

Allen, Arnold, Blanchard Papers, 1774 – 1847
1953.15



Old Sturbridge Village
Research Library

1 Old Sturbridge Village Road
Sturbridge, MA 01566
508-347-0204

Collection Overview

Repository: Old Sturbridge Village Research Library, Sturbridge, MA

Creator: Alice Adam Smith

Title: Allen, Arnold, Blanchard Papers

Dates: 1774-1847

Extent: One box, 0.25 linear feet

Abstract: A collection of deeds, letters, invitations, wills and other miscellaneous documents related to the Allen, Arnold and Blanchard families.

Location: OSV Vault, August 2018

Language: English

Biographical Sketch

Hezekiah Allen (1781-1862) was born in Sturbridge, MA to Timothy Allen Sr. and Hannah Allen. He married Lucinda Walker, sister of Perez Walker, in 1804. Their son Austin Allen married Mary Arnold. He appears in many deeds between family members and is declared the power of attorney for his brother, Timothy's wife, Clarissa's father, Silas Marsh.

Mary Arnold Allen (1813-1888) was born in Sturbridge, MA to Lydia and Richard Arnold. She attended both the Dudley Academy and the Monson Academy in the 1830s. She is the sister of Waity Arnold Blanchard. She married Austin Allen, son of Hezekiah Allen, on November 29, 1838. They had a child in 1845, W. Isadore Allen. She died in 1888 in Sturbridge, MA. There are many letters from her in the collection sent to her sister Waity. She is the connection between the Blanchard, Arnold and Allen families.

Nehemiah Allen Jr. (1729-1822) was born in Sturbridge, MA to Nehemiah Allen Sr. and Mary Allen. He is the brother of Timothy Allen Sr. whose children are the focus of this collection. He appears in many deeds in the collection.

Timothy Allen Sr. (1744-1813) was born in Sturbridge, MA to Nehemiah Allen Sr. and Mary Allen. He married Hannah Moffit in 1768 and they had five children together, whom he mentions in his will. Two copies of his will are included in the collection.

Danford Willard Blanchard (1810-1891) was born in Charlton, MA to Charles and Thedy Blanchard. He married Waity Arnold on May 12, 1835 in Sturbridge, MA. He is listed as a chaise-maker in many of the deeds in both Sturbridge and Amherst. He was living in Amherst in 1836 on East Street. He died and is buried in Milwaukee, WI.

Waity Arnold Blanchard (1810-1910) was born in Sturbridge, MA to Lydia and Richard Arnold. She married Danford W. Blanchard on May 12, 1835 in Sturbridge, MA. She lived on East Street in Amherst in 1836 with her husband. She died and is buried in Milwaukee, WI. Most of the letters in the collection are sent to her.

Alphonso Child (1809-1830) was born in Sturbridge, MA to Amasa Child and Cynthia Freeman. He is the nephew to Mary Child who was married to Perez Walker whose daughter, Louisa Walker, married Oliver Wight. Two invitations for him to the Oliver Wight Tavern are included in the collection, 1953.15.11, 13.

Horace Freeman (1806-1878) was born in Sturbridge, MA to Chester and Rachel Freeman. He is distantly related to Amasa and Alphonso Child through Cynthia Freeman. He married Eliza Ann Belknap in 1833. He lived in Hartford, CT in the 1860s. He is also distantly related to Pliny Freeman. An invitation for him to an election ball is included in the collection, 1953.15.12.

Perez Walker (1770-1851) was born in Sturbridge to Josiah and Jerusha Walker. He married Mary Child in 1799 whose father Abijah Child served as a sergeant in Capt. Thomas White's company, Colonel Heath's regiment, which marched on the Lexington Alarm. His daughter Louisa Walker married Oliver Wight of the Wight Tavern in Sturbridge, MA. His home, The Perez Walker House stood in the Walker Pond-Walker Mountain section of Sturbridge and is commonly called the Bradford House. He is mentioned in a deed, 1953.15.7.

Dudley Academy – Maybe Nichols Academy in Dudley, MA founded in 1815. It is mentioned in a letter, 1953.15.32.

H.B. Claflin & Company – This dry goods store was started by Horace Brigham Claflin first in Milford, MA, then Worcester, MA and later in New York, NY. He started the business with his brother in law Samuel Daniels in Worcester in 1832. The store moved to New York City in 1843 and lasted until 1914 when it became insolvent. A receipt from the store in Worcester is included in the collection, 1953.15.40.

Nehemiah Allen Sr. (1699-1785)

Mary (Parker) Allen (1700-1771)

m. Feb. 1721

- **John Allen** (1731-1803)
- **Nehemiah Allen Jr.** (1729-1822)
- **Timothy Allen Sr.** (1744-1813)

Hezekiah Allen (1781-1862)

Lucinda (Walker) Allen (1785-1836)

m. Nov. 1804

- **Austin Allen** (1811-1879)

Charles Blanchard (1785-)

Altheda Willard Blanchard (1787-)

m. Jan 1808

- **Danford W. Blanchard** (1810-1891)
- **Elbridge G. Blanchard** (1808-1848)
- **Lorin Blanchard** (1813-)

Danford W. Blanchard (1810-1891)

Waity (Arnold) Blanchard (1810-1910)

m. May 1835

Samuel Freeman (1719-1772)

Mary (Chubb) Freeman (1719-1807)

m. April, 1744

- Samuel Freeman (1746-1772)
m. Elizabeth (Cheney) Freeman (1750-1772)
 - Chester Freeman (1770-1840)
m. Rachel (Parker) Freeman
 - **Horace Freeman** (1806-1878)
- Comfort Freeman (1750-1806)
m. Lucy Walker (1748-1831)
 - Cynthia (Freeman) Child (1784-1830)
m. Amasa Child (1784-1828)
 - **Alphonso Child** (1809-1830)
- Pliny Freeman (1780-1855)

Timothy Allen Sr.

Hannah (Moffit) Allen (1748-1813)

m. Dec. 1768

- **Sabin Allen** (1769-1824)
- **Parker Allen** (1771-1836)
- **Hezekiah Allen** (1781-1862)
- **Timothy Allen Jr.** (1789-1857)
m. **Clarissa Marsh** (1789-1846)
- Matilda (Allen) Rice (1774-1847)

Richard Arnold (1780-1850)

Lydia (Emerson) Arnold (1780-1860)

m. Apr. 1809

- **Waity (Arnold) Blanchard** (1810-1910)
- **Mary (Arnold) Allen** ((1813-1888)
- **Hannah Arnold** (1816-1845)
- **Stephen Arnold**
- **Thomas Arnold** (1819-1898)
- **Samuel Arnold** (1827-)

Austin Allen (1811-1879)

Mary (Arnold) Allen (1813-1888)

m. Nov. 1838

Josiah Walker (1741-1812)

Jerusah Walker (1754-1821)

m. Sept. 1767

- **Lucinda (Walker) Allen** (1785-1836)
- **Perez Walker** (1770-1851)
m. Mary Child (1778-1868)
 - Louisa Walker (1800-1885)
m. Oliver Wight (1800-1885)

Abijah Child (1748-)

Lois (Davis) Child (174-1830)

m. 1777

- Mary Child (1778-1868)
- Amasa Child (1784-1828)

Scope and Content

The Allen, Arnold, and Blanchard papers consist of deeds between and concerning the Allen family as well as the Blanchard family. There are also several letters between Waity Arnold Blanchard and her siblings, Mary, Hannah and Stephen Arnold, including friendship letters with locks of hair. Two copies of Timothy Allen Sr.'s will are included. A certificate for the parish of Amherst and several invites to assemblies in Sturbridge, MA, including one to the Oliver Wight Tavern. Other miscellaneous documents are also included.

This collection is organized into one series:

The collection was processed in 1953 and appears to be in its original order by creator. The materials are not chronological. A finding aid was created in 2018.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research. Use is limited to available Library hours and staff. Copies and scans are done at the discretion of the library staff and condition of materials.

Search Terms

Personal Names

Allen, Austin (1811-1879)
Allen, Clarissa (Marsh) (1789-1846)
Allen, Hezekiah (1781-1862)
Allen, John (1731-1803)
Allen, Mary Arnold (1813-1888)
Allen, Nehemiah (1729-1822)
Allen, Parker (1771-1836)
Allen, Sabin (1769-1824)
Allen, Timothy Sr. (1744-1813)
Allen, Timothy Jr. (1789-1857)
Arnold, Hannah (1816-1845)
Arnold, Samuel (1827-)
Arnold, Stephen
Arnold, Thomas (1819-1898)
Blanchard, Danford W. (1810-1891)
Blanchard, Elbridge (1808-1848)
Blanchard, Lorin (1813-)
Blanchard, Waity Arnold (1810-1910)
Blood, Otis (1805-1875)
Child, Alphonso (1809-1830)
Freeman, Horace (1806-1878)
Marsh, Silas
Walker, Delphia
Walker, Perez (1770-1851)

Family Names

Allen Family
Arnold Family
Blanchard Family
Child Family
Freeman Family
Marsh Family
Walker Family

Geographic Names

Massachusetts - Amherst
Massachusetts - Brimfield
Massachusetts - Monson
Massachusetts - Sturbridge
Massachusetts - Worcester
New York - Brookfield

Business Names

H.B. Claflin & Co
Dudley Academy
Peter Saunder's Hotel
Oliver Wight Tavern
C. Bullard Assembly Room

Occupations
Chaise-maker
Joiner
Painter
Yeoman

Subjects
Election Ball
Friendship
Textiles
School

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Item, Collection Title, Collection number (accession number with extensions for box and folder numbers). Old Sturbridge Village Research Library, Sturbridge, Massachusetts. Date Accessed.

History of the Collection

The collection was assigned the accession number 1953.15 and numbered 1-47 when it was accessioned in 1953. In 2018 it was removed from the manuscripts and isolated as its own collection. A finding aid was created, materials were rehoused and relocated to the OSV Vault.

Processing information

Finding Aid:

Prepared by, Brittany Guerrette, 8/14/2018

Related Collections

OSV Collections:

- 1.38.1445 – Box made by Oliver Wight for Louisa Walker, daughter of Perez Walker.
- 20.19.3 – An over mantel from the Perez Walker house in Sturbridge, MA.
- 26.16.2 - The wedding veil of Waity Arnold Blanchard.
- 26.19.39 – White homespun blanket made by Mary Arnold with her initials “MA” in ink.
- 26.19.76 – Another blanket made by Mary Arnold.
- 26.19.126 – Blanket possibly made by Mary Arnold.
- 26.48.5 - The white cotton ruffle shirt worn by Danford W. Blanchard at his wedding to Waity Arnold.
- 26.114.4 – Wool wintersheet with cross stitched initials “MA” made by Mary Arnold.
- 64.1.12 – A sampler made by Mary Arnold at the age of 8 in 1821.
- 64.1.48 – A sampler made by Mary Arnold at the age of 10 in 1823.
- 64.1.130 – A sampler made by Mary Child, the wife of Perez Walker in 1790.

OSV Research Library Collections:

There is an extensive amount of Account books and material related to the Allen and Walker family of Sturbridge, MA as well as individual documents.

- 1978.12 trade cards found in Cromwell Bullard Day Book
- 1973.18 Walker Family Collection
- 1978.24 Freeman Family Collection
- 1969.46 Belknap, Eddy, Fiske Collection
- 1986.1 Wight Family Collection

Contents

Box 1	Folder 1	1953.15.1	November 12, 1832 deed for five hundred dollars and a tract of land near the center meeting house between Elbridge Blanchard and Danford W. Blanchard.
		1953.15.2	April 9, 1834 deed for five hundred dollars and a tract of land near the meeting house between Otis Blood and Danford Blanchard.
		1953.15.3	A document titled "Riches" and signed by "Horace."
		1953.15.4	May 1821 a document "The Disadvantages of Solitude" and "On the Connection of Ideas."
		1953.15.5	December 20, 1838 friendship letter from Mary Arnold to her sister Waity Blanchard including a lock of Mary's hair and a ribbon.
		1953.15.6	December 31, 1832 letter from Mary Arnold to Danford Blanchard talking of family and the New Year.
		1953.15.7	July 6, 1831 deed of land between Perez Walker, guardian of Eleanor Alband(?) and Hezekiah Allen for land to pay debts.
		1953.15.8	July 30, 1829 deed of land between Philo Dickinson and Delphia Walker.
		1953.15.9	July 21, 1829 to Waity Arnold from her cousin Lydia Blood.
		1953.15.10	January 15, 1829 deed of land between Eliab Marsh and Parker Allen.
		1953.15.11	May 6, 1826 invitation for Alphonso Child to an Election Ball at Mr. Peter Saunder's Hotel in Sturbridge, MA.
		1953.15.12	May 1828 invitation for Horace Freeman to an Election Ball at Mr. C. Bullard's Assembly Room in Sturbridge, MA.
	Folder 2	1953.15.13	November 8, 1827 invitation for Alphonso Child to a Thanksgiving Ball at the P. Saunders Assembly Room in the Oliver Wight Tavern in Sturbridge, MA.
		1953.15.14	April 30, 1813 copy by Parker Allen of the will of Timothy Allen Sr. Within it he leaves his possessions to his wife Hannah and his children Sabin, Matilda, Parker, Timothy Jr., and Hezekiah Allen.
		1953.15.15	October 27, 1835 deed of land between Jonathan Hubbard and Danford Blanchard.
		1953.15.16	April 30, 1813 will of Timothy Allen Sr. Within it he leaves his possessions to his wife Hannah and his children Sabin, Matilda, Parker, Timothy Jr., and Hezekiah Allen.
		1953.15.17	April 2, 1811 deed of land between Hezekiah Allen and Stephen Allen.
		1953.15.18	December 18, 1809 document in which Nehemiah Allen revokes a farm he gave Josiah Putnam.

- 1953.15.19 October 21, 1803 lease of a farm by Hezekiah Allen to his father Timothy Allen to his demise.
- 1953.15.20 May 2, 1803 deed of land between John Allen and Nehemiah Allen.
- 1953.15.21 April 9, 1802 deed of land between Nehemiah Allen and Hezekiah Allen.
- 1953.15.22 January 29, 1799 deed of land between Oliver Morse and Parker Allen.
- 1953.15.23 March 21, 1798 deed of land between Nehemiah Allen and Timothy Allen.
- 1953.15.24 January 29, 1793 deed of land between Thomas Sherman and Sabin Allen.
- 1953.15.25 April 1, 1791 deed of land between William Norcross and Sabin Allen.
- 1953.15.26 May 15, 1788 deed of land between Jacob Allen and Timothy Allen.
- 1953.15.27 November 17, 1781 deed of land between Nehemiah and Timothy Allen.
- Folder 3 1953.15.28 December 3, 1774 deed of land between David Wight and John Allen.
- 1953.15.29 May 14, 1772 deed of land between Moses Marcy and Nehemiah Allen.
- 1953.15.30 March 31, 1833 letter to Waity, Mary and the Arnolds from Laconick(?) likely a cousin, about a society concerning a Mr. Ely in Monson.
- 1953.15.31 July 18, 1833 letter to Waity Arnold from her brother Stephen Arnold expressing his love of Sturbridge and how he will miss his sister.
- 1953.15.32 November 1833 letter to Waity and Mary Arnold from their cousin Elizabeth A. Arnold from Dudley Academy. Elizabeth talks about her studies and her homesickness.
- 1953.15.33 April 24, 1835 letter to Waity and Mary Arnold from Charles D. Douse thanking the girls for their friendship.
- 1953.15.34 September 24, 1835 deed of land between Henry Allen and Hezekiah Allen.
- 1953.15.35 1834-35, a small book signed Waity A. Blanchard containing poems about friendship and words from friends including Charles D. Douse, Eunice Drake, Maria Phillips, Mary Ann Drake, Mrs. S. Adams, and H. W. Merrick.
- 1953.15.36 January 5, 1836 letter to Waity Arnold Blanchard from her sister Mary Arnold. She talks about what is happening at home, Sturbridge, who is sick and sleigh rides she is attending.

- 1953.15.37 October 11, 1836 letter to Waity and Danford Blanchard from Hannah Arnold, Waity's sister. Hannah speaks of returning from somewhere and stopping in Brookfield and meeting some friends, as well as the happenings at home and words from her mother and father.
- 1953.15.38 March 20, 1837 power of attorney between Clarissa and Timothy Allen and Hezekiah Allen. Clarissa is giving Hezekiah the power of attorney over her father, Silas Marsh's estate.
- 1953.15.39 May 10, 1838 loan between Danford Blanchard and David Lord.
- 1953.15.40 August 28, 1838 bill from H. B. Clafin & Co. for a Miss Arnold. She bought carpeting, a rug and quilt, and other fabric totaling \$70.92.
- 1953.15.41 December 20, 1838 friendship letter from Mary Arnold with a lock of her hair and a pink ribbon.
- 1953.15.42 July 30, 1839 deed of land between Hezekiah Allen and his son Austin Allen. The land is part of farm situated partly in Sturbridge and partly in Brimfield.
- 1953.15.43 April 30, 1841 letter to Danford Blanchard from his wife's brothers Thomas and Samuel Arnold. Thomas talks about his ill health and visiting Doctor Spear in Worcester. He also speaks about a cotton house being turned into a blacksmith shop at the end of his road. Samuel talks of working on the farm.
- 1953.15.44 November 15, 1841 letter from L. M. Johnson to Waity Arnold Blanchard about fabric and lace.
- 1953.15.45 August 8, 1845 assessors certificate to Oliver Watse(?) the treasurer of the Amherst Parish.
- 1953.15.46 June 3, 1847 deed indicating that Danford was given the estate of his brother Lorin Blanchard who was in debt from Samuel Mach.
- 1953.15.47 A friendship letter from Mary Arnold to Danford Blanchard.