



## Great Barrington and Alford Turnpike Corporation Record book

1833-1846

1 vol (0.1 linear feet)

Call no.: MS033bd

### Collection overview

In June 1811, the Great Barrington and Alford Turnpike Corporation was incorporated with the aim of constructing a road at the northern end of the Fifteenth Massachusetts Turnpike, stretching from Great Barrington, Mass., through Alford and North Egremont before crossing the state line and ending in Hudson, New York. Under the direction of Josiah Milland and Jacob and John Van Deusen (who lived near the road), the corporation was apparently not exceptionally profitable. A leg of the turnpike through Great Barrington was made free in 1831, and in 1846, having failed in their petition to receive compensation for loss of privileges, the corporation transferred the road into public management.

Although only a slender 21 pages in length, this record book is nearly the only documentation of the finances for a small, but typical turnpike company in antebellum Massachusetts. The book includes somewhat sparse records of receipts from the toll booths and expenditures for maintenance, extending from 1833 until the corporation was dissolved in 1846. At the end of the book are two pages of personal expenses associated with a trip to Ohio.

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Transport

## Background on Great Barrington and Alford Turnpike Corporation

In June 1811, the Great Barrington and Alford Turnpike Corporation was incorporated with the aim of constructing a road at the northern end of the Fifteenth Massachusetts Turnpike, stretching from Great Barrington, Mass., through Alford and North Egremont before crossing the state line and ending in Hudson, New York. Under the direction of Josiah Milland and Jacob and John Van Deusen (who lived near the road), the corporation was apparently not exceptionally profitable. A leg of the turnpike through Great Barrington was made free in 1831, and in 1846, having failed in their petition to receive compensation for loss of privileges, the corporation transferred the road into public management.

## Scope of collection

Although only a slender 21 pages in length, this record book is nearly the only documentation of the finances for a small, but typical turnpike company in antebellum Massachusetts. The book includes somewhat sparse records of receipts from the toll booths and expenditures for maintenance, extending from 1833 until the corporation was dissolved in 1846. At the end of the book are two pages of personal expenses associated with a trip to Ohio.

## Administrative information

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### Access

The collection is open for research.

### Provenance

Acquired from Dan Casavant, Nov. 2004 (2004-117).

### Bibliography

Wood, Frederic James, *The Turnpikes of New England and Evolution of the Same Through England, Virginia, and Maryland*. Boston : Marshall Jones, 1919.

### Processing Information

Processed by I. Eliot Wentworth, Aug. 2014.

### Language:

English

### Copyright and Use (More information )

*Cite as:* Great Barrington and Alford Turnpike Corporation Record Book (MS 033 bd). Special Collections and University Archives, UMass Amherst Libraries.

## Search terms

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### Subjects

- Great Barrington (Mass.)--History
- Toll roads--Massachusetts

### Contributors

- Great Barrington and Alford Turnpike Corporation **[main entry]**
- Milland, Josiah
- Van Deusen, Jacob H.
- Van Deusen, John

## Genres and formats

- Ledgers

## Link to similar SCUA collections

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