

Locust Grove Archives

Finding Aid

Series: Locust Lawn Collection
Subseries: Josiah Hasbrouck (1755-1821)

Completed by Angela Stultz
March 3, 2011

Volume: 1 cubic foot in 3 manuscript boxes

Acquisition: Bequest of Annette Innis Young.

Access: Monday thru Friday, by appointment with the Curator.

Copyright: See Curator for details.

Biographical Sketch

Josiah Hasbrouck was born in 1755, the third child and only son of Jacob J. Hasbrouck and Jennetje Dubois. Josiah could trace his lineage back to the original founders of New Paltz. Little is known of his early life; one source states that he “completed preparatory studies” and “conducted a general merchandizing business”. During the Revolutionary War Josiah served for a year as a second lieutenant in the Third Regiment of the Ulster County Militia.

In 1785 Josiah Hasbrouck married Sarah Decker (1764-1845). Josiah and Sarah had four daughters and one son. Beginning in the 1790’s, Josiah purchased several pieces of property to assemble a 500-acre parcel in Gardiner, NY and commissioned an architect to build him a new house. He named the property Locust Lawn after a group of black locust trees which surrounded the house.

Public service evidently appealed to Josiah for over the next decade he served during nearly every year in an official capacity at the local, state, or national level. He served as supervisor of New Paltz in 1784, 1793, 1794 and 1799-1805; as a member of the New York State Assembly in 1796, 1797, 1802 and 1806. Josiah served on the national level as representative to the 8th and 15th Sessions of Congress under Thomas Jefferson (1803-1805) and James Monroe (1817-1819), respectively. Due to failing health, he did not seek a third term.

Josiah Hasbrouck resided at Locust Lawn with his family until his death in 1821.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Josiah Hasbrouck are section of the larger Locust Lawn Archives, which are in turn a component of the primary museum collection at Locust Grove. Josiah's great great grand-daughter, Annette Innis Young, inherited both the house at Locust Lawn and the personal possessions and archives of several generations of the Hasbrouck family. In 1958 Miss Young transferred Locust Lawn and its contents to the Huguenot Historical Society to operate as a museum. Her family papers were scattered throughout the house, and between the 1970s and 1990s an attempt was made by staff and volunteers to organize part of the Locust Lawn Archives. In 2010 the Huguenot Historical Society transferred the house, grounds, and collections at Locust Lawn to Locust Grove, reuniting the Hasbrouck family papers for the first time in fifty years. Re-organization of the archives was completed in 2011.

Josiah Hasbrouck's papers include correspondence, bills and receipts, legal documents, insurance papers, tax records, and ephemera.

While this collection is remarkable in its own right for its completeness, it is also significant for its connection to the art and artifact collections at Locust Lawn, many of which were purchased and used by Josiah and his family.

In general, artificial series and arrangement groupings have been created, since no discernable order from the creator was evident. See the arrangement note for more information about arrangement by series.

Series Description

Series 1: Correspondence (1799-1873)

1 Box

There is scant correspondence to and from Josiah Hasbrouck. These letters are to and from friends and his son, Levi, dating from 1818 to 1820. Some date from his second term in the House of Representatives which ran from March 1817 through March 1819.

Series 2: Personal Papers

2 Boxes

This series consists of a variety of material arranged alphabetically by subject. Because these papers were not arranged by their creator, subject categories have been artificially created to improve access. These folders contain legal papers, notebook, political papers, probate papers and Terwilliger papers.

Arrangement Note

In general, artificial categories have been created for the Locust Lawn Archives in general and the Josiah Hasbrouck Papers in particular. However, some overall trends present in the Young Archives were used as the basis for these categories.

Correspondence

Letters in the Young Family Archives were often grouped chronologically and so this arrangement protocol has been applied to the entire collection. Correspondence is not divided other than by year, and letters continue to be housed in their original envelopes (if they survive).

Personal Papers

All categories in the Personal Papers sub-category have been artificially created.

Box and Folder Lists

Box 1

Series 1: Correspondence 1800 - 1820

- *Correspondence to Josiah Hasbrouck-1800
- *Correspondence to Josiah Hasbrouck-1818
- *Correspondence from Josiah Hasbrouck-1819
- *Correspondence to Josiah Hasbrouck-1820

Box 1

Series 2: Personal Papers "L-T"

- *Bills
- *Legal Papers
- *Notebook
- *Notes
- *Political Papers
- *Probate Papers
- *Real Estate
- *Terwilliger Papers

Box 2

Series 2: Personal Papers Oversized Papers

- *Commission of Josiah Hasbrouck-1803
- *Real Estate Papers-1789-1791
- *Real Estate Papers-1792-1797
- *Real Estate Papers-1798-1802
- *Real Estate Papers-1803-1811
- *Real Estate Papers-1812-1817