



**OLD COLONY
HISTORY
MUSEUM**

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MSS-09-002

Berkley Congregational Church/First Church of Christ in Berkley

Historical & Biographical Note: The Berkley Congregational Church was established in 1737, shortly after the foundation of the town itself. The first minister of the church, then the First Church of Christ, was Reverend Samuel Tobey. In 1788, Reverend Thomas Andros took over as minister and changed the church name to the Free Christian Church in 1814. Upon the formation of the United Church of Christ in 1957, the name changed again to the Berkley Congregational Church UCC, as it remains today.

Scope & Content Note: printed booklets, programs, and correspondence regarding the records and proceedings of the Berkley Congregational Church/First Church of Christ in Berkley, 1725-1987

Series Description: One box containing 7 folders, including VB445C #1-3 and VB455C # 1-4

Inventory:

Box:	Folder:	Contents:
1	VB445C 1	Booklet, "Proceedings of an Ecclesiastical Council, in the Town of Berkley, October 19, 1981. And the Documents Connected Therewith," published in Taunton by James Thurber, Printer, 1831
		Booklet, "Strictures on a Recent Publication, Entitled Proceedings of Two Ecclesiastical Councils in the Town of Berkley," undated
		Booklet, "Proceedings of Two Ecclesiastical Councils in the Town of Berkley," 1830
		Booklet, "The Rules, Usages, Confession of Faith, and Covenant of the Church of Christ in Berkley, Mass," Taunton, 1847
	VB445C 2	Photocopy of print of Berkley Congregational Church, 1985, built 1849
		Handwritten booklet, notes from church assemblies at Berkley, June 13, 1831 to January 3, 1832
		Handwritten booklet, "Minutes and Results of an Ecclesiastical Court at Berkley, December 7, 1831
		Handwritten booklet, records of church assemblies at Berkley, July 20, 1820 to September 30, 1830
		Handwritten booklet, notes from church assemblies at Berkley, 1832

	VB445C 3	Two copies of a printed booklet, <i>Review of The Berkley Case: I. Proceedings of two Ecclesiastical Councils in the town of Berkley II. Strictures on a Recent Publication, entitles Proceedings of two Ecclesiastical Councils in the town of Berkley III. Statement of Facts</i>
	VB455C 1	Handwritten copy of votes from Town Record in regard to a Meeting House, October 6, 1735
		Report of a Committee Appointed by the Congregational Society of Berkley to Devise Measures for the Permanent Maintenance of Public Worship in Said Society, June 13, unknown year
		Photocopy of newspaper article, "Rhode Islanders May Thwart Ford Plan to Purchase Venerable Organ," <i>The Boston Herald</i> , July 29, 1928
		Three written sheets, "Incorporation of Town of Berkley," Rec. Samuel Tobey
		Handwritten booklet, "Reply of certain brethren to accusations laid before the church," Church of Christ in Berkley, May 1/July 30 1831
		Deed for one third of a pew in the Berkley Meeting House to Giles G. and Sylvia Chace, June 24, 1836
		Address to the Church of Christ in Berkley, August 18, 1834
		Receipt of payment for a third of a pew in the Berkley Meeting House from Elijah French, granted to Sylvia and Giles Chace, December 9, 1822
		Report on a proposed road the Berkley Meeting House and Taunton, March 25, 1771
		Photocopy of newspaper article, "Berkley Church is Dedicated: Interesting Ceremonies are Well Attended," <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , October 14, 1904
	VB455C 2	Booklet, "Confession of Faith and Covenant of the First Congregational Church in Berkley, Mass," adopted November 5, 1859
		Booklet, "Looking Forward to the Bicentennial Celebration of the First Congregational Church in Berkley, Massachusetts," 1737-1937
		Booklet, 250 th Anniversary of Berkley Congregational Church, November 1, 1987
		Two booklets, First Congregational Church in Berkley Bicentennial Memorial Program, November 2, 1737
		Three booklets, "The Observance of the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Organization of the Congregational Church, Berkley, November 2, 1887
	VB455C 3	Fifty pages, photocopy of a typed article, "'Better Edification a Good Plea': Democracy and Decline of the Puritan Covenant," by Michael G. Kenny, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Simon Fraser University
	VB455C 4	Address from the Committee to the Church of Christ in Berkley, August 25, 1834
		Program for Order of Exercises for the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Congregational Church in Berkley, November 2, 1887

		Notes on church meetings, Berkley, October 15-21, 1833
		Address to the Church of Christ in Berkley, from Rev. Mr. Andros, Pastor, June 3, 1831
		Series of letters to the Church of Christ in Berkley, 1831

Cross referenced with V Files:

	VA29T 1	Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, August 12, 1793
		Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, September 14, 1811
		Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, August 30, 1797
		Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, November 2, 1801
		Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, March 30, 1807
		Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, March 30, 1807
		Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, May 16, 1807
		Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, December 26, 1809
	VA29T 2	Photocopy of newspaper clipping, obituary for Dr. Frederick Andros, son of Rev. Thomas Andros, <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , May 7, 1985
		Deed for land from Mary Babbitt et al. to Thomas Andros, Berkley, June 10, 1829
		Quitclaim for land from Thomas Andros to Mary Babbitt, Berkley, June 30, 1829
	VA29T 3	Two printed booklets, <i>The Place of the Church on the Grand Chart of Scripture Prophecy, or the Great Battle of Armageddon in Four Lecture, the Three Last of Which Were Delivered on the Annual Fast, April 7, 1814</i> , by Thomas Andros, Pastor of the Church of Christ in Berkley
		Printed booklet, <i>An Oration Delivered at Dighton, Massachusetts, July 4, 1799 in Commemoration of the Independence of the United States of America</i> , by Thomas Andros
		Printed booklet, <i>A Sermon Preached to the Congregational Society in Berkley, Sept. 30, 1798</i> , by Thomas Andros
		Printed booklet, <i>The Criminality of Restraining Prayer. A Sermon: Delivered Before the Congregational Society, in Berkley, Massachusetts</i> , by Thomas Andros, November 6, 1808
	VA29T 4	Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, December 16, 1820, with an added date of February 3, 1833
		Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Taunton, July 4, 1840

		Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, June 29, 1833
		Handwritten booklet, sermon by Reverend Thomas Andros, Berkley, April 30, 1830
	VB455T 1	Composition notebook, written list of baptisms by Rev. Samuel Tobey obtained from church records, 1735-1787, written on inside cover: "From Mrs. Mary Herbert, Assonet"
		Composition notebook, written record of marriages in Berkley obtained from Town Clerk's Book for Registration of Marriages, 1859-1895, written on inside cover: "From Mrs. Mary Herbert, Assonet"
		Booklet, miscellaneous written records of marriages, deaths, estates, and land divisions, 1698-1896
		Photocopy of newspaper article "Ancient Records," regarding the deed found for Assonet Neck in Berkley from November 12, 1677, <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , dated November 28, 1870
		Photocopy of newspaper article, "Played a Part in Revolution: Berkley Had a Tea Party," by Irene Viera
		Two printed sheets, "Berkley Song" by Frank W. Hutt
		Photocopy of newspaper article, "Tiny Myricks Nears Milestone," by Jeane Miller, February 26, 1978
		Photocopy of newspaper photo "Custom Designed for Berkley," regarding the new Berkley town seal, <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , October 13, 1977
		Photocopy of handwritten notes on marriages performed by Rev. Samuel Tobey and Rev. Thomas Andros, Berkley, 1747-1796
		Loose sheet with three names and dates
		Five sheets, marriages copied from the Congregational Church Records of Berkley, 1788-1833
		Handwritten booklet, list of descendants of Samuel Hall and George Hall
		Twenty typed sheets, list of Berkley News article dates and summaries in the <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , 1903-1909
		Photocopy of newspaper article, "West Berkley or Babbitt County," February 26, 1979
	VB455T 2	Thirty-five photocopied sheets, typed notes on Berkley Town Meetings for "Berkley News" in the <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , March 11, 1902 to March 14, 1919
		Five typed pages, "Philip Fletcher's Money" for "Berkley News" in the <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , March 12, 1902
		Twenty-seven typed pages, article headers for "Berkley & Other Towns" for the <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , April 24, 1896 to August 24, 1900
	VED75	Photocopy of biography of Hilliard Earle, excerpt from <i>The Past Masters of the Masonic Lodge</i> , by George H Rhodes, 1905, pp. 14-15
		Photocopy of obituary for Charles G. Earle, Pastor in Berkley, <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , October 23, 2002
		Photocopy of obituary for Charles G. Earle, Pastor of Berkley

		Congregational Church, <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , October 22, 2002
		Photocopy of newspaper article, "Pastor left his mark in region," regarding the death of Charles G. Earle, <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , October 23, 2002
		Three sheets, genealogy of the Earle family, 1798-1977, compiled by Irene Seymour, 1990
		Five photocopied sheets, "Notes on the Butts-Lake-Earle-and Cornell Families," to the Old Colony Historical Society Library from William Miller Collier, as an annotation to a past donation, December 9, 1940
	VT552S	Photocopy of newspaper article, "Historical Samuel Tobey House Razed," regarding the house of the first minister of Berkley, <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , December 24, 1960
		Twelve written sheets, notes about Reverend Samuel Tobey
		Photocopy of letter from Donald S. Richmond to Lisa Compton, Director of the Old Colony Historical Society, regarding information about Abigail Burt Tobey d. 1839, August 13, 1988
		Deed for land from Samuel Tobey and Apollos Tobey to Nehemiah Newhall, Berkley, November 21, 1822
		Quitclaim from Samuel Tobey to Peter Briggs, Berkley, July 25, 1805
Box 108	2	Book, <i>Discourses on Several Important Theological Subjects</i> , by Thomas Andros, Pastor of the Church of Christ in Berkley, 1817
		Three copies of a book, <i>The Old Jersey Captive, or a Narrative of the Captivity of Thomas Andros on Board the Old Jersey Prison Ship at New York 1781</i> , by Thomas Andros, 1833
Shelf in center of vault	Shelf 2	Book, Berkley Town Records of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1735-1895
		Book, <i>A Book of Records Belonging to Church of Christ in Berkley</i> , began and kept by Samuel Tobey, Pastor of said church, 1735-1884