

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

NAME OF COLLECTION:

Adams, Abigail, Letters, 1784-1816

LOCATION(S):

Mss. boxes "A"

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

1 manuscript box (219 letters)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

Bober, Natalie S., *Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution*. New York: Atheneum Book for Young Readers, 1995. See accompanying sheet for additional information.

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

Gift of William George Arthur Turner, 1942

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

Abigail Smith Adams (1744-1818), the daughter of Rev. William Smith (1707-1783) and Elizabeth Quincy Smith (1721-1775), was the wife of John Adams (1735-1826), second president of the United States.

This extensive collection of the letters of Abigail Adams are to her sister Mary Cranch (-), and her niece, Lucy Cranch Greenleaf (1767-1846). The letters start with the crossing, in 1784, of the Adamses to England, where John Adams served as Minister to the Court of St. James, and continue in profusion until John Adams retired from the Presidency and Washington, D.C., back to Quincy in 1801. There are some later letters from Abigail Adams to her niece, Lucy Cranch Greenleaf, dated in the period 1811 to 1816.

Abigail Adams was an ardent Federalist and her letters contain tart comments on political topics and personalities. There is also much comment on city life in London, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington in these familiar letters to her older sister and, later, her niece.

See Contents List.

1 September 1973
contents list added 16 April 1991
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MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT

ABIGAIL ADAMS, LETTERS, 1784-1816
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**American Antiquarian Society
Manuscripts Department**

Abigail Adams, Letters, 1784-1816
Calendar of Unpublished Correspondence

Note: All letters are from Abigail Adams unless otherwise noted.

CORRESPONDENT	RECIPIENT	DATE	CITY
	Mrs. Greenleaf	undated	not given
	Mrs. Greenleaf	undated	not given
	Mrs. Greenleaf	undated	not given
	Mrs. Greenleaf	undated	not given
	Mary Cranch (Journal)	1784	Trip to England
1784			
	Mary Cranch	July 25	London, England
	Mary Cranch	August 2	London
Abigail Adams II	Lucy Cranch	September 4	Auteuil, France
	Lucy Cranch	September 5	Auteuil
	Mary Cranch	September 5	Auteuil
	Mary Cranch	December 7	Auteuil
John Quincy Adams	Mary Cranch	December 12	Auteuil
1785			
	Mary Cranch	January 9	Auteuil
	Mary Cranch	February 20	Auteuil
	Mary Cranch	April 15	Auteuil
Abigail Adams II (Amelia)	Mary Cranch	May 6	Auteuil
	Mary Cranch	May 8	Auteuil
Abigail Adams II	Mary Cranch	June 22	London
Abigail Adams II	Mary Cranch	June 23	London
	Mary Cranch	June 24	London
	Mary Cranch	August 15	London
	Mary Cranch	September 11	London
	Mary Cranch	September 30	London
	Mary Cranch	October 1	London
1786			
	Mary Cranch	January 26	London
Abigail Adams II (Amelia)	Mary Cranch	February 20	London
	Mary Cranch	February 26	London
	Mary Cranch	March 15	London
John Adams	Richard Cranch	March 20	London
	Mary Cranch	March 21	London
	Lucy Cranch	April 2	London
	Mary Cranch	April 6	London
	Mary Cranch	April 24	London
	Mary Cranch	May 21	London
	Mary Cranch	May 25	London
Abigail Adams II	Lucy Cranch	May 25	London
CORRESPONDENT	RECIPIENT	DATE	CITY

1786

	Mary Cranch	June 13	London
John Adams	Richard Cranch	July 4	London
	Mary Cranch	July 4	London
	Mary Cranch	September 12	London
	Mary Cranch	October 12	London
Abigail Adams II	Lucy Cranch	October 15	London

1787

	Mary Cranch	January 20	London
	Mary Cranch	February 25	London
	Mary Cranch	March 8	London
	Mary Cranch	March 16	London
	Lucy Cranch	April 26	London
	Mary Cranch	April 28	London
	Mary Cranch	May 11	London
Abigail Adams II	Lucy Cranch	July 14	London
	Mary Cranch	September 15	London
	Lucy Cranch	October 3	London
	Mary Cranch	October 8	London
	Mary Cranch	October 8	London
	Mary Cranch	October 20	London
	Mary Cranch	October	London

	Mary Cranch	1788 February 10	London
	Mary Cranch	1791 October 13	East Chester
	Mary Cranch	1798 June 5	Philadelphia, Pa.
	Mary Cranch	18(11?) January	
	Mary Cranch	18(11?) January	
	Mary Cranch	18(11?) January	
	Lucy Cranch	ca. 18(11?) April	
	Lucy Cranch	1811 June 30	Quincy, Mass.
	Mrs. Greenleaf	18(11?)	
	Mrs. Greenleaf	18(11?)	
	Mrs. Greenleaf	18(11?)	
	Lucy Cranch	ca. 1811 September	
	Mr. Greenleaf	18(11?)	
	Mrs. Greenleaf	1811 October	
	Lucy Cranch	1811 October	
	Mrs. Greenleaf	18(11?)	
	Lucy Cranch	18(11?)	
	Mrs. Greenleaf	18(11?)	
	Mrs. Greenleaf	18(11?)	
	Mrs. Greenleaf	1813? July 13	
	Mrs. Greenleaf	1813? August 17	
	Mrs. Greenleaf	1816 December 26	

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

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ABIGAIL ADAMS, LETTERS, 1784-1816
PUBLICATIONS OF MATERIAL IN THIS COLLECTION

These letters are being published in *The Adams Family Correspondence*, part of the Adams Papers, Harvard University Press.

One hundred forty-one letters edited by Stewart Mitchell in *AAS Proceedings*, vol. 55 (1947), pp. 95-232; 299-444. Reprinted as Mitchell, ed., *New Letters of Abigail Adams, 1788-1801* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1947).