

**GUIDE TO THE
MICROFILM EDITION OF**

**THE JOSEPH BUELL PAPERS
1806-1812**

AND

**THE JOSEPH BUELL
FAMILY PAPERS
1785-1956**

*From the holdings of the
Western Reserve Historical Society
Cleveland, Ohio*

A Microfilm Publication by

Scholarly Resources Inc.
An Imprint of Thomson Gale

**Scholarly Resources Inc.
An Imprint of Thomson Gale**

12 Lunar Drive, Woodbridge, CT 06525
Tel: (800) 444-0799 and (203) 397-2600
Fax: (203) 397-3893

P.O. Box 45, Reading, England
Tel: (+44) 1734-583247
Fax: (+44) 1734-394334

ISBN: 0-8420-4275-X

All rights reserved, including those to
reproduce this microfilm guide or any parts
thereof in any form

Printed and bound in the
United States of America

2005

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Note to Researcher, **iv**

Introduction to the Collections, **v**

Reel Contents

Joseph Buell Papers, 1806-1812, 1

Joseph Buell Family Papers, 1785-1956, 2

NOTE TO RESEARCHER

This microfilm edition has been produced primarily for purposes of preservation. No restrictions have been placed on the use of this microfilm for research purposes, and individual frames may be reproduced to facilitate scholarly research. However, neither whole reels nor significant portions thereof may be duplicated without the written permission of the Archives/Library Division of the Western Reserve Historical Society

Further, the researcher is cautioned that under the Copyright Law (Title 17, United States Code) copyright to unpublished manuscripts descends to the heirs of the author, unless the author ceded his or her rights elsewhere. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain permission from the owner(s) of copyright before publishing any materials contained on this film.

The property rights to the *Joseph Buell Papers* and the *Joseph Buell Family Papers* reside with the Western Reserve Historical Society, which also has custody of the master camera negative to this microfilm edition. Citations to this collection should read: *Joseph Buell Papers*, MS 3433, or *Joseph Buell Family Papers*, MS 3664, Microfilm Edition, Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio.

The microfilming of this collection was supported by the Sedgwick Foundation.

Joseph Buell Papers, 1806-1812:

Provenance: Unrecorded

Number of Containers: 1; **Oversize Folders:** 1; **Oversize Volumes:** 0

Microfilm: 1 reel

Size: 0.2 linear feet/0.06 linear meters

Restrictions: Microfilm is use copy.

Joseph Buell Family Papers, 1785-1956:

Provenance: Mrs. Neil Gray, November 20, 1974

Number of Containers: 2; **Oversize Folders:** 0; **Oversize Volumes:** 0

Microfilm: 2 reels

Size: 8 linear feet/0.24 linear meters

Restrictions: Microfilm is use copy.

INTRODUCTION TO THE COLLECTIONS

Joseph Buell (1763-1812) was a soldier in the U.S. Army and the Ohio Militia, a politician and jurist, and an early settler and prominent citizen in Marietta, Ohio. Buell was born in Killingworth, Connecticut, on February 16, 1763. From 1785 to 1788 he served in the Regular Army as an orderly sergeant, during which he kept a journal detailing his experiences on the frontier. Beginning in September 1785 his regiment conducted a march from Hartford, Connecticut, to Fort Harmar near Marietta, arriving in May the following year. After garrison duty at several posts in the Ohio country, Buell left the Army in November 1788. In August of that year, before leaving for Connecticut, he acquired land in the Symmes Purchase, with the intent of returning to settle.

After marrying Siba Hand (?--1831) in February 1789, Buell and his brother, Timothy, set off for the North Bend, Ohio, colony but quickly moved back to settle in Marietta. There, in 1790, Buell opened a tavern, which prospered due to the settlement and boat-building activities on the Ohio River. He then entered politics and served as state senator from 1803 to 1805 and associate justice of the Court of Common Pleas of Washington County from 1803 to 1810. He was also appointed major general in the Ohio Militia. It is in this capacity that he became involved in the famous conspiracy (seemingly targeted at seizing the northern provinces in the Spanish colony of Mexico) involving former Vice President Aaron Burr, Harman Blennerhassett, General James Wilkinson, and others.

In December 1806, General Buell was ordered by Ohio Governor Edward Tiffin to raise the militia and seize boats under construction for Burr and Blennerhassett near Marietta and to intercept supplies bound down the Ohio River for use by Burr's expedition gathering at Blennerhassett's island home. Buell seized the boats on December 13 and proclaimed martial law in Marietta, thereby requiring all vessels navigating the river to put into the city for inspection. The inspections continued through February 1807 until the news of Burr's and Blennerhassett's arrests on the Mississippi River reached the War Department. Thereupon, Buell disposed of the seized property under orders of Secretary of War Henry Dearborn.

The *Joseph Buell Papers, 1806-1812* are arranged alphabetically by document type and then chronologically. Notable correspondents include Ohio Governor Edward Tiffin (1766-1829), U.S. Secretary of War Henry Dearborn (1751-1829), John George Jackson (1777-1825), Thomas Kirker (1760-1837), and Caesar Augustus Rodney (1772-1824).

This collection is of value to researchers interested in events related to the 1806 conspiracy or association mounted by Aaron Burr and Harman Blennerhassett, ostensibly to seize territory in western North America for unknown purposes. While few of the events related to the conspiracy or the arrests and trial of Burr and Blennerhassett in Ohio, the seizure of the boats and supplies in Marietta and the blockade of the Ohio River by the Ohio Militia, under the orders of the War Department, indicate the gravity with which the matter was regarded at that time. Tiffin's and Dearborn's orders to Buell illuminate the position of the Jefferson administration on this event.

The Joseph Buell Family were early settlers in Ohio and the Northwest Territory. Like both Joseph and Timothy, who was a captain in the militia during the Burr controversy and the War of 1812, as well as later serving as a county magistrate, a state representative from 1820 to 1822, and sheriff of Washington County, many of their descendants were equally prominent in the affairs of Marietta and Washington County.

The *Joseph Buell Family Papers, 1785-1956 (1810-1890)* consist mostly of correspondence, genealogical material, transcripts of journals, and family recollections of the settlement of the Ohio frontier. The collection is arranged primarily by family surname. Correspondence and noncorrespondence have been arranged chronologically within each family grouping. The major part of the collection consists of correspondence between members of the Buell family and dates from 1810 to 1890. Genealogical material is composed of charts, histories, sketches, notes, and a memorial and refers to the Buell family and related Curtis, Tupper, Lewis, Nye, and Gray families. Included in the genealogical records is a history of the Lewis family, which claims lineage from George Washington, and a pedigree evidencing the Washington-Lewis line.

This collection is of value for researchers interested in the settlement and development of the Ohio frontier and the Northwest Territory, and the establishment of Marietta. Most important is the transcript of the journal of Sergeant Joseph Buell. His journal, kept from September 1785 through June 1789 upon his return to settle in Marietta, gives a vivid account of a march with his men into the western country. His reports of the physical hardships that they suffered, the rough customs, frequent desertions and rebelliousness of the men, and the harsh disciplines portray the tremendous difficulty of establishing and maintaining a military post on the frontier while facing opposition from the Shawnee inhabitants of the region. Extensive materials on the process of recruiting soldiers for service in the 63rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry regiment during the Civil War are included in William H. Buell's papers. Also of interest are the recollections of Phoebe Wood Putnam concerning her journey from Connecticut to settle in Marietta, and Anselm Tupper Nye and unidentified members of the Buell family concerning the settlement of Miami County. Genealogists will find useful records on the Buell, Curtis, Gray, Lewis, Nye, and Tupper families of southern Ohio.

All photographs have been removed to the photograph and print collection.

JOSEPH BUELL PAPERS

1806-1812

Reel 1

Reel 1	Container 1	Folder 1	Arrest warrant for Harman Blennerhassett, 1806 (original stored in Oversize Folder 1); correspondence, 1806-1807; fair hand copy of the complaint, motions, testimonies, evidence, and judgment in the lawsuit <i>Robert Miller vs. Aaron Burr</i> before the Court of Common Pleas of Washington County, Ohio, 1812; interrogatories and a summons in the treason trial <i>United States vs. Aaron Burr</i> , 1807; inventory of property belonging to and persons employed by Harman Blennerhassett seized by Ohio militia, December 13, 1806; unattributed research notes, hand and typewritten, relating to Burr's application for Army pension (1833); and the divorce action <i>Eliza B. Burr vs. Aaron Burr</i> (1836), undated.
---------------	--------------------	-----------------	---

**JOSEPH BUELL FAMILY PAPERS
1785-1956**

Reels 1-2

Reel 1	Container 1	Folder 1	Correspondence and articles relating to and transcription of the journal of Sergeant Joseph Buell in 1785-1789, 1937-1951, and undated.
		Folder 2	Copy of the transcription of the journal of Sergeant Joseph Buell, undated.
		Folder 3	Recollections of the settlement of Miami County, 1841-1855 and undated.
		Folder 4	Buell family correspondence, 1810-1844.
		Folder 5	Buell family correspondence, 1829-1890.
		Folder 6	Buell family correspondence [1857].
		Folder 7	Military records and correspondence of William H. Buell, concerning recruitment for the 63rd Regiment, O.V.1., 1852-1861.
		Folder 8	Buell family newspaper clippings, ca. 1881-1956.
		Folder 9	Buell family genealogical material, 1923-1927 and undated.

Joseph Buell Family Papers, 1785-1956

Reel 2	Container 2	Folder 1	Tupper family papers, ca. 1788-1896, including correspondence, financial and legal papers, clippings, and genealogical material with particular attention to sketches of Anselm Tupper (1763-1808); his father, General Benjamin Tupper (1728-1792); and Thomas Mayhew (1593-1682).
		Folder 2	Genealogical material of the Lewis family, including the pedigree of George Washington, undated.
		Folder 3	Nye family papers, including correspondence, 1809-1890; genealogical material, undated; memorial to Anselm Tupper Nye (1797-1881); notes, reminiscences, legal and military documents of Anselm Tupper Nye, 1823-1898.
		Folder 4	Curtis family papers, including business and legal papers, military records, and genealogical material, 1808-1869.
		Folder 5	Gray family papers, including correspondence arranged chronologically; verse; and legal, financial, and military records, 1846-1917.
		Folder 6	Miscellaneous correspondence, including Oliver Dodge to Ann Manchester, 1799-1800; Phoebe Wood Putnam, to a friend concerning conditions of her journey to Marietta from Connecticut and first impressions upon arrival, 1836; Sam Stone to Samuel H. Putnam, 1872; Kenneth D. Wood to his cousin, 1895; and Florence D. Dale to her cousins, concerning the Mayhews, 1907.
		Folder 7	Eliza M. Bayles, book of verse, 1825; Ida Swift, composition book, undated; and Julia D. Curtis, album, 1865.

Joseph Buell Family Papers, 1785-1956

Reel 2(cont.) Container 2(cont.)Folder 8 Essays and journals; an essay on the Ohio Company land office, undated; fragment (14 pages) of logbook of the Louisiana, 1804, New Orleans, Louisiana; essay on Blennerhasset Island, concerning events of 1806; and a typescript war diary of the 135th Field Artillery, 1917-1919, edited by Julius King.

Folder 9 Miscellaneous items, 1921, 1935, and undated.