

Roger Minott Sherman Papers

COLLECTION, MS 2

DATE

1773 – 1845

CONTRIBUTOR

Fairfield Museum

ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY ELEMENT

Roger Minott Sherman (1773-1844), the son of the Reverend Josiah and Martha Minott Sherman, was born in Woburn, Massachusetts. He grew up in Milford, Goshen, and Woodbridge, Connecticut and graduated from Yale in 1792. In 1796 he was admitted to the bar, married Elizabeth Gould, and set up a law practice in Norwalk. Twin sons, James M. and William G., were born in 1799. Their daughters Harriet and Eliza both died young. He moved his family to Fairfield in 1807, to a home he built on the Old Post Road still known today as the Sherman Parsonage. He continued to practice law, participated in town affairs, was elected to the State Senate, and served as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Errors in Connecticut from 1839-1842. Sherman's interests extended to literature and science.

For more information on Roger Minott Sherman see:

Beers, William. (1882). A biographical sketch of Roger Minott Sherman. Bridgeport, CT.

Hamlen, B. L. (1846). "Life of the late Roger Minott Sherman." Extracted from The New Englander, Vol. IV. New Haven, CT.

This collection preceded another Roger Minott Sherman collection, Ms B96.

SCOPE & CONTENT

This collection consists of five boxes of documents and two boxes containing seventeen assorted ledgers (account books, court docket books, plus one friendship book belonging to Elizabeth Gould Sherman).

The manuscripts and ledgers originally from the Bridgeport Public Library Historical Collections are so indicated by a [B] on the item itself.

The general contents of the collection are a broad spectrum of papers, mostly incoming, including personal, business and legal correspondence.

Because R. M. Sherman was highly connected in business, legal, political and church circles, this collection contains material from and about the leaders of the times. Included in one letter from Aaron Burr in 1830 (Box III, Folder F) and an interesting English law case report (Box IV, Folder O).

ARRANGEMENT

The personal and business correspondence in Boxes I through III are arranged by year. Within each folder the letters are alphabetically ordered.

Boxes IV and V contain personal and business bills and receipts, deeds, depositions, dwelling agreements, insurance papers, land surveys, notes about legal cases, papers from organizations to which Robert M. Sherman belonged, petitions, promissory notes, wills, writs, summons, subpoenas and other miscellaneous personal and legal documents. Material in folders is generally arranged alphabetically.

Oversize items include a "friendship books" kept by Elizabeth Sherman between 1817 and 1833, some of Roger M. Sherman's account books and ten docket books from Count and Superior Courts dated 1800-1844.

Collection Contents

Roger Minott Sherman Papers

Box 4: Legal and financial papers, essays 1766-1847

Folder A

Bills and bills receipted, incoming 1766-1847

Folder B

Card catalogues (photos) from Sterling Library at Yale

Folder C

Deeds to Roger and/or Elizabeth Sherman 1810-1837

Folder E

Deeds by date 1768-1833

Folder F



Depositions 1798-1843

Folder G

Dwelling agreements from R. M. Sherman 1812-1843

Folder H

Essays and articles 1809-1844

Folder I

Financial statements 1772-1840

Folder J

Household bills receipted, incoming 1802-1817

Folder K

Household bills receipted, incoming 1818-1847

Folder L

Insurance papers 1839-1843

Folder M

Land surveys and agreements 1792-1843

Folder N

Legal cases 1794-1841

Folder O

Legal cases n.d.

Folder P

Legal statements 1803-1845

Folder Q

Legislative and government material 1814-1844

Folder R

Miscellaneous

Folder S

Organizations and memberships 1800-1840

Box 3: Business correspondence 1825-1844

Business correspondence, incoming 1825

Business correspondence, incoming 1825

Business correspondence, incoming 1826-1827

Business correspondence, incoming 1826-1827

Business correspondence, incoming 1828

Business correspondence, incoming 1828

Business correspondence, incoming 1829

Business correspondence, incoming 1829

Business correspondence, incoming 1830
Business correspondence, incoming 1830

Business correspondence, incoming 1831
Business correspondence, incoming 1831

Business correspondence, incoming 1832
Business correspondence, incoming 1832

Business correspondence, incoming 1833
Business correspondence, incoming 1833

Business correspondence, incoming 1834
Business correspondence, incoming 1834

Business correspondence, incoming 1835
Business correspondence, incoming 1835

Business correspondence, incoming 1836-1837
Business correspondence, incoming 1836-1837

Business correspondence, incoming 1838
Business correspondence, incoming 1838

Business correspondence, incoming 1839
Business correspondence, incoming 1839

Business correspondence, incoming 1840
Business correspondence, incoming 1840

Business correspondence, incoming 1841
Business correspondence, incoming 1841

Business correspondence, incoming 1842
Business correspondence, incoming 1842

Business correspondence, incoming 1843-1844
Business correspondence, incoming 1843-1844

Business correspondence, no date
Business correspondence, no date

Business correspondence, outgoing 1807-1844
Business correspondence, outgoing 1807-1844

Business correspondence, other 1794-1835
Business correspondence, other 1794-1835

Box 2: Business Correspondence 1794-1823

Business correspondence, incoming 1823
Business correspondence, incoming 1823

Business Correspondence, incoming 1794-1799



Business Correspondence, incoming 1794-1799

Business correspondence, incoming 1800-1802

Business correspondence, incoming 1800-1802

Business correspondence, incoming 1803-1806

Business correspondence, incoming 1803-1806

Business correspondence, incoming 1807-1808

Business correspondence, incoming 1807-1808

Business correspondence, incoming 1809-1811

Business correspondence, incoming 1809-1811

Business correspondence, incoming 1812

Business correspondence, incoming 1812

Business correspondence, incoming 1813

Business correspondence, incoming 1813

Business correspondence, incoming 1814

Business correspondence, incoming 1814

Business correspondence, incoming 1815

Business correspondence, incoming 1815

Business correspondence, incoming 1816

Business correspondence, incoming 1816

Business correspondence, incoming 1817

Business correspondence, incoming 1817

Business correspondence, incoming 1818

Business correspondence, incoming 1818

Business correspondence, incoming 1819

Business correspondence, incoming 1819

Business correspondence, incoming 1820

Business correspondence, incoming 1820

Business correspondence, incoming 1821

Business correspondence, incoming 1821

Business correspondence, incoming 1822

Business correspondence, incoming 1822

Personal correspondence 1793-1844

Personal correspondence, incoming 1793-1804

Personal correspondence, incoming 1793-1804

Folder B: Personal correspondence, incoming 1806-1812

Personal correspondence, incoming 1806-1812

Personal correspondence, incoming 1813-1815

Personal correspondence, incoming 1813-1815

Personal correspondence, incoming 1815-1820

Personal correspondence, incoming 1815-1820

Personal correspondence, incoming 1822-1825

Personal correspondence, incoming 1822-1825

Personal correspondence, incoming 1826-1831

Personal correspondence, incoming 1826-1831

Personal correspondence, incoming 1832-1834

Personal correspondence, incoming 1832-1834

Personal correspondence, incoming 1835-1836

Personal correspondence, incoming 1835-1836

Personal correspondence, incoming 1837-1839

Personal correspondence, incoming 1837-1839

Personal correspondence, incoming 1840

Personal correspondence, incoming 1840

Personal correspondence, incoming 1841

Personal correspondence, incoming 1841

Personal correspondence, incoming 1842-1843

Personal correspondence, incoming 1842-1843

Personal correspondence, incoming 1844 and n.d.

Personal correspondence, incoming 1844 and n.d.

Personal correspondence, outgoing 1807-1844

Personal correspondence, outgoing 1807-1844

Box 5: Legal and financial papers 1783-1848

Folder G

Writs, summons and subpoenas 1803-1839

Folder F

Writs, summons and subpoenas 1803-1834

Folder E

Wills and estate distributions 1783-1845

Folder D

Wills and estate distributions 1804-1848

Folder C

Stock transfers to R. M. Sherman 1809-1834

Folder B



Promissory notes 1816-1842

Folder A

Petitions 1806-1837

Box 6: Account books

Folder D

R. M. Sherman account book 1799

Folder B

R. M. Sherman account book 1805-1811

Folder A

Elizabeth Sherman's friendship book 1817-1833

Box 7: Account and docket books

Folder E

R. M. Sherman account books 1833-1844

Folder D

R. M. Sherman County & Superior Court dockets 1819-1824, 1829-1836, 1837-1839

Folder C

R. M. Sherman County & Superior Court dockets 1819-1824, 1825-1832

Folder B

R. M. Sherman County & Superior Court dockets 1811-1819, 1808-1810

Folder A

R. M. Sherman County & Superior Court dockets 1800-1804, 1805-1809