

Collection: Isaac Van Wagoner, Esq. Papers

Accession Number: B1038

FINDING AID

Date Range: 1870's-1890's

Bulk Date: 1880's-1890's

Creator: William Paterson Chapter DAR

Containers: 2 legal size flip-top boxes

Storage Location: PCHS Library/Archives

Aid Created by Janet Wasti, volunteer

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Isaac Van Wagoner was born in Bergen County and attended the schools and academies in this section of the State during his early education years. He graduated from Rutgers College in 1845 and became a student of Judge John Hopper at Paterson. He became a member of the bar in 1848.

Mr. Van Wagoner was also active in the affairs of Paterson becoming Surrogate for Passaic County for ten years and Solicitor for the City of Paterson for one year.

HISTORY NOTE:

Isaac Van Wagoner was appointed a Master of the Chancery Court in Passaic County and also served as Surrogate of Passaic County. The majority of his law practice focused on Chancery Court Matters such as foreclosures, auction of properties, posting notices in publications as well as legal dealings with Orphan Court Matters. He was a close friend of Garret Augustus Hobart.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

This collection deals primarily with the legal documents used in Mr. Van Wagoner's practice as well as matters pertaining to the Chancery Court. There are personal legal agreements as well as business legal agreements included in this collection as well as guardianship documents, plaintiff's papers and birth certificates. He also prepared wills and powers of attorney for his clients. The second largest component of his practice after the Chancery Matters included the preparation of documents relating to mortgages, bonds, deeds and indentures as well as Court ordered auctioning of property and foreclosures.

Among his personal papers are Certificates, most of which concern his appointment as an Attorney at Law and Solicitor in Chancery as well as his appointment as a Master and Examiner in the Court of Chancery of the State of New Jersey along with Surrogate for Passaic County.

Also found in the collection are two files containing bill heads for personal business such as food services, medical services, gardening, food delivery, gas/water/telephone service as well as personal items purchased and services rendered.

The majority of the legal bill heads were for the purchase of space for advertising the proceedings of the Chancery Court Matters. As was required by law, these items were placed in the various local publications.

Also included in this collection were a number of cancelled checks from the Passaic County National Bank, Paterson, First & Second National Banks, Paterson, NJ, Ansonia National Bank, Ansonia, CT and the Fourth National Bank, New York, NY.

The final folder contains a collection of letters from 1842 to 1850 the majority of which are between Benjamin Brundred and C. Rubio all in Spanish and not translated.