

LAWRENCE FAMILY PAPERS (1759-1852)
ArMs 1977.105

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OCR by Sarah Steele, January 2008

BROOKLYN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Archives and Manuscripts Section

LAWRENCE FAMILY PAPERS (1759-1852).

Collection #: 1977.105.
Location: T12/T24, O.
Quantity: 1.6 Cu. ft. (3 boxes).
Source: William A. Alcock, 1925.

Log books, account books, journals, and day books of the Lawrences of Bayside and Flushing, N.Y. Volumes “were about to be destroyed when rescued from a house in Bayside” by the donor.

Arrangement and preliminary description: Manning Field
Research and final description: D.S. Moore
Date: 10/18/85

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Biographical Note

(Son of Richard, married Phebe Townsend.)

Joseph Lawrence (1741—?) was a merchant captain from Flushing, N.Y. He was at one time employed by Samuel Townsend, who was the son of one of the first settlers of Oyster Bay, L.I. One of the vessels built by Townsend at that place was the brig Audrey (see Box 1, folder 7) some time before the Revolution, and it was commanded by Joseph's brother, Effingham. Another brother, John L., (1731-?) may be the "John" who appears on the cover of the account book in Folder 9 of Box 1.

Joseph's son, Effingham, was a judge in Queens County in the early 19th century. He lived at the family homestead, "Stone-House" (see Box 3, folder 2) in Bayside and was possibly the source of the later account books.

Sources

Lawrence, Thomas. The Historical Genealogy of the Lawrence Family.
New York : Edward O. Jenkins, 1858.

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Item listing

BOX 1 OF 3

F.1) Exercise of copy book of a student of commercial practice. Cover page is entitled "Buying and Selling of Stocks" but the book contains many other examples and rules of commercial practice. Manuscript. No date. 12 1/4" x 7 3/4".

F.2) Accompanying note of 1968 lists this item as "Captain Chappel. Account and order book of the Sloop Industry, 1767". First entries were made in 1765 under heading "St.Croix". Final entries were made in 1767 headed "Bay of Honduraes". Partially illegible. 11 7/8" x 7 1/4".

~~F.3) Volume entitled "Sloop Elizabeth Logg Book", covers a voyage beginning January 23, 1766 (in New New York) to St. Croix and ending on the sloop's approach to New York (at the sighting of Never Sink), May 23 1766. 13" x 11". (trasferred to Box 2 of this collection).~~

F. 3) Volume entitled "No. 2 Acct Current or Ledger Book". Entries begin under heading of New Bern, N.C., 1763 and end under heading of Martinica, 1768. 12 7/8" x 8 1/2".

F.4) Ships Log covers period from August 20, 1765 to October 12, 1767. Condition poor. Bound in marbled paper. ~~The ship and the captain's name cannot be deciphered.~~ Captain Joseph Lawrence.

F.5) Acct book of the Brig Audrey, 1759-60, on a voyage to Placentia, New Foundland; Teneriffe; and London. 8" x 5 1/4". Unbound center folded and stitched.

F.6) Inside cover of this Log Book says "Joseph Lawrence This Book June 12, 1763." For schooner Charming Polly and Sally on voyage to New Bern, N.C. Also for sloop Wheel of Fortune, on voyage to New Providence, July 1763. Also for same ship on voyage to Domencio, St. Croix and St. Eustace, November 5, 1763.

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F.7) Vellum bound manuscript book titled "Joseph Lawrence. Ledger A." On bottom of the spine is written "Hartford Book". Has entries from 1762 to 1808. 13" x 9".

F.8) Four books bound together. The first is entitled, "Alphabet Book 1769." The second is called "Alfibett...January 1, 1771, Joseph Lawrence his Book." The third book is titled "John Joseph Lawrence, Company Book, March 1, 1770." Verso: "Lawrence and Burlings, Company Book, March 1, 1770, Salt Store Book." The fourth book has on the inside cover: "Joseph Lawrence his Alphabet Waste Book Jan. 1 1770." All bound in scrim covered sheepskin. 13 1/4" x 9".

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Item listing, cont.

Box 3 of 3 (Oversize)

- Vol. 1) Waste book 1771-1773. Apparently sales (but possibly purchases) of a variety of stores. 144 p.; 16.5 x 7.5"
- Vol. 2) Waste book of Joseph Lawrence, May 6, 1772-December 31, 1772. Similar entries to Vol. 1. 15.5" x 6.5".
- Vol. 3) Waste book for the year 1773, beginning January 1. 269 p.
- Vol. 4) Waste book beginning December 10, 1773. 188 numbered pages and about 100 unnumbered.
- Vol. 5) Account book. "~~Friend~~ Hired Servants the beginning of Their Book." Bound in cardboard, covered with marbled paper and a leather spine. An accompanying note describes the contents household accounts, 1809-1823. Reverse: Costs of building house in orchard, 1809.
- Vol. 6) Belongs to Joseph Lawrence.
(Title illegible) Entries run from November 15, 1773 to 1783. Vellum bound; 16" x 7".
- Vol. 7) Cardboard covered with marbled paper with leather spine. Entries for 1801-1815, but not always in chronological order. A note on the original package described the contents as farming and household accounts. Same dimensions as above. (Joseph Lawrence)? Or Effingham
- Vol. 8) "Day Book and Journal of 1836-1837". Entries up to July, 1841. 16 x 6.5" (Effingham)
- Vol. 9) "Invoice Book, 1771." The earliest entry is apparently 1774 and the latest is 1820. Vellum bound and the same dimensions as the other vellum-bound materials in this collection. (Joseph & Effingham)

(Add description from box 1, folder 3)

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Item listing

BOX 2 OF 3 (MAP OF KINGS AND QUEENS COUNTIES, 1852)

- F. 9) Northwest ~~section~~ Brooklyn & Queens
- F. 10) Northeast ~~section~~ Queens
- F. 11) Southwest ~~section~~ Brooklyn
- F. 12) Southeast ~~section~~ Southern Queens (Jamaica)

Each section is 28" x 27". Villages, roads, farm boundaries are shown outside of the Brooklyn City area. The northeast section shows the Judge E. Lawrence estate in Bayside.