

**Colonel Ebenezer Francis Chapter of the D.A.R. Collection  
1923-1972  
bulk 1923-1955**

**MSS:** # 015

**Processed by:** Corbin Apkin, (Nov. 2013)

**Volume:** 3 Boxes, 1.5 lin. ft.

**Abstract:**

The Colonel Ebenezer Francis Chapter of the D.A.R. Collection dates from 1923-1972. This particular D.A.R. chapter began organizing in 1923 and was officially founded on April 12, 1924. A large part of the collection is made up of membership applications, ranging from 1923 to 1955. Other organizational materials are also included in the collection. These include member lists and addresses, as well as biographical information and reports. There are numerous correspondences from the organization also seen in the collection. While this is the extent of the materials dealing specifically with the Ebenezer Francis Chapter, the collection also includes a number of materials relating to the National D.A.R. Included are documents from the D.A.R.'s continental congress meetings, newsletters and other materials distributed by the national organization. Also included are other materials, such as newspaper and magazine articles, discussing the D.A.R.

**Collection Creator:**

Colonel Ebenezer Francis D.A.R. Chapter, Beverly, MA.

**Provenance:**

This collection was given to Historic Beverly in 1962 by the Colonel Ebenezer Francis D.A.R. Chapter. Part of the collection was donated at a later date to be added to the original donation.

**Conservation/Processor's Note:**

The materials were originally in folders and boxes. The membership applications were organized alphabetically by folder within a box, but many of the applications within the folders were not completely organized. The processor organized these documents alphabetically so that there would be consistency throughout the series. The rest of the materials in the collection were not organized. The remainder of the documents were organized into different series based on their content. The materials that are dated are organized chronologically within the series.

**Copyright:**

Request for permission to publish material from the collection must be submitted in writing to the Curator of Collections in the Cabot House of Historic Beverly.

**Preferred Citation:**

Item Name, Colonel Ebenezer Francis Chapter of the D.A.R. Collection, Historic Beverly, 117 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA 01915.

**Biographical/Historical Note**

The Colonel Ebenezer Francis D.A.R. Chapter was founded in Beverly, MA on April 12, 1924. Its first regent was Mrs. Ralph Stanley, who played a major role in forming and expanding the organization. The chapter was named after Ebenezer Francis, a soldier from Beverly who fought in the American Revolution and died in battle. The chapter formed with eight founding members, expanding to 35 in 1925. The chapter began holding functions, most notably in Independence Park, to celebrate the area's history and involvement in the American Revolution. Members also later became involved in national D.A.R. functions, and their time at the annual D.A.R. Continental Congress meetings are well documented in this collection. Over the years, women living in the area who qualified continued to join the organization, helping it grow. This is reflected in the numerous membership applications in the collection that cover the chapter's first 22 years.

The National D.A.R. was formed in 1890 and includes over 300,000 chapters. The national organization holds yearly meetings in Washington D.C. in which the Colonel Ebenezer Francis Chapter often took part.

**Scope and Content Note**

A large portion of the collection consists of membership applications. These applications were submitted by those seeking to enter the Ebenezer Francis D.A.R. chapter. They begin in 1923, during the forming of the chapter and are collected through 1955. Some applications are seemingly absent, as there are missing alphabetical sections. The applications provide important genealogical information for families who can trace their ancestry to the American Revolution in Beverly. They provide a complete familial lineage for members who were approved. Many of the applications also give detailed information about the member's ancestor and how they participated in the Revolution.

Included in the collection are various other materials related to the D.A.R. There are numerous materials that document the founding, expansion and activities of the Ebenezer Francis Chapter. This includes lists and information of the chapter's members. Also included in the collection are correspondences between the Ebenezer Francis Chapter and other organizations. These documents display different activities and functions of the organization.

Another part of this collection includes other materials relating to the National D.A.R.

There are a number of different types of materials seen that deal more with the national organization. The Continental Congress materials detail the annual meetings that the National D.A.R. held, in which members from the Ebenezer Francis chapter attended. Other materials from the national organization include newsletters and pamphlets. The collection also contains other materials, such as newspaper and journal articles, that discuss the D.A.R.

### Related Materials

A gavel included in the collection is housed separately due to the nature of the material.

### Series List

This collection is arranged into 7 series, one consisting of 3 subseries:

**Series I:** Membership Applications, 1923-1955

**Series II:** Membership Notecards,

**Series III:** Organizational Materials, 1923-1937

**Series IV:** Correspondence, 1926-1972

**Series V:** Materials from the National D.A.R., 1932-1950

*Subseries A:* Continental Congress Materials, 1932-1953

*Subseries B:* Newsletters, 1949-1950

*Subseries C:* Other Materials, 1931-1950

**Series VI:** Other Materials Discussing the D.A.R., 1932-1953

**Series VII:** Miscellaneous Materials, 1930-1940

### Container List

#### **Series I: Membership Applications (1923-1955)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:**

This series consist of the collection's membership applications, from the chapter's inception to 1955. The applications provide family history information for each person who applied and was accepted to the Ebenezer Francis D.A.R. chapter.

The materials in this series are arranged alphabetically. Some sections were missing in the collection's original condition, but what remains is arranged accordingly.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
CH	1	1	Membership Applications: B	1923-1955
CH	1	2	Membership Applications: B	1923-1955
CH	1	3	Membership Applications: C-D	1923-1955

CH	1	4	Membership Applications: E-F	1923-1955
CH	1	5	Membership Applications: G	1923-1955
CH	1	6	Membership Applications: H	1923-1955
CH	1	7	Membership Applications: J-K	1923-1955
CH	1	8	Membership Applications: L	1923-1955
CH	1	9	Membership Applications: M	1923-1955
CH	1	10	Membership Applications: N-O	1923-1955
CH	1	11	Membership Applications: P	1923-1955
CH	1	12	Membership Applications: P	1923-1955
CH	2	1	Membership Applications: S	1923-1955
CH	2	2	Membership Applications: S	1923-1955
CH	2	3	Membership Applications: T-W	1923-1955
CH	2	4	Membership Applications: W	1923-1955

**Series II: Membership Notecards  
(1923-1966)**

**Series/ Arrangement Note:**

This series includes a number of notecards that display names of those who were accepted into the Ebenezer Francis D.A.R. Chapter as well as their ancestors. While there was a larger collection of notecards, only those who were not found in the membership applications were included in this series to avoid redundancy.

The materials in this series are arranged alphabetically.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
CH	2	5	Membership Notecards: A-B	1923-1966
CH	2	6	Membership Notecards: D-K	1923-1966
CH	2	7	Membership Notecards: L-M	1923-1966
CH	2	8	Membership Notecards: P-R	1923-1966
CH	2	9	Membership Notecards: S	1923-1966
CH	2	10	Membership Notecards: T-W	1923-1966

**Series III: Organizational Materials  
(1923-1937)**

**Series/ Arrangement Note:**

This series includes organizational materials from the Ebenezer Francis chapter. Included are notes taken during the chapter's initial formation, as well as by-laws and information about the organization's members.

The materials in this series are arranged chronologically. The undated materials are placed after the dated materials.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
CH	2	11	Organizational Materials	1923-1934
CH	2	12	Organizational Materials	1934
CH	2	13	Organizational Materials	1937, undated

**Series IV: Correspondence  
(1926-1972)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:**

This series consists of letters written to and from members of the Ebenezer Francis chapter and others. They provide insight into some of the activities and communications that the chapter had with people outside the organization

The materials in this series are arranged chronologically. The undated materials are placed after the dated materials.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
CH	2	14	Correspondence	1926-1931
CH	3	1	Correspondence	1940-1972, undated

**Series V: Materials from the National D.A.R.  
(1932-1950)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:**

This series consists of materials that originated from the National D.A.R. and was received by members of the Ebenezer Francis chapter and others.

The materials in this series have three distinct formats and are organized into three subseries as a result. The documents are organized chronologically. The undated materials are placed after the dated materials.

***Subseries A:***  
**Continental Congress Materials**  
**(1932-1953)**

**Subseries Note:**

The materials in this subseries consist of documents relating to the National D.A.R.'s annual Continental Congress meeting in Washington, D.C. It mainly consists of programs that outline that year's meeting and events.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
CH	3	2	Continental Congress Materials	1932
CH	3	3	Continental Congress Materials	1941-1950
CH	3	4	Continental Congress Materials	1952-1953

***Subseries B:***  
**Newsletters**  
**(1949-1950)**

**Subseries Note:**

The materials in this subseries consist of a number of newsletters distributed by the National D.A.R. between 1949 and 1950.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
CH	3	5	Newsletters	1949-1950

***Subseries C:***  
**Other Materials**  
**(1931-1950)**

**Subseries Note:**

This subseries contains materials in the collection that originated from the National D.A.R. but did not fit into the other subseries. The subseries mostly consists of pamphlets and leaflets.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
CH	3	6	Other Materials from the National D.A.R.	1931-1946
CH	3	7	Other Materials from the National D.A.R.	1948-1950
CH	3	8	Other Materials from the National D.A.R.	undated

**Series VI: Other Materials Discussing the D.A.R.  
(1932-1953)**

**Series Note:**

This series consists of materials in the collection that discuss the D.A.R., but do not originate from the organization or any of its chapters. This series mostly consists of newspaper clippings, but also includes other materials, such as a National Geographic journal article.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
CH	3	9	Materials Discussing the D.A.R.	1932-1950
CH	3	10	Materials Discussing the D.A.R.	1951
CH	3	11	Materials Discussing the D.A.R.	1952-1953, undated

**Series VII: Miscellaneous Materials  
(1930-1940)**

**Series/Arrangement Note:**

This series consists of the remaining materials in the collection that were included but do not have an obvious connection to the rest of the collection's materials.

The materials in this series are arranged chronologically. The undated materials are placed after the dated materials.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Date</b>
CH	3	12	Miscellaneous Materials	1930-1940, undated
CH	3	13	Miscellaneous Materials	undated
CH	3	14	Miscellaneous Materials	undated

**Bibliography**

Daughters of the American Revolution. Accessed October 30, 2013. <http://www.dar.org>.

“First Ten Year’s History of the Col. Ebenezer Francis D.A.R. Chapter at Beverly, Massachusetts.” Colonel Ebenezer Francis Chapter of the D.A.R. Collection. Beverly Historical Society and Museum, 117 Cabot St., Beverly, MA 01915.