Guide to the David Curtis Skaggs
Commodore Thomas Macdonough Research Collection
2003.3

By
Victoria Boccassini
May 2011

and

Debra Kimok
December 2011

Collection Size: 3.2 linear feet
Acquisition Information: Donated by David Skaggs
Language of Material: English
Access Restrictions: None
Processed by: Victoria Boccassini and Debra Kimok
Biography of David Curtis Skaggs

“David Curtis Skaggs is a well known authority on military and naval operations during the North American wars from the colonial through the early national periods of United States and Canada history, and a long time history professor at Bowling Green State University until his retirement in 2001. He has written and edited many books and scholarly articles on this period including, A Signal Victory: the Lake Erie Campaign, 1812-1813; The Old Northwest in the American Revolution: An Anthology; War on the Great Lakes, 1754-1814."


Scope Note

This collection includes photocopies of both primary and secondary documents and publications used by David Curtis Skaggs during research for his book, Thomas Macdonough: Master of Command in the Early U.S. Navy. The collection also includes a few notes taken by the author as well as correspondence regarding some of the primary documents. The collection is 3.2 linear feet, housed in four Hollinger boxes, one half-Hollinger box, and one oversized box (16 x 20).

Container List

Box 1:

Box/Folder


1/2 Albany Argus, 1814


1/4 Alexander Macomb- A Memorial to Congress, 1832

1/5 McLellan, Hugh. “John Jacob Astor Correspondence: Fur Trade with Lower Canada, 1790-1817.” (Four parts from the Moorsfield Antiquarian)

1/6 Battle of Lake Champlain Printed Letters (from the Delaware Archives)
Battle of Plattsburgh, Miscellaneous  
British Correspondence, Lake Champlain, 1814-1815  
Building Macdonough’s Fleet—correspondence and author notes  
Burlington Sentinel, 1813-1814, includes author notes  
Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy  
Crisman, Kevin. “Captain Ridley’s Command: The Archaeology of the War of 1812 Brig Jefferson.” (early version of a paper to be submitted as a book chapter)  
Thompson, David. History of the Late War, Between Great Britain and the United States of America, With a Retrospective View of the Causes from Whence it
Originated, Collected from the Most Authentic Sources. Niagara, N. C.: T. Sewell, 1832. (select pages)


Box 2:

Box/Folder

2/23 Eagle and Growler Loss June 1813

2/24 Eagle Logbook, Aug.-Sept. 1814

2/25 Eleazer, Williams Memoirs, Lake Champlain, in Plattsburgh Republican, 1879, 1886-1887; In Plattsburgh Sentinel, 1873

2/26 Fairbanks, Charles. The Old Soldier’s History, Containing an Account of the Movements of the North Western Army During the Years 1813-14, Under Five Different Generals, Their Encampments, Battles, Executions, Hardships, Sufferings, Etc. Haverhill: E. G. Frothingham, 1861. (select pages)


2/28 Official Correspondence with the Department of War, Relative to the Military Operation of the Army under the Command of Major General Izard, on the Northern Frontier of the United States in the Years of 1814 and 1815. Philadelphia: Thomas Dobson, 1816. (select pages)

2/29 Guerriere Court Materials

2/30 Guerriere to Russia, 1818, includes author notes

2/31 Henry Tew, Newport Recruiting for Thomas Macdonough, Aug. 1814


2/34 John Nixon-Killed in Action, Champlain, 1814, fled wife and child in PA

2/35 Letter from General John E. Wool to Philip B. Roberts, Beekmantown, N.Y., Jan. 6, 1859 (The Battle of Beekmantown in 1814)


2/37 Joseph M. Smith Memoir of Lake Champlain on board the Eagle, 1873

2/38 Lake Champlain Documents

2/39 Lake Champlain Letters 1812-1813


2/41 Lake Champlain Logistics (Thomas Macdonough)

2/42 Lake Champlain Royal Navy Inquiry, 1815


2/44 Log of Constellation, 1802-1803 Thomas Macdonough

2/45 Macdonough Account Book, 1813-1824

**Box 3:**

**Box/Folder**

3/46 Macdonough Biographies

3/47 Macdonough- Champlain Newspapers, 1813

3/48 Macdonough- Jones Correspondence, 1814

3/49 Macdonough- Funeral announcement in *Middlesex Gazette*

3/50 Macdonough Genealogy
3/51 Macdonough-Lake Champlain Newspapers, 1814
3/52 Macdonough Letters, Jan.-Sep. 1814
3/53 Macdonough correspondence, Navy Department Manuscripts, 1815
3/54 Macdonough, Navy Department Documents, 1903 inventory
3/55 Macdonough Papers
3/56 Macdonough Papers from Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library
3/57 Macdonough Papers Lilly Library
3/58 Macdonough’s Ships
3/59 Macdonough Probate

Box 4:

Box/Folder


4/61 Macomb on Plattsburgh, 1814


4/63 Middlebury, Vt. Records Sheldon Museum, with author notes

4/64 Miscellaneous Macdonough Letters from the T. Macdonough File (Delaware Historical Society)


4/68 Naval Historic Center Documents Lake Champlain, 1814, including author notes

4/69 Navy Department Letters to Macdonough, 1818-1823

4/70 Peter Sailly Memoirs, Lake Champlain


4/72 Philander Chase Jr. Notes and correspondence

4/73 Plattsburgh Campaign, 1812 MS Diary (Lucoes Goes), 8 Sep. 1822, from Lilly Library

4/74 Miscellaneous Memoirs

4/75 Plattsburgh Poetry

4/76 Pliny Moore daybook, 1812-1815

4/77 Prize Money, Lake Champlain

4/78 Robert Christie- Lake Champlain, 1818, author notes

**Box 5:**

**Box/Folder**

5/79 Robert Sloane Court Martial, 1819


5/81 John Shaw Papers, Lake Champlain, re: Macdonough, Naval Historic Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress; Rogers Family Papers


5/83 Surgeon John P. Brigs Letters, 1814
5/84  Taché- Bataille Naval du Lac Champlain, 1859

5/85  Thomas Macdonough- MS Letters, 1814-1824, Delaware Historical Society

5/86  Thomas Macdonough Papers, Navy Department Library (Naval Historic Center)

5/87  U. S. Army- Garrison Orders, Burlington, VT, 1813


5/88/2 United States Senate. “Letter from the Secretary of the Navy to the Chairman of the Naval Committee, Transmitting Sundry Documents from Captain Macdonough Relating to the Capture of the British Fleet on Lake Champlain.” 4 Oct. 1814.

5/89  U. S. Navy Letters, 1813, from Naval Historical Center


5/92  War of 1812 Manuscripts, Lilly Library, Illinois University

**Box 6: Oversized Materials**

**Box/Folder**


6/94  Letters

6/95  Navy Yard, Correspondence


6/97  Vestry and Wilson Courts-Martial Materials, National Archives