

Guide to the Nathan Whiting Papers

MS 552



compiled by Betsy H. Morris and Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 552

CREATOR: Whiting, Nathan, 1724-1771

TITLE: Nathan Whiting papers

DATES: 1705-1828

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 4.75 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers consist of family correspondence of the Whiting family as well as the personal correspondence of Nathan Whiting, military and legal documents and miscellaneous family papers, including an address by Polly Whiting on the importance of education for women (undated), an essay by Samuel Whiting on his marriage (pre-1725) and a plan of the Township of Cumberland showing land belonging to Colonel Nathan Whiting and others..

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0552>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0552>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased, 1942.

Custodial History

Gift of Minnesota Historical Society, 2006 and 2011.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

The entire collection, with the exception of Accession 2006-M-099 and 2012-M-007, is available on microfilm. Patrons must use FILM HM 110 instead of the originals.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Nathan Whiting Papers (MS 552). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Existence and Location of Copies

The entire collection, with the exception of Accession 2006-M-099 and 2012-M-007, is available on microfilm (389 frames on 1 reel, 35mm.) from Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library, at cost. Order no. HM 110.

Biographical / Historical

NATHAN WHITING, 1724-1771

Nathan Whiting, the youngest of thirteen children of the Rev. Samuel and Elizabeth (Adams) Whiting of Windham, Connecticut, was born in that town, May 4, 1724, being a brother of Colonel John Whiting (Y. C 1726) His father died when this son was 16 months old, and when he was in his 14th Year, his mother married the Rev. Samuel Niles (Harv. 1699), of Braintree, Massachusetts. Nathan Whiting was mainly brought up by his sister Mary, and her husband, Rector Clap.

He studied at the College for two years after graduation, and then settled in New Haven as a merchant, but accompanied as Ensign the Connecticut troops in the expedition against Louisburg in 1745; in this service he so distinguished himself, that at the end of the campaign, a lieutenancy in the British army was given him by Sir William Pepperrell. A little later he was in business-partnership with Thomas Darling (Y. C 1740). While in this employment the French war began, in 1755; and he was appointed, in March of that year, Lieutenant Colonel of the 2d Connecticut Regiment. He assisted in garrisoning Fort Edward; and on September 8, was with Colonel Ephraim Williams in the detachment sent against Baron Dieskau. On the fall of Williams, the command devolved on Lieutenant Colonel Whiting, who conducted the retreat of the corps with a skill and coolness which did him high credit. When the next expedition was sent out in 1756, he was promoted to a Colonelcy. He continued in the service throughout the war, and was esteemed by both British and Americans an officer of uncommon merit.

In 1769 and 1770 he was a representative of New Haven in the General Assembly; and at the time of his death he was in nomination for the Upper House.

He died in New Haven, April 9, 1771, at the age of 47. His estate was inventoried at £1322.

He married, July 12, 1750, Mary, daughter of Captain Rosewell and Mary (Haynes) Saltonstall, of Branford, her mother having married Rector Clap in 1741. Of their five sons and four daughters, three sons and one daughter survived infancy; the eldest of these children was graduated here in 1777. The widow of Colonel Whiting next married the Rev. Warham Williams (Y. C. 1745), of Northford Parish, in North Branford, Connecticut, whom she survived.

President Dwight thus describes Colonel Whiting: "He was an exemplary professor of the Christian religion; and for refined and dignified manners, and nobleness of mind, has rarely been excelled." His portrait is in the rooms of the Connecticut Historical Society, at Hartford.

AUTHORITIES.

Conn. Journal, Apr. 19, 1771 Dwight, "Statistical Account of New Haven", 75. Goodwin, *Genealogical Notes*, 333, 336-337. Kingsley, *Hist. Discourse at New Haven*, 68. Larned, *Hist of Windham County*, i, 564. *N. H. Col. Hist. Soc. Papers*, iii, 608. Pease and Niles, *Gazetteer of Conn. and R. I.*, 206.

Franklin B. Dexter, *Biographical Sketches of the Graduates of Yale College, 1701-1745* (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1885), pp. 750-751.

Scope and Contents

The papers consist of family correspondence of the Whiting family as well as the personal correspondence of Nathan Whiting, military and legal documents and miscellaneous family papers, including an address by Polly Whiting on the importance of education for women (undated), an essay by Samuel Whiting on his marriage (pre-1725) and a plan of the Township of Cumberland showing land belonging to Colonel Nathan Whiting and others.

Arrangement

Arranged in four parts and two additions: I. Correspondence. II. Writings and Legal Papers. III. Miscellaneous and Unidentified. IV. Oversize.

Collection Contents

Inventory, 1705-1828

.50 linear feet (1 box, 1 folio)

Patrons must use microfilm (FILM HM 110) instead of the originals.

Correspondence

b. 1, f. 1	Amherst, Jeffrey, 1st baron Amherst, to Nathan Whiting (typescript)	1762
b. 1, f. 2	Brattle, (Mrs.) K., to Mary (Haynes) Saltonstall Clap	1738
b. 1, f. 3	Clap, Mary (Haynes) Saltonstall), to Nathan Whiting	1756
b. 1, f. 4	Eliot, Jared, to Nathan Whiting	1762
b. 1, f. 5	Hale, Elisha, to Mary (Saltonstall) Whiting Williams	1781
b. 1, f. 5	Hale, George, to Elisha Hale	1776
b. 1, f. 5	Hale, George, to an unidentified brother	1780
b. 1, f. 5	Hale, Thomas, to an unidentified brother	1792
b. 1, f. 6	Irwin, [J.L.?], to Elisha Hale	1805, undated
b. 1, f. 7	Jones, Betsey, of Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, to her uncle	1828
b. 1, f. 8	Saltonstall, Rosewell, to Mary (Haynes) Saltonstall Clap	1734
Whiting, Nathan		
b. 1, f. 9	to Mary (Haynes) Saltonstall Clap	1760, 1762, undated
b. 1, f. 10	to James [Fitter?], requesting appointment as collector of the port of New London	undated
b. 1, f. 11	to Sir William Johnson (photostat)	1768
b. 1, f. 12	to Roswell Saltonstall	undated
b. 1, f. 13-21	to Mary (Saltonstall) Whiting Williams	1747-1763, undated
b. 1, f. 22	Whiting, Samuel, to Warham and Mary (Saltonstall) Whiting Williams	1779
b. 1, f. 23	Williams, Mary (Saltonstall) Whiting, to Nathan Whiting	1762
Writings and Legal Papers		
b. 1, f. 24	Hale, Elisha, of Glastonbury, Connecticut: deed to Nathan W. Hale of Glastonbury, Connecticut	1820
b. 1, f. 33	Whiting, Polly: address on the importance of education for women	Undated
b. 1, f. 25	Lucas, Samuel, of Middletown, Connecticut: deed to Sarah Haynes of Hartford, Connecticut	1705

Writings and Legal Papers (continued)

b. 1, f. 26	Saltonstall, Roswell: deed to his sisters, Mary (Saltonstall) Whiting Williams and Katharine (Saltonstall) Wells	1779
b. 1, f. 27	Seymour, Timothy, of Hartford, Connecticut: miscellaneous papers	1777-1798, undated
b. 1, f. 28	Obituary for Samuel Whiting (copy of newspaper article)	1753
b. 1, f. 29-30	Military papers re: enrollments and expenditures	1755-1760
b. 1, f. 31	Inventory of his estate	[1771?]
Whiting Nathan		
b. 1, f. 32	Whiting, Nathan, family: vital records, with remarks about mortality	[1756-1771?]
b. 1, f. 34	Clap, Thomas, "Meditations on the Death of My Wife" manuscript Manuscript, unsigned, by Thomas Clap on the death of his wife. Includes a manuscript annotation in an unidentified hand stating that the manuscript was written by Samuel Whiting. A more complete version of the Clap manuscript is available in Thomas Clap, President of Yale College, Records (RU 130), Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.	
b. 1, f. 35	Williams, Mary (Saltonstall) Whiting: inventory of her estate	[1801?]
Miscellaneous and Unidentified		
b. 1, f. 36	"An Elegy of the Death of Miss Elizabeth Saltonstall" English	Undated
b. 1, f. 37	"A Cattelouge of the Books Given to Roswell from his Honrd Father" English	Undated
b. 1, f. 38	Invitation to a "Ball, in Celebration of Peace," in Wethersfield, Connecticut	1815
Oversize		
b. 2	Whiting, Mary: letter to her mother, Mary (Saltonstall) Whiting Williams	1780
b. 2	Whiting, Nathan: "A [Relation?] of Provision Money due to the Tenth Company of the [2nd?] Conn. Reg. Commanded by N. Whiting Esq, from the Time of Enlistments to the Time of Receiv. King's Provis."	Undated
b. 2	Whiting, Nathan, and Mary (Saltonstall) Whiting Williams: photographs of portraits	Undated

Accession 2006-M-099: Additional Material, 1760

This accession consists of an order book presumably kept by Nathan Whiting while on a march with British and Colonial troops from Lake Ontario in New York to Montreal, Canada, during the French and Indian War. Information is given on routine army matters, camp life, deserters, court martials, inspections, and the surrender of Montreal by the French to the British.

b. 1, f. 1

Order book

1760 June 8-
November

Accession 2012-M-007: Additional Material, 1770

- b.1 Township of Cumberland plat map 1770
A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives.
Contact Manuscripts and Archives at beinecke.library@yale.edu to request access
to the digital copy.
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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

Armed Forces
Marriage
Women -- Education

Geographic Names

Connecticut
United States -- History -- Colonial period, ca.
1600-1775
United States -- History -- French and Indian
War, 1754-1763

Genres / Formats

Deeds

Occupations

Soldiers

Names

Clap, Mary, 1703-1769
Whiting, Nathan, 1724-1771
Whiting, Polly
Whiting, Samuel
Williams, Mary Saltonstall Whiting

Corporate Body

Yale College (1718-1887). Class of 1743