

## Thorp Family Papers

**COLLECTION, MS 22**

**DATE**

1749 – 1938

**CONTRIBUTOR**

Fairfield Museum

**ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY ELEMENT**

The Thorp family arrived in Fairfield in 1679 and established themselves as farmers, military officers, and sea captains. They were a prolific family, and an extensive family tree can be found in the collection folder to help identify the individual members. Burr ( ), Joel (1776- 1824), and Walter ( ) Thorp were sea captains and ship owners. Charles W. (d. 1855), Charles (1837-1891), and Charles W. ( ) all served in the Army while David ( ) was in the Navy. Jabez Thorp (1748-1824) was a Loyalist during the Revolution and had his lands confiscated.

**ARRANGEMENT**

The materials in this collection are organized alphabetically by the first name of the Thorp family members represented and then chronologically within the series. Series A contains tax receipts for Abigail Thorp, 1786-1787. Burr Thorp was the captain of the Sloop Sally on its trip from Wilmington, N.C. to the West Indies. The journal of that voyage, perhaps kept by the supercargo, is in Series B. The papers of General Charles E. Thorp (d. 1855) include his promotion certificate, 1838, a set of General Orders from the State of Connecticut, 1839, among other legal documents, 1824-1836. Another Charles Thorp (1837-1891) is represented in Series D by two death announcements, 1891; photographs of him in his uniform, ca. 1865; and his military appointments and discharge, 1861-1865. Of particular interest is a letter from Lt. C. W. Wakely from the headquarters of General Sherman discussing military matters, 1864. The latest Charles Thorp's papers, in Series E, consist of military discharge documents, 1917. The David in Series F may actually be two separate individuals. The writs dates 1774 and 1786 probably to do not belong to the David who was discharged by the Navy in 1864.

Two Ebenezer Thorps are represented in Series G and H. The elder Ebenezer (b. 1730) is represented by a deed dating from 1749 and a writ, 1783. Deeds, 1789-1842, constitute the papers of Ebenezer, Jr. (1765-1852). Eunice Thorp's estate inventory and distribution records, 1869, are arranged in Series I. Eliphalet Thorp (1740-1795) was involved in various legal matters, which are documented in writs, 1771-1781, organized in Series J.

Jabez Thorp (1727-1811), the son of Peter, is represented in Series K by deeds, 1763-1777, and his will, 1799. A younger Jabez Thorp (1748-1824) had his lands confiscated after being branded a Loyalist. An act passed by the General Assembly, 1786, and a deed, 1788, related to the confiscation are found in Series L. Joel Thorp (1776-1824), a sea captain, is represented in Series M by a letter from his wife, Priscilla, describing their new child in 1809, and an account book of voyages on the Sloop Hector, 1811-1819. The balance of the account book, which includes labor accounts and charges for doing legal/clerical work, 1839-1845, and for the construction of his house 1845, seems to be that of another Joel Thorp (b. 1791). John Thorp's account book, 1768-1777, and receipts, 1768-1777, related to agricultural products and imported goods such as rum and molasses, are organized in Series N.

**Note:**

One Thorpe house photograph has been removed to general photographic collection in the upstairs vault folder under the title Fairfield -- Buildings Old Post Rd. (Thorpe). One daguerreotype has been removed and housed within the oversized flat boxes of daguerreotypes kept in the manuscript storage area in the basement.

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### Collection Contents

#### Thorp Family Papers

##### Box 2

##### Assorted Thorp Family Papers, 1773-1938

##### Unidentified Photographs

**Identified Photographs**

**Poem and Account of the Storm of 1938**

**Correspondence**

**Financial Records**

**Estate Inventories**

**Legal Documents**

**Walter Sturges Papers, 1823-1838**

**Agreement to Purchase Brig and Estate Records**

**Sturges Thorp Papers, 1797-1835**

**Legal Documents**

**Stephen Thorp Papers, 1766-1820**

**Legal Documents**

**Weaving Accounts**

**Box 1**

**Reuel Thorp Papers, 1771-1772**

**Writs**

**Levi Thorp Papers, 1886**

**Bill of Sale and Quit Claim Deed**

**John Thorp Papers, 1768-1777**

**Memoranda of Accounts, Promissory Notes, Receipts**

**Farm account book**

**Writ and Estate Inventory**

**Joel Thorp Papers, 1809-1819, 1839-1845**

**Letter, Account Book, Miscellaneous Accounts**

**Jabez Thorp Papers, 1786-1788**

**Copy of an Act of Assembly and Deed**

**Jabez Thorp Papers, 1763-1799**

**Deeds and Will**

**Sheldon B. Thorpe Papers**

**Transcription of Thorp Genealogy by Robert P. Wakeman**

**Correspondence from Volume in Folder 1**

**Genealogy of the Thorp Family**

**Eliphalet Thorp Papers, 1771-1781**

**Writs**

**Eunice Thorp Papers, 1866-1869**

**Estate Records**

**Ebenezer Thorp Papers, 1788-1834**

**Deeds**

**Ebenezer Thorp Papers, 1749, 1783**

**Deed and Writ**

**David Thorp Papers, 1774-1786, 1864**

**Writs and Naval Discharge**

**Charles Thorp Papers, 1917**

**Army Discharge Records**

**Charles Thorp Papers, 1861-1891**

**Photographs and Death Cards**

**Military Records and Letter**

**Charles W. Thorp Papers, 1824-1837**

**Deeds, Military Documents and Letter**

**Burr Thorp Papers, 1802**

**Journal of voyage of Sloop Sally**

**Abigail Thorp Papers, 1786-1787**

**Receipts**