

# Guide to the Benjamin Trumbull Papers

GEN MSS 1894



Beinecke Staff

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 1894

**CREATOR:** Trumbull, Benjamin, 1735-1820

**TITLE:** Benjamin Trumbull Papers

**DATES:** 1757-1819

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 3.13 linear feet (9 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English (Latin script)

**SUMMARY:** Letters, manuscripts, and sermons by or relating to historian and Congregational minister Benjamin Trumbull, 1757-1819. Materials document Trumbull's time at the Congregational Church in North Haven, Connecticut, and literary work on the history of Connecticut.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.benjamintrumbull>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.benjamintrumbull>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to [beinecke.images@yale.edu](mailto:beinecke.images@yale.edu).

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source unknown.

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### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Benjamin Trumbull Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

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## Preferred Citation

Benjamin Trumbull Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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## Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

These materials have been arranged and described according to national and local standards. For more information, please refer to the Beinecke Manuscript Unit Processing Manual.

Former call numbers: MS Vault 8:1, Z117 00185, Z117 00186, Z36 281, Z36 282, Z36 283, Z36 089.

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## Related Materials

Associated material: Benjamin Trumbull Papers (MS 505), Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Benjamin Trumbull (1735-1820) (Yale 1759) began work as pastor for the Congregational Church of North Haven, Connecticut in 1760. He served there for sixty years, interrupted only by service as a chaplain during the Revolutionary War. He wrote thousands of sermons and several historical texts, treaties, and pamphlets.

Trumbull was married to Martha Phelps Trumbull (1732-1825), with whom he had five children: David Trumbull (1762-1762), Mary Trumbull Eastman (1765-1841), Benjamin Trumbull (1769-1850), Sarah Trumbull Tuttle (1772-1817), and Elizabeth Trumbull (1774-1775).

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## Scope and Contents

Letters, manuscripts, and sermons by or relating to historian and Congregational minister Benjamin Trumbull, 1757-1819. Materials document Trumbull's time at the Congregational Church in North Haven, Connecticut, and literary work on the history of Connecticut.

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## Arrangement

Organized into three series: I. Correspondence, 1759-1819. II. Papers, 1757-1818. III. Sermons, 1759-1819.

## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence, 1759–1819

Series I contains letters addressed to Benjamin Trumbull.

Series I is arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

b. 1, f. 1	Althearn, James - autograph letter, signed, to Zebulon Clys, forwarded to Benjamin Trumbull	1792 July 20
b. 1, f. 2	Baldwin, Ebenezer - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1769 July 20
b. 1, f. 3	Ball, Caleb - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1770 March 26
b. 1, f. 4	Bassett, Amos - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1811 April 29
b. 1, f. 5	Blatchford, Samuel - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull, and notes for the General Association of Connecticut and the Missionary Society of Connecticut	1799 June 18-1800 June
b. 1, f. 6	Blend, Lois - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1786 September 22
b. 1, f. 7	Brocket, Eli - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull, with manuscript notes by Trumbull	1800 December 10
b. 1, f. 8	Booge, Aaron Jordan - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1798 February 7
b. 1, f. 9	Brown, D. B. - autograph letter, signed, to uncle, Benjamin Trumbull	1798 May 21
b. 1, f. 10	Buckus, Charles - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1801 August 13
b. 1, f. 11	Bunn(?), Daniel - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1782 February 12
b. 1, f. 12	Burroughs, Eden - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1790 March 13 and 1803 January 4
b. 1, f. 13	Chandler, J. - 5 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1767 and undated
b. 1, f. 14	Cooper, Samuel - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1811 May 15
b. 1, f. 15	Crockon, David - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1817 December 15
b. 1, f. 16	Davis, Cornelius - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1794 August 22
b. 1, f. 17	Dodge, David L. - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1810 January 18 and April 27
b. 1, f. 18	Dodge, Stephen - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1810 November 17
b. 1, f. 19	Dwight, Timothy - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1819 June 2
b. 1, f. 20	Edwards, Jonathan - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1800 February 24

b. 1, f. 21	Eliot, John - 3 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1798 August 1, December 1, 1801 May 19
b. 1, f. 22	Fern, Nathan - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1798 October 10
b. 1, f. 23	Fitch, Ebenezer - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1799 May 13 and October 4
b. 1, f. 24	Flint, Abel - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull, one with a copy of a letter from the London Missionary Society	1798 November 12 and 1803 November 14
b. 1, f. 25	Fowler, Bancroft - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1803 April 26
b. 1, f. 26	Fowler, Orin - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1819 June 16 and September 22
b. 1, f. 27	Gemis(?), (?) - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull, with a copy of a letter from Trumbull to Dr. Rogers	1800 March 26
b. 1, f. 28	Gillmore, George - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull, with a copy of a letter to Ezra Stiles and a copy of a letter from the Bishop of Nova Scotia	1789 December 27
b. 1, f. 29	Goodrich, (Eliran?) - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1800 March 10
b. 1, f. 30	Goodrich, Elizabeth - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1793 December 2
b. 1, f. 31	Goodwin, Hudson - 4 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1797-1798
b. 1, f. 32	[Gridley, Uriel] - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1782 April 13
b. 1, f. 33	Hart, Ira - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1799 February 4
b. 1, f. 34	Hawley, Stephen - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1759 October 29
b. 1, f. 35	Hinsdale, Theodore - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1776 January 19
b. 1, f. 36	Honey, J. - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1773 July 19
b. 1, f. 37	Humphrey, Herman - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1816 July 15
b. 1, f. 38	Hunt, John - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1812 November 19
b. 1, f. 39	Huntington, Lynde - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1799 May 25 and 1803 March 10
b. 1, f. 40	Ives, Mary - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1800 April 1
b. 1, f. 41	Jones, Isaac - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull, one with manuscript notes by Trumbull	1797 April 7 and 1803 November 7
b. 1, f. 42	King, Walter - 1 autograph letter, signed, and 1 fragment to Benjamin Trumbull	1810 November 2 and 1811 March 27

b. 1, f. 43	Langdon, Tim - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1794 April 25
b. 1, f. 44	Leonard, L. - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	[1750 February 10?]
b. 1, f. 45	Lewis, Isaac - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1799 January 29
b. 1, f. 46	Lyman, Joseph - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1799 January 28
b. 1, f. 47	Lyman, William and David Smith - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1811 June 20
b. 1, f. 48	Morse, Jedidiah - 11 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1780-1814
b. 1, f. 49	Noyes, James - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1811 November 22 and 1816 August 6
b. 1, f. 50	Otis, Jonathan and Oliver K. Warner - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull, with manuscript notes by George Adkins	1779 May 24
b. 1, f. 51	Peters, Samuel - Wrapper for a letter to Benjamin Trumbull	1789 September
b. 1, f. 52	Petty, Aaron - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1798 November 5
b. 1, f. 53	[Pinneor?], Benj. - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1811 June 24
b. 1, f. 54	Plumer, William Jr. - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1815 January 31
b. 1, f. 55	Post, Eldar - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1803 May 9
b. 1, f. 56	Prudden, Nehemiah - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1783 January 2
b. 1, f. 57	Read, Ezra - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull, one with a copy of Trumbull's reply	1811 October 12 and 1814 April 8
b. 1, f. 58	Read, Nathan - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1814 May 31 and September 30
b. 1, f. 59	Robinson, Henry - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1819 March 9 and May 11
b. 1, f. 60	Rogers, Medad(?) - 9 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1781-1803
b. 1, f. 61	Sherman, Josiah - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1781 March 12
b. 1, f. 62	Sherman, Nath. - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1768 November 26
b. 1, f. 63	Shirman, Charles - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1819 February 15
b. 1, f. 64	Spencer, Elihu - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull, with copy of Trumbull's reply	1772 September 26
b. 1, f. 65	Steady, - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1819 March 2
b. 1, f. 66	Stiles, Ezra - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull, one with receipts attached	1787 November 23 and 1788 February 25

b. 1, f. 67	Stone, Randolph - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1819 January 20 and June 13
b. 1, f. 68	Stone, Timothy - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1817 September 23
b. 1, f. 69	Sturges, Jonathan - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1817 September 8
b. 1, f. 70	Sumner, Joseph - 2 autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1808 October 3 and 1814 October 16
b. 1, f. 71	Swift, Job - 2 autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1799 October 25 and 1800 August 11
b. 1, f. 72	Taylor, Nathaniel W. - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1813 September 10
b. 1, f. 73	Telloson, Daniel - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1798 February 3
b. 1, f. 74	Thurston, A. - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1819 July 10
b. 1, f. 75	Trumbull, Asaph(?) - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1819 January 20
b. 1, f. 75A	Trumbull, Benjamin - 1 autograph letter, signed, to unidentified recipient	1811 February 4
b. 1, f. 76	Trumbull, Benjamin Jr. - 6 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1780-1802
b. 1, f. 77	Trumbull, Martha - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1775 October 2 and 1776 September 15
b. 1, f. 78	Tullar, David - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1784 October 28 and 1802 March 1
b. 1, f. 79	Tyler, Samuel -autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1787 June 18
b. 1, f. 80	Wales, Samuel - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1785 January 10
b. 1, f. 81	Waterman, Elijah - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1801 March 2
b. 1, f. 82	Waterman, Simon - 2 autograph letters, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1786 May 19 and 1781 January 23
b. 1, f. 83	Welch, Moss - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1810 October 5
b. 1, f. 84	Whittelsey, Channey - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1760 October 13
b. 1, f. 85	Williams, Solomon - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1817 June 8
b. 1, f. 86	Williams, W. - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1768 March 29
b. 1, f. 87	Williston, - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	undated
b. 1, f. 88	Williston, Seth - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1799 November 25



b. 1, f. 89	Winthrop, Fran. B. - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1797 June 1
b. 1, f. 90	Woodward, A. - autograph letter, signed, to Benjamin Trumbull	1809 October 9
b. 1, f. 91	Unidentified Correspondents	

## Series II: Papers, 1757–1818

Series II contains drafts of letters, financial papers, and miscellaneous manuscripts of Benjamin Trumbull. Some materials pertain to Trumbull's A complete history of Connecticut, civil and ecclesiastical, from the emigration of its first planters from England, in MDCXXX, to MDCCXIII (Hartford, [Conn.] : Hudson & Goodwin, 1797). Included is a manuscript of (and subscription form for) Trumbull's Twelve discourses : comprising a systematical demonstration of the divine origin of the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments : designed for the benefit of Christians of all denominations: and especially for the instruction and edification of young people ; to establish them in a rational and full persuasion of the truth and importance of the Scriptures ; to excite their early and earnest pursuit of divine knowledge, and awaken their highest solicitude to walk with the wise, and fly the way of evil men (Hartford, [Conn.] : Hudson & Goodwin, 1799).

Series II is arranged roughly by format.

b. 2, f. 92	Copies/Drafts of letters	1774–1818
b. 2, f. 93	Financial papers	1773–1786
b. 2, f. 94	Historical manuscripts and notes	1767–1775
b. 2, f. 95	Miscellaneous historical manuscripts	undated
b. 2, f. 96	Miscellaneous manuscripts	undated
b. 2, f. 97	Manuscript on marriage and divorce	undated
b. 2, f. 98	Manuscript account of the sale of the Western Reserve	undated
b. 2, f. 99	Inkhorn used while chaplain during the American Revolution	undated
b. 2, f. 100	Photostatic copy (negative) of "Salutory Oration" by Jonathan Trumbull	1759
b. 4b. 3, f. 101-118	<a href="#">Papers concerning Benjamin Trumbull's History of Connecticut</a>	circa 1769-1810
b. 5	Miscellaneous memoranda and letters	circa 1770-1813
b. 9, f. 153	Memoirs of Deacon Stephen Goodyear	undated
b. 9, f. 154	Psalm Tunes, original and selected	undated
b. 9, f. 155	Commonplace book	1757
b. 9, f. 156	Twelve discourses concerning a systematical demonstration of the divine origin of the Holy Scriptures	circa 1799
b. 9, f. 157	Proposals for printing by subscription for Twelve discourses concerning a systematical demonstration of the divine origin of the Holy Scriptures	1799
b. 9, f. 158	Miscellaneous addresses	undated
b. 9, f. 159-161	Miscellaneous manuscripts	undated
b. 9, f. 162-163	Loose notes	undated
b. 9, f. 164	Missionary tour journal	1804

**Series III: Sermons, 1759–1819**

Series III contains circa 125 sermons delivered by Benjamin Trumbull primarily to the Congregational Church of North Haven, Connecticut.

Series III is arranged chronologically.

b. 6, f. 119-130	Sermons	1759–1819
b. 7, f. 131-142	Sermons	1759–1819
b. 8, f. 143-152	Sermons	1759–1819

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## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### Genres / Formats

Sermons

### Subjects

Clergy -- Connecticut  
Congregationalists -- Connecticut  
Historians -- Connecticut  
Sermons, American -- Connecticut

### Occupations

Clergy -- Connecticut -- 18th century  
Clergy -- Connecticut -- 19th century  
Historians -- Connecticut -- 18th century  
Historians -- Connecticut -- 19th century

### Geographic Names

Connecticut -- History -- Colonial period, ca.  
1600-1775  
Connecticut -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783  
Connecticut -- Religion -- 18th century  
Connecticut -- Religion -- 19th century  
North Haven (Conn.)

### Corporate Body

Congregational Church (North Haven, Conn.)