

<b>Title:</b>	Tileston family fonds, 1777-1857, n.d.		
<b>Creator:</b>	Thomas Tileston Sr.(1735-1794) and Thomas Tileston Jr. (1789-1864)		
<b>Dates of Material:</b>	1777-1857, n.d.	<b>Record Group Number:</b>	RG 711
<b>Summary of Contents:</b>	<p>Fonds consists of correspondence; a letter copy book describing an 1817 voyage from Newbern, North Carolina, to Charleston, South Carolina; bills; receipts; invoices; and wills. The financial records such as bills, invoices and receipts record the personal and business activities of Thomas Tileston Sr., who had a business as a house builder. The correspondence, letter copy book, and wills belonged to Thomas Tileston Jr. and document his activities. Some of the letters refer to events from the War of 1812.</p> <p><b>1.1-1.15</b> Bills, receipts and invoices, 1777-1794. The papers concern the financial affairs of Thomas Tileston Sr. Some of the invoices are for lumber and other building materials connected with his business as a house builder. There are also invoices associated with his schooners, including wharfage costs, cordage, marine supplies and stores. Some bills and receipts are for personal household expenses such as food, clothing, and repairs.</p> <p><b>1.16</b> General Correspondence, 1810-1857. Most of the letters are addressed to Thomas Tileston Jr. and were written by friends and family, although a few letters are written by Thomas Tileston.</p> <p>Some of the letters refer to events from the War of 1812. A letter dated September 2, 1813, states that “... <i>You have undoubtedly heard of our alarm by the British presume the particulars would be a repetition and knowing that to be very grating to your nerves will only say, I think that I behaved very heroic – perhaps it was because I had no property to be destroyed by the uncivilized soldiers. The destruction of public property appears to be their object consequently I feel that the inhabitants of Essex can apprehend but little or no fear from them in future.</i>”</p> <p>A letter dated September 3, 1814, refers to the British invasion of Washington on August 24, 1814. The British set fire to the White House, Capitol Building, and other local landmarks. The letter states that “<i>I duly recd yours of the 29 ulto with the enclosed, communicating the unpleasant news from the South. I assure you I do not regret the loss of the Capitol, President’s house and every other one, so much as the loss to our little Navy &amp; in sum what have they been about this two years or even months after they knew they would shortly have a visit from the British. I almost wish with you that they had blown up Jimmy &amp; let them try Old Mass and see what the result will be as we are not at all alarm’d here at present, every thing goes on much in same old way ...</i>”</p>		

	<p><b>1.17</b> Letters from Thomas Tileston to his fiancé Maria Tallman, 1818. Contains 6 letters.</p> <p><b>1.18</b> Letters to Thomas Tileston from his wife Maria Tileston, 1818-1820. Contains two letters.</p> <p><b>1.19</b> Letters to Maria Tileston, 1820-1830. Contains 3 letters. Two letters are from her husband Thomas and one letter is from her cousin Amelia.</p> <p><b>1.20</b> Letter copy book, 1817. A series of letters containing Tileston’s experiences and impressions of the South during a voyage from Newbern, North Carolina, to Charleston, South Carolina. Tileston did not have a favourable opinion of the South and is very blunt in his comments about the difficulties running aground during the voyage, the Southerners’ use of language, and Southern women. He writes that “this is the damndest of all places you can conceive of &amp; if I was told I must pass the rest o’ my days here, should soon come to an untimely end...I would not swap my situation in B[oston] for double the advantage in any other place &amp; be obliged to live there...”.</p> <p><b>1.21</b> Wills, 1854, n.d.. Contains three manuscript wills for Thomas Tileston Jr.</p> <p><b>1.22</b> Folders and envelopes, n.d. Contains two empty folders labelled “Old Deeds” and “Tileston Deeds &amp; Papers”, as well as 4 empty envelopes. Most of the envelopes are addressed to various Tileston family members.</p>
<p><b>Physical Description / Condition:</b></p>	<p>10 cm of textual records</p>
<p><b>Administrative/ Biographical Sketch:</b></p>	<p>Thomas Tileston Sr. (1735-1794) was born in Boston. He was the son of Onesiphorus Tileston, a wealthy contractor. Thomas also became a builder and married Lucy Howe (1758-1794) in 1783. He was an ardent patriot and member of the Sons of Liberty who witnessed, and likely participated in, the Boston Tea Party. He served in the colonial militia after the Battle of Concord in 1775 and saw Army service in 1778 and 1779.</p> <p>Thomas Tileston Jr. (1789-1864) was born in Boston, Suffolk County, and was the son of Thomas Tileston and Lucy Howe. He married Maria Theresa Tallman in 1818 and became a well-known Boston merchant.</p>

<b>Location:</b>	Brock University Archives		
<b>Source Information:</b>	Acquired from Michael Brown Rare Books in 2021.		
<b>Described by:</b>	Chantal Cameron	<b>Date:</b>	July 2021