

The Ober Family Papers 1709 - 1912

MSS: #029

Processed by: Unk.

Volume: 1 box, .3 linear feet

Abstract:

These are papers of the Ober family. This collection includes will and estate documents, correspondence, bills, receipts, logs, legal documents, and personal documents from members of the Ober family from the 18th and 19th centuries accumulated during their daily lives.

The materials were originally in folders and a box and unprocessed. The documents were organized into series based on the family member. The materials are organized by content and chronologically within the series.

Collection Creator:

The Ober Family

Copyright:

Request for permission to publish material from the collection must be submitted in writing to the Curator of Collections at Historic Beverly.

Preferred Citation:

Title of Document, Ober Family Papers, Historic Beverly, 117 Cabot Street, Beverly, MA 01915.

Biographical/Historical Note

The Ober family was local to Beverly, Massachusetts in the 18th and 19th centuries. These papers begin with the Ober brothers John, Benjamin, Samuel and Richard and continue through marriages and subsequent children. The men held positions in the military and as mariners; William Ober was a corporal and advanced to captain in the militia and Josiah was a member of the Lexington Minutemen. The women held gender roles consistent with the times in which they lived; Mary Ober was a school teacher.

Scope and Content

This collection is divided into 17 series and includes a variety of documents including receipts, will and estate documents, account logs, legal documents, and personal documents from the Ober family.

Access Points

Subject/Names:

Benjamin Ober
C.K. Ober
Elizabeth Ober
Ezekiel Ober
Hannah Ober
Israel Ober
James Ober
John Ober
Joseph Ober
Josiah Ober
Mary Ober
Peter Ober
Richard Ober
Samuel Ober
William Ober

Geographic:

Beverly, Massachusetts

Form/Genre:

Correspondence
Receipts
Account Logs
Legal Documents

Series List

This collection is arranged into 17 series. Throughout the series the spelling of the families last name appears as 'Ober' as well as 'Obear'.

Series I: Ober, Benjamin, 1775-1847

Series II: Ober, C.K., 1918

Series III: Ober, Elizabeth, 1743

Series IV: Ober, Ezekiel, 1896

- Series V:** Ober, Hannah, 1838
- Series VI:** Ober, Isaac, 1842
- Series VII:** Ober, Israel, 1721-1823
- Series VIII:** Ober, James, 1759-1856
- Series IX:** Ober, John, 1753 and undated
- Series X:** Ober, Joseph, 1838
- Series XI:** Ober, Josiah, 1773-1840
- Series XII:** Ober, Mary, 1875
- Series XIII:** Ober, Peter, 1852-1863
- Series XIV:** Ober, Richard, 1709-1803
- Series XV:** Ober, Samuel, 1833
- Series XVI:** Ober, William, 1816-1831
- Series XVII:** Ober - Miscellaneous, 1758-1899

Content List

- | | | |
|--|--------|-----------|
| Series I: Ober, Benjamin, 1775-1847 | Box: 1 | Folder: 1 |
| <p>This series includes will and estate documents, correspondence, and an account log. The three correspondence letters include two letters to ‘Cousin’ and one to ‘Brother Obear’. The will and estate documents include accounts of Benjamin’s estate and his last will and testament. The account log is a log of accounts.</p> | | |
| Series II: Ober, C.K., 1918 | Box: 1 | Folder: 2 |
| <p>This series is comprised of a book titled “Out of the Fog”.</p> | | |
| Series III: Ober, Elizabeth, 1743 | Box: 1 | Folder: 3 |
| <p>This series includes a legal document naming Andrew Elliot as guardian.</p> | | |
| Series IV: Ober, Ezekiel, 1896 | Box: 1 | Folder: |
| 4 | | |
| <p>This series is comprised of a birthday reception invitation.</p> | | |
| Series V: Ober, Hannah, 1838 | Box: 1 | Folder: |
| 5 | | |

This series is comprised of two legal documents including a summons to pay and an agreement to sell land.

Series VI: Ober, Isaac, 1842 Box: 1 Folder: 6

This series is comprised of an inventory and appraisal of estate document.

Series VII: Ober, Israel, 1721-1823 Box: 1 Folder: 7

This series includes correspondence, bills, purchase ledgers, receipts, and legal documents. One letter discusses the death of his grandmother, Hannah Ober. One of the account books is unbound and is paper clipped together in order.

Series VIII: Ober, James, 1759-1856 Box: 1 Folder: 8

This series includes correspondence, bills, logs, will and estate documents, receipts, and legal documents. The correspondence is with Eafthea, his wife, and Sam Ober.

Series IX: Ober, John, 1753 and undated Box: 1 Folder: 9

This series includes logs, will and estate documents, legal documents, and receipts.

Series X: Ober, Joseph, 1838 Box: 1 Folder: 10

This series is comprised of three receipts, one for a rooster and silk and two for a balance of accounts.

Series XI: Ober, Josiah, 1773-1840 Box: 1 Folder: 11-12

This series is made up of receipts, bills, will and estate documents, personal, logs, and miscellaneous documents. Folder 11 is made up of bills, will and estate documents, personal documents, logs, and assorted miscellaneous documents. The personal documents include a notable document dubbed the 'Butter Memorandum'. This document details how Josiah was suspicious of his wife stealing and selling butter for her own profits. He then tracks where she is hiding butter around the house for several months, stopping in November of 1836. Folder 12 is comprised of 89 receipts from Josiah's life and from settling his estate after his death in late 1837.

Series XII: Ober, Mary, 1875 Box: 1 Folder: 13

This series includes two correspondence letters with her employer, one regarding the disciplinary actions needed for a group of students and the other discussing the sickness of a family member.

Series XIII: Ober, Peter, 1852-1863 Box: 1 Folder: 14

This series contains a correspondence letter regarding his estate and legal documents naming John Baker as his attorney.

Series XIV: Ober, Richard, 1709-1803
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Box: 1 Folder:

This series includes will and estate documents, legal documents, bills, logs, and receipts of Richard Ober. The documents include an inventory of estate, a bill for bounty money, and a legal document settling differences between Richard Ober and Richard Thistle.

Series XV: Ober, Samuel, 1833

Box: 1 Folder: 16

This series consists of a legal document appointing Samuel Ober as attorney to Amos Hilton.

Series XVI: Ober, William, 1816-1831
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Box: 1 Folder:

This series consists of military documents including advancement and resignation.

Series XVII: Ober - Miscellaneous, 1758-1899

Box: 1 Folder: 18

This series is comprised of logs, correspondence, and miscellaneous documents that are not attributed to a specific member of the Ober family.