

David Conner Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2016

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79016618>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms016014>

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2016

Collection Summary

Title: David Conner Papers

Span Dates: 1817-1847

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1844-1847)

ID No.: MSS16618

Creator: Conner, David, 1792-1856

Extent: 400 items

Extent: 3 containers

Extent: .6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm79016618>

Summary: Naval officer. Correspondence, reports, invoices, ships returns, extracts from ships logs, and other official naval papers primarily pertaining to Conner's service as commander of U.S. naval forces in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Aulick, John H., -1873--Correspondence.

Bancroft, George, 1800-1891--Correspondence.

Chase, Franklin, 1804-1890--Correspondence.

Chase, W. H. (William Henry), 1798-1870--Correspondence.

Chauncey, John S., -1871--Correspondence.

Conner, David, 1792-1856.

Gideon, Joseph--Correspondence.

Glass, James William, approximately 1825-1855--Correspondence.

Gwinn, John, 1791-1849--Correspondence.

Hunt, William E. (William Edgar)--Correspondence.

Latimer, William K., -1873--Correspondence.

Lavallette, E. A. F. (Elie Augustus F.), approximately 1790-1862--Correspondence.

Levi, Henri--Correspondence.

Mason, John Y. (John Young), 1799-1859--Correspondence.

Mattison, Joseph--Correspondence.

Saunders, John Loyall, -1860--Correspondence.

Scott, Winfield, 1786-1866--Correspondence.

Scott, Winfield, 1786-1866.

Organizations

Bainbridge (Brig)

Falmouth (Sloop of war)

Porpoise (Schooner)

Potomac (Frigate)

United States. Navy.

Vandalia (Sloop of war)

Subjects

Mexican War, 1846-1848--Naval operations, American.

Places

Caribbean Area--History, Naval--19th century.

Dominican Republic--History--1844-1930.
Gulf Coast (U.S.)--History, Naval--19th century.
Mexico, Gulf of--History, Naval--19th century.
Veracruz (Veracruz-Llave, Mexico)--History--Surrender, 1847.

Occupations

Naval officers.

Provenance

The papers of David Conner, naval officer, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1914.

Processing History

The David Conner Papers were processed and bound into three volumes in 1918.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of David Conner is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of David Conner are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, David Conner Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1792	Born, Harrisburg, Pa.
1809	Joined U.S. Navy
1813-1815	Served in the War of 1812; wounded in action; promoted to lieutenant in 1813
1825	Attained rank of commander
1835	Promoted to captain
1841-1842	Navy commissioner; became first chief of Bureau of Construction, Equipment, and Repair
1846-1847	Commanded the Home Squadron during the Mexican War; led American assault against the city of Vera Cruz, Mexico
circa 1848-1856	Commanded Philadelphia Navy Yard
1856, Mar. 20	Died, Philadelphia, Pa.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of David Conner (1792-1856) span the years 1817-1847, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1844-1847. The collection consists of correspondence, reports, invoices, ships returns, extracts from ships logs, and other

official naval papers primarily pertaining to Conner's service as commander of United States naval forces in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico. Many of the letters are from commanders of vessels, such as the *Bainbridge*, *Falmouth*, *Porpoise*, *Potomac*, and *Vandalia*. Included is material relating to the 1844 revolution in the Dominican Republic, naval operations in the Mexican War, and preparations for the attack on Vera Cruz, Mexico, where Conner managed the landing of General Winfield Scott's army.

Correspondents include John H. Aulick, George Bancroft, Franklin Chase, W. H. Chase, John S. Chauncey, Joseph Gideon, James William Glass, John Gwinn, William E. Hunt, W. Latimer, E. A. F. Lavallette, Henri Levi, John Y. Mason, Joseph Mattison, John L. Saunders, and Winfield Scott.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized chronologically in three bound volumes

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Vol. 1, 1817, May 30-1845, Aug. 19
BOX 2	Vol. 2, 1845, Aug. 20-1846, Jan. 30
BOX 3	Vol. 3, 1846, July 1-1847, May 1