

∞ The Ward M. Canaday Center ∞  
for Special Collections  
The University of Toledo

Finding Aid

➤ Joseph Guillaume Devacht Papers 1817-1832 ◀

MSS-003

**Size:** 1 linear foot

**Provenance:** received from Mrs. Charles H. Bowers, of Toledo, a descendant of Joseph G. Devacht, donated this collection to the University of Toledo Libraries in 1955.

**Access:** open

**Collection Summary:** Collection consists of a ledger and a daybook kept between 1817 and 1832.

**Subjects:** [Business and Commerce](#)

**Copyright:** The literary rights to this collection are assumed to rest with the person(s) responsible for the production of the particular items within the collection, or with their heirs or assigns. Researchers bear full legal responsibility for the acquisition to publish from any part of said collection per *Title 17, United States Code*. The **Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections** may reserve the right to intervene as intermediary at its own discretion.

**Completed by:** Paul Gifford, February 1986, last updated: April 2014.

**Joseph Guillaume Devacht**  
**Papers, 1817-1832**

**Biographical Sketch**

- 1761            Born in Flanders, Holland.
- 1790            Came to America on the ship La Patrie joined the French colony  
                  At Gallipolis; a silversmith and general merchant there.
- 1798            Married Madame Parma tier
- 1844            Died in Gallipolis

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**Scope and Content Note**

The two bound volumes that form this collection consist of a ledger, 1817-32, and a daybook, 1824-30. In the ledger, Devacht recorded his accounts with individuals. Each account contains debit and credit entries. The debit entries contain little more than the amounts the individual owed at different times to Devacht, due to purchase. The researcher can find out what the individual purchased, if the date of the particular transaction falls into the time range covered by the daybook, by referring to the transaction in the daybook by date. The credit entries, on the other hand, generally describe how the debtor settled his debts: with cash, through labor, rent, or bill of account

The daybook, although covering a shorter period of time, probably contains information more useful to the researcher. A larger number of individuals are mentioned, and purchases are described. A typical page, for example, shows that during one week in 1827 Devacht sold whiskey, coffee, nails, sugar, gun powder, tobacco, corn meal, and more whiskey.

Devacht's handwriting is neat and the condition of the paper and binding is relatively good.

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**Arrangement**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Folder Title</b>
1	1	Ledger, 1818-1834
	2	Daybook, 1826-1830

(The above Items are located on Range 4)