's account in Lsd, 1786, a bill to the town; 3 short orders re: poor, 1817,1818; Auditors' reports for 1873, 1875,1877, including care of poor. See also Box 4 Folder 6.
- Folder 5: U.S. Surplus Revenue Funds papers, 1838-1850: lists for use of small sums, with names of those to whom sums were issued, and amount of interest paid.
- Folder 6: U.S. Surplus Revenue funds, individual receipts of interest paid, 1838-1866. Two for poor, 1841,1845. Receipt from State Treasurer 1852 for sum received from Thetford.
- Folder 7: School papers: receipts etc. by District, 1-9, and two double sheets, various. 1797-1822.
- Folder 8: School papers: receipts by District, 10-13, and other accounts of same date, some to pay School Trust members for attendance.
- Folder 9: School Trust Fund papers: general lists of accounts, 1802-1823; moneys due individual districts, 1800-1820; other receipts, 1799-1823; four minutes of School Trust meetings, 1796, 1799-1801.
- Folder 10: "Schollar" lists: by individual district: 1802,1804,1823,1825,1858,1871, n.d.. A few lists of total numbers: 1799 (11), 1801,1807 (12), 1808,1826,1836 (16), n.d..
- Folder 11: School papers: miscellaneous accounts, 1802-1909; teachers' licenses, school land rents, appointment of superintendent, school meeting minutes 1816, school meeting warnings 1822,1827; letter to Ms. Newcomb from L Towle, 1873, on hiring her for the summer; surplus money used for school land fund, 1883.
- Folder 12: Legal and financial papers including: L. and M. Lancaster property agreement 1826; auction receipts of 1814; order for sale of property of Daniel West in 1816; arrangement by Hezekiah Porter for maintenance of Rachel Trussell; bonds of office 1852,1874; for Trustees of Surplus Funds 1848. Promises to pay, Latham and Bean, or Latham and Kendrick, 1829-1841. One 1834-1835 blacksmith bill to Benning Sawyer.

Box 3

- Folder 1: Land and road surveying: Bridge repair bills 1785,1791,1811; Road surveys: 1785-1826; bills for road work 1792,1823; two sketch plans for Bond land and Howard's land, n.d.. Measurements for Kilborn land, n.d.. Lists of acreage for Latham land, n.d.. 1 3pp. sheet describing course of Connecticut and Passumpsic River Railroad, 1847.

- Folder 2: Highway papers for District 10, 1808-1842, tax bills.
- Folder 3: Highway papers for District 10, 1844-1875, forms, one booklet 1884, one n.d.
- Folder 4: Grafton County Turnpike papers 1824-1827, and n.d.: contract for bridge, appointment of attorney, accounts and receipts.
- Folder 5: Two documents on building a Town House, 1830.
- Folder 6: Lists of voters present to cast votes: 1800-1828, 1856.
- Folder 7: Town Meeting warnings 1785-1790, and uncertain; 1805, 1865. Requests for Town Meeting: 1825, 1855. Minutes of Town Meetings: 1786, 1787, 1800, 1801-1803, 1812. Miscellaneous material on votes.

Box 4

- Folder 1: Will of M. Emerson, 1836.
- Folder 2: Writs of attachment and other legal documents, 1787-1879; summons 1813.
- Folder 3: Personal finances: Expenses for a carding machine 1834; notice of horse for sale, 1814; note 1775; 1866 re payment for books; promise to pay 1902.
- Folder 4: Deeds 1770-1834, and two later legal documents of 1889, 1900.
- Folder 5: Military papers: (1) statements on due service by members of militia "equipped according to law", 1823-1851; (2) warnings for Town Meetings to vote bounties, 1863; (3) election of officers, 1839; (4) form for commissioning of officer Abner Hosford, 1842; (5) small slips re military pay See also M 31 Box 7.
- Folder 6: Documents on care of poor: requests to pay for support 1790, 1789 (A. Burgoyne) and statement concerning same, 1791; statement re purchase of a farm "for the purpose of maintaining the Town's poor" for \$1450 from Surplus Revenue; funeral expenses for Mary White, n.d.
- Folder 7: Vital statistics: District 11 record of births, marriages, deaths 1859; marriage notice 1861; consent to marriage of minors 1916, 1929; probate permission for same; list of Ball family births 1810-1825; list of marriages-in 1800.
- Folder 8: First Congregational Church papers 1826-1865: partial list of members' wrongdoing in 1827; receipts for work and pulpit supply, 2 n.d.; fire insurance receipts 1850-1864; notes for a sermon on Ps. 8:4, 1790.
- Folder 9: First Congregational Church papers: the Silas Follett case of church discipline 1832, 1835; resolution on Freemasonry 1831.
- Folder 10: Church papers: paper slips for tax to fund new meeting house, 1782-1790; note from Asa Burton, received salary, 1801; list of pew holders 1812, and full account and explanation of the pew purchasing, 1812.
[Notes to Document Collection M31 (Town Hall Documents), related material may be found in Collection M33].

M31	M33
Boxes 1-3, Deeds	Box 4 Folder 4
Box 3, Surveys	Box 4 Folder 4
Boxes 4-6, Highways	Box 3 Folder 1
Box 7, Military	Box 4 Folder 5
Box 8, Personal Property	Box 1
Boxes 9, 10, Poor	Box 2 Folder 4, Box 4 Folder 6
Boxes 11-17, Selectmen's Orders	Box 2 Folders 2, 3
Box 18, Taxes	Box 2 Folder 1
Boxes 19, 20, Town Meetings	Box 3 Folders 6, 7
Box 21, Vital Statistics	Box 4 Folder 7
Boxes 22-26, Writs	Box 4 Folder 2
Boxes 27-28	Box 2 Folder 10
Boxes 29-30, School business	Box 2 Folders 7-9,11