

**Baxter Family of Swanton & Highgate Falls, Vt.,
Papers, 1821 - 1983
Doc 682-683, MSA 697, XMSC 125**

Introduction

This collection contains the family papers of Dr. Henry Baxter of Highgate Falls, his descendants Frank W. Baxter, Dr. Harry W. Baxter and their families. Mary Ide, (granddaughter of Harriett Marion Baxter Ide and gg-granddaughter of Dr. Henry Baxter), donated the collection to the Vermont Historical Society in April 2013. The collection is housed in two document storage boxes, one flip top archival box, and one oversized volume (consuming 2.75 linear feet of shelf space).

Biographical Notes

Dr. Henry Baxter (1821-1897) settled in Highgate Falls, Vermont, in 1842. He owned and managed several businesses in Highgate including furniture, drug and grocery stores and H. W. Baxter & Co. undertakers. His patented medicine, Dr. Baxter's Mandrake Bitters, was sold throughout Vermont in the late 19th century. He purchased the land and structure(s) known as the Manor House in the 1860s. The Manor House (also known as The Highgate Manor and Manor Mayfair) was used as a hotel, restaurant, B & B and had an interesting history, which included that of a haunted inn.

Dr. Henry Baxter married Adelia Inoly Woodruff (1822-1887) in 1843. Their son, Frank Woodruff Baxter (1843-1897), married Marion Barney in 1866. Children born to Frank and Marion Baxter were Harry Wallace Baxter (1878-1945), who married Alice Cary Brown in Swanton, Vermont, on 26 June 1902, and Harriet Marion Baxter, who married Dr. Henry Clay Ide of St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

Children of Harry W. Baxter and Alice Cary Brown were George Henry Baxter (b. 1894), Charles Oliver Baxter (b. 1906), Dorothy Alice Baxter (b. 1909), and Ida Elizabeth Baxter (b. 1914). Children of Dr. Henry C. Ide and Harriet Marion Baxter were Paul A. Ide and Robert E. Ide.

Charles Oliver Baxter, great-grandson of Dr. Henry Baxter operated the Boucher Clothing Store in Swanton for many years. The collection includes memorabilia, photos and letters to and from Charles Baxter during World War II. He never married.

Scope and Content

This collection documents the life of Dr. Henry Baxter of Highgate Falls, Vermont, and his descendants including Frank W. Baxter, Dr. Harry W. Baxter and their families. Dr. Henry Baxter purchased the surrounding land and structure(s) known as the Manor House in the 1860's. The Manor House (also known as The Highgate Manor and Manor Mayfair) was used as a hotel, restaurant, B & B and had an interesting history including that of a haunted inn. Dr. Baxter also patented a medicine, Dr. Baxter's Bitters.

Included are family vital statistics and baby books of Dorothy Alice Baxter and George Henry Baxter, wills and estate records and property deeds. There is information and photos of the Hartford, Connecticut, Hospital Training School for Nurses attended by Alice Cary Brown 1899-1901 and Dorothy Alice Baxter 1928-1930.

A large portion of this collection includes papers of Charles Oliver Baxter: the Bodee Dental Institute, deeds and mortgage notes, letters to and from family and others during his service in World War II, World War II induction and discharge papers, soldier's handbook, Camp Lee and Camp Meade booklets, "My Life in the Service," news articles of the death of F.D. Roosevelt, *The Trinidad News Tips*, the *Trinidad Guardian* and the *Puerto Rico World Journal* (1944). There is a large photograph album of World War II photographs.

Eight cookbooks including hand-written recipes, two *King's Daughters Cookbooks*, *A Practical Cook Book* of Swanton and *The Tried and True Cook Book*, St. Albans also are part of this collection.

Included is an extensive collection of photographs depicting Baxter family individuals and children, family groups, the Hartford, Connecticut, Hospital Training School for Nurses, and vacation photographs. Some of these are individual photographs and some are in albums, some identified. Many are unidentified.

Related Collections

The February 5, 1970, special edition and supplement of the *Swanton Courier* was moved to the cataloged newspaper collection.

Inventory

I. Genealogy and Vital Records

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|------------|---|
| Doc 682:01 | Vital Statistics: Catherine Powers Baxter and George H. Baxter |
| 02 | Baby Books: Dorothy Alice Baxter and George Henry Baxter |
| 03 | Henry W. Baxter, Deeds, will, guardian appointment, misc |
| 04 | Marian A. Baxter Estate, will, misc papers |
| 05 | Genealogy papers: Baxter, Brown, Keith, Woodruff, misc related families |
| 06 | Edith M. Brown estate, birth & death records, will of Anna H. Brown, misc |
| 07 | Oliver K. Brown estate |
| 08 | Deborah S. Keyes estate |
| 09 | Stephen S. Keyes estate |
| 10 | S.W. & S.S. Keyes, deeds and store records |
| 11 | _____, retails dealers, business accounts due records 1837-1852 |

- 12 Dorothy Baxter Prior: will, letters to and from
- 13 Deeds, misc Franklin County, Ferris, Ruhlu, Hislop, Reagan

II. Personal and Business Papers

- 14 Dorothy Alice Baxter, Hartford, Ct., Hospital Training School for Nurses, 1928 – 1930
- 15 *Baxter Family Memorial* by Joseph Nickerson Baxter, 1879
- 16 Frank Woodruff Baxter, newspaper articles (photocopies)
- 17 Dr. Henry Baxter (1821-1897), deeds & misc, Dr. Baxter's Bitters (Heman Allen's name is on deeds)
- 18 Dr. Henry Baxter's Tavern, Highgate Manor, Manor Mayfair
- 19 Ida E. Baxter autobiography, 1929; paper on "Alcohol", 1930, notes to Ida
- 20 Portus Baxter: Eulogy, 1868, and news article Portus Baxter d. 1962
- 21 Alice Cary Brown (Baxter), Hartford, Ct., Hospital Training School For Nurses, 1899-1901
- 22 Hudson Falls, N.Y.: History and Sandy Hill information
- 23 Marquis D. Richards history, Howard Portter Brown-Ann H. Richards marriage information
- 24 Misc. people
- 25 Charles O. Baxter (COB), Bodee Dental Institute
- 26 _____, deeds and mortgage notes, misc
- 27 _____, Insurance receipts and information
- 28 Letters from COB, to Mr. & Mrs. Harry Baxter, 1942
- 29 _____, _____, 1943
- 30 _____, _____, 1944
- 31 _____, _____, January – June, 1945
- 32 _____, _____, July – December, 1945
- 33 Letters to COB, from miscellaneous persons, 1926-1934
- 34 _____, from mother (Alice Brown Baxter/Mrs. Harry), misc. dates to April 1945
- 35 _____, from sister, Dorothy Baxter
- 36 _____, to Mrs. Harry Baxter
- 37 _____, Swanton High School Class Song, 1925, misc. accounts, news clippings, retirement, obituary
- 38 COB World War II materials, Church of the Nativity "Easter Greetings from the Home Front", 1941
- 39 _____, Induction Papers, Discharge Papers, Welcome Home Day, Middlebury, Pay receipts 1943-1945
- 40 _____, Book "My Life in the Service", New Testament, Soldier's Handbook, 1941
- 41 _____, Camp Lee, F. D. Roosevelt death info, Fort Meade, the GI Bill of Rights and misc.
- 42 _____, *Trinidad News Tips*, "Charming Trinidad" booklet, American Soldiers Guide Book to Trinidad (2), misc

MSA 697:01 _____, Photograph album WWII
Includes: Pictures of soldiers at tourist sites, soldiers and their girls frolicking on the beach, a few photographs of natives people, a few photographs of army barracks

Size C _____, Foreign newspapers:
YANK, The Army Weekly, Caribbean Edition, Nov. 24, 1944
Trinidad News Tips, Anniversary Edition, May 15, 1943
Evening News, B.W.I. May 8, 1945
Trinidad Guardian, August 15, 1945
Puerto Rico World Journal, November 18, 1944

III. Cookbooks

MSA 697:02 Family Cookbooks
 03 King's Daughters Cookbooks (Swanton) (2), *A Practical Cook Book*, (Swanton), *The Tried & True Cook Book* (St. Albans)
 04 Misc. recipes

IV. Photographs

Doc 683:01 Photographs, identified, children
 02 _____, _____, men
 03 _____, _____, women, Alice Brown Baxter
 04 _____, Hartford, Ct., Hospital Training School for Nurses, 1900
 05 _____, identified, women, misc
 06 _____, _____, families, Prior, Baxter, Brown
 07 _____, _____, family groups, misc
 08 _____, _____, misc.
 09 _____, _____, Swanton
 10 _____, unidentified, children
 11 _____, _____, groups
 12 _____, _____, men
 13 _____, _____, misc
 14 _____, _____, misc (probably removed from Aunt Dee's album)
 15 _____, _____, misc (Aunt Edith's)
 16 _____, _____, removed from albums
 17 _____, _____, women, Folder 1
 18 _____, _____, women, Folder 2
 19 _____, four photo albums:
Album with unidentified photographs includes: Photographs of nurses, people swimming, people with car with 1933 license plate, cog railway, people dressed up.
Album with identified photographs includes: pets, car on ferry, Ausable Chasm (N.Y.), pictures of Burlington, New York, girls in bathing suits and sun dresses, Tyrone and Philipsburg, PA, 1929-1930
Photographs of St. Petersburg, Florida, many on the beach
Commercial album of photos of the 1933 New York World's Fair
 20 _____, Baxter Family album

Includes: First page has photos of Swanton, Vt., rest of photograph are pictures of groups of people relaxing and having fun, many involve lakeside activities, several houses, some people in costume, none of the photographs are identified.

- 21 _____, negatives removed from XMSC 125
- 22 _____, unsorted negatives, name on envelope: "Duke", June 1946

Judeen Barwood
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BaxterFamily.doc