

Arthur W. Hoyt Family Papers (1839-1899)

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Biographical Note:

Arthur Wellesley Hoyt (1811-1899) was the son of Epaphras and Experience Hoyt of Deerfield, Massachusetts. He was trained as a surveyor and civil engineer, working in the Connecticut River Valley, eastern Massachusetts, Illinois, Maine, Vermont, Louisiana, and Texas building railroads, canals, and roads. He also owned a lumber business in Wisconsin in the 1850s. Starting in the late 1860s, Arthur was involved with two mining companies in Colorado, the Cashier Silver Mine and the Blue Jacket Mining Company. Arthur was an investor, stockholder and served as the secretary and treasurer of the Cashier Silver Mine. The Cashier Company also owned part of the Blue Jacket Mining Company, a nearby mine. He spent his later years living in Templeton, Massachusetts with his second wife, Mary Ann Jones Hoyt. He died in 1899.

Charles Arthur Hoyt (1842-1903) was the son of Arthur Hoyt and his first wife Elizabeth Henry Hoyt. Charles spent his childhood traveling with his parents as his father completed civil engineering projects. He attended Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont, graduating in 1863. Post graduation, Charles did surveying work. He lived in Chicago briefly, before financial problems induced him to leave. He went to work for his father, surveying silver mines in Colorado, and later assisting him in other mining business. He later lived in Montana. He died in 1903.

Elizabeth Henry Hoyt (d. 1863) of Halifax, Vermont, was the first wife of Arthur Hoyt. She had two children, Susan and Charles. Susan died of scarlet fever at age 3. Charles lived into adulthood. She died in January 1863 of breast cancer.

Mary Ann Jones Hoyt (1833-1900) was the second wife of Arthur Hoyt. She was the daughter of Abijah and Phebe Cutting Jones of Templeton, Massachusetts. She married Arthur in 1865. She and Arthur lived in Templeton until their deaths.

Isabella Hoyt Williams Bryant (1804-1892) was the sister of the Arthur Hoyt. She first married Capt. Elijah Williams in 1825. She then married Col. David Bryant in 1841. During her first marriage, she lived in Deerfield and then moved to Florida, where her first husband died. She then returned to the Deerfield area. She lived in South Deerfield following her marriage to her second husband. Following his death, she resided with her brother Arthur and his wife in Templeton until her death in 1892.

About the Collection:

In January 2017, Historic Deerfield purchased the papers of Arthur Hoyt from a private individual. The papers consist of correspondence, account books, legal papers, receipts and mining paperwork. Several items were catalogued separately from this collection, those relating to Epaphras Hoyt and the journals of Elizabeth Henry Hoyt.

Description of the Collection:

The bulk of the collection consists of the papers of **Arthur Hoyt**. Arthur is represented by both personal and business correspondence written to him and by him; bills and receipts for personal expenses; an auto-biographical civil engineering work history; a personal cash book; bankruptcy paperwork; paperwork from the Northwest Lumbering Company; correspondence relating to the Cashier Silver Mine and the Blue Jacket Mining Company; and his personal copies of the account book, stock ledger, journal, and directors records for the Blue Jacket Mining Company. The correspondence is with various business associates, his son Charles, his wife Mary Ann, and various friends.

Charles Hoyt is represented in the collection by life insurance policies, and miscellaneous correspondence. His correspondence consists mostly of letters he received as a young man, from school friends and Deerfield residents. He is also found within the mining correspondence and paperwork of his father. A small surveying notebook of the one of the mines is included in the mining paperwork, done in Charles' hand.

Elizabeth Henry Hoyt is represented by one letter she wrote to her sister-in-law Isabella. **Isabella Hoyt Williams Bryant** is represented not only by this letter, but also by a fragment of a letter she received from an unknown correspondent, and a quit claim deed. **Mary Ann Jones Hoyt** is represented by two letters she received prior to her marriage to Arthur.

Related Collections:

Historic Deerfield and Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association both have additional Hoyt family materials. Historic Deerfield has the "Sketch-book" collection of Epaphras Hoyt, Arthur's father; as well as the two journals of Elizabeth Henry Hoyt; the surveying journal of Arthur Hoyt from 1831; and other Epaphras Hoyt related materials. All Historic Deerfield collections can be found in the online catalog.

Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association has a Hoyt Family Papers Collection. This collection contains papers of Arthur and Charles, as well as ancestors of both men. The papers of Arthur contain surveying and railroad work records from early in Arthur's career. PVMA also owns one account book from the Northwest Lumbering Company. The papers of Charles contain receipts from his education and some correspondence. These collections are listed in an online finding aid.

Box and Folder List:

Box 1: Arthur Hoyt Correspondence

- Folder 1: Letters to John Bradley, 1856-1860
- Folder 2: Letters to Martin Rich, 1856-1858, undated
- Folder 3: Letters to Misc. people, 1849-1899, undated
- Folder 4: Letters to Robert Williams, 1856-1859, undated
- Folder 5: Letters to S.F. Johnson, 1859-1860
- Folder 6: Letters written to him, 1840-1859
- Folder 7: Letters written to him, 1860-1863
- Folder 8: Letters written to him, 1864-1865
- Folder 9: Letters written to him, 1867-1899, undated

Box 2: Arthur Hoyt Mining Papers

- Folder 1: Blue Jacket Mining Co., Accounts with Arthur
- Folder 2: Blue Jacket Mining Co., Misc. material
- Folder 3: Blue Jacket Mining Co., stock ledger; stockholders and Directors records; Journal, 1880-1886
- Folder 4: Cashier Silver Co., Misc. material
- Folder 5: Correspondence, mining, 1868, 1871-1874
- Folder 6: Correspondence, mining, 1877-1878
- Folder 7: Correspondence, mining, 1881-1882, undated
- Folder 8: Field book for mining company survey, 1867
- Folder 9: Misc. papers

Box 3: Arthur Hoyt Misc., Charles Hoyt, Misc. Hoyts

- Folder 1: Arthur Hoyt, Bankruptcy papers, 1867-1868
- Folder 2: Arthur Hoyt, Bills and receipts, 1857-1863
- Folder 3: Arthur Hoyt, Bills and receipts, 1895-1897
- Folder 4: Arthur Hoyt, Bills and receipts, 1898-1899
- Folder 5: Arthur Hoyt, Cash book, personal, 1882-1886
- Folder 6: Arthur Hoyt, Civil Engineering Work History, undated
- Folder 7: Arthur Hoyt, Northwest Lumbering Co., 1850s
- Folder 8: Arthur Hoyt, Personal papers, Misc.
- Folder 9: Charles Hoyt, Correspondence, 1839, 1860-1868, 1874, undated
- Folder 10: Charles Hoyt, Life Insurance Policies, 1865-1871
- Folder 11: Misc. Hoyts—Isabella, Mary Ann, Elizabeth Hoyt papers