

Burbank-Van Voorhis Families Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

Prepared by David Mathison



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

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Collection Summary

Title: Burbank-Van Voorhis Families Papers

Span Dates: 1814-1913

ID No.: MSS58602

Creator: Burbank family

Creator: Voorhees family

Extent: 10 items; 1 container; .4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Members of the Burbank and Van Voorhis (Voorhees) families. Diaries, correspondence, and military papers of Burbank and Van Voorhis family members spanning the War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, and American occupation of the Philippines in the early twentieth century.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Burbank family.

Burbank, Sidney, 1807-1882. Sidney Burbank diaries. 1839-1880.

Van Voorhis, Daniel. Daniel Van Voorhis correspondence and reports. 1911-1913.

Voorhees family.

Subjects

Mexican War, 1846-1848.

Places

Philippines--History--1898-1946.

Philippines--Politics and government--1898-1935.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

United States--History--War of 1812.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of the Burbank-Van Voorhis families were given to the Library of Congress by Betsy Bell Van Voorhis in 1979-1980.

Processing History

The papers of Burbank-Van Voorhis families were arranged and described in 1981. The finding aid was revised in 2008.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the Burbank-Van Voorhis families is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of the Burbank-Van Voorhis families 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, Burbank-Van Voorhis Families Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Papers consist of items from Samuel Burbank, a captain during the War of 1812, Sidney Burbank, brigadier general serving from 1839 and through the Mexican War and Civil War, and Daniel Van Voorhis, a major serving in the Philippines, 1911-1913.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of the Burbank-Van Voorhis families span the years 1814-1913 and consist of diaries, transcripts of letters, military papers, and a copy of an August 1912 issue of the Filipino newspaper, *El Heraldo Bico*.

The diary of a Captain Samuel Burbank, dated 1814-1823, discusses his duty at forts in New York state and the Detroit area during the War of 1812. Included are mentions of troop movements and ships, American and British, that pass by and an Indian council held at General Winfield Scott's headquarters. Most of the diary contains short entries about arrivals and departures, deaths and desertions. One section of the diary was used as a personal account book and lists expenditures as well as money owed him by other officers.

The diaries of Brigadier General Sidney Burbank begin in 1839 when he took command of New York recruits destined for Florida. Topics include descriptions of the terrain and negotiations with Indians, travels north during the removal of the Winnebago Indians from the Illinois territory to the western side of the Mississippi River, and his command of the Jefferson barracks in Missouri during the Mexican War. Also cited are journeys afterward to New Orleans and Texas and family visits to Massachusetts. Later diary entries concern his role in the Civil War, including in the battles of Fredricksburg and Gettysburg and his command of Newport barracks in Kentucky.

The military papers of Daniel Van Voorhis contain a file of reports and correspondence of Major Van Voorhis during a posting with the Philippine Scouts at Regan Barracks, Albay, Philippines, 1911-1913. A main topic of significance involves incidences of hostility or conflict between American troops and the populace.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Diaries
BOX 1	Burbank, Samuel, 1814-1823
BOX 1	Burbank, Sidney, 1839-1880
BOX 1	Letters from a bride, typewritten transcript of letters by Edith Burbank Van Voorhis, 1911-1912
BOX 1	Military papers of Daniel Van Voorhis, 1911-1913
BOX 1	Newspaper, <i>El Heraldo Bico</i> , 1912, Aug. 24