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Guide to the

**Minutes and observations relative to the estate of the late Major
General John Bradstreet**

1783-1786

MssCol 18815

Compiled by Philip Heslip, November 2012

Summary

Creator: Evans, Charles John

Title: Minutes and observations relative to the estate of the late Major General John Bradstreet, 1783-1786

Size: .1 linear foot (1 folder)

Source: Purchased from the William Reese Company, 2012.

Abstract: This item document the mismanagement of John Bradstreet's estate by executor Philip Schuyler. The minutes and observations detail discrepancies in the estate accounts that John Charles Evans, husband of Agatha Bradstreet, discovered after numerous interviews with Schuyler and others familiar with the estate, between 1783 and 1786.

Access: Advance notice required. Apply at <http://www.nypl.org/mssref>.

Preferred citation: Minutes and observations relative to the estate of the late Major General John Bradstreet, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.

Creator history

This document was created by Charles John Evans, husband of John Bradstreet's daughter, Agatha Bradstreet. John Bradstreet (1714-1774) was a Major General in the British Colonial army who participated in the French and Indian War and other military engagements leading up to the American Revolution. He died in New York City in 1774, leaving his friend General Philip Schuyler as the executor of his estate. Schuyler mismanaged the Bradstreet's assets and entered into a protracted legal dispute with his heirs that lasted through the 1780s and 1790s.

Scope and content note

This item documents the mismanagement of John Bradstreet's estate by executor Philip Schuyler. John Charles Evans, husband of Agatha Bradstreet, created the document sometime before 1788, when the couple filed a bill in chancery against Schuyler. The minutes and observations, consisting of twenty compiled entries, detail discrepancies in the estate that Evans discovered after conducting numerous interviews with Schuyler and other people familiar with the assets. Evans compiled this evidence between 1783 and 1786.

The investigation details the amount of cash that Bradstreet left in a trunk at the time of his death, as well as sums of his mortgages and loans, and expenses incurred in building his home. Martha Bradstreet (1780-1871), the general's step-granddaughter, annotated one entry, noting that it referred to the illicit relationship between John Bradstreet and Catherine Schuyler, Philip Schuyler's wife (page 8).

Key terms

Subjects

Real property -- New York (State) -- New York

Names

Bradstreet family

Bradstreet, John, 1711-1774 -- Estate

Bradstreet, Martha, b. 1780

Evans, Charles John

Schuyler, Philip John, 1733-1804

Special formats

Estate records