

James Shearer Daybook

1836-1838

1 volume (0.1 linear ft.)

Call no.: MS 418 bd



[About SCUA](#)

[SCUA home](#)

[Credo digital](#)

[Scope](#)

[Admin info](#)

[Download](#)

[xml version](#)

[print version \(pdf\)](#)



[Read collection overview](#)

During the late 1830s, James Shearer operated a general store near Palmer, Massachusetts, trading in the gamut of dry goods and commodities that made up the country trade in Massachusetts, from dried fish, butter, rum, and brandy, to soap, nails, chalk, cloth, sugar, molasses, spices, coffee, and tea. Although some customers paid their accounts in cash, most appear bartered goods (e.g. with butter) or services (carting).

The Shearer daybook contains detailed records the transactions of a general store located in or near Palmer, Mass., during the years surrounding the financial panic of 1837. The volume is attributed to Shearer based on a single signature on the last page of the volume, closing out a lengthy account with J. Sedgwick. Although Shearer cannot be identified with certainty, it appears likely that he was a member of the prolific Shearer family of Palmer in Hampden County.

See similar SCUA collections:

Massachusetts (West)

Mercantile

Background on James Shearer

During the late 1830s, James Shearer operated a general store near Palmer, Massachusetts, trading in the gamut of dry goods and commodities that made up the country trade in Massachusetts, from dried fish, butter, rum, and brandy, to soap, nails, chalk, cloth, sugar, molasses, spices, coffee, and tea. Although some customers paid their accounts in cash, most appear bartered goods (e.g. with butter) or services (carting).

Scope of collection

The Shearer daybook contains detailed records the transactions of a general store located in or near Palmer, Mass., during the years surrounding the financial panic of 1837. The volume is attributed to Shearer based on a single signature on the last page of the volume, closing out a lengthy account with J. Sedgwick. Although Shearer cannot be identified with certainty, it appears likely that he was a member of the prolific Shearer family of Palmer in Hampden County. Customers in the volume who can be identified with greater certainty through the Vital Records and other sources were residents of Palmer (e.g. Lorenzo, Marcus M., and Porter Shearer, Harvey and Martin Sedgwick, Alonzo V. Blanchard), Wilbraham (Shadrach Taylor, Abraham Knowlton), Sturbridge (Emerson Lumbard), Brimfield (Bezaleel Sherman, Calvin Moulton), and Monson (Orrin Hovey).

Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Acquired from Dan Casavant, 2001 (2001-015).

Processing Information

Processed by Dex Haven, August 2010.

Language:

English

Copyright and Use (More information)

Cite as: James Shearer Daybook (MS 418 bd). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

Search terms

Subjects

General stores--Massachusetts--Palmer.

Palmer (Mass.)--Economic conditions--19th century.

Contributors

Shearer, James. [main entry]

Shearer, James.

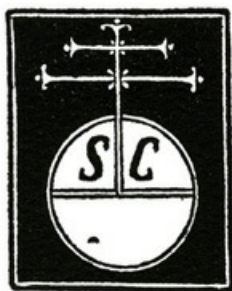
Genres and formats

Daybooks.

Link to similar SCUA collections

Massachusetts (West)

Mercantile



Special Collections & University Archives

University Libraries : UMass Amherst

154 Hicks Way : Amherst, Mass. 01003-9275

Ph. 413-545-7282 (545-SCUA)



2020Site PoliciesAccessibility