

Trask Family Papers, c. 1843-1988



Edwin, Joseph, and Frederick Trask, circa 1850-1855

Overview of the Collection

- Title:** Trask Family Papers, c. 1843-1988 (with gaps)
- Creator:** Trask family members
- Accession:** PPL-2012-060
- Size:** 2.5 linear feet of records, comprised of:
 One (1) legal-size document box
 One (1) small box
 One (1) oversize box
- Repository:** Plainfield Public Library, Local History Department, 800 Park Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060
- Abstract:** The Trask Family Papers, spanning circa 1843-1988, contains mainly early photographs of family members and genealogical research. This small collection provides researchers with detailed family lines tracing back to Captain William Trask (1587-1666), a Massachusetts Minuteman. The daguerreotypes, tintypes, and cabinet cards are high-quality images that capture the appearance and dress of the family members during the mid-to-late 19th century.
- Language:** The records are in English and German fraktur.

Biographical Information

The family descended from Captain William Trask (1587-1666), a Minuteman and one of the earliest military commanders in Massachusetts. His son John Trask (1642-1720) married Hannah Osborne, who bore seven children, one of whom was Samuel Trask (1720-1790). The Trask family line can be traced to Plainfield via Rev. William Alexander Holliday (1842-1927), who married Alice T. Trask in 1907. Rev. Holliday resided at 698 West 7th Street.

Source: Taken from the genealogical materials contained in the collection.

Scope and Contents

The Trask Family Papers span the time period from circa 1843 to 1988. It includes family records predominately pertaining to genealogy. Types of materials within the collection include Bibles, correspondence, genealogical research, manuscripts, photographs, ephemera, programs, and a magazine. Additionally, there is a set of upper dentures in the collection.

Records are in varying conditions. The collection fills three boxes of varied sizes, one of which is oversized.

Arrangement

The Trask Family Papers are arranged into six series:

Series 1: Correspondence

Series 2: Genealogy

Series 3: Photographs

Series 4: Realia

Series 5: Ephemera

Series 6: Published Material

Index Terms

People:

Cutting, Henry L.
Enos, Elsa A.
Kelley, Elisha
Holliday, Alice T.
Holliday, Marie A.
Holliday, William A.
Holman, Hettie L.
Marquand, Hetty
Marquand, Isaac
Putnam, John
Trask, Abbie J.
Trask, Amelia
Trask, David
Trask, Edward
Trask, Edwin
Trask, Frederick
Trask, John
Trask, Joseph
Trask, Laura
Trask, Louisa
Trask, Mary Upham
Trask, Mehitable D.
Trask, Samuel
Trask, William
Washburn, Adeline
Washburn, Delphos

Organizations:

Daughters of the American Revolution (D.A.R.)

Places:

Plainfield (N.J.)
Salem (Mass.)
Worcester (Mass.)

Subjects:

Plainfield (N.J.)--Genealogy
Plainfield (N.J.)--History

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

This collection consists of paper documents that do not require any additional technology for access. Some of the materials are quite fragile and require the assistance of library staff for viewing.

Use of the collection is by appointment only.

Series Description

Series 1: Correspondence [1885, 1988, undated]

Series Description

Series 1 contains a small amount of non-genealogical, general correspondence.

Arrangement

Series 1 is arranged chronologically, and is housed in Box 1.

Series 2: Genealogy [1890-1953 (with gaps), undated]

Series Description

Series 2 comprises Trask family genealogy research notes, an extensive genealogical chart, and family trees.

Arrangement

Series 2 is arranged alphabetically, then chronologically. It is housed in Box 1.

Series 3: Visual Materials [c. 1843-1887 (with gaps), undated]

Series Description

Series 3 contains daguerreotypes, cabinet cards, early prints, and tintypes. Some of the images date to the earliest days of commercial photography in the mid-19th century. The majority of the images are of family members.

Arrangement

Series 3 is primarily arranged by type and size. It is housed in Box 2 and Box 3.

Series 4: Realia [undated]

Series Description

Series 4 contains a set of upper dentures.

Arrangement

Series 4 is housed in Box 2.

Series 5: Ephemera [1869-1898 (with gaps), undated]

Series Description

Series 5 includes materials removed from Hettie L. Holman's 1869 Bible and Abbie J. Trask's Book of Psalms, tourism pamphlets, and a dance card from 1898.

Arrangement

Series 5 is arranged alphabetically, and is housed in Box 1.

Series 6: Published Material [1893-1895]

Series Description

Series 6 comprises program books from the World's Columbian Exposition from 1893, a copy of *The "Standard" Delineator* (a women's fashion magazine) from 1895, and a copy of the 1893-1894 issue of *Velhagen & Klasings Monatshefte*. Additionally, there are two religious works from 1869; a Bible belonging to Hettie Holman and a Book of Psalms belonging to Abbie J. Trask.

Arrangement

Series 6 is arranged alphabetically by title. It is housed in Boxes 1 and 2.

Administrative Information

Access & Restrictions

The Trask Family Papers are available for research.

Access is restricted to materials prepared by the Local History department staff. All materials must be viewed in the Plainfield Room and may not be removed to another area of the library without permission of the Library Director or designee. Materials must be handled carefully and kept in

order. Materials must not be leaned upon, altered, folded, ripped, or traced upon. Marks may not be added or erased from materials. Materials must be returned directly to Local History department staff and inspected before the researcher leaves the Plainfield Room.

One photocopy may be made (by Plainfield Public Library staff) of each document for the purpose of research; official Local History departmental reproduction fees may apply. Permission to publish must be obtained by the Plainfield Public Library Board of Trustees as delegated to the Library Director. Permission to publish does not constitute a copyright clearance. The researcher is responsible for further copyright restrictions. The Plainfield Public Library is not responsible for the misuse of copyrighted material.

Preferred Citation

Identification of item; Date (if noted); "Trask Family Papers", Box and Folder Number, Local History Department, Plainfield Public Library, Plainfield, New Jersey.

Acquisition Information

The Kossowicz family donated the collection to the library in 2012.

Processing Information

This collection was processed in 2013 by Debra Schiff and updated by Sally Weiner in September 2024. Finding aid content follows the guidelines suggested by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Correspondence [1885, 1988, undated]

Box	Folder	Title/Description	Date(s)
1	1	Correspondence	1885, 1988, undated

Series 2: Genealogy [1890-1953 (with gaps), undated]

Box	Folder	Title/Description	Date(s)
1	2	Genealogical chart of the Trask Family	1890-1893
	3	Notes removed from pansy wallet	1921, undated
	4	Notes removed from binder	1950, 1953, undated
	5	Abbie J. Trask: Putnam genealogy journal	undated
	6	Items removed from Putnam genealogy journal	undated
	7	Pansy wallet	undated
	8	Binder	undated
	9	Journal cover	undated

Series 3: Visual Materials [c. 1843-1887 (with gaps), undated]

Box	Folder	Title/Description	Date(s)
2		Delphos Washburn	c. 1843-1848
		Female child	c. 1843-1848
		Laura and Eddie Trask	c. 1843-1855

	Marie A. Holliday	c. 1843-1848
	Hurd Family: Ellen, Frances, Albert, Abbie, and Julia	c. 1850
	Mr. & Mrs. Fred Woodward, Louisa Trask	c. 1843-1848
	Adeline Amelia Trask Washburn	c. 1843-1855
	Jane Trask Merriam	c. 1843-1855
	Edwin, Joseph, and Frederick Trask (<i>see photo at top</i>)	c. 1850-1855
	"Hettie"	c. 1843-1848
	Edward Trask	c. 1850-1855
	Mary Upham Trask	c. 1850-1855
	J.M. Trask	c. 1850-1855
	Marie A. Holliday	c. 1843-1848
3	Female child in hat and cape	c. 1884-1900
	Luther, Asa, and Alarison Trask	c. 1890-1910
	Portrait of woman	c. 1860-1865
	House at 698 West 7 th Street, Plainfield	2012
	Hettie House; "Grandpa" Hurd	undated
	Portrait of woman	undated

Series 4: Realia [undated]

Box	Folder	Title/Description	Date(s)
2		Upper dentures	undated

Series 5: Ephemera [1869-1898 (with gaps), undated]

Box	Folder	Title/Description	Date(s)
1	10	Dance card	1898
	11	Items removed from Bible (Hettie L. Holman)	1869
	12	Maine tourism pamphlets	undated
	13	Items removed from Book of Psalms (Abbie J. Trask)	1869
	14	Certificate, Woman's Boards of Missions, "The Covenant"	1891

Series 6: Published Material [1893-1895]

Box	Folder	Title/Description	Date(s)
1	15	<i>The "Standard" Delineator</i>	1895
	16	<i>Velhagen & Klasings Monatshefte</i>	1893-1894
	17	World's Columbian Exposition, Department of Fine Arts	1893
	18	World's Columbian Exposition, Department of Fine Arts	1893
2		Hettie L. Holman's Bible	1869
		Abbie J. Trask's Book of Psalms	1869