



**OLD COLONY
HISTORY
MUSEUM**

**William T. and Mary L.
Hurley Library
Finding Aid**

**MSS-02-013
Briggs Family**

Historical & Biographical Note: The material in this collection largely explores the descendants of William Briggs of Marshfield (b. 1645/1646). A few records mention Clement Briggs as well, who landed in Plymouth Colony in 1621. Many of these records were compiled by family members, but there are some printed works including genealogy of the Briggs family, including *The History of Bristol Co. Mass* by D. Hamilton Hurd, *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register Vol. 125 No. 2*, and *History of Weymouth*. Recurring members of the Briggs family in records include Benjamin Briggs, Benjamin Briggs, Jr., Charles Briggs, Daniel Briggs (1709-1808), and James Briggs.

Scope & Content Note: This box contains bound books, genealogical records, newspaper clippings, family records, and personal papers relating to the Briggs family, with information dating from the 1620's, but the earliest material dates from the 1700's.

Series Description: One box containing 18 folders

Inventory:

Box:	Folder:	Contents:
1	1	Bound book, Elijah Briggs' diary, 1778-1791
	2	Booklet with extracts from Elijah Briggs' diary, with notes on family members
	3	Four folded sheets, loose extracts from Elijah Briggs' diary Receipt from John C. Crane of Darius Phillips, executor of the will of the late Bathsheba Briggs, November 28, 1842 Receipt from the Collector of Berkley of Darius Phillips, Executor of the will of Bathsheba Briggs, January 3, 1843 Public notice of the appointment of Executor of the last will and testament of Bathsheba Briggs, deceased
		Two scraps of paper, notes on the descendants of Samuel Lincon, Sr., Thomas Lincon, Jr., Jonah Asten, John Lincon, and William Briggs, copied from vols. 16 and 17, Ext. Prop. Rec.
	4	Printed booklet, <i>The Origin and Development of the Almanack, a Paper Read Before The Western Reserve and Northern Ohio Historical Society January 12th, 1887</i> by Sam. Briggs

	5	Typed booklet, "The Descendants of William Briggs of Taunton Massachusetts Who Married Sarah Macomber," revised in 1915, detailing the descendants of William Briggs by generation, 1646-1891
		Second typed booklet, "The Descendants of William Briggs of Taunton Massachusetts Who Married Sarah Macomber," revised in 1915, detailing the descendants of William Briggs by generation, 1646-1891, with page of handwritten notes
	6	Forty-nine typed sheets (in two booklets), "Descendants of Freeman Briggs and Abigail (French) Briggs originally of Berkley, Mass.," compiled from family records by Fletcher Briggs 1918-19, presented to Old Colony Historical Hall by Fletcher Briggs, May 9, 1921
		Sixty-seven typed pages with handwritten notes, "Genealogical Records of the Briggs Ancestors of Freeman Briggs (1792-1874) and Genealogy of the Descendants of Freeman Briggs and His Wife, Abigail (French) Briggs (1792-1871), with Supplement on Ancestry of Abigail French Briggs," assembled by Fletcher Briggs from research in Boston Public Library, church and town records, Old Colony Historical Society, and family records
	7	Bound handwritten book, "Descendants of Clement Briggs"
	8	Handwritten booklet, "#1 Briggs Notes," biographical notes, lists of descendants, and obituary clippings of the Briggs family
	9	Bound notebook, "Records of the Briggs Family," handwritten records of William Briggs (1645-1728)
	10	Sixteen double-sided sheets, typed copies of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the will of Clement Briggs, testified August 24, 1650 - the will of Elizabeth Briggs, widow and second wife of Clement Briggs, November 11, 1685 - the inventory of the estate of Jonathan Briggs, son of Clement Briggs, March 6, 1688/9 - the will and inventory of estate of Amos Briggs, son of Jonathan Briggs, May 6, 1760 - and the will of John Briggs, son of Amos Briggs, May 30, 1781
	11	Two negative photocopied sheets, deed for land from Charles Briggs of Voluntown, CT, to Daniel Briggs, January 24, 1837
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed for land from Charles S. Briggs of Griswold, CT, to Daniel Briggs of Voluntown, CT., June 18, 1852
		Two negative photocopied sheets, record by Noah Briggs of his family
		Two negative photocopied sheets, inventory by Noah Briggs of his estate
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from John Campbell, JR. to Noah Briggs, Voluntown, CT, July 8, 1771
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from Charles Campbell to

		Noah Briggs, Voluntown, CT., July 8, 1771
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from Hannah Pooler of Plainfield, CT to Perez Briggs of Voluntown, CT., September 22, 1775
		Two negative photocopied sheets, copy of deed from Elkanah Briggs of Pawling, NY to James Briggs of Voluntown, CT., 1785
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from James Campbell to Noah Briggs, Voluntown, CT., April 12, 1756
		Two negative photocopied sheets, receipts from Noah Briggs and Anthony Eames to Rev. Samuel Dorrance, Voluntown, CT., August 19, 1755
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from Stephen Foster of Scituate, RI to Noah Briggs of Voluntown, CT, April 20, 1754
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from James Campbell to Noah Briggs, Voluntown, CT, April 20, 1754
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from Benjamin Crary to Noah Briggs, Voluntown, CT., January 30, 1752
		Negative photocopied sheet, deed from Hugh Briggs to Richard Briggs, Taunton, February 16, 1685-86
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from William and Issac Briggs to Noah Briggs, Taunton, 1740
		Ten negative photocopied sheets, Zachariah Briggs diary, Voluntown, CT., July 25 to September 12, 1758
		Two negative photocopied sheets, certified copy of 100 th lot in Voluntown, CT belonging to Philip Bill, from Elisha Potter, Voluntown Town Clerk, March 1706
		Copy of letter from Rhoda Horne regarding the will of Abiel Briggs, May 20, 1999
		Four negative photocopied sheets, letter to James Briggs
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from Elkanah Briggs of Pawling, NY to James Briggs of Voluntown, CT, November 22, 1790
		Five negative photocopied sheets, inventory of the Estate of Elizabeth Briggs, 1808
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from James Briggs to William Briggs, Voluntown, CT, May 25, 1793
		Two negative photocopied sheets, deed from James Briggs to John Gallup and others, Voluntown, CT, July 16, 1795
		Negative photocopied sheet, Commission as ensign of James Briggs, 3 rd company, 21 st regiment of militia, May 23, 1796
		Two negative photocopied sheets, will of Elizabeth Briggs, Voluntown, CT, February 20, 1801
		Two negative photocopied sheets, bond from Daniel Briggs to Charles S. Briggs, Voluntown, CT, November 7, 1836
	12A	Photocopy of obituary for Charles A. Briggs
		Envelope from the Treasurer's Office of Northern Pacific Railroad Co., NY, to Franklin Pratt, with notes about the Briggs family on the reverse
		Scrap paper with notes about the Briggs family in the Dighton list of marriages, 1781-1783
		Three typed sheets, excerpt on Clement Briggs from <i>History of Weymouth</i> by George Walter Chamberlain, 1923, with handwritten

		notes and typed notes on David and Mary Briggs
		Handwritten notes on Plymouth records regarding the deposition of Clement Briggs, 1638, and the children of William Briggs and Richard Briggs
		Typed and handwritten notes on the Briggs family, from <i>Abstracts from the First Book of Bristol County (Mass.) Probate Records</i> , Vol. 62, p. 183
		Typed notes on the children of Daniel Briggs and William Briggs (1742-1773)
		Two handwritten sheets, letter from R. L. Richmond to James E. Seaver, Taunton, February 25, 1904
		Handwritten copy of the will of Clement Briggs (1650), and notes on the wills of Nathaniel Briggs (1711) and Nathaniel Briggs (1773)
		Handwritten notes on the children of Jeobediah Briggs and Seth Briggs
		Four handwritten sheets, "Account of Mary Briggs' last sickness and death"
		Eight sheets, notes and letters regarding Henry Briggs Coriell, Captain Dean Briggs, Daniel Briggs, and Thomas Harvey
		Photocopy of obituary for Abraham Briggs, with notes on the reverse
		Photocopy of newspaper article, request for parentage of Hannah Briggs, d. January 11, 1766 in Taunton
		Two typed sheets, notes on William Briggs, Sarah Macomber, and their descendants
		Photocopy of obituary for Loring T. "Pete Briggs, <i>Taunton Daily Gazette</i> , February 13, 2008
		Photocopy of obituary for Mary Briggs, November 1, 1816
		Letter to Major Thomas Lincoln from Samuel and Hannah Briggs, October 1798
		Photocopy of handwritten notes on the Briggs family, including Franklin Briggs and Clement Briggs, from the <i>Southeastern Mass. Genealogy Biography</i> , vol., II
		Photocopy of genealogy tree from Asa Briggs (1778-1877)
		Eight photocopied sheets, typed notes on Clement Briggs and his descendants
		Three photocopied sheets, printed biography and genealogy of Clement Briggs and Ebenezer Briggs
		Handwritten biographical notes on Clement Briggs
		Letter to Silas Briggs from James Aldrich, March 10, Attleboro
		Receipt for Silas Briggs on accounts settled, September 28, 1850
		Express envelope to Mr. Silas P. Briggs, Dighton, MA
		Bill to Silas Briggs, undated
		Fourteen sheets, handwritten notes on Clement Briggs and his descendants
		Five sheets, typed genealogical notes on the Dean, Rogers, Richmond families
		Negative photocopy of notes on the "Owners of Babbitt Chair"
		Handwritten notes from "The Archives of the Briggs Family, by Sam. Briggs, Cleveland Ohio, Published 1880," p. 98
		Notes on the children of Susan Shaw Williams, married to Artemas Briggs November 27, 1834

		Letter from Wor. Robert W. Williams, Secretary of the King David Lodge, to a Masonic brother, January 20, 1976, with notes on Rev. Briggs on the reverse
		Typed notes on Daniel Briggs (1709-1808) and his descendants
		Letter from Fletcher Briggs to Mr. Hutt, Cambridge, May 19, 1922
		Notes on Proprietors' Records regarding William, Nathaniel, John, and Richard Briggs
		Five handwritten sheets, letter from Ms. Julia B. Sampson to Mr. Warner, November 22, 1917
		Letter from Mrs. F. K. Lawrence to Mr. Percy F. Frances with information regarding the Briggs/Lawrence Family, March 25, 1956
		Biographical letter about Horatio L. Briggs, Dighton, September 13, 1825
		Letter from Oscar H. Briggs to Jane, Franklin, MA, December 16, 1918
		Two typed sheets, "Briggs Family Genealogy," from James Macomber (1760-1848)
		Photocopy of obituary of Rodney P. Briggs, former curator at the Old Colony Historical Society, June 24, 1995
		Photocopy of handwritten record of Briggs family descendants
		Photocopy of newspaper article, "Briggs History is Read at Reunion, June 30, 1917
		Six typed sheets, biographical info and descendants of Gardner Briggs, born July 16, 1778
		Two handwritten sheets, letter to Mary P. Herbert from William C. Briggs regarding the Briggs' family genealogy, March 14, 1920
		Two typed sheets, letter from Joseph E. Warner to Walter Briggs, April 1, 1940
		Six handwritten sheets, Briggs family biographical information from Matthew Briggs
		Six handwritten sheets, biographical information on George Dexter Briggs and letter from Julia Briggs Sampson to Mr. Briggs, September 19, 1918
	12B	Notes on the Briggs family from excerpts in the Proprietors Records
		Briggs family tree from Rev. Ephraim and Rebekah Briggs
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Hodijah Baylies Briggs, b. March 6, 1819
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Matthew Briggs I, February 5, 1676
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Matthew Briggs II, b. January 16, 1747
		Three cards, genealogical and biographical data on Andrew Briggs, b. October 30, 1817
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Horatio Briggs, b. September 16, 1825
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Horatio Leonard Briggs, September 18, 1824
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Matthew Briggs IV, b. January 19, 1815
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on George Washington

		Briggs, b. February 23, 1811
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Howard Russell Francis, b. December 4, 1880
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Charles Bliss Briggs, b. December 3, 1872
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on James Briggs, b. 1808, d. 1808
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Alson Briggs
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Charles Briggs, b. December 30, 1813
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Harriet Briggs, November 2, 1809
		Two cards, genealogical and biographical data on Harry Alson Briggs, b. July 3, 1869
		Genealogical data card on Ida Evelyn Briggs
		Genealogical data card on Oscar Horatio Briggs, b. July 1, 1859
		Genealogical data card on Ella Cole Briggs, b. July 20, 1852
		Genealogical data card on Mary Elizabeth Briggs, b. October 2, 1849
		Genealogical data card on Dorothy Walker Briggs, b. August 7, 1891
		Biographical data card on Clara Dolly Francis
		Receipt for highway tax from Ms. Briggs and Ms. Simmons for 1840, from Adonis Crane, Surveyor
		Receipt from S. Briggs from White Jackson Child
		Nine folded handwritten sheets, biographical information on William Briggs (1645-1728) and his descendants
		Four typed sheets, letter from Nancy Morrison Briggs seeking information on Elisha Hill Briggs, 1803-1891, with some genealogical information about his relatives
		Written list of descendants of Barzilia Briggs (and copy written over in pencil)
		Family tree for the Hartland French Family, including Jonathan Briggs and Hopestill Briggs
		Photocopy of will of William Briggs of Taunton, son of Richard Briggs, April 19, 1725
		Two typed sheets, letter from Hettie A. Withey to Ms. Howland regarding the Briggs family and Withey's collection
		Two photocopied sheets, letter from Robert L. Criswell to Lisa Own at the Old Colony Historical Society, June 10, 1979
		Photocopy of pedigree chart for Charles Allen Briggs
		Five photocopied sheets, biographical information and descendants of John Briggs
		Eight photocopied sheets, excerpt from <i>The New England Historical and Genealogical Register Vol. 125 No. 2</i> , "Richard, William, and Hugh, Sons of John Briggs of Taunton, Massachusetts," April 1971
		Six typed sheets, notes on William Briggs and Sarah Macomber Genealogy, information from Mrs. John E. Barclay, <i>American Genealogist</i>
		Handwritten notes on the wills of Benjamin Leonard (1818), Mary Thurber (1718), and Thomas Briggs (1733)
		Letter from F. P. to T. R. Woodward about Briggs family records in the

		Registry of Deeds, April 10, 1905
		Handwritten notes on records from the Briggs family
		Handwritten list of children of Erios and Lydia Hodges Briggs
		Printed excerpt about Eliza Hodgkins and Ephraim Dean Briggs from <i>Boston Transcript</i> , April 5, 1937
		Written notes about Thomas Briggs and Briggs' genealogy
		Written notes on the division of Daniel Briggs' estate, and a deed from Issac and Hannah Andrews to Abner Thayer and Harvey and John Crane, 1823
		Written notes on deeds from John Briggs to Thomas Porter, 1701, and from Samuel Andrews to Thomas Porter, 1723
		Four handwritten sheets, genealogical notes on the Clement-Briggs line from 1621
		Two handwritten sheets, notes on the children of Amos and Sarah Briggs (children born 1706-1727), and John and Abigail Briggs (children born 1781-1797)
		Handwritten notes on Nellie Cobb McLay, her relatives, and their addresses
		Three sheets, letter from L. Bertha Briggs to her cousin Joseph, June 27, 1940
		Letter from Nellie Cobb McLay to Joe, Pawtucket, RI
		Twelve handwritten sheets, biographical notes on George Washington Briggs (b. 1811) and his descendants
		Notes on deed for land from Seth Garey to John Briggs, September 15, 1787
		Letter from Maira (?) Walker to her cousin Joe about the genealogy of the Briggs family, May 24, 1940
		Photocopy of newspaper clipping with information about births and deaths in the Bowers family, 1685-1751
		Notes on John Briggs from <i>The History of Bristol Co. Mass</i> by D. Hamilton Hurd
		References to John Briggs in <i>The History of Bristol Co. Mass</i> by D. Hamilton Hurd, p. 290
		Notes on the coat of arms and family history of John C. Briggs
		Biographical notes on Jedediah Briggs
		Notes on Captain John Briggs, son of John Briggs, born 1729, who was the son of Amos Briggs, b. 1683, from "The Archives of the Briggs Family" by Sam Briggs, Cleveland, Ohio, 1880
		Two photocopied sheets, typed letter from Robert L. Criswell to Lisa Owens at the Old Colony Historical Society regarding research on the John Briggs branch of the family, June 10, 1979
		Five photocopied sheets, excerpt from "A Genealogy of the Descendants of Daniel Briggs of Turner, Maine and his brother William Briggs of Portland (Minot) Maine," Maine State Library 929.2 B854a
		Two photocopied sheets, biographical information on William Briggs (b. 1646) and his descendants, from Carolyn B. Owen, Archivist
		Copy of letter to Cynthia Abbott regarding Nathaniel Townsend and Abigail Briggs, Bernardston, MA, February 28, 1974
		Copy of typed notes on John Briggs, his son Richard (b. 1692), and their descendants, August 23, 1974

		Notes on John and Sybil Briggs (d. 1808) and their children
		Notes on the children of Lemuel S. Briggs, b. 1890 - 1896
		Four sheets, "The account of Barius Phillips, Jr., Executor of the last will and testament of Bathsheba Briggs late of Berkley deceased"
		Copy of typed letter from Robert L. Criswell to Lisa Owen at the Old Colony Historical Society regarding his research on the Briggs family, September 8, 1979
		Notes on Ebenezer Briggs b. 1823, his wife Sally Clark, and their children
		Written notes on Clement Briggs and his descendants
		Letter from Arnold G. Lolbot to Calvin Crane, Esq. regarding his family genealogy
		Letter from F. P. to James E. Seaver regarding Benjamin Briggs and Daniel Briggs, August 19, 1903
		Photocopy of notes on Briggs emigrants in the Boston area: Clement, Walter, John, William, and Matthew
		Photocopy of notes on John Briggs in Taunton, MA and his descendants
		Photocopy of notes on William Briggs of Marshfield (b. 1646) and his descendants
		Notes on deeds involving Benjamin Briggs Sr., Benjamin Briggs Jr., and Jonathan Briggs of Taunton, and notes from the Proprietor's Records, May 10, 1708
		Six sheets, letters from Mary P. Herbert to Miss Crane about the Briggs family, Assonet, 1918-1919
		Letter from Mary P. Herbert to Miss Crane, Assonet, March 6, 1920
		Biographical notes on Elizabeth Betsey Briggs, b. August 20, 1797
		Notes on the will of Nathaniel Briggs, June 9, 1773, and a deed from Jonathan Briggs of Taunton to Benjamin Crane, February 8, 1698-99
	13	Fourteen sheets, "References to Clement Briggs who came to Plymouth Colony from England on the ship 'Fortune' in 1621," taken by Fletcher Briggs in about 1920
		Four written sheets, extracts from Elijah Briggs Diary, Books 1 + 2
		Thirty-nine written sheets, lists of marriages and deaths in the Briggs family from Berkley town records, church records, and gravestones, 1735-1844
		Notes on Jonathan Briggs b. June 14, 1635, and his son John Briggs
		Typed letter from Harry Laughlin, Superintendent of the Eugenic Record Office, Long Island, NY, to Joseph E. Warner regarding William Briggs, August 9, 1918
		Notes, "Memoranda of Early Briggs Family, taken from Probate Records – Bristol Co.," 1696 and 1688/89
		Typed genealogical notes on the Paul-Briggs family line, from William Paul
		Seven photocopied sheets, excerpts from "Census of 1790" and "Patriots and Veterans" chapters of a book on the Briggs family
		Three typed sheets, "Some Extracts from the Earliest Records of Clement Briggs & Certain Descendants (Selected for Fletcher Briggs, Jan. 1920," by Charles H. Briggs, Minneapolis, MN

	14	Bound notebook, "History of the Briggs Family," compiled by Hattie Briggs Church, 1953
	15	Twenty-seven photocopied sheets, Briggs Family history and genealogy, compiled by Robert L. Criswell
	16	Receipt from Henry Briggs of S. (?) W. Baylies for fees, August 19, 1822
		Fourteen photocopied sheets, "A Sketch of dear Mother, Mary Frances Briggs Murphy by her daughter, Ida B."
		Nineteen photocopied sheets, ancestor charts on the Briggs family compiled by Nancy Gillon Gibbs, August 18, 1985
	17	Photocopy of newspaper article, "Priest, formerly of Fitchburg, writes 'Way of the Cross,'" July 1, 1999
		Three typed sheets, poem "The Old, Still New," by Father Everett Francis Briggs, related to the Briggs and Williams early families
		"Goldenseal: West Virginia Traditional Life" Winter 1999 magazine containing the article, "I Know Them All': Monongah's Faithful Father Briggs," p. 21

Cross Reference to V-Files:

	VD569OT	Photocopy of drawing of Old Town Cemetery in Dighton
		Transcription of stones in the Old Town Cemetery, including one with Albert Briggs and Sarah Simmons Briggs
		Sketch of gravestone in Old Town Cemetery of Patience Ann (1852) and Charles Briggs (1859), and the Children of Joseph and Patience Briggs
		Transcription of gravestone with Albert S. Briggs, Albert and Sarah Briggs, and Frances Spurling
	VBA Genealogical Drawer #2	Charts on Briggs families
	VB Cemeteries – Berkley	Photos of the Freeman Briggs Homestead, the Burying Ground, Berkley Common, gravestones in the Burying Ground, and French and Chace home sites
	VB768I	Negative photocopy of deed from Issac Briggs to Jonathan Crossman and James Coddington, all of Taunton, July 13, 1733
	VB768W	Will of William Briggs of Taunton, April 19, 1925, along with typed notes on the deaths of four William Briggs's in Taunton

	VB769	Indenture of Jacob Briggs to Joseph Briggs, Jr., March 23, 1770
		Deed from Oliver Briggs to Mary Wiswall, March 21, 1794
		Deed from Jacob Briggs and others to Oliver Briggs, November 9, 1802
		Deed for land from Calvin Briggs and S. Goldthorn to Mary Leonard, January 14, 1807
		Summons for Benjamin Briggs from Bristol County, January 24, 1710
		Deed for land from Benjamin Leonard to Noah Briggs, 1735
		Deed for land from Daniel Briggs III to Rufus and Leonard Hodges, February 3, 1802
		Deed for land from Daniel Briggs III to Leonard Hodges, February 3, 1802
		Deed for land from Job Briggs and others to Peter Briggs, November 9, 1807
	VB774	Deed for plot in Mount Pleasant Cemetery to Charles Briggs, Taunton, July 9, 1836
		Deed for land from Samuel B. King to Charles Briggs, Taunton, January 1, 1833
		Deed for land from John Baylies to Charles Briggs, Taunton, December 31, 1831
		Deed for land from Simon Crossman to Charles Briggs, Taunton, May 3, 1822
		Deed for land from Annis Newcomb to Charles Briggs, Taunton, July 17, 1833
	VB994	Deed for pew in Raynham Meeting House from Lloyd Shan, Administrator of the Estate of William Byron, to Elijah Leonard and Marshall Briggs, May 29, 1826
		Deed for half a pew in the Raynham Meeting House from Marshall Briggs to Elijah Leonard, October 30, 1828
	VC549T	Deed for land from Theophilus Clark, Jr. to Malcolm Briggs, May 20, 1800
	VL638J	Negative photocopy of deed for land from Jonah Lincoln to William and Constant Briggs, Taunton, February 24, 1695/6
	VAN26E	Negative photocopy of deed for land from Edmond Andrews to Noah Briggs, Taunton, March 20, 1748
	VP687S	Negative photocopy of deed from Samuel Pitts to William Briggs, Sr., Taunton, October 17, 1713
		Deed for shares in the old iron works in Raynham from Samuel Pitts to Samuel Leonard, June 2, 1737