Collection Summary
Title: Stiles, Horr, and Bonney Families Papers
Inclusive Dates: 1803-1907
Bulk Dates: 1824-1887
ID No.: MSS86599
Creator: Stiles family
Creator: Horr family
Creator: Bonney family
Extent: 900 items
Extent: 3 containers
Extent: 1 linear foot
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mn2023086599
Summary: Families residing in New York, and later, the Upper Midwest. Correspondence received from relatives of Betsey Bonney. Correspondence, deeds, surveys, and ephemera relating to Elizabeth Stiles Horr and family.

Acquisition Information
The papers of the Stiles, Horr, and Bonney families were given to the Library of Congress by Ann L. Bonney and Claire Bonney in 2023.

Processing History
The papers of the Stiles, Horr, and Bonney families were arranged and described by Rachel Telford in 2023.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of the Stiles, Horr, and Bonney Families Papers is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions
The papers of the Stiles, Horr, and Bonney families are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Stiles, Horr, and Bonney Families Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Family History
Elizabeth (“Betsy”) Stiles Horr (1782-1867) was born in Massachusetts and taught school in Denmark, New York, before marrying Elijah Horr in 1812. They lived in Stone Mills, New York, and had two surviving children, Peter and Benjamin. Peter Horr (1816-1866) married Sabra Lockore, and Benjamin Horr (1819-1893) married Annie Elizabeth Irwin. Betsy and Elijah Horr also reared Betsy’s niece, Mary H. Wyeth (1829-1863), who later changed her name to Mary Stiles Horr, moved west to Wisconsin, and became Mary Duncan upon her marriage to Edward Duncan.

**Scope and Content Note**

The papers of the Stiles, Horr, and Bonney families span the years 1803-1907, with the bulk of the material dating from 1824 to 1887. The collection documents the lives of everyday Americans in the nineteenth century. The papers are in English.

The collection documents the daily lives of the Stiles and Horr families, and the Bonney family, all from northern New York. The bulk of the material consists of letters received by Elizabeth ("Betsy") Stiles Horr and members of her family. Letters were received from various family members, including her siblings, Silas, Benjamin, Hannah, and Catherine, sister-in-law Polly, children Mary, Benjamin, and Peter, and other family members and friends. Also included is correspondence between other members of the Stiles and Horr families. Topics include Benjamin’s experience in the army during the War of 1812, health and well-being of friends and family members, living conditions, finances, Christian revival meetings, spiritualism, Mormonism, the temperance movement, farming and other work, and opinions on the Civil War and politics of the day. The correspondence also highlights the experiences of family members migrating west to various locations, including Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Louisiana.

The Betsey Gould Knox Bonney family correspondence consists of incoming correspondence, primarily addressed to Betsey Bonney. Letters were received from various family members, particularly her siblings, Pamela Crawford and John Knox, sister-in-law Caroline Knox, and nieces Tina Kroehnk and Carrie Knox. Topics include her sister’s grief over the loss of her daughter, growth and development of children, news of family members, health and deaths of family members, farming and crop yields, family relations, finances and sale of land, desire to visit family, weather, John Knox’s mental health, and Tina Kroehnk’s plans to move to Tennessee and thoughts on that region.

Also included in the collection are deeds, surveys, contracts, and receipts relating to the Stiles and Horr families, clippings, a hand-drawn floor plan, and transcripts of correspondence created by descendants of the Stiles, Horr, and Bonney families. Some transcripts include brief, typewritten or handwritten notes providing additional context.

**Arrangement of the Collection**

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material, and chronologically therein.

**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**

Bonney family--Correspondence.
Bonney family.
Bonney, Betsey Gould Knox, 1816-1890.
Horr family--Correspondence.
Horr family.
Horr, Elizabeth Stiles, 1782-1867.
Stiles family--Correspondence.
Stiles family.
Stiles, Benjamin 1780-

**Subjects**
Agriculture--New York (State)
Christianity.
Deeds--New York (State)
Latter Day Saint churches.
Revivals.
Spiritualism.
Temperance.

**Places**
Louisiana--Description and travel.
Louisiana--Social life and customs--19th century.
Middle West--Description and travel.
Middle West--Social life and customs--19th century.
New York (State)--Climate.
New York (State)--History--19th century.
New York (State)--Social conditions--19th century.
New York (State)--Social life and customs--19th century.
New York (State)--Surveys.
United States--History--19th century.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
United States--History--War of 1812.
United States--Politics and government--19th century.
United States--Religion--19th century.

**Titles**
*Bonney family papers*
*Horr family papers*
*Stiles family papers*
## Container List

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<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Betsey Bonney family correspondence, 1860-1880 (4 folders)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Elizabeth &quot;Betsy&quot; Stiles Horr family correspondence, 1803-1887, undated (2 folders)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Elizabeth &quot;Betsy&quot; Stiles Horr family correspondence, 1803-1887, undated (5 folders)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Deeds, surveys, contracts, and receipts, 1835-1907, undated</td>
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<td>BOX 2</td>
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<td>BOX 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Betsey Bonney family correspondence, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>Elizabeth &quot;Betsy&quot; Stiles Horr family correspondence, undated (2 folders)</td>
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