

# Guide to the Robbins Family Papers

MS 1169



compiled by Marguerite S. Witkop and Betsy H. Morris

July 1980

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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	4
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Biographical / Historical .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Collection Contents .....	5
Selected Search Terms .....	8

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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 1169

**CREATOR:** Robbins family

**TITLE:** Robbins family papers

**DATES:** 1719-1850

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, notes, sermons, poems, diaries, and miscellanea of the Robbins family of Branford and Enfield, Connecticut. Philemon Robbins, 1709-1781, a minister, and Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, 1740-1813, are central family members.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1169>

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## 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.1169>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](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

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of the estate of Howard Chandler Robbins, 1942.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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## Preferred Citation

Robbins Family Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

For biographical information, please consult the following citations or visit the repository.

PHILEMON ROBBINS, 1709-1781

Philemon Robbins: B.A., Harvard, 1729; ordained as a minister at Branford, Conn. in 1732 and remained there until his death.

Allibone's Dictionary of Authors, volume 2, page 1815.

Sibley, John Langdon. *Harvard Graduates [Biographical sketches of graduates of Harvard university, in Cambridge, Massachusetts]*. Volume VIII, pages 616-629.

CHANDLER ROBBINS, 1738-1799

Dexter, F. B. *Yale Biographies and Annals*. Volume 2, pages 424-428.

AMMI RUHAMAH ROBBINS, 1740-1813

Ammi Ruhamah Robbins: B.A., Yale, 1760; ordained in Litchfield, Conn. in 1761; accepted a chaplaincy during the Revolutionary War; did missionary work in New York and Vermont, 1783, 1794-1796; prepared a number of young men for Yale College.

Dexter, F. B. *Yale Biographies and Annals*. Volume 2, pages 670-673.

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## Scope and Contents

Correspondence, notes, sermons, poems, diaries, and miscellanea of the Robbins family of Branford and Enfield, Connecticut. Philemon Robbins, 1709-1781, a minister, and Ammi Ruhamah Robbins, 1740-1813, are central family members.

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## Collection Contents

Battell, Sarah (Robbins)

See: [Folder 24](#)

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Morton, Lucretia (Parsons) (1789-1862) (Mrs. Daniel Oliver Morton)

b. 1, f. 1	"Deaths Goshen..." English	1803 August-1804 January
b. 1, f. 1	Notes on the life of Mrs. Anthony Whiting	1812 September 12
b. 1, f. 1	Pittsfield diary	1814 January 1- May 11
b. 1, f. 1	"An unfortunate Mothers advice to her Daughters" English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	"The Heavenly Union" English	undated
b. 1, f. 1	Poem (fragment)	undated
Parsons, Electa (Frery) (1759-1824) (Mrs. Justin Parsons)		
b. 1, f. 2	Diary	1799 April 4-1816 December 16
Reynolds, Peter (1700-1768)		
b. 1, f. 3	Notes [on chapel sermons at Harvard?]	1719
b. 1, f. 3	Notes on sermons by Rev. Cotton at Bristol [Mass., later R.I.]	1723-24
b. 1, f. 4	Sermons from Enfield [Mass., later Conn.]	1725-68
Robbins, Ammi Ruhamah (1740-1813; Y. 1760)		
b. 1, f. 5	Relation of his experiences read in the congregation when he was admitted into full communion	1757 October 23
b. 1, f. 6	Two ALS to his father, Philemon Robbins	1757 July 7, September [?]
b. 1, f. 6	Two ALS to his daughter, Sarah (Robbins) Battell	1793 May 7, 1803 October [?]
b. 1, f. 7	Sermons	1775-89
b. 1, f. 8	"A brief Journal of some of the more remarkable Events in My Tour to Canada" English	[1776] March 18- October 31

b. 1, f. 8	<i>Journal of the Rev. Ammi R. Robbins... Northern Campaign of 1776</i> (published edition of the above journal) English	1850
b. 1, f. 9	"Western Tour-Journal" diary of missionary tours in Vermont and New York English	1794-96
Robbins, Chandler (1738-1799; Y. 1756)		
b. 1, f. 10	ALS to his father, Philemon Robbins	1757 January 14
b. 1, f. 10	ALS to Peter Starr	1789 August 24
b. 1, f. 10	ALS to Governor Sumner	1799 January 2
b. 1, f. 11	Twelve ALS to his brother, Ammi R. Robbins	1776-98
Robbins, Elizabeth (Le Baron) (1746-1829) (Mrs. A.R.)		
b. 1, f. 12	Diary	1766-76, 1783
Robbins, Francis Le Baron (1787-) and James Watson Robbins (1782-)		
b. 1, f. 13	ALS to their sister, Sarah (Robbins) Battell	1801 December 6
Robbins, James Watson (1782-)		
b. 1, f. 14	ALS to this brother-in-law, Joseph Battell	1806 March 26
Robbins, Peter Gilman (1781-)		
b. 1, f. 15	ALS to his uncle, Ammi R. Robbins	1812 April 8
Robbins, Philemon (1709-1781; Harvard 1729)		
b. 1, f. 16 - 20	Sermons	1729-1779, undated
b. 1, f. 21	Diary	1730-33
b. 1, f. 22	"3rd Confession" [enclosed in TLS, 1926 Jan 26, from L.E. de Forest to H.C. Robbins] English	[1742?] e.c.
b. 1, f. 22	Receipts	1762, 1770
b. 1, f. 22	ALS to his son, Ammi R. Robbins	1777 September 26
b. 1, f. 23	Correspondence with the First Congregational Society	1743, 1755
Robbins, Sarah		
b. 1, f. 24	ALS to her mother, Elizabeth Robbins	1793 August 4
Stent, Lieut. Samuel		
b. 1, f. 25	Last will and testament	1736 September 25

Thomson, Irene (Robbins)		
b. 1, f. 26	ALS to her niece, Sarah (Robbins) Battell	1798 October 10
Congregational Churches in Connecticut. Consociation.		
b. 1, f. 27	"Resolutions of the Cons. respecting ardent spirits" English	undated
Unidentified		
b. 1, f. 28	Sermons	1722, 1749
b. 1, f. 29	Religious discourse	1730 December
b. 1, f. 30	"Lavinia a Pastoral" (poem) English	undated
Miscellaneous		
b. 1, f. 31	Needlepoint	undated
b. 1, f. 31	Leather goods -wallet	undated
b. 1, f. 31	Newspaper clipping	1818

## 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

Congregational churches -- Connecticut  
Families

### Geographic Names

Branford (Conn.)  
Enfield (Conn. : Town)  
United States -- History -- Revolution,  
1775-1783 -- Campaigns

### Genres / Formats

Diaries  
Journals (notebooks)  
Poetry  
Sermons

### Names

Battell, Joseph, 1774-1841  
Morton, Lucretia Parsons, 1789-1862  
Parsons, Electra Frary, 1759-1824  
Raynolds, Peter, 1700-1768  
Robbins, Ammi Ruhamah, 1740-1813  
Robbins, Chandler, 1738-1799  
Robbins, Elizabeth, 1746-1829  
Robbins, Francis Le Baron, 1830-  
Robbins, James Watson, b. 1782  
Robbins, Peter Gilman, b. 1781  
Robbins, Philemon, 1709-1781  
Robbins, Sarah Battell  
Starr, Peter, 1744-1829  
Stent, Samuel  
Thomson, Irene Robbins

### Families

Robbins family