

Guide to the Blackstone Family Papers

MS 916



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

June 1983

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 916

CREATOR: Blackstone family

TITLE: Blackstone family papers

DATES: 1705-1844

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.25 linear feet

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Chiefly deeds, estate papers and financial records of the Blackstone family of Branford, Connecticut. Included also are two farm account books for the years 1772-1839 and that of David Welles, Jr. for the years 1773-1786. Among the Branford papers is a Grand Jury presentment against two men for disloyal acts during the Revolution.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0916>

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.0916>.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Mrs. Hope Collins, 1953.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Blackstone Family Papers (MS 916). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Scope and Contents

Legal and financial papers pertaining largely to the Blackstone family and the town of Branford, Connecticut, make up this small collection.

Members of the Blackstone family represented here are John Blackstone, Sr. (died 1818), his wife, Hannah Harrison (died 1815), and son John, Jr., and Stephen Blackstone (died 1807), brother of John, Sr., and his wife, Ann. Papers include a farm account book with receipts and other loose papers laid in, a deed, and estate papers. Papers pertaining to the town of Branford include deeds, receipts, and estate papers; a Grand Jury presentment summoning two men to answer the charge that they concealed "knowledge of a Number of Persons endeavoring to Joine the Enemies of this, & the rest of the United States," signed by Gideon Bartholomew (1782); an assessors' list of polls and estates; a certificate appointing surveyors of highways; and letters pertaining to the appointment of William Russell to the town's Democratic Confidential Committee.

The final item in the collection is a farm account book with notes and other loose papers laid in, belonging to David Welles, Jr. (1750-1816), of Shelbourne, Massachusetts. It is unclear whether Welles was connected to the Blackstone family.

Collection Contents

Blackstone family		
b. 1, f. 1	John Blackstone, Jr.: farm account book	1772-1839
Stephen Blackstone		
b. 1, f. 2	Deed with Ann Blackstone to John Blackstone	1801 June 26
b. 1, f. 2	Estate papers	[1807]
b. 1, f. 3	Hannah (Harrison) Blackstone: estate papers	[1815]
b. 1, f. 4	John Blackstone, Sr.: estate papers	[1818]
Branford, Connecticut		
b. 1, f. 5	Deeds, estate papers, and receipts	1705/6-1837
b. 1, f. 6	Grand jury presentment to Elias Pond and Abraham Rogers	1782 November 6
b. 1, f. 7	Assessors' list of quantity and valuation of polls and different kinds of estate	1814 August 20
b. 1, f. 8	Certificate of appointment of surveyors of highways	1837 November 15
b. 1, f. 9	William Russell: letters related to his appointment to the Democratic Confidential Town Committee for Branford	1844 January-February
b. 1, f. 10	David Welles, Jr.: farm account book and notes	1773-1786

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

Agriculture -- Accounting
Families
Farmers

Geographic Names

Branford (Conn.)
Connecticut
United States -- History -- Colonial period, ca.
1600-1775
United States -- History -- Revolution,
1775-1783

Genres / Formats

Deeds

Names

Blackstone, Hannah, d. 1815
Blackstone, John
Blackstone, John, d. 1818
Blackstone, Stephen, d. 1807
Welles, David, 1750-1816

Families

Blackstone family