

American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

NAME OF COLLECTION:

Uxbridge (Mass.), Records, 1730-1864

LOCATION:

Octavo vols. "U"
Folio vols. "U"
Misc. mss. boxes "U"

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

3 octavo volumes; 1 folio volume (122 leaves, 28 blank); 1 folder (4 items)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

For a history of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, see Henry Chapin, *Address Delivered at the Unitarian Church ...* (Worcester, Mass.: Charles Hamilton, 1881).

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

The octavo volumes were purchased from Charles Shaughnessy, 1940; the First Congregational Church records (folio volume) were the gift of the First Evangelical Congregational Church of Uxbridge, 1953.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

Uxbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts is located on the Blackstone River, sixteen miles southeast of Worcester, Mass. It was settled in 1662 and incorporated in 1727.

This collection includes school records, church records, and several legal documents.

There are two volumes of school records, for the period 1797 to 1864, for Uxbridge District #5. Minutes for the district meetings concern repairs, additions, and locality changes for the schoolhouse, procurement of firewood, establishment of the school calendar, and the employment of teachers, as well as an annual list of scholars.

There is also a volume of records for the Uxbridge Male and Female Seminary, a private school, for the period 1835 to 1841. The records include the articles of incorporation and the minutes of meetings of the Board of Trustees in which they determined school policy, hired teachers, set tuition, etc.

The collection also contains the records, for the period 1730-1833, of the Church of Christ in Uxbridge. These records include regular entries by ministers of baptisms, admissions of new members, confessions of sins, etc., and minutes of church meetings, in which church policies were established. There are also marriage records and occasional complaints registered against individuals for such indiscretions as lying and drunkenness. In September 1782, a committee questioned a candidate for the church's ministry; the volume contains Josiah Spalding's (1751-1823) response to queries about the half-way covenant, as well as the duties of a Congregational minister.

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COLLECTION DESCRIPTION (cont.):

The legal documents include a 1771 court summons, a 1774 warrant for payment of a debt, an 1807 property deed, and a typescript copy of a petition to disband the former militia company, military orders, minutes of company meetings, the constitution and by-laws of the company, and a list of the company members, with dates of their discharge or death.

See Contents List.

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Contents List

Octavo Volume

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| 1 | 5 th School District, Records, 1797-1838 |
| 2 | 5 th School District, Records, 1838-1864 |
| 3 | Uxbridge Male and Female Seminary, Records, 1835-1841 |

Folio Volume

Church of Christ in Uxbridge, Records, 1730-1833