

## 1966.016 Millikan-Brown Collection

Collection Number: 1966.016

Extent: .20 linear feet (1 box, 45 folders)

Inclusive Dates: 1800-1951

Bulk Dates: 1830-1865, 1932

### **Scope and Content:**

This collection consists of various legal documents, letters, photographs and other media formats that relate to the Lincoln, Root, Brown and Millikan families. The dates for this collection span from 1800 to 1951. This collection demonstrates the familial and social bonds of community members as people move from Stockbridge to new places such as Athens, NY, Chenango, NY, and Oberlin, OH. Some of Stockbridge's residents moved to other places while some were land speculators in these locations.

The letters in this collection were split into separate series because of the date gap that exists between them. Whether they originally were separate accessions is unknown though it was felt that the collection was best served by keeping them in the same collection due to family connections.

This collection has been arranged chronologically within each series. Newspaper clippings relating to Dr. Robert A. Millikan have been removed from this collection and added to the vertical file under his name. Several copies of "The Pease Family History," which was created by Mrs. Marjorie (Millikan) Johnson, were also moved to the vertical file.

Notable names found in this collection include:

Theodore Sedgwick, Jr., Andrew McIntyre, Daniel Thomas, Henry D. Sedgwick, Flavius Pease, William Walker, George Brown, Eleanor Pease, Sidney Pease Lincoln, George Seymour, Lonson Wilcox, Elisha Bradley, Loring Barnum, John Sergeant Root, Helen Maria (Root) Lincoln, Henry Lincoln, Aurelia (Pease) Millikan, Daniel Millikan, Robert A. Millikan, Bernhard Hoffman, Allan Treadway, David Milton Jones, Frances Livingston Hoag, Robert Lincoln, and Grace Wilcox.

### **Historical Note:**

This collection is an artificial collection in every sense. The bulk of this collection was a donation of Mrs. Mabel Millikan Brown who lived in Oberlin, OH and Monterey, MA and came from two different accessions: 66.016 and 66.018. Other parts of this collection came from other donors. Mrs. Blanche (Cook) Stockwell donated Phineas Pease's will (51.064). Mrs. Nell (Roeder) Ezequelle, who is a descendant of the Root family, donated three of the John Root Letters (65.007). This collection contains more than three of John Root's letters, but because their provenance is uncertain they have been placed in this collection. Other materials may have come from other donors, collections or accessions but they have not been able to be traced to any specific donor and many were found in the collection.

Records indicate that Sophia Brown married James O. Root. Two of their children were Helen Maria (Root) Lincoln who married Sidney P. Lincoln; and John Sergeant Root (Sergeant Major) who was an American Civil War soldier. It is also possible to trace the Pease family and it is known that Electa Pease married Henry Lincoln and that Aurelia Pease married Daniel Millikan. Daniel and Aurelia were the grand parents of Robert A. Millikan. Information regarding these family connections are located within some of these letters, the vital statistics files and the curatorial file.

**Arrangement:**

Ranging from 1800 to 1951, this collection is arranged into six series:

**I. Legal and Receipts:** 1800 to 1864

This series is comprised of documents concerning taxes, legal guardianship of a minor, last will and testaments, estate lists and documents between residents of Stockbridge. Not all documents are from Stockbridge, but concern residents who have invested in land elsewhere such as Flavius Pease who owned land in Oberlin, OH. One document tracks the “taxes on Chenango Land” to Theodore Sedgwick, Jr. and Henry D. Sedgwick for one property in the Township of Tioga. This document lists taxes due on the property from 1800 to 1808.

**II. Surveys, Land and Water Rights:** 1820-1871

This series shows how important land and water were to Stockbridge residents, as residents bought and sold property and water rights back and forth. There are several surveys where markers are listed as a specific tree or rock and indicates how various properties were divided amongst the Stockbridge residents.

**III. Early Letters:** 1830 to 1885

Notable letters include those written by Sgt. Maj. John Root to his sister Helen which details some of his daily life and routine during the American Civil War. Another very notable letter was written by W.H.H. Johnson, from the Inspector General’s Office, which describes the last days of John Root’s life.

**IV. Later Letters:** 1932-1951

The main topics were either about the George Washington Bicentennial or family histories. The letters between Frances Livingston Hoag and David Milton Jones provide a brief history on the Pease, Lincoln, Avery, Millikan and Byington family connections. There are also letters from Robert A. Millikan, Bernhard Hoffman, Allan Treadway, Robert Lincoln, and Grace Wilcox.

**V. Photographs:** c. 1880s and c.1932

There are two photographs in this series. The first is a photograph of several men standing in front of Laurel Hill. The date is unknown, but believed to be around 1932. The second man from the left is possibly Walter P. Eaton and the fifth man is Rev. Edmund Randolph Laine. The second photograph is Mary Lincoln who was Sidney Lincoln’s daughter, dated c. 1880s.

**VI. Assorted Formats:** N.D. and 1851

This series contains an assortment of materials such as poetry, sheet music and word games.

**See Also:**

1952.087 Lincoln / Learned Collection

1966.016 Millikan / Brown Curatorial File

**Administrative Information:**

Stockbridge Library, Museum & Archives  
P.O. Box 119, 46 Main Street Stockbridge, MA 01262  
Barbara Allen, Curator  
[ballen@cwmares.org](mailto:ballen@cwmares.org)  
(413) 298-5501 x106