

A Guide to the Rives-Barclay Family Papers, 1698-1941

Rives-Barclay Family Papers, 1698-1941
1698-1941

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Physical Location

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Repository

Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

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Biographical/Historical Information

Col. Thomas Barclay was born on 12 October 1753 in New York City. He was the son of Henry Barclay and Mary Rutgers. He was educated at Columbia College, and married Susan DeLancey on 2 October 1775. He commanded Loyalist forces in New York in 1776, and fled to Nova Scotia at the end of the American Revolution. While residing there he was a practicing lawyer, and was elected a member of the General Assembly, becoming Speaker in 1793. He was also appointed a commissioner to carry out terms of the Jay Treaty in 1795, and served as British Consul-General at New York from 1799 to 1812, and a commissioner under the fourth and fifth articles of the Treaty of Ghent. He died in New York City on 21 April 1830.

His son George Barclay was born at Annapolis, Nova Scotia on 4 July 1790. He married Louisa Anna Matilda Aufrere (1792-1868), the daughter of Anthony Aufrere (1757-1834) and Matilda Lockhart (1774-1850) on 8 December 1818. George Barclay died at New Hamburg, New York on 28 July 1869.

Their daughter Matilda Antonia Barclay was born in New York City on 7 December 1824. She married Francis Robert Rives (1822- 1891), the son of William Cabell Rives (1793-1868) on 16 May 1848. She died in New York on 25 January 1888.

Their son George Lockhart Rives was born in New York City on 1 May 1849. He attended Columbia College and Trinity College in Cambridge. His father Francis Robert Rives was secretary of legation in London under Edward Everett when the latter was U.S. minister there. George L. Rives received his law degree from Columbia in 1873, and practiced law in New York City. He was Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs from 1887 to 1889. He married (1) Caroline Morris Kean, and (2) Sara Whiting Belmont. He died in Newport, Rhode Island on 18 August 1917.

Scope and Content Information

Papers, 1698-1941 (bulk 1790-1880), of the Rives and Barclay families of Albemarle and Nelson Counties, Virginia, and Canada and New York. The bulk of the collection covers the years 1790 to 1880. Includes correspondence, subject files, addresses, articles, booklets, essays, pamphlets, ledgers, letterbooks, prints, and photographs.

Organization

Organized into the following in six series: I. Correspondence. II. Subject Files. III. Addresses, Articles, Booklets, Essays, and Pamphlets. IV. Ledgers and Letterbooks. V. Prints and Photographs. VI. Oversize.

Contents List

Series I: Correspondence

Box 1-7

Scope and Content

The majority of the collection is the correspondence series. The letters of Thomas Barclay (1753-1830) concern politics, legal matters, family news, business and financial matters, observations on life in America and its citizens after Barclay relocated there from Canada, the escheating of his lands in Nova Scotia after his removal to New York City, and his service as a commissioner appointed to settle the disputed boundary between the United States and Canada. There is also a substantial amount of correspondence concerning the receipt of his pension from the British government. The letters of his son George Barclay (1790- 1869) concern family news and health, financial matters, the estate of his mother-in-law Matilda Lockhart Aufrere (1774-1850), and the sale of family lands in Nova Scotia. There is also correspondence of his brother Henry Barclay (1778-1851) containing family news and information on financial matters. Also included in this series is correspondence of William Cabell Rives (1793-1868) while he was serving as United States Senator from Virginia. The letters are written to his wife Judith Page Walker Rives (1802-1882) and his son Francis Robert Rives (1822-1891). Topics covered include the tariff, appropriations, the Webster Treaty, the presidential election of 1842, Virginia politics, Edward Everett's political career, his own speeches in the Senate, the resignation of Daniel Webster as Secretary of State, reorganization of President Tyler's cabinet, Democratic Party politics, his son's future plans, the annexation of Texas, his opinion of James K. Polk, the appointment of James Buchanan as Secretary of State, and the death of his father Robert Rives (1764-1845).

The bulk of this series, however, is the correspondence between Francis R. Rives and his wife Matilda Antonia Barclay Rives (1824-1888) and their son George Lockhart Rives (1849-1917) while the latter was a student at Trinity College in Cambridge, England between the years 1868 and 1871. Included are descriptions of his school, his classmates, and the city of London, his social and recreational activities, most notably sailing, his trips to the Continent, his finances and school expenses, the weather, family news, and his parents' trips to Europe. There are also letters written to him by Hamilton Fish (1849-1936) while the latter was serving as private secretary to his father who was United States Secretary of State.

Thomas Barclay, 1792-1826

Box 1

Folder 1

Thomas Barclay, 1828-1829

Box 1

Folder 2

George Barclay, 1843-1865

Box 1

Folder 3

Henry Barclay, 1839-1841, 1847

Box 1

Folder 4

William Cabell Rives, 1842

Box 1

Folder 5

William Cabell Rives, 1843 (January-March)

Box 1

Folder 6

William Cabell Rives, 1843 (April-December)

Box 1

Folder 7

William Cabell Rives, 1844

Box 1

Folder 8

William Cabell Rives, 1845

Box 1

Folder 9

William Cabell Rives, 1846

Box 1

Folder 10

Edward Everett, 1845

Box 1

Folder 11

1858-1860

Box 1

Folder 12

1861-1862

Box 1

Folder 13

1863

Box 1

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1864 (January-July)

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1864 (August)

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1864 (September-December)

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1868 (June-July)

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1869 (September)

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1870 (January)

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Folder 1

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Folder 2

1870 (August 16-31)

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Folder 3

1870 (September)

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Folder 4

1870 (October)

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Folder 5

1870 (November)

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Folder 6

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Box 4

Folder 7

1871 (January)

Box 4

Folder 8

1871 (February)

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1871 (March)

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1871 (April)

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Folder 1

1871 (May)

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1871 (June)

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1871 (July)

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1871 (September)

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1871 (October)

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Folder 7

1871 (November)

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1871 (December)

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Folder 9

1872 (January)

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Folder 10

1872 (February-March)

Box 5

Folder 11

1872 (April-May)

Box 5

Folder 12

1872 (June-August)

Box 5

Folder 13

1872 (September-December)

Box 6

Folder 1

1873 (January-June)

Box 6

Folder 2

1873 (July)

Box 6

Folder 3

1873 (August-December)

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Folder 4

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Folder 13

1886

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1887

Box 6

Folder 15

1892

Box 6

Folder 16

1941

Box 6

Folder 17

n.d. (Aufrere, Caroline)

Box 7

Folder 1

n.d. (Aufrere, George)

Box 7

Folder 2

n.d. (Livingston, Robert C.)

Box 7

Folder 3

n.d. (Lockhart, P. N.)

Box 7

Folder 4

n.d. (Rives, Constance)

Box 7

Folder 5

n.d. (Rives, Ella)

Box 7

Folder 6

n.d. (Rives, Matilda A.)

Box 7

Folder 7-9

n.d. (Rives, George L.)

Box 7

Folder 10

n.d. (Various Individuals)

Box 7

Folder 11-13

Series II: Subject Files

Box 8

Scope and Content

The subject files contain a variety of material on the Aufrere, Barclay, DeLancey, Lockhart, and Rives families. Included are calling cards and invitations, information on the dower claim of Margaret DeLancey who was the widow of James DeLancey, estate papers, genealogical notes, military service records, the pension claim of Susan Barclay who was the widow of Thomas Barclay, speeches, and the wills of Matilda Lockhart Aufrere and Thomas Barclay.

Appointment of Supervisors of Bell Isle Marsh - Petition and Bill

Box 8

Folder 1

Benson v. DeLancey, 1798

Box 8

Folder 2

Calling Cards and Invitations

Box 8

Folder 3

Clippings

Box 8

Folder 4

Columbia College Cards and Programs, 1868

Box 8

Folder 5

Columbia College - Philolexian Society, 1868

Box 8

Folder 6

Dower Claim of Margaret DeLancey, 1802-1803

Box 8

Folder 7

Estate Papers of George A. Aufrere, 1881-1889

Box 8

Folder 8-9

Estate Papers of Henry Barclay

Box 8

Folder 10

Estate Papers of Thomas Barclay

Box 8

Folder 11

Estate Papers of Oliver DeLancey

Box 8

Folder 12

Estate Papers of Stephen DeLancey

Box 8

Folder 13

Estate Papers of Schulyer Livingston

Box 8

Folder 14

Genealogical Notes - Aufrere Family

Box 8

Folder 15

Genealogical Notes

Container Box 8, Folder 16-17 (Box-folder)

Barclay Family

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Folder 16

Lockhart Family

Box 8

Folder 17

Rives Family

Box 8

Folder 18

Whiting Family

Box 8

Folder 19

George Washington Portrait

Box 8

Folder 20

Guardians of the Orphans of George R. Belasise

Box 8

Folder 21

Law Licenses of Francis R. Rives, 1847

Box 8

Folder 22

Legislative Acts

Box 8

Folder 23

Letter - William Cabell Rives to Col. Edmund Fontaine, 1 January 1844 (transcription)

Box 8

Folder 24

Military Service of DeLancey Barclay, 1800-1826

Box 8

Folder 25

Military Service of Thomas Barclay, 1799-1838

Box 8

Folder 26

Patent Design

Box 8

Folder 27

Pension Claim of Susan Barclay

Box 8

Folder 28

Speech - Rives, George L. "Whom Should We Vote For for President and Vice-President of the United States?" - Wappingers Falls, Dutchess County, New York, 4 October 1884

Box 8

Folder 29

William Cabell Rives

Container Box 8, Folder 30-32 (Box-folder)

Letter of Resignation as Minister to France, 1853

Box 8

Folder 30

Speech - State Agricultural Society of New York, Saratoga

Box 8

Folder 31

Drafts of Speeches and Letters

Box 8

Folder 32

Will of Matilda Lockhart Aufrere

Box 8

Folder 33

Will of Thomas Barclay

Box 8

Folder 34

Series III: Addresses, Articles, Booklets, Essays, and Pamphlets

Box 9-10

Scope and Content

Most of these items relate to the work of George L. Rives. Included is the manuscript copy of his valedictory address at Columbia College (1869), articles on the United States and Mexico relations, which he wrote a book on, essays he wrote while at Cambridge, and various pamphlets containing speeches by members of the U.S. House of Representative and Senate, including his grandfather, William Cabell Rives. Many of these concern the annexation of Texas.

Addresses

Container Box 9, Folder 1-3 (Box-folder)

Rives, George L. "A Memorial of George Bancroft" (1892)

Box 9

Folder 1

Rives, George L. "Some Unsettled Legal Problems Affecting the Government of Cities" (1904)

Box 9

Folder 2

Rives, George L. - Valedictory Oration (1868)

Box 9

Folder 3

Articles

Container Box 9, Folder 4-16 (Box-folder)

Barker, Eugene C. "The United States and Mexico, 1835-1837" Mississippi Valley Historical Review, vol. 1 (June, 1914)

Box 9

Folder 4

Garland, Hamlin. "Grant in the Mexican War" McClures(February, 1897)

Box 9

Folder 5

Grayson, Andrew J. "An Ornithologist in Mexico" Overland Monthly(September, 1871)

Box 9

Folder 6

Janvier, Thomas A. "The Mexican Army" Harper's New Monthly Magazine(November, 1889)

Box 9

Folder 7

Reeves, J. S. "The Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo"

Box 9

Folder 8

Reilly, James. "An Artilleryman's Story" The Journal Military Service Institution, vol. 33, no. 126 (Nov.-Dec. 1903)

Box 9

Folder 9

Rives, George L. "Court of Appeals Calendar" Albany Law Journal, vol. 31, no. 8 (21 February 1885)

Box 9

Folder 10

Rives, George L. "Mexican Diplomacy on the Eve of the War with the United States" American Historical Review, vol. XVIII, no. 2 (January, 1913)

Box 9

Folder 11

Rives, George L. "The Site of Columbia University" Fortnightly Bulletin, vol. 1, no. 11 (13 March 1914)

Box 9

Folder 12

Rives, George L. "Problems of an Inter-Oceanic Canal" Political Science Quarterly, vol. XIV, no. 2, (June, 1899)

Box 9

Rives, George L. "Spain and the United States in 1795" American Historical Review, vol. IV, no. 1 (October, 1898)

Box 9

Folder 13

Victor, Mrs. F. F. "A Short Stay in Acapulco" Overland Monthly(March, 1871)

Box 9

Folder 14

"General Crook in the Indian Country" The Century Magazine, vol. XLI, no. 5 (March, 1891)

Box 9

Folder 15

"Life in the Mexican Capital" Old Guard(July, 1870)

Box 9

Folder 16

Booklets

Container Box 9, Folder 17-20 (Box-folder)

Borland, Constance. The Borland Family(1911)

Box 9

Folder 17

Apuntes Biograficos del Senor General Luis Mier y Teran Gobernador Constitucional del Estado Libre y Soberano de Veracruz Llave (1879)

Box 9

Folder 18

Rives, George L. An Essay on the Authorship of the First, Second, and Third Parts of Henry the Sixth, Commonly Attributed to Shakespeare(1874)

Box 9

Folder 19

Manifestacion que hace al Publico el Juez 20 del Ramo Criminal de Mexico, Lic. Don Teofilo Carrasquedo, en Defensa.... (1856)

Box 9

Folder 20

Essays

Container Box 9, Folder 21 -27 (Box-folder)

Rives, George L. "Can Natural Theology Ever Become a Progressive Science?"

Box 9

Folder 21

Rives, George L. "English Literature in the Reigns of William III and Anne" (4 October 1871)

Box 9

Folder 22

Rives, George L. "The Knights Templars"

Box 9

Folder 23

Rives, George L. "Physiognomy" (18 March 1871)

Box 9

Folder 24

Rives, George L. "The Progress of American Literature" (24 May 1866)

Box 9

Folder 25

Rives, George L. "Saint Telemachus"

Box 9

Folder 26

Rives, George L. "Subrogation as Applied to Suretyship" (April, 1873)

Box 9

Folder 27

Pamphlets

Box 10

Auction Catalogue, 1847

Box 10
Folder 1

Auction Catalogue, 1848

Box 10
Folder 2

Barber, A. W. The Benevolent Raid of General Lew Wallace - How Mexico Was Saved in 1864 - The Monroe Doctrine In Action(1914)

Box 10
Folder 3

Battles of Mexico: Containing an Authentic Account of All Battles Fought in the Republic from the Commencement of the War until the Capture of the City of Mexico: With a List of the Killed and Wounded (1847)

Box 10
Folder 4

Baylies, Francis. A Narrative of Major General Wool's Campaign in Mexico in the Years 1846, 1847 & 1848(1851)

Box 10
Folder 5

Bayly, Thomas H. Speech in the U.S. House of Representatives on the Annexation of Texas to the United States(1845)

Box 10
Folder 6

Belser, James E. Speech in the U.S. House of Representatives on the Annexation of Texas to the United States(1845)

Box 10
Folder 7

Calhoun, John C. Speech in the U.S. Senate on His Resolutions in Reference to the War with Mexico(1848)

Box 10
Folder 8

Ceremonial para la Consagracion de la Cathedral de Mexico y su Nuevo Tabernaculo (1850)

Box 10
Folder 9

Gallatin, Albert. Peace With Mexico(1847)

Box 10
Folder 10

Giddings, J. R. Speech in the U.S. House of Representatives on the Annexation of Texas(1845)

Box 10
Folder 11

Holmes, Isaac E. Speech in the U.S. Senate on the Annexation of Texas to the United States(1845)

Box 10
Folder 12

In the Matter of the Petition of Beverley Robinson, Trustee, and George Barclay and Schulyer Livingston, Creditors of William James St. John, Deceased (1847)

Box 10

Folder 13

Letter from the Hon. Hugh S. Legare, on the Probable Effects of the Sub-Treasury Policy with the Specie Clause, to His Excellency Pierce Butler, Governor of South Carolina (1838)

Box 10

Folder 14

Letters from the Hon. Abbott Lawrence to the Hon. William C. Rives of Virginia (1846)

Box 10

Folder 15

Logan, Walter S. The Siege of Cuautla: The Bunker Hill of Mexico(1893)

Box 10

Folder 16

Memoria del Secretario de Estado y del Despacho de la Guerra, presentada a las Camaras en Enero de 1825

Box 10

Folder 17

Parsons, George M. Biographical Sketch of the Late Gustavus Swan(1885)

Box 10

Folder 18

Parte de las Operaciones Ejecutadas por la Tercera Brigada de Ynfanteria del Ejercito Mexicano (1847)

Box 10

Folder 19

Relacion de los Sucesos Acaecidos en la Ciudad de Puebla, del 14 al 27 de Mayo de 1847 (1901)

Box 10

Folder 20

Rives, George L. Railway Companies and the Civil Code(1887)

Box 10

Folder 21

Rives, George L. Torts Under the Code(1885)

Box 10

Folder 22

Rives, William Cabell. Speech in the U.S. House of Representatives on the Mission to Panama(1826)

Box 10

Folder 23

Rives, William Cabell. Speech in the U.S. Senate on the Bill Further to Provide of the Collection of Duties on Imports(1833)

Box 10
Folder 24

Rives, William Cabell. Remarks on Resigning His Seat in the Senate of the United States(1834)
Box 10
Folder 25

Rives, William Cabell. Speech in the U.S. Senate on the Subject of the Removal of Deposits(1834)
Box 10
Folder 26

Rives, William Cabell. Speech in the U.S. Senate on the Currency of the United States, and the Collection of the Public Revenue(1837)
Box 10
Folder 27

Rives, William Cabell. Speech in the U.S. Senate in Support of the Bill Introduced by Him Designating the Funds Receivable in Payment of the Public Revenue and in Opposition to the Sub-Treasury Scheme(1837)
Box 10
Folder 28

Rives, William Cabell. Speech in the U.S. Senate on the Treaty with Great Britain(1842)
Box 10
Folder 29

Rives, William Cabell. Speech in the U.S. Senate on the Annexation of Texas(1845)
Box 10
Folder 30

Rockwell, Julius. Speech in the U.S. House of Representatives Upon the Question of the Admission of Texas as a State into the Union(1845)
Box 10
Folder 31

Shackford, Charles C. A Citizen's Appeal in Regard to the War with Mexico(1848)
Box 10
Folder 32

Thoughts on the Proposed Annexation of Texas to the United States (1844)
Box 10
Folder 33

The Virginia Historical Register and Literary Advertiser (January, 1848)
Box 10
Folder 34

Series IV: Ledgers and Letterbooks

Box 11-15

Scope and Content

The ledgers and letterbooks were kept by Anthony and Matilda Aufrere, Thomas Barclay, George Barclay,

and George L. Rives. Those belonging to Anthony and Matilda Aufrere contain various pieces of verse and prose. The letterbooks of Thomas Barclay contain his official correspondence while he was stationed in New York serving as British Consul-General for the Eastern States of America. There are 13 volumes. The last volume also contains letters written while he was serving as a commissioner under the fourth and fifth articles of the Treaty of Ghent to settle the ongoing dispute over the Canadian-U.S. boundary. Portions of these letterbooks were published in *Selections from the Correspondence of Thomas Barclay - Formerly British Consul-General at New York* by George Lockhart Rives (New York: Harper & Bros., 1894). Also included in this series are three letterbooks of George Barclay covering the years 1850-1856 and 1861-1868 while he was a merchant in New York. There is also a ledger of George L. Rives containing official correspondence, proceedings, and regulations while he was serving as Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs from 1887 to 1889.

Collectanea (Ledger of Verse and Prose Belonging to Anthony and Matilda Aufrere)

Box 11

Fugitive Pieces in Verse and Prose, Vols. 1 & 2, 1799 (Belonging to Anthony and Matilda Aufrere)

Box 11

Private Notes on Boats, 1870 (Belonging to George L. Rives)

Box 11

Thomas Barclay Family Expense Books, 1816-1830 (3 vol.)

Box 11

Thomas Barclay Misc. Account Book, 1817-1821

Box 11

Household Expenses Book, n.d.

Box 11

The Arms of Norris and Playters, 23 April 1770

Box 11

Norris-Aufrere-Lockhart Genealogical Notes

Box 11

Letterbooks of Thomas Barclay

Box 12-13

1 October 1790 - 23 August 1793

Box 12

Folder 1

30 May 1796 - 8 March 1800

Box 12

Folder 2

18 October 1796 - 22 January 1801

Box 12

Folder 3

10 March 1800 - 30 June 1803

Box 12

Folder 4

4 January 1801 - 5 July 1803

Box 12

Folder 5

6 July 1803 - 21 March 1804

Box 12

Folder 6

24 March 1804 - 28 December 1804

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Folder 7

12 July 1804 - 21 February 1805

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Folder 1

22 February 1805 - 27 March 1806

Box 13

Folder 2

4 April 1806 - 22 March 1807

Box 13

Folder 3

23 March 1807 - 23 September 1811

Box 13

Folder 4

27 November 1811 - 12 June 1812, and 2 September 1815 - 4 February 1818

Box 13

Folder 5

Letterbooks of George Barclay

Box 14

19 December 1850 - 17 December 1853

Box 14

27 December 1853 - 11 December 1856

Box 14

3 May 1861 - 20 October 1868

Box 14

Letterbook of George L. Rives, Assistant Secretary of State, 1887-1889

Box 15

Series V: Prints and Photographs

Box 16-19

Scope and Content

The prints contained in the collection deal with the Mexican War. There are also family photographs and photographs taken on a trip to Mexico, as well as a family photograph album, and a photograph album of various New York officials, circa 1904.

Prints

Box 16

Battle of Buena Vista

Box 16

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Battle of Chapultepec

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Battle of Cerro Gordo

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Battle of Churubusco

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Folder 4

Battle of Contreras

Box 16

Folder 5

Battle of Molino del Ray

Box 16

Folder 6

Battle of Monterey

Box 16

Folder 7

Battle of Palo Alto

Box 16

Folder 8

Battle of Resaca de la Palma

Box 16

Folder 9

Buchanan, James

Box 16

Folder 10

Capitulation of Vera Cruz

Box 16

Folder 11

Death of Major Ringgold at the Battle of Palo Alto

Box 16

Folder 12

Houston, Sam

Box 16

Folder 13

Polk, James K.

Box 16

Folder 14

Scenes in the War with Mexico

Box 16

Folder 15

Scott, Winfield

Box 16

Folder 16

Gen. Scott's Entry into the City of Mexico

Box 16

Folder 17

Taylor, Zachary

Box 16

Folder 18

War in Mexico

Box 16

Folder 19

Miscellaneous Family Photographs

Box 17

Folder 1-7

Photographs of Mexico

Box 17

Family Photograph Album

Box 18

Photograph Album of New York Officials, ca. 1904

Box 19

Series VI: Oversize

Box 20 and Map Case G-14/Drawer 10

Scope and Content

The oversize items include deeds, estate papers, newspapers, passports of George L. Rives, promissory notes, a family register of the Whiting family, the wills of George Anthony Aufrere, Susan Barclay, Oliver DeLancey, Mary Huguetan de Gastine, and John Norris, and miscellaneous items.

Deeds, 1794-1832

Box 20

Folder 1

Estate Papers of George Anthony Aufrere

Box 20

Folder 2

Estate Papers of Stephen DeLancey

Box 20

Folder 3

Miscellaneous

Box 20

Folder 4

Newspapers

Box 20

Folder 5

Passports of George L. Rives, 1870, 1871

Box 20

Folder 6

Promissory Notes of R. and G.L. Schulyer

Box 20

Folder 7

Whiting Family Register, 1762-1873

Box 20

Folder 8

Will of George Anthony Aufrere

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Folder 9

Will of Susan Barclay

Box 20

Folder 10

Will of John Norris

Box 20

Folder 11

Will of Mary Huguetan de Gastine, 1698 (French and English)

Map Case/Drawer G-14/10

Will of Oliver DeLancey, 1774

Map Case/Drawer G-14/10

Deed, Abraham Willson & wife to James A. Stewart, 1796

Map Case/Drawer G-14/10