



Fairfield Museum and History Center Library
370 Beach Road
Fairfield, CT 06824

Manuscript Finding Aid

Title: Silliman Family Papers

Collection #: Ms 47

Dates: 1726-1894

Size of collection: .2 linear feet (1 box)

Accession number: ??; Dec 1997; L89 Jul 33; L2000.14; L2001.16; L2007.13; L2010.9

Donor: ----??: Cindy Hitchens; Paul Brzozowski; Tara Carlson

Restrictions: None

Processed by: Martha Rockwell

Date: September 1985; added to June 2010

Biographical/historical note:

The Sillmans were early settlers in Fairfield. The people in this collection were related as follows: Robert (1692-1767) and Nathaniel (1696-1763) Silliman were brothers. Robert's son Ebenezer (1707-1775) had a son Gold Selleck Sillman (1732-1790) whose first wife was Martha Davenport (1733-1774). They had a son William Silliman (1756-1816). Gold Selleck's second wife was Mary Fish Noyes (1736-1818) who had sons by her previous marriage to John Noyes. Gold Selleck and Mary had two sons, Gold Selleck (1777-1868) and Benjamin Silliman (1779-1864).

See *The Way of Duty* by Joy Day Buel and Richard Buel, Jr., W.W. Norton & Co., 1984.

Scope and content note:

The papers in this collection are in one box. Folder A contains deeds, folder B legal and financial papers and folder C letters. A great deal of the material consists of photocopies. There are also some transcriptions.

Box 1

Folder A Deeds, 1726-1820

To:	From:	
Nathaniel Silliman	Robert Silliman	1726
Nathaniel Silliman	Noah Morehous	1728
Nathaniel Silliman	Robert & Esther Lord	1728-1729
Capt. John Silliman	Joseph Sanford et al.	1730
Nathaniel Silliman	Robert Silliman, Senr.	1733
Nathaniel Silliman	Burgis Hall	1733-1734
Nathaniel Silliman	Israel Rowland	1737
Nathaniel Silliman	Solomon & Deborah Couch	1738
John Silliman	Joseph Gorham	1738
Nathaniel Silliman	Robert Silliman	1739

Folder B Deeds

Nathaniel Silliman	Israel Rowland	1740
Gov'r & Company of the Colony	Nathaniel Silliman	1741
John Silliman	Jonathan Middlebrook	1741
John Silliman	David Adams	1743
Nathaniel Silliman	Robert Silliman	1743-44, 1747-48
John Silliman	Ephraim Jackson	1751
Samuel Silliman	Nathaniel Silliman	1762
David Silliman	Nathaniel Silliman	1863
Samuel Silliman	Andrew Morehouse	1763, 1765
Wakeman Silliman et al.	Samuel B. Sherwood et al.	1820

Folder C Legal and financial papers, military certificate 1730-1780

Map & surveyor's returns for Nathaniel Silliman's property boundaries with transcripts		1730-1733
Will & estate papers of Nathaniel Silliman		1763-1769
Capt. Nathaniel Silliman's accounts to Samuel Squire		1756
Unknown land agreement		1748
Unknown account to General Silliman		n.d.
Expense accounts to G.S. Silliman Brig'r Gen'l from Samual Patterson & David Wheeler		1777, 1780
Military certificate to Gold Selleck Silliman with accompanying letter		1777
Awards of merit to Norman H. Silliman		n.d.
Expense account [L89 Jul 33]		1776
Voucher for travel expenses incurred by Brig'r Gen'l G.S. Silliman [L2007.14]		1777

Folder D Letters & Background material

Letters

To	Martha Silliman from G.S. Silliman	1755-1772
To	Benjamin Silliman from Timothy Dwight	1806
To	Colonel Silliman from W.S. (William Silliman) with partial photocopy	1776
To	Grandparents from John Noyes	1775
To	Mary Silliman from John Noyes	1779
From	Gold Selleck Silliman to:	
	John Noyes	1779
	Maj. General Wooster with photocopy	1777
	Colonel John Ely (prisoner of war)	1780
	Governor Trumbull with photocopy	1777
From	Benjamin Silliman to L. Candee	1859
To	Joseph & John Noyes from M.F. Silliman [L2000.14]	1777
To	Capt. Andrew Fitch from G.S. Silliman [L2000.14]	1779
To	[Mary?] Noyes from [G.S.] Silliman [L2010.9]	1775
To	Parents from Mary Silliman [L2010.9]	1777

Oversize Ms Box #2

To	Oliver Wolcott from G.S. Silliman [L2001.16]	1785
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Background material concerns the Silliman house in Fairfield, a sketch of General Silliman's military career & a part of Mary Fish Silliman's diary (1776-1780, transcribed 1894)