

# Guide to the Hiller Family Papers

MS 280



compiled by Susan Grigg

August 1980

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New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 280

**CREATOR:** Hiller family

**TITLE:** Hiller family papers

**DATES:** 1824-1848

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.75 linear feet (2 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers are made up of the business records and correspondence of Jonathan Hiller and the family papers of his second wife, Abigail Allen Hiller. The records of Jonathan Hiller reflect his activities as a real estate manager and financial intermediary in New Haven between 1836 and 1847. Among his major correspondents are James E.P. Dean, Gerard Hallock, Benjamin Noyes, Seth Perkins Staples and N. Chandos Whiting. In the family correspondence (1824-1842), 161 of the 190 letters are addressed to Abigail Allen Hiller before her marriage in 1843. Another substantial group are the letters of the James Brewster family of New Haven.

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## Requesting Instructions

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

b.        box

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Whitlock's, 1945-1951.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

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### Preferred Citation

Hiller Family Papers (MS 280). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Jonathan Hiller (1795-1862) worked as a real estate manager and financial intermediary in New Haven, Conn.

Abigail Maxcy (Allen) Hiller (1809-1905), was the daughter of Capt. Samuel and Sarah W. (Aldis) Allen of Medway, Mass. She was educated at Rev. Claudius Herrick's Female Seminary in New Haven, and first employed as a teacher in John E. Lovell's Lancastrian School, New Haven (1828). Following that year, she worked as a tutoress in the families of Jonathan Hiller of New Haven (1831-1835), James Brewster of New Haven (1835-1839), and Welcome Farnum of Waterford (Mendon Parish), Mass. (1841-1842). In 1843 she became the wife of Jonathan Hiller, after the death of Hiller's first wife, Eliza Louise (Browner) Hiller (1798-1842).

For a chart outlining the genealogical relations of the Allen-Hiller family, please consult the [Genealogical Chart](#).

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## Scope and Contents

The Hiller Family Papers consist of business papers of Jonathan Hiller, and the family and personal papers of his second wife, Abigail Maxcy (Allen) Hiller.

The papers of Jonathan Hiller reflect his activities as a real estate manager and financial intermediary in New Haven between 1836 and 1847. This group contains business correspondence, as well as legal and financial papers. Among Hiller's major correspondents are James E.P. Dean, Gerard Hallock, Benjamin Noyes, Seth Perkins Staples, and N. Chandos Whiting.

The papers of Abigail Maxcy (Allen Hiller) include family correspondence dating from 1824-1842 and other personal papers. The correspondence totals 190 letters; of that, 161 are addressed to Abigail M. Allen [i.e. Abigail Maxcy (Allen) Hiller] and are from various members of the Aldis and Allen families, and from

friends. A substantial number of letters are from the James Brewster family of New Haven. Additionally, there are letters addressed to her sister, Sarah Ann (Allen) Buffum (4 of which are from Abigail; the others are from school friends and relatives); and letters to and from members of the Allen family (5 by unidentified writers).

Abigail Hiller's other papers consist of poems, notes on various religious and historical subjects, a draft of a talk to be given before the Temperance Society, a newspaper clipping, and parts of a diary or journal.

For a chart outlining the genealogical relations of the Allen-Hiller family, please consult the [Genealogical Chart](#).

The Hiller Family Papers were purchased from Whitlock's in 1945.

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## Collection Contents

### Inventory, 1824-1848

#### Hiller Family Papers

##### Business Papers of Jonathan Hiller

##### Correspondence

b. 1	Bacon, J. G. A.L.S. to Mr. Hiller, Jan. 27, 1842	
b. 1	Bacon, Orphia 2 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, July 27, 1844, and [N. d.]	
b. 1	Bangs, Richards, and Platt A.L.S. to P. & W. Noyes, Nov. 9, 1840	
b. 1	Berthoud, Nicholas A.L.S. to J. Hiller, June 8, 1839	
b. 1	Brainerd, Tyrus 2 A.L.S. to T. Hiller, Aug. 25; Dec. 16, 1840	
b. 1	Burgess, D. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, June 6, 1839	
b. 1	Carter, O.C.B. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Jan. 27, 1840	
b. 1	Clark, Nathaniel R. Certificate of guardianship for Dwight Hiller, Nov. 7, 1839	
b. 1	Dean, James Edmund Prior 60 A.L.S. to the following.  Bradley, Lewis, July 30, 1840 (1)  Gaston, Nelson H., May 17, 1839 (1)  J. Hiller (58),  1839, Jan. 25; Feb. 6, 13, 16; Mar. 10; Apr. 11, 15; 16; May 10, 17, 29; June 15, Sep. 19, 20, 21; Oct. 9, 10, 18, 24, 31; Dec. 3, 4, 10  1840, Jan. 4; Feb. 10, 19; Mar. 2,(2), 6, 9;(2), 14, 30; Apr. 1, 17; June 3, 26; July 22, 30; Aug. 1, 31; Sep. 1; Oct. 16, 20; Nov. 17; Dec. 2, 27  1841, Jan. 25, 26, 29; Feb. 8,  Also, 7 undated ALS	1800-
b. 1	Douglas, James 3 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Sep. 28; Oct. 1, 1839, Jan. 7, 1848	

## Hiller Family Papers &gt; Business Papers of Jonathan Hiller &gt; Correspondence (continued)

b. 1	Elliot, W. H. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Feb 1, 1847	
b. 1	Foster, Eleazer Kingsbury A.L.S. to James. E. Dean, Oct 9, 1839	
b. 1	Fisher, A[bijah] 2 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Feb. 10; Mar. 25, 18[illegible]	
b. 1	Gaston, George W. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Oct. 31 1844	
b. 1	Gaston, N[elson] H. 2 A.L.S. to H. Hiller, Oct. 6, 1838, Aug. 22, 1839	
b. 1	Goodrich, Chauncey A. Recommendation for Wm. G. Webster	December 30, 1840
b. 1	Greene, William P. Jr. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Dec. 26, 1843	
b. 1	Hall, Melissa A., Mrs. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Apr. 4, 1840	
b. 1	Hallock, Gerard 65 A.L.S. to J. Hiller.  1838, Jan. 2; Apr. 12; July 25, 27, 31; Aug. 1, 2, 3; Oct. 19; Dec. 1, 18.  1839, Mar. 26; Apr. 13, 22; July 4, 9, 15; Sep. 20; Dec. 26  1840, Jan. 6, 21; Mar. 21; Apr. 3, 6, 22, 23, 28; May 2, 14; June 11, 26; July 8, 10; Nov. 6; Dec. 7, 31  1841, Jan. 6, 19; Feb. 2, 6, Mar. 5; Apr. 13, undated (included in no.)	1800-1866
b. 1	Hill, Charles, H. A.L.S. to Nathanic. Whiting, Oct. 8, 1838	
b. 1	Hiller, Jonathan 2 A.Df. and 1 Df. of J. Hiller to Dr. Neil Arnott (1), G. Hallock (1), and Ceeley (1)	1795-1862
b. 1	Hotchkiss, Horace R. 2 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, May 18, 1838, and undated	
b. 1	Houghton & Co. A.L.S. to [Johnson & Green]?, Apr. 21, 1838	
b. 1	Hunt & Noyes A.L.S. to J. Hiller, June 7, 1839	
b. 1	Hurd, S. F. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Feb. 10, 1841	

## Hiller Family Papers &gt; Business Papers of Jonathan Hiller &gt; Correspondence (continued)

b.1	Joceiyn, Nathaniel 2 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, June 19, 1837, Dec. 11, 1839	1796-1881
b.1	Law, William A. 3 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, June 1, 1840, Jan. 4, 1841, and. undated	
b.1	Lee, W. S.? A.L.S. to J. Hiller, undated	
b.1	Marsh, Ralph A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Jan. 22, 1841	
b.1	Mix, Henry A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Oct. 25, 1839	
b.1	Musgrave, Richard ALL.S. to J. Hiller, Oct. 12, 1839	
b.1	Noyes, Benjamin 22 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, all undated	
b.1	Page, Stephen A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Feb. 24, 1839	
b.1	Phoenix, Alexander A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Mar. 3, 1846	
b.1	Reynolds, William A. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, undated	
b.1	Scovill, Samuel 4 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Mars. 18; June 13, Nov. 10,1840, Jan 6, 1841	
b.1	Seeley, Ebenezer 2 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Mar. 1; July 8, 1840	1793-1844 Y1814
b.1	Paine, John A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Mar. 20, 1838	
b.1	Paine & Spalding A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Feb. 28, 1837	
b.1	Sherman, T[haddeus] A.L.S. to J. Hiller, no date	
b.1	Sickels, Daniel E. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Oct, 1838	
b.1	Smith, Simeon P. [Added to A.L.S. from Noah Coe] A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Feb. 9, 1838	



## Hiller Family Papers &gt; Business Papers of Jonathan Hiller &gt; Correspondence (continued)

b.1	Sounsbury, J.D. & Co. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Apr. 9, 1844	
b.1	Staples, Seth Perkins 4 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, May 27, 28; July 26, 1839 Mar. 30, 1840	1776-1861
b.1	Tallman, G. C. 2 A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Sep. 20, 29, 1838	
b.1	Tallman, William M. A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Feb. 26, 1839	
b.1	Treat, A[water] A.L.S to J. Hiller, June 20, 1840	
b.1	Warren, W. A.L.S. to J Hiller, undated	
b.1	Welpley, James Davenport 2 A.L.S., one each to Mrs. Church, Nov. 16, 1837, and J. Hiller, Oct. 10, 1867	1817-1872
b.1	Whiting, N[athan] Chandos 8 A.L.S. to J. Hiller. June 22, May 18, 1838, Oct. 16, 1839, and undated	1808-1884
b.1	Whitney, H[enry] A.L.S. to J. Hiller, Jan. 2, 1841	
b.1	Young, Levi Huntington A.L.S to J. Hiller, Sep. 30, [1841]?	
b.2	Legal and Financial papers	
Letters and Papers of Abigail Maxcy (Allen) Hiller		
	Correspondence	1824-1842
b.2	Letters addressed to Abigail M. Allen [i.e., Abigail Maxcy (Allen) Hiller] from various members of the Aldis and Allen families and friends (161)	
b.2	Letters from the James Brewster family (25)	
b.2	Letters addressed to Abigail Hiller's sister, Sarah Ann (Allen) Buffum Includes 4 letters from Abigail and others from school friends and family.	
b.2	Letters to and from members of the Allen family Includes 5 letters from unidentified writers.	
Miscellaneous Papers		
b.2	5 poems	

Hiller Family Papers > Letters and Papers of Abigail Maxcy (Allen) Hiller > Miscellaneous Papers  
(continued)

b. 2	Notes on various religious and historical subjects	
b. 2	Draft of a talk before the Temperance Society	
b. 2	Newspaper clipping, "to the Editors from the Temperance Ladies." <i>Daily Herald</i> , New Haven,	1835 December 31
b. 2	Parts of a diary or journal kept in New York (2 p.)	1832 November 27 and 1833 January 29
b. 2	Parts of a diary kept in Hartford, Conn. and Medway, Mass. (4 p.)	1839 December 12 - 1842

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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.

### Subjects

Business  
Education  
Families  
Real property -- Connecticut -- New Haven

### Geographic Names

New Haven (Conn.)

### Genres / Formats

Deeds

### Occupations

Real estate agents

### Names

Allen, Aldis Samuel, 1803-1833  
Allen, Charles Coffin, 1807-1857  
Allen, Eliab Metcalf, b. 1818  
Allen, Eliza Martha Wickes, d. 1835  
Ames, Martha Jones Hubbard  
Barnes, Martha Kimberly  
Brewster, Joseph, 1822-1895  
Buffum, Sarah Ann Allen, 1811-1880  
Cone, Rebecca Daggett Brewster, 1814-1890  
Dean, James Edmond Prior, b. 1800  
Gadcomb, Mary Ann  
Hallock, Gerard, 1800-1866  
Hiller, Abigail Maxcy Allen, 1809-1905  
Hiller, Jonathan, 1795-1862  
Metcalf, Ann Benton  
Metcalf, Electa  
Noyes, Benjamin  
Scovill, Samuel, 1834-1902  
Smalley, Julia Catherine Marvin, b. 1811  
Staples, Seth Perkins, 1776-1861  
Whiting, Nathaniel Chandos, 1808-1884

### Families

Brewster family