



The New York Public Library Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Provoost family papers

1736-1897

MssCol NYGB 18064

Summary

Creator: Provoost family

Title: Provoost family papers

Date: 1736-1897

Size: 1 v, 39 cm; 1 v, 39 cm

Abstract: The Provoost (Provost) family, of French Huguenot descent, were early settlers of New Amsterdam. David Provoost (1670-1724) was a merchant and Mayor of the City of New York from 1699 to 1700. His nephew John Provoost (d. 1767) was the son of Samuel Provoost and Mary Spratt Provoost Alexander, prominent New York City merchants, and the stepson of James Alexander, a prominent New York lawyer and politician. The Provoost family papers include a manuscript copy of David Provoost's genealogy of the Provoost family of New Amsterdam (compiled 1724), made by John Provoost in 1742, as well as two letters from John Provoost at Curacao to his parents dated 18 May 1736 and 21 June 1736, concerning shipment and prices of goods, addressed to his stepfather, James Alexander, in New York. Also present are some genealogical notes dated 1785, and a letter from Lucy D. Akerly to a Mr. King, 6 Oct. 1897, loosely laid in, concerning the Provoost family.

Conditions Governing Access:

Printed materials must be used in lieu of originals when available.

Preferred citation: Provoost family papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

The Provoost (Provost) family, of French Huguenot descent, were early settlers of New Amsterdam. David Provoost (1670-1724) was a merchant and Mayor of the City of New York from 1699 to 1700. His nephew John Provoost (d. 1767) was the son of Samuel Provoost and Mary Spratt Provoost Alexander, prominent New York City merchants, and the stepson of James Alexander, a prominent New York lawyer and politician.

Custodial History

Gift of Elizabeth Clarkson Jay to the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 1890.

Scope and Content Note

The Provoost family papers include a manuscript copy of David Provoost's genealogy of the Provoost family of New Amsterdam (compiled 1724), made by John Provoost in 1742, as well as two letters from John Provoost at Curacao to his parents dated 18 May 1736 and 21 June 1736, concerning shipment and prices of goods, addressed to his stepfather, James Alexander, in New York. Also present are some genealogical notes dated 1785, and a letter from Lucy D. Akerly to a Mr. King, 6 Oct. 1897, loosely laid in, concerning the Provoost family.

Key Terms

Geographic Names

Curaçao -- Commerce

New York (N.Y.) -- Commerce

New York (N.Y.) -- Genealogy

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Genealogies

Titles

Gift of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society

Occupations

Merchants

Politicians

Names

Provoost family

Akerly, Lucy Dubois, 1857-

Alexander, James, 1691-1756

Alexander, Mary, d. 1760

Provoost, David, 1670-1724

Provoost, John

Provost, Andrew J. (Andrew Jackson), b. 1867

Prevost family

New York Genealogical and Biographical Society Collection