Finding Aid for the WILLS FAMILY PAPERS, ca. 1720-1926

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RESTRICTIONS

No restrictions

ABSTRACT

Papers relate to the first settlement of Burlington, NJ at the end of the 17th century, and include deeds, wills, marriage certificates and other papers, particularly of Wills family members

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Quaker Daniel Wills (1803-1878) was a member and overseer of Burlington Monthly Meeting and Rancocas Particular Meeting. Quaker Samuel Wills (1765-1852) was an elder of Burlington Monthly Meeting.

(Information from obituary notices in The Friend and Friends Review respectively)

SUBJECT HEADINGS

Wills, Aaron (1734-1805)
Wills, Daniel (1803-1878)
Wills, Samuel (1765-1852)
Wills family

Quakers – New Jersey
New Jersey -- History
SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION

Papers include correspondence, miscellaneous personal papers, pictures, financial accounts, legal papers, and genealogical papers of the Wills family. Notable among the correspondents are Aaron Wills, 1734-1805, Samuel Wills, 1765-1852, and Daniel Wills, 1803-1878. Miscellaneous papers include copy of an account by Daniel Wills, 1633-1698, of the first settlement of Burlington, N. J., in 1677. Financial accounts are mainly bills and receipts of Daniel Wills, 1689-1760, Aaron Wills, and Samuel Wills. Legal papers include copy of will of Wm. Wills, 1671; copy of deed to Daniel Wills and Thomas Olive of lands in West Jersey, 1676, with notes on initial divisions of land in New Jersey and on the Commissioners who handled them; also miscellaneous bonds, deeds, marriage certificates, other. Genealogical papers cover main descendants of Daniel Wills, 1633-1698, up to 1879, with some as far as 1956; also some notes on the Davis and Pennell families. Also included are Epistles from Philadelphia and London Yearly Meetings of Women Friends and extracts from the Minutes of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends, Burlington Monthly and Preparative Meetings, and Ancocas [Rancocas] Preparative Meeting; also, some printed booklets, tracts, and clippings, including newspaper account of a talk by Dr. E. Newbold Cooper, "Glimpses of 17th Century Rancocas."

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Box 1: Correspondence,
Note: Correspondence is chronologically arranged

1. [G?] Binny to Aaron Wills, 1734-1805. [n.p., n.d.]
2. [          ] to Katherine Payton. Ballitore, 4mo. 3, 1757.
4. Joseph Whitall to Aaron Wills, 1734-1805. at Rancocas. Mount, 8mo. 25, 1790.


11. Grace Wills, d. 1825, to Samuel Wills, 1765-1852, near Burlington, N.J. Newport, R.I., June 17, [ca. 1810]

12. John Tatum, Jr. to Samuel Wills, 1765-1852, Rancocas, N.J. Woodbury, 1mo. 27, 1817

13. Daniel Wills, 1803-1878, to Samuel Wills, Rancocas, N.J. West-Town, 3mo. 31, 1818.


15. Daniel Wills, 1803-1878, to Grace, [Westtown] School, 5mo. 6, 1818.


17. Susanna Richardson Wills and Daniel to Rebecca G Richardson. 10mo. 11, 1828.


20. Ann Wills, 1830- to Daniel Wills, Rancocas, N.J. Westtown, 8mo. 7, 1844.


26. John W. and Amy Y. Tatum to Daniel Wills. Wilmington, 6mo. 4, 1861.

27. Daniel Wills to Clayton N. Wills, 1839-1863. 10mo. 14, 1863.

28. Mary H. Pennell to Hannah C. Wills, 1846-West Philadelphia, [1mo., 1864]


30. William R. Wills, 1831- 10mo 4, 1881.

31. Ellwood and Rachel P. Cooper to Hannah C. Wills and Wm. R. Wills [12mo. 1885]

32. [       ] to grandparents of E. Newbold Cooper. 1926-West Chester, Sept 19, 1926.

II. Miscellaneous Personal Papers, Pictures, etc.

1. [      ] Quotations from Isaac Pennington and the Bible. 2 p. A.D. [n.p.,n.d.]


5. [      ] Memorandum of visit made by Robert Willies, Aaron Wills, Mary Stevenson, and Jane Ridgway to families of Old Springfield Meeting, 11mo. 9-13, 1788. 1l. A.D. [n.p.,n.d.]


7. Wills, Susanna N. (Richardson) Silhouette, cut Dec. 6, 1824.

8. Wills, Samuel, 1765-1852. Invitation to funeral of, Rancocas, 9mo. 20, 1852.


10. Wills, Susanna N. (Richardson). Invitation to funeral of, Rancocas, 6mo. 3, 1861.

11. Wills, Clayton Newbold 1839- Envelope addressed to Clayton N. Wills, containing notice of death of Robert D. Pennell, July 24, 1873, notice
of marriage of Clayton N. Wills to Rachel Pennell, 1mo. 27, 1864, and small ms. booklet of aphorisms inscribed from to "her esteemed Friend Rachel." Laid in: clipping of death notice of Aaron Wills.


13. Wills, Hannah C., 1846- Invitation to wedding of Hannah C. Wills and Wm. Scattergood, 10mo. 19, 1886. Invitation to reception enclosed.

14. 3 pictures. Samuel Wills (engraving)
House, Pine View, Rancocas, N.J., exterior and interior (central hall)

III. Accounts:


2. Daniel Wills. Receipt from William Cox, 6mo. 26, 1728. (May be Daniel, 1692-1742)

3. Daniel Wills. Receipt from Simon Bozarth, 2mo. 6, 1731.


7. Daniel Wills. Receipt from John Wills, 1mo. 23, 1738.


20. Daniel Wills. Receipt from Oliver Curty, May 9, 1746.


27. Daniel Wills. Receipt from Joseph McVinyard, 7mo. 12, 1753.

28. Aaron Wills, 1734-1805. Receipt from Joseph Hollinshead, Aug. 9, 1753.


33. Aaron Wills. Receipt from Dan Smith, 8mo. 22, 1754.

34. Daniel Wills. Receipt from Thomas Lawrance, 9mo. 28, 1754.


37. Samuel Wills, 1765-1852. Receipt from Peter Worrall, 1mo. 20, 1786.

38. Friends School, Ancocas. Account of expenses in building house for schoolmaster. 5mo. 1, 1788.


40. Samuel Wills. Receipt from Joseph Pierce, 1mo. 12, 1796.

41. Aaron Wills. Receipt from bill collector C. N. Hughes, Aug. 29, 1799.

42. Samuel Wills. Receipt from Isaac Comly, 10mo. 25, 1800.

43. Samuel Wills. Receipt from Isaac Comly, 10mo. 16, 1801.

44. Aaron Wills. Account of distribution of goods of deceased wife, Rachel, 1801-1804.

45. Samuel Wills. 2 receipts for schooling from Jacob Burr, Mar. 16, 1804.

46. Samuel Wills. Receipt from Mahlon Budd, 7mo. 10, 1804.


49. Samuel Wills. 4 receipts from John Gummere for tuition paid for other people's children at Gummere's school, 1807-1811.

50. Samuel Wills, Receipt from Jesse Cox and Sons, Mt. Holly, June 22, 1812.

51. Samuel Wills. Receipt from John Comly, 2mo. 27, 1813.

52. Samuel Wills. Receipted bill from Spencer and Simmons, 11mo. 25, 1815.

53. Samuel Wills. 8 receipted bills for tuition at Westtown School, 1816-1818.

54. Samuel Wills. Receipt from Susan Haines, 3mo. 18, 1825.

55. Samuel Wills. Receipt from Wm. J. Allinson, 2mo. 27, 1832.


58. Ella S. Cooper. Receipt from John Wanamaker, Nov. 1, 1893.

**IV. Legal papers:**

1. Daniel Wills. Plot of lots in Rancocas, showing property of Daniel Wills. [n.d.]

2. William Wills. Copy of will, made in Barbados, Oct. 2, 1671. [n.p., n.d.] (Brother of Daniel, 1633-1698, who went to Barbados to settle this will and died there.)

3. Daniel Wills, 1633-1698. Copy of deed to a Hundredth of lands in West N.J. to Daniel Wills + Thomas Olive, from William Penn, Gawen Lawrie, and Nicholas Lucas, trustees for Edward Byllynge, Jan. 21, 1676. Notes on back by R.B. Hull giving history of initial divisions of land in N.J. and of Commissioners who handled them, including Daniel Wills.


11. Daniel Wills. Bond to Paul Watkinson of Burlington. April 29, 1742. (Signature torn off)


15. John Wills, 1660-1746. Will (incomplete) [ca. 1745]


17. Daniel Wills. Bond to Paul Watkinson of Burlington. May 26, 1752. (Signature torn off)


20. Jonathan Wills, 1730-    Deed to Samuel Smith for 56 acres of land in Northampton. June 7, 1759. (Signatures cutoff)

21. Henry Worington. Inventory and appraisal of his estate. 7mo. 25, 1769. (Incomplete)


29. Daniel Wills, 1803-1878. Inventory of his effects. 8mo. 3, 1878. Also record of goods taken at appraisement by the heirs.

V. Genealogical papers:

1. Will Family Genealogy,, 1633-1879. Compiled from other material in folder by A. Whittelsey, 1963. (3 copies)

2. Genealogy of descendants of Daniel Wills, 1633-1698, up to 1879.

3. Genealogy of descendants of Daniel Wills, 1633-1698, up to 1846.


6. Memorandum on Samuel Wills and Grace (Rogers) Wills by their granddaughter, Hannah C. Scattergood. 6mo., 1931. (Ms. and 2 copies)

7. Letter to Elizabeth Dunn from Hilda [ ], May 1, 1956, containing genealogical data about the Pennell family.

8. Notes on genealogy of Davis and Pennell families, probably also by Hilda [ ]

VI. Epistles and Minutes of Friends Meetings:

1. [ ] Quarterly Meeting. Minute sent to preparative Meetings concerning behavior of Friends on First Days and in and around Meeting. [n.p., n.d.]

2. Preparative Meeting of Friends at Ancocas. Agreement between subscribers regarding financing of Friends School. [1777?]


4. Burlington Preparative Meeting. Copy of Minute setting up Board of Trustees of Friends School in Burlington and establishing regulations for School. [1779?]

6. Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. 1788. Extract from the Minutes containing report
of Committee appointed to investigate the excessive use of spirituous liquors.

7. Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Women Friends, 1791. Epistle to Quarterly
Meetings concerning supplying of young people with Bibles and teaching
them to read them.

8. London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends. Epistle to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
of Women Friends, 1791.

9. London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends. Epistle to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
of Women Friends, 1794.

VI. Epistles and Minutes of Friends Meetings, cont.:


11. London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends. Epistle to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
of Women Friends, 1796.

1797. (Copy sent to Ancocas Meeting)

13. London Yearly Meeting of Women Friends. Epistle to Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
of Women Friends, 1798.

14. Burlington Preparative Meeting. List of members deceased, disowned, and
removed, 1811-1838.

VII. Printed materials:

1. A Brief Testimony to the Great Duty of Prayer. Bound booklet containing
also, "God's Answer to Prayer," and Postscript by John Field. [ca. 1725]
(Incomplete)


1795. (Erroneous note from Aaron Wills on front gives date as 1787.)

5. Some Passages of the Life of John Jeffry's, to which is added A Serious
Address to the People of the Church of England, &c. N.Y., 1802.

7. Constitution of the Burlington and Monmouth County Pursuing and Detecting Society. 1824. (Robert Woodward's copy)

8. Schimmelpenninck, Mary Ann Manuel of La Mere Agnes, or A Gift from an Abbess to her Nuns. Phil., 1830.


10. Wills, Clayton Newbold, 1839- Card advertising his drug store. Recipes on back. [Phil., after 1839]

11. "How to Use It!" Small clipping on Lyon's powder and pills. [ca. 1850?]

12. Wills, Samuel, 1765-1852, and Grace (Rogers) 1771-1825. Obituary card, giving birth and death dates of both, with tribute to Grace.
