

Keeler Donation Description and finding aid

Ephemera, letters, genealogy, documents and photographs relating to the Keeler, Reynolds and Godfrey families of Norwalk, Connecticut, from colonial times through the mid-twentieth century .

Three boxes (1 linear foot)

Collection donated to Norwalk Museum, sometime between 1980 and 2001

Inventoried by T. Sarno, 2005; processed by Paul Keroack, 2014

Acquisition: The Keeler Donation was received by the Norwalk Public Library from the Norwalk Museum during the restructuring of the Museum in 2013.

Access: There are no restrictions to items in this collection.

Related Materials: In Portrait files, Ph 5035 of Grace Keeler and other Keelers, perhaps related

Permission to Publish: Requests for permission to publish from the collection should be made to the Norwalk History Room.

Copyright: Norwalk Public Library does not hold the copyright on the materials in the collection.

Introduction and scope of collection

Lewis St. John Keeler was a descendant of the colonial settler Ralph Keeler. He married Flora Reynolds, who was also descended from the Godfrey family. Lewis Keeler's daughters Grace Godfrey Keeler and Ruth Reynolds Keeler (Colfer) apparently left this collection of family papers to the Norwalk Museum.

Box 1

Folder 1

Genealogy documents, papers and notes

Folder 2

21 land deeds, from 1630-1914, involving names of Ayres, Bell, Crudington, Fitch, Gregory, Hendrick, Keeler, Marvin, Masterson, Peck, Raymond, Reynolds, Roberts, St. John, Sturges, Sullivan, Weed, Willard

Folder 3

Wills and probate documents regarding primarily, Davis, Dexter, Marvin, Peck, Reynolds, Tallmadge

Folder 4

17 stock certificates, affidavit and one letter of business correspondence regarding these and other firms

Folder 5

Ephemera, personal correspondence & miscellaneous documents

Folder 6

Papers relating to the life and career of Dr. Edmund P. Trounson, physicist and photographer, son of Lulu Reynolds, aunt of Grace and Ruth Keeler

Folder 7

Documents relating to the case of Noyes Barber, U.S. Navy, Civil War, accused in 1865 of desertion, with later appeals of this ruling

Box 2**Folder 1**

Personal correspondence, primarily between Lewis St. J. Keeler and his family members

Folder 2

Greeting cards and envelopes crafted in paper embroidery

Folder 3

Photographs:

15 photographic prints affixed to black scrapbook pages

8 photographic prints affixed to black scrapbook pages

4 published prints and illustrations, affixed to black scrapbook pages, 2 photographic prints

Folder 4

Photographs:

3 portrait photographs of Grace Keeler

6 photographic prints of home, schools, scenes

Envelope 1

9 – photographic prints, mostly from 19th century, some identified as of out of town relatives

8 – 8 x 10 photographic prints of homes, church and people

Original keyed and handwritten pages of Keeler Donation Inventory, prepared by T. Sarno at Norwalk Museum (not identified in current order)

Box 3

Numerous (primarily 19th century) photographic prints of people and buildings; many persons identified as members of the Keeler and related families. Two small tintypes are included.

Two bound day diary notebooks used for genealogical notes