

# Guide to the Law Family Papers

GEN MSS 1140



Beinecke Staff

2015 February

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<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 1140

**CREATOR:** Law family

**TITLE:** Law Family Papers

**DATES:** 1806–1857

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3.84 linear feet (8 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The Law Family Papers document aspects of the personal and professional life of Yale graduate and lawyer Samuel A. Law (1771-1845).

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.lawfamily>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.lawfamily>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Law Family Papers were acquired by Yale University Library in 1929.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

This collection may be housed off-site at Yale's Library Shelving Facility (LSF). To determine if all or part of this collection is housed off-site please check the library's online catalog, Orbis; material for

which the location is given as "LSF" must be requested 36 hours in advance. Please consult with Beinecke Access Services for more information.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Law Family Papers are the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## Preferred Citation

Law family Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This finding aid was produced in 2014 from previously existing catalog cards in the Manuscripts Catalog and previously existing folder titles and notes stored with the collection. All pertinent bibliographical information has been retained.

Former call number: MS Vault Law

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## Samuel Andrew Law (1771-1845)

Samuel A. Law was born in Cheshire, Connecticut in 1771, the son of William Law and Mary Hotchkiss Law. He graduated from Yale College in 1792, attended the Litchfield Law School in 1793, and was admitted to the bar in 1795. In the following year, he founded a school which later became part of an Episcopal Academy of Cheshire. In 1797 he moved to Delaware County, New York, where he began a law practice and remained for the rest of his life.

Law married Sarah Sherman, and they had at least four sons: Jonathan Albion Law, Samuel A. Law, Stephen Dodd Law, and William Lyon Law. He died in Meredith, New York in 1845.

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## Scope and Contents

The Law Family Papers document aspects of the personal and professional life of Yale graduate and lawyer Samuel A. Law (1771-1845). Contents include family correspondence between Law and his brother, William Law, Jr.; his son Stephen Dodd Law; and other members of the Law family; letters to Law from others, including Timothy Brainerd and Jeremiah Day; and financial records, particularly records of the final estates and debts of several Law family members.

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## Arrangement

Arranged in one series: Series I. Correspondence and Other Papers, 1806-1857.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence and Other Papers, 1806–1857

3.84 linear feet (8 boxes)

Samuel Andrew Law		
b. 1, f. 1	Law, Samuel A. Letters to father, William Law	1806-1822
b. 1, f. 2	Law, Samuel A. Letters to brother, Andrew Law	1809-1840
b. 1, f. 3	Law, Samuel A. Letters to brother, Jonathan Law	1806-1843
b. 1, f. 4-6	Law, Samuel A. Letters to brother, William Law, Jr.	1804-1844
b. 1, f. 7	Law, Samuel A. Letters to brother-in-law, William Lyon	1835-1840
b. 1, f. 8	Law, Samuel A. Letters to son, Jonathan Albion Law	1834 September 3 and 1840 October 26
b. 1, f. 9	Law, Samuel A. Letters to son, Samuel A. Law	1823-1843
b. 1, f. 10	Law, Samuel A. Letters to son, Stephen Dodd Law	1834-1841
b. 1, f. 11	Law, Samuel A. Letters to son, William Lyon Law, and financial documents	1825-1839
b. 1, f. 12	Law, Samuel A. Letters to sisters and other family members	1817-1839
b. 1, f. 13	Law, Samuel A. Letters to Timothy G. Brainard	1833-1839
b. 1, f. 14	Law, Samuel A. Letters to Jeremiah Day and Benjamin Silliman	1830-1839
b. 1, f. 15	Law, Samuel A. Letters to Dr. F. T. Judson	1839-1840
b. 1, f. 16	Law, Samuel A. Letters to Silas Metcalf	1835-1837
b. 1, f. 17	Law, Samuel A. Letters to Amasa and Amasa J. Parker	1838-1844
b. 1, f. 18	Law, Samuel A. Letters to others	1813-1840
b. 1, f. 19	Law, Samuel A. Letters and notes concerning the death of son, William Lyon Law	1839
b. 1, f. 20	Law, Samuel A. Records of children's schooling	1831-1846
b. 1, f. 21	Law, Samuel A. Financial records and other notes	1832-1852
b. 1, f. 22	Law, Samuel A. Petition to the State of Connecticut Superior Court and Deposition	circa 1841 and 1844 January 13
b. 1, f. 23	Law, Samuel A. Orders left on going abroad	1815 December
b. 8 (Oversize), f. 82	Law, Samuel A. Honors and awards	
William Law, Jr.		
b. 2, f. 24-29	Law, William Jr. Letters to brother, Samuel A. Law	1806-1819

## William Law, Jr. (continued)

b. 3, f. 30-37	Law, William Jr. Letters to brother, Samuel A. Law	1820-1844, undated
b. 3, f. 38	Law, William Jr. Letters to others	1809-1853
b. 3, f. 39	Law, William Jr. and Samuel A. Law: Financial and legal documents	1817-1842
b. 3, f. 40	Law, William Jr. Records of travel and other financial and legal documents	1812-1840
Stephen Dodd Law		
b. 4, f. 41-44	Law, Stephen Dodd. Letters to father, Samuel A. Law	1834-1841
b. 4, f. 45-48	Law, Stephen Dodd. Letters to brothers	1850-1857
b. 4, f. 49	Law, Stephen Dodd. Financial records	1834-1842
Other Law family Members		
b. 5, f. 50	Law, Andrew. Letters to brother, Samuel A. Law	1808-1844
b. 5, f. 51-53	Law, Jonathan (1784-1859). Letters to brother, Samuel A. Law	1806-1843
b. 5, f. 54	Law, Jonathan Albion (1812- ). Letters to parents, Samuel A. Law and Sarah Lyon Law	1834-1838
b. 5, f. 55	Law, Jonathan Albion (1812- ). Letters to father, Samuel A. Law	1842 August 9, November 13 and 28
b. 5, f. 56	Law, Jonathan Albion (1812- ). Financial records	1840-1857
b. 5, f. 57	Law, Samuel Andrew Jr. (1810- ). Letters to parents, Samuel A. Law and Sarah Lyon Law and legal document	1824-1842
b. 6, f. 58-60	Law, William (1750-1824). Letters to son, Samuel A. Law	1809-1824
b. 6, f. 61	Law, William (1750-1824). State of debt left upon his death	1824
b. 6, f. 62-64	Law, William Lyon (1808-1839). Letters to father, Samuel A. Law, and other family members	1824-1839
b. 6, f. 65	Law, William Lyon (1808-1839). Financial records	1807-1837
b. 6, f. 66	Law, William Lyon (1808-1839). Obituary in the Delaware Gazette	1839 November 27
Related Correspondence and Papers		
b. 7, f. 67	Baird, Rev. William. Letters to Samuel A. Law	1839 November 4 and 14
b. 7, f. 68	Brainand, Rev. Timothy G. Letters to Samuel A. Law	1831-1840
b. 7, f. 69	Day, Jeremiah. Letters to Samuel A. Law	1830-1839
b. 7, f. 70	Dwight, B. W. Letters and records of accounts with Samuel A. Law	1820-1828

## Related Correspondence and Papers (continued)

b. 7, f. 71	Judson, Dr. F. T. Letters to Samuel A. Law and financial records for William Lyon Law	1839-1840
b. 7, f. 72	Law, Rev. Andrew. Letters to Samuel A. Law	1816-1820
b. 7, f. 73	Linsley, James H. Letters to Samuel A. Law	1820-1823
b. 7, f. 74	Lyon, Col. William. Legal and financial documents, including Declaration of Trust from Samuel A. Law	1831 December 19
b. 7, f. 75	Metcalf, Silas. Letters to Samuel A. Law	1835-1837
b. 7, f. 76	Parker, Amasa and Amasa J. Letters to Samuel A. Law	1820-1844
b. 7, f. 77	Williams, S. R. Letters to Samuel A. Law	1839 October 17, 31, and November 25
b. 7, f. 78	Letters from others to members of the Law family	1813-1842
b. 7, f. 79	Other papers relating to the Law family	1806-1851
b. 7, f. 80	Survey of farm for M. Osterhout	undated
b. 7, f. 81	Notes on the Law Family and Law Family papers	undated

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Families -- United States  
Fathers and sons -- United States  
Lawyers -- Connecticut

### **Occupations**

Lawyers -- United States -- Connecticut

### **Families**

Law family

### **Names**

Law, Jonathan Albion, 1819-  
Law, Samuel Andrew, 1771-1845  
Law, Samuel Andrew, 1816-  
Law, Stephen D. (Stephen Dodd), 1820-1886  
Law, William, 1779-1856  
Law, William, approximately 1750-  
approximately 1835  
Law, William Lyon, 1814-

### **Corporate Body**

Yale College (1718-1887)