Introduction

The collection consists of the miscellaneous records of five generations of the Phelps Family of Lunenburg, Vermont. It includes legal papers; estate, tax, and insurance records; both personal and business correspondence; genealogy notes and letters; and bills and receipts. Miscellaneous records concerning Lunenburg include deeds and financial papers of the town’s School District No. 3 from 1841-1845, and bills and receipts from the Town’s West End Water Company in the early years of the twentieth century.

The collection was given to the Vermont History Society in 2002 by Gertrude Lepine of Morristown, Vt. (ms. acc. no. 2002.26.). It is shelved in one document box and occupies 1 linear foot of shelf space.

Biographical Notes

Samuel Phelps, born January 22, 1757, settled in Lunenburg, Vt. in 1788. He married Levina (or possibly Lovina or Levinah) Morse. Their children, Anthony, born January 20, 1796, and Samuel, born January 22, 1791, both settled in Lunenburg, Vermont.

Samuel Phelps (2nd) married Susan Winn. He died at Lunenburg on August 1, 1868. Among their children was a son, Samuel, born in June 1829.

Samuel Phelps (3rd) married Ann Blakeslee (1838-1932), the daughter of Linus Blakeslee (Feb. 2, 1811-October 21, 1896). He died in June 1900.

Harris K. Phelps, son of Samuel (3rd) and Ann Phelps was born in August 1879 and died in Lunenburg October 20, 1925. He married Ethel Cowan; their children included Harold Blakeslee Phelps, who was born on October 21, 1904 in Lunenburg and died on October 20, 1993 in Montpelier, Vt.

Harold Phelps married Katherine Gladys Jewell (b. June 1906). They had one daughter, Katherine, who was born on August 10, 1948 in Montpelier, Vt.

Organization

The collection is arranged chronologically by generation. Linus Blakeslee’s papers follow those of his son-in-law Charles (3rd).
Scope and Content

The collection consists of the miscellaneous records of five generations of the Phelps family of Lunenburg, Vermont. It includes legal papers; estate, tax, and insurance records; both personal and business correspondence; genealogy notes and letters; and, bills and receipts. Miscellaneous records concerning Lunenburg include deeds and financial papers for the Town’s School District No. 3 from 1841-45, and bills and receipts from the town’s West End Water Company in the early years of the twentieth century.

Legal papers predominate the collection, particularly among the papers of Samuel (2\textsuperscript{nd}) and Samuel (3\textsuperscript{rd}) Phelps, and Linus Blakeslee. An 1816 deed belonging to Anthony Phelps of Lunenburg is the oldest item in the collection.

There are only a few letters, located among the papers by Harris and Harold Phelps, and most are connected with business. Harold wrote several letters in the summers of 1923 and 1924 to his parents from Citizens’ Military Training Camp in Camp Devens, Mass.

In addition to the deeds and financial records of Lunenburg’s School House No. 3, there is an undated (1841?) “plan” for the building a drawing with written specifications. No association with the Phelps family is evident but these papers may have belonged to Samuel (2\textsuperscript{nd}) Phelps.

Inventory

Doc 617:1  Genealogy correspondence and notes, Phelps and Blakeslee families, 1896-1908
2 Samuel (b. 1757) and Levina Morse Phelps, (b. 1763) Quitclaim, 1838
3 Anthony Phelps (b. 1796), deeds, 1816 and 1821
4 Samuel 2\textsuperscript{nd} (1791-1868) and Susan Winn (1791-1876) Phelps, legal papers, 1822-1869
5 Samuel 3\textsuperscript{rd} (1829-1900) and Ann Blakeslee (1838-1922) Phelps, legal papers, 1962-1901
6 _____, receipts, 1869-1902
7 _____, miscellaneous, 1862-1900
8 Linus Blakeslee (1811-1896), legal papers, 1835-1891
9 _____, misc. receipts and estate, 1890-1896
10 Harris K. (1879-1925) and Ethel Cowan (1879-1956) Phelps, correspondence, miscellaneous, 1912-17
11 _____, _____, Smith Agricultural Chemical Company, 1905
12 _____, miscellaneous insurance, receipts etc., 1902-1947
14 _____, will and power of attorney, 1945
15  _____, income taxes and insurance, 1941-1948
16  _____, miscellaneous, 1940 and undated
17  Phelps family, miscellaneous, 1850-1913
18  _____, receipts, 1851-1904 undated
19  _____, games, drawings, newspaper clippings 1878-1955
20  Lunenburg, Vt., School District No. 3, miscellaneous papers
21  _____, West End Water Company, Bills and receipts, 1898-1920