



# LancasterHistory

## **Steele Family Papers, 1775-1990**

**Object ID: MG0591**

1 box    18 folders    .5 cubic ft.

Repository: LancasterHistory (Organization); PV7

Shelving Location: Archives South, Side 12

Scope and Content Note: The Steele Family Papers contain genealogical records, notes, and documents supporting the lineage between Mary Edna Murphy (DAR No. 297765) and Revolutionary War soldiers Robert Bailey, John Cowell, Adam Reigart, Henry Slaymaker, and John Steele, and architect Robert Smith.

Creator: Steele family.

Conditions for Access: No restrictions.

Conditions Governing Reproductions: Collection may not be photocopied. Please direct questions to Research Center Staff at [research@lancasterhistory.org](mailto:research@lancasterhistory.org). Permission for reproduction and/or publication must be obtained in writing from LancasterHistory.

Language: English

Source of Acquisition: Gift of Leonard G. Murphy, September 2010.

Accruals: No further accruals are expected.

Preferred Citation: Steele Family Papers (MG0591), Folder #, LancasterHistory, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Subject Headings:

Family archives  
Genealogy  
Letters  
Obituaries  
Probate records  
Scrapbooks



# LancasterHistory

## Search Terms:

Correspondence  
Family records  
Finding aids  
Genealogy  
Letters  
Manuscript groups  
Obituaries  
Probate records  
Scrapbooks

## Related Materials:

Adam Reigart Collection (MG0122)  
Adam Reigart Jr., John S. Murphy Collection (MG0331)  
Samuel R. Slaymaker II, White Chimneys Collection (MG0268)  
See also the Photograph Collection  
See also the Curatorial Collection

Processing History: Processed and finding aid prepared by MK, 2014. This collection has been documented, preserved and managed according to professional museum and archives standards. The collection was cataloged using DACS conventions.



# LancasterHistory

**Folder 1** Scrapbook (Cowell, Robert Smith, Slaymaker, Bailey, Wager, Reigart)

A scrapbook of biographical and genealogical sketches of the Cowell, Slaymaker, Bailey, Reigart, and Wager families from the 1600s the 1930s, and Robert Smith. Includes newspaper clippings of biographical information, obituaries, a poem in memory of Mary Reigart, and images of homesteads and business locations; a visiting card and envelop bearing the names of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Slaymaker and Mary Steele (undated); a photograph taken in Port Deposit, Maryland (July 1871) of Henry Magram, Mary Slaymaker, Donald Halderman, Lizzie Boynton, Will Heald, Annie Patterson, Daisy Richards, Emily Magram; and, the Naval service record of John Steele.

**Folder 2** Reigart

**Insert 1** A transmittal from Adam Reigart to John Mitchell sending payment for the purchase of claret and porter (April 16, 1775) and a journal of receipts for supply of spirits (1792-1793).

**Insert 2** An invoice and payment receipt from Simon Gratz and Brother (Philadelphia, 1821) for gunpowder and tea purchased by Adam Reigart.

**Insert 3** A descendancy chart, in pencil, of Ulrich Reichart and Anna Maria Merkel (undated).

**Insert 4** A descendancy chart, in ink, of Ulrich Reichart and Anna Maria Merkel (undated).

**Folder 3** Francis Murphy, Sr., Affidavit of Intestate Heir and Transferee

Noncertified affidavit of intestate heir and transferee in the matter of the estate of Francis Murphy, Sr. of Montgomery County, PA, June 1976.

**Folder 4** Philip Wager

**Insert 1** Notes on the Families of Wager, Wirtz, Houser, Baker, and Schriener by Thomas Allen Glenn (undated).

**Insert 2** Transcript May 19, 1813 will of Philip Wager (undated).

**Insert 3** Correspondence from and to James Sellers, Esq. regarding the estate of Philip Wager, 1898-1900.

**Folder 5** Slaymaker

**Insert 1** Letter from Stephen Slaymaker to R. Frazer inquiring on behalf of Mrs. Shenck whether Anthony Nichol has been summoned to appear in the indictment for erecting a battery in the Susquehanna. Marietta Furnace, August 4, 1834.

**Insert 2** An excerpt of an article "Old Time Hostelryes" from *Christian Culture* recounting the history of Henry Slaymaker's "State Arms" hotel in Lancaster (undated).

**Insert 3** Invitation response from Captain and Mrs. Steele to Mrs. Stephen Slaymaker, S. Duke Street, with envelope. Harmony Hall, October 13, no year.



# LancasterHistory

## **Folder 6** Estate Papers of Susan Reigart Slaymaker

**Insert 1** Will and letter of instructions, copy, 1917.

**Insert 2** Schedule of property bequeathed to various individuals, November 23, 1916.

**Insert 3** Probated will, January 18, 1917.

**Insert 4** Inventory and appraisal of goods and chattel, copy, 1917

**Insert 5** Final account statement of Mary Reigart Cowell, executrix, 1918.

**Insert 6** Addendum to account statement of Executrix, undated.

**Insert 7** Account statement of trust account, February 1917.

**Insert 8** Orphan's court order to distribute trust funds to certain individuals, undated.

## **Folder 7** Estate papers of Mary Slaymaker

**Insert 1** Release of assets, October 14, 1908.

**Insert 2** Copy of will, June 27, 1906.

## **Folder 8** Trivia

**Insert 1** Brochures and article relating the history of the Society of Cincinnati, undated.

**Insert 2** Clippings of newspaper photos of old buildings in Lancaster, [c. 1922].

## **Folder 9** Hamilton Family

**Insert 1** Transcribed tombstone inscriptions William Hamilton, James Hamilton, and Mary Hamilton, undated.

**Insert 2** Transcript of the history of the Hamilton property, undated.

## **Folder 10** Porter Family

**Insert 1** Porter descendancy and biographical note.

**Insert 2** Biographical sketch of Robert Porter and descendants, 1961.

**Insert 3** Transcript of the history of the Buckwalter property, undated.

## **Folder 11** John Francis Steele book of poetry, 1831.

## **Folder 12** William Steele

**Insert 1** William Steele biographical sketch, undated.

**Insert 2** Biography of William Steele and descendants, undated.

**Insert 3** William Steele genealogy, undated.

## **Folder 13** John Steele

**Insert 1** Clippings of biographical footnotes on Bailey family members, undated.

**Insert 2** Copy of "Drumore Celebration" *Quarryville Sun*, September 20, 1921.

**Insert 3** Notes on John Steele, Jr., including descendants, undated.

**Insert 4** Correspondence and genealogical records of Harriot Steel Maxwell and other Maxwells, various dates.

**Insert 5** John Steele obituary (March 27, 1827) and photocopy



# LancasterHistory

**Folder 14** Robert Smith

**Insert 1** Robert Smith biographical notes, undated.

**Insert 2** Newsletters and flyers regarding Robert Smith and his buildings, various dates.

**Folder 15** Cowell-Marachi

**Insert 1** Biographical note on Solomon Marachi, undated.

**Insert 2** Cowell bookplates, undated.

**Insert 3** Cowell family tree, June 30, 1990.

**Folder 16** DAR Membership Application Materials

**Insert 1** Mary Edna Murphey to John Steele working sheet, undated.

**Insert 2** Incomplete Mary E. Murphy to John Cowell, M.D. application and copy, April 4, 1949.

**Folder 17** Genealogical Notes and Correspondence

**Insert 1** Correspondence between Mary Murphy and parties regarding certain ancestors, 1943-1992.

**Insert 2** Handwritten research notes, undated.

**Insert 3** Request from the DAR to Mary Murphy asking for additional documentation of lineage to Philip Wager, 1951.

**Folder 18** Excerpted Smith family historical court records and publications 1753-1810, undated.