

GUIDE

Susan H. Ely Collection

HISTORY OF THE COLLECTION: Susan Hollingsworth Ely (1902-1986), known as "Holly," was a member of the seventh generation of the family descended from the Reverend Moses Noyes (1643-1729), who settled in Lyme in 1666 as its first minister. With her sister Ellen H. Ely (1899-1972), Holly devoted much of her life to researching and writing the history of Old Lyme. Even after losing her eyesight, she continued to pursue her interest in genealogy and local church history, assembling a huge amount of data from early town records and genealogical sources. Holly is the co-author of several books and pamphlets about the town: *The Parsonage* (1963), *The Lieutenant River* (1991), and *History of the First Congregational Church of Old Lyme, Connecticut, 1665-1993* (1995). At the time of her death she served as church historian of Old Lyme's First Congregational Church. With her sister Ellen she was designated Old Lyme's Citizen of the Year in 1965. As her friends and colleagues have noted, researching the people who shaped the town of Old Lyme was her lifetime mission. Susan H. Ely's clipping files were given to the Lyme Historical Society by Mr. & Mrs. John H. Noyes.

SCOPE OF THE COLLECTION: The clipping file, organized by category, includes mostly recent clippings from local newspapers like *The Pictorial*, *The Gazette*, and *The New London Day* that provide information on current events, historical recollection, and local residents. Some magazine articles, family letters, and notes about population or geography are also included.

CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION:

Archaeology -- clippings from *The Gazette*, *The Pictorial*, *The Day*, 1983-1985

Art -- clippings and exhibition reviews from *The Gazette*, *The Literary Digest*, *The Hartford Daily Courant*, *The New London Day*, *Sound Breeze*, *The Town Magazine*, *The Pittsburg Index*; includes Albert Insley; Margaret Miller Cooper; Thomas Nason; Clark Voorhees; Charles Volkert; Platt Hubbard; Frank Bicknell; Gregory Smith; Roger Tory Peterson, Lois Darling, Chet Reneson

Art Academy -- purchase of John Sill House

Band Room -- history

Black Hall -- origin of name, history

Brewster, Jonathan -- genealogy

Brick Industry -- history in Preston

Bridges – 3 clippings

Bushnell, David -- clippings

Cemetery – clippings, including Meeting House Hill cemetery maps; Old Saybrook graves; history of Rogers Cemetery, Salem

Chadwick, George – clippings of reminiscences by G. C., 1955

Conn. Nutmegger, Index by volume, V. 1-15

Champion Family Letters – miscellaneous letters, 1800s-1900s

Churches – clippings

Dams – clippings

East Haddam – clippings

Ely, Dr. Julian – clippings

Ely – clippings, Holly and Ellen

Essex – clippings re HMS Connecticut, History of Essex

F—Miscellaneous Clippings: fairs, ferries, fishing, floods (1982)

Farming—clippings: Tiffany, Marsh, Harding

Ferry Tavern—clippings: fire (1976)

Fires/Fire Department—clippings: Pioneer Farm, country club, shopping center, Dr. J.G. Ely home

Gazetteer—excerpts from Gazetteers, Census and Statistics for 1840, typed list of Lyme Register for 1851, correspondence re. population of town

Gardiner's Island—clippings

Griswold—clippings

Griswold, Florence—miscellaneous clippings

H—Miscellaneous Clippings: J. A. Hyde estate auction, Hurricane Gloria (1985), Hamburg Fair (1932)

Hearse—notes and clippings

History—clippings: Yale founding, Indian wars, maritime history

Houses (2 folders)—real estate listings and articles

Humor—old stories and humorous clippings

Inns—clippings: Bee and Thistle

Library—clippings

Lyme—record of separation of Lyme and Saybrook

Lyme Citizen—local publication 1966-7

Lyme, Town—clippings

Lynde-Lord family—clipping

Maps—correspondence about Hatchett's Point, blueprint of Lyme Art Gallery

Miscellaneous---extracts from Ezra Stiles' itineraries, copy of Marshfield Parsons' accounts, etc.

Marvin, William—clippings

McKinley Memorial Address—clipping

McCurdy-Salisbury—clippings, bylaws, Joseph Dunn's history of foundation, foundation committee report, Old Lyme School Association, Evelyn Salisbury will, list of scholarship holders

Mystic Seaport—correspondence, disposition of Champion and Chadwick letters

New London—clippings on New London history

Noyes—clippings

Obituaries—newspaper clippings

Old Lyme Beach Club—clippings

People—miscellaneous clippings

Post Office—early history

Quarry—clipping McCurdy granite

Roads and Highways—clippings, articles, Grassy Hill Rd. authorization, Franklin mile markers

Rivers—miscellaneous clippings

Saybrook—clippings, history

Saybrook, 350th celebration—clippings

Schools—compositions by R. Champion, Lyme Academy, 1843-4; clippings; reports; student lists

Sea—articles and clippings re. sea and ships, whalers, sea captains

Shipbuilding—educational material on shipbuilding

Silver, Silversmiths—clippings

Slavery—clippings

Slaves—notes on slaves and slave owners

Smallpox—clipping, article on hospital in Saybrook

Telephones—clippings and brochures

Town of Old Lyme—miscellaneous clippings

Tully family—article re. early settler of Old Saybrook

Vehicles—article about Concord stagecoach

Watering Trough—clippings and article on Watering Trough on upper green

Weather—articles about low temperatures in 1857, gale in 1815

Weddings—clippings

Woodrow Wilson—clipping

Yale College—clipping about boundaries for Yale Collegiate School in Saybrook

Recatalogued: Carolyn Wakeman, October 2009