



## Biographical note: continued

Commissioner of the Connecticut School Fund; Treasurer of Yale College; Chairman of the Committee to Enclose the Green; helped build the turnpike between New Haven and Hartford; formed and carried out plan for the New Haven Cemetery; member of the Hartford Convention, 1814-1815. Hillhouse retired from public life in 1825 but retained his law practice and the Treasurership of Yale until his death in 1832. (See Genealogy, pp. 423-443, 115-116)

(3) William Hillhouse, Jr. (1757-1833) younger brother of James, was also born in Montville. He, too, graduated from Yale, in 1777 and practiced law in New Haven for the rest of his life. He owned land in Kentucky and visited there frequently. He died at 76, unmarried. (See Genealogy, p. 253-254)

(4) James Abraham Hillhouse (1789-1841), eldest son of James Hillhouse and Rebecca Woolsey, graduated from Yale in 1808 and embarked on a mercantile career in New York. He was a lover of fine arts and devoted his leisure time to literary pursuits. He was one of the original members of the Sketch Club, a society of artists and writers which later became the Century Club. Collections of his prose and poetry were published in 1839. He and his wife, Cornelia Lawrence of New York, returned to New Haven where he died in 1841. (Genealogy, p. 120-121; 444-453)

(5) Mary Lucas Hillhouse (1785-1871) and Augustus Lucas Hillhouse (1791-1859) were also children of James and Rebecca Hillhouse. Mary L. Hillhouse lived in the family home in New Haven throughout her life, (Genealogy, p. 120-121) while Augustus, who graduated from Yale in 1810 traveled abroad, founded the American Church and the American Chapel in Paris, and died, unmarried in Paris (Genealogy, p. 123-124)

(6) James Hillhouse (1854-1938) was the son of Dr. William Hillhouse, nephew of Senator James Hillhouse. He graduated from Yale in 1875 and from Columbia Law School in 1878. He was admitted to the New York Bar and married Hildegarda Speyers (1866-1942) of New York whose mother was a Livingston. They lived in New York until he inherited Sachems Wood, the Hillhouse home in New Haven. They lived in New Haven where he practiced law until their deaths in 1938 and 1942. They had no children, and the house was torn down after the death of Hildegarda S. Hillhouse. (Genealogy, p. 328)

VIII: Analysis: The collection is housed in one box and one oversized item. It contains the papers of members of the Hillhouse family from William Hillhouse, father of Senator James, to inventories of the estates of James and Hildegarda, the last Hillhouses to live in the family home in New Haven. The documents span the years 1773 to 1942, although mention is made of deeds as early as 1750.

The core of the collection is built around the papers of Senator James Hillhouse and contains some correspondence and documents pertaining to his many interests from Yale College, the Grove Street Cemetery, the Conn. School Fund, the Hartford Turnpike, etc.

Some of the papers are from the Leffingwell Autograph Collection and are identified by an asterisk.

James Hillhouse's interests were so varied and he played such an important part in New Haven's history that his papers are included in other MSS. collections in the library, e.g. MSS #2 (Twining Papers #7 (Stiles); #63 (Baldwin); #74 (Grove Street Cemetery); and #105 (Ithiel Town); Eli Whitney manuscripts (not processed).

HILLHOUSE FAMILY COLLECTION  
1773-1942

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Box I -

- Folder A - The Honorable William Hillhouse (1728-1816) [6]
- Calculations for deeds on Salt Spring tract from David Bull & W. Hillhouse of Montville, plus tax receipt for Salt Spring tract, 1816
  - List of deeds (1750-1799) drawn up in 1809
  - Receipts from Elizur Goodrich, 1788, 1795
- B - James Hillhouse (1754-1832) Correspondence [6]
- ALS, Hillhouse to:
    - \*Simeon Baldwin, 1803
    - \*DeWitt Clinton, 1825
    - \*Elizur Goodrich, 1797
    - William Hubbard, 1792
    - \*Governor Wolcott, 1825
  - to Hillhouse from: Stephen R. Bradley, 1793
- MOVED TO OVERSIZED I*
- C - List of Deeds (1752-1828) [1]  
James Hillhouse and others, grantees
- D - Agreement, signed by Russell Clark and 17 other [1]  
New Haveners to subscribe to fund to plant Elms on lower Green, 1786 - sums to be paid to James Hillhouse - record of payments probably kept by Hillhouse
- E - James Hillhouse - miscellaneous papers 1797-1826 [8]
- Deed - Charles Chauncey to James Hillhouse, 1799
  - Deed, Hillhouse & Pierpont Edwards to Jesse Gilbert for land in Vermont (signed by Hillhouse) 1797
  - Receipt for shares in Hartford & New Haven Turnpike Co., Dec., 1798 (signed by J.H.)
  - State of works on building for Yale College
    - amount of contracts, 1802
    - verso, cash received of J. Hillhouse, Treasurer on account of college buildings, 1801-1802
  - \*- Receipt to Elizur Goodrich, signed by J.H., 1805
  - Deed for Lot 57 New Burying-Ground, New Haven to John Bradley, signed by J.H., 1807
  - Form letter, printed, re being in arrears for interest on School Fund Bond, signed by J.H., 1816
  - Certificate to Mechanics Bank, New Haven re expenditures on Farmington Canal. signed by J.H. 1826
- E-1 - Imprint, New Haven, 1808, "Propositions for Amending [1]  
the Constitution of the U.S.: submitted by Mr. Hillhouse to the Senate (plus "Propositions for Amending the Constitution Providing for the Election of President and Vice-President, Washington: 1830 (autographed by James Hillhouse for his friend Seth Beers)

Box I - continued

- Folder F. - Photostat, James Hillhouse, Yale degree 1773 [1]
- G - William Hillhouse, Jr. (1757-1833) Papers [4]  
 - Receipt to Elizur Goodrich, 1789, signed by W. H.  
 - Agreement to purchase Conn. Cotton & Woolen Manufacturing Co., witnessed & signed by W.H., 1802  
 - ALS - Charles Chauncey to W. Hillhouse, Philadelphia, 1811  
 - Quit Claim Deed - release from claims on estate of W. Hillhouse - Mary Ann Williams to Samuel Hillhouse of Wethersfield, 1846
- H - Mary Lucas Hillhouse (1785-1871) [31]  
 - Deed to Daniel Augur from M.L. Hillhouse as administratrix of estate of J.H., for land in Woodbridge, 1842  
 - Deed with Augustus L. Hillhouse for land in New Haven to L. Babcock, 1851  
 - Receipt for advertising in Journal-Courier, 1851
- \* I - Augustus Lucas Hillhouse (1791-1859) [1]  
 ALS to Albert Gallatin, Paris, Jan., 1818
- J - James Abraham Hillhouse (1789-1841) [3]  
 - ALS to Daniel Wadsworth, New Haven, July 12, 1825, plus enclosed sketch of ground floor plan of house (at Sachem's Wood)  
 - ALS to Wadsworth, July 15, 1825 - including sketch of house
- K - James Abraham and Cornelia L. Hillhouse [58]  
 - Receipts, 1840-1853, for taxes, post-office, Trinity Church parish, newspapers, & sundries
- L - Receipts - to various family members for hay, straw, postage, etc. 1841-1852 [12]
- M - James Hillhouse (1854-1938). Estate of: Appraisal of Personal Effects, December, 1938 (57 typed pages) [1]
- N - James Hillhouse, editor, "Chronological Index of the Life of Our Lord," 1905 (16 printed pages) [1]
- O - Hildegarde Speyers Hillhouse (1866-1942) (Mrs. James) - Papers concerning her estate - memos, letters, inventories of articles in house [17]
- P - Hildegarde S Hillhouse, Inventory of the furniture & personal effects in her estate, 1942 (46 typed pages) [1]

Box I - continued

Folder Q - Newspaper clippings, New Haven Register, [2]  
1942 - re Hillhouse mansion to be razed

- R - removed, papers  
about collection,  
S - Photographs: Dr. William Hillhouse, Sachem's Wood(2),  
James Hillhouse (3).  
Interiors of Grove Hall (3)  
Negatives: Mr. and Mrs. James Hillhouse, 1905;(5)  
James Hillhouse (1816); Isaphene  
Hillhouse's (d. 1904) horse team

Oversize Item 1 - William Hillhouse, Jr. [4]

Onondaga Reservation 1796-1810  
Deeds to lot #99

- 1796 Simeon DeWitt to Birdsey Norton
- 1802 Birdsey Norton to William Hillhouse
- 1802 Aaron Smith to W. Hillhouse
- 1810 Abraham VanVechten, release to  
William Hillhouse

- LIST OF DEEDS 1796-1810