

Collection of Rice Family Materials
Wellesley Historical Society

Repository Identifier

mawelhs

Local Identifier

2017.06

Name and Location of Repository

The Wellesley Historical Society
229 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA 02481
(781) 235-6690
www.wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org

Title

Collection of Rice Family Materials, 1800 – 1913

Date

1800 – 1913, undated

Extent

3.5 linear feet, 3 boxes

Name of Creator

Wellesley Historical Society
Rice Family

Biographical Note

Charles Rice was born in Brighton, MA on December 26, 1787, the son of John and Mary (Lee) Rice. From 1825 to 1827 Charles Rice served as lieutenant colonel of the 1st Regiment, 2nd Brigade of the 1st Division of the Massachusetts Militia and in 1828 became the General of the Brigade. A noted Freemason, Charles Rice is also noted as serving on the Lower Fall School Committee of Needham MA, Representative to the Massachusetts General Court, Justice of the Peace, and Surveyor of Highways for the town of Needham, MA.

Charles Rice married Lucy Mann on November 23, 1809, the couple had no children and Lucy died in 1819. After Lucy's death Charles Rice married Maria Jennings with whom he had six children; Maria Rice Leslie, Charles Rice Jr, Sarah Rice, Lucy Rice Seaward, Zeruah Rice, and Mary Rice. The Rice family owned several paper mills and lived along the Lower Falls portion of the Charles River. General Charles Rice owned the Nehoiden Mills from 1818 – 1835 and his brother Thomas Rice was owner of both the Rice Mill and the Rice Garfield Mill. General Charles Rice's home was located on at the west corner of River Road where it joins Washington Street in Needham, Incorporated as Wellesley in 1881. The house was located across from the street from the Nehoiden Mill. Charles Rice died November 20, 1863 and was buried in St. Mary's Churchyard located in Newton Lower Falls.

Collection of Rice Family Materials Wellesley Historical Society

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains materials related to the lives and work of the Rice family. Included are correspondences, financial records, deeds, ledgers belonging to Charles Rice, Charles Rice Jr., Sarah Rice and other Rice family members.

Index Terms

Correspondence
Masonic orders
Massachusetts — Needham
Massachusetts — Wellesley
Needham (Mass.) — History
Rice Family
Rice, Charles
Rice, Charles Jr.
Rice, Sarah
Wellesley (Mass.) — Family and personal papers
Wellesley (Mass.) — History
Wellesley (Mass.) — Politics and government

System of Arrangement

This collection is organized into five series arranged by subject:

- I. Charles Rice; 1820 – 1863, undated
- II. Charles Rice Jr.; 1851 – 1864
- III. Sarah Rice; 1855 – 1902, undated
- IV. Rice Family; 1800 – 1913, undated
- V. Rice Family Ledgers; 1808 – 1858

Conditions Governing Access

The papers are open for research purposes by appointment only. Please contact the Wellesley Historical Society for more information.

info@wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org
(781) 235-6690

Physical Access

Some of the materials are fragile.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Copyright restrictions may apply.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

English

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Unknown

Collection of Rice Family Materials Wellesley Historical Society

Accruals

The Historical Society may add materials to this collection in the future; however, no further accruals are currently expected.

Description

Processing of this collection was made possible through a grant from the Wellesley Community Preservation Committee and the Mass State Historical Records Advisory Board Preservation Grant for Veterans Collections.

DACS Finding Aid created by Taylor C. Kalloch in June 2017.

Bibliography

Clarke, George Kuhn. *Epitaphs from Graveyards in Wellesley (Formally West Needham), North Natick, and Saint Mary's Churchyard in Newton Lower Falls, Massachusetts with Genealogical and Biographical Notes*. Boston, MA: Privately Printed, 1900.

Clarke, George Kuhn. *History of Needham, Massachusetts, 1711 – 1911, Including West Needham, Now the Town of Wellesley, To Its Separation from Needham in 1881, With Some References to its Affairs to 1911*. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The University Press, 1912.

Wiswall, Clarence A. *One Hundred Years of Paper Making: A History of the Industry on the Charles River at Newton Lower Falls Massachusetts*. Reading, Massachusetts: The Reading Chronicle Press, Inc., 1938.

Collection of Rice Family Materials
Wellesley Historical Society

Container List

I. Charles Rice; 1820 – 1863, undated

This series contains materials related to the life of Charles Rice. Included is correspondence both personal and business related; financial and military service records; as well as materials relating to Rice's roles a highway surveyor, tax collector, and justice of the peace in Needham, MA.

Box 1

- Folder 1: Correspondence; 1821-1850
- Folder 2: Correspondence & Bills, with R. Davis Lumber Co. Bangor Maine; 1861-1862
- Folder 3: Court Summons; 1828
- Folder 4: Discharge from Militia of Massachusetts, Application Form; undated
- Folder 5: Financial Records; 1820-1863
- Folder 6: General; bulk undated
- Folder 7: Highway Surveyor Records; 1841
- Folder 8: Masonic Papers; 1861 & 1863
- Folder 9: Materials Regarding River Dam; 1830s
- Folder 10: Petition to Statesmen of Needham, Regarding Public Highways; undated
- Folder 11: Records of Loads of Hay Delivered by Charles Rice Jr. & others; 1831-1858
- Folder 12: Town of Needham Tax Bill; 1839
- Folder 13: West Precinct Tax Collector Materials; undated

Box 2

- Folder 1: Discharge from Militia; 1821

Archives Oversize Box 5

- Folder 9: Advertisement for Land Sale by Charles Rice March 22, 1851
- Folder 8: Justice of the Peace Materials; 1847, 1854, 1861, & undated

II. Charles Rice Jr.; 1851 - 1864

This series contains materials related to Charles Rice Jr.; including financial records and business licenses.

Box 1

- Folder 14: Financial Records; 1851-1862
- Folder 15: License to Carry on Occupation of Retail Dealer; 1862-63 & 1863-64

Collection of Rice Family Materials
Wellesley Historical Society

III. Sarah Rice; 1853 – 1902, undated

This series contains materials belonging to Sarah Rice including financial records, a number of handwritten manuscripts, and a copy of her will.

Box 1

Folder 16: Account of Jeremiah (Felch) Jennings; 1853
Folder 17: Financial Records; 1888 & 1902
Folder 18: Handwritten Manuscripts; bulk undated

Box 2

Folder 2: Sarah Rice's Will; 1869

IV. Rice Family; 1800 – 1913, undated

This series contains materials belonging to the Rice family in general. Of note, are photographs, correspondence, obituaries and related condolences, deeds, financial records, and information about the Rice family mill.

Box 1

Folder 19: Correspondence, Miss Rice; 1862
Folder 20: Death Statements & Condolences; 1852 & 1863
Folder 21: "Guide to Self Knowledge", By T.H. Pons; 1845
Folder 22: Invitations; 1828 & 1859
Folder 23: John M Wiley's Dominion Family Almanac; 1876
Folder 24: Marie Rice Papers; 1870 – 1880, & undated
Folder 25: Mrs. Leslie Papers; 1830 - 1913
Folder 26: Obituary for Miss Zeruah Rice; 1913
Folder 27: Photographs; undated
Folder 28: Politics and Government, Not Local; 1840s & 1901
Folder 29: Promissory Notes; bulk 1840s
Folder 30: References & Articles Regarding Rice Family & Mill; bulk undated
Folder 31: Tax Notices; 1828 & 1845

Box 2

Folder 3: Correspondence; bulk 1820s & undated
Folder 4: Deeds; 1820s – 1860s
Folder 5: Financial Documents; bulk undated
Folder 6: Real Estate; 1800s
Folder 7: Rice Genealogy; 1818
Folder 8: Town Affairs; bulk undated

Collection of Rice Family Materials
Wellesley Historical Society

V. Rice Family Ledgers; 1808 – 1858

This series contains ledgers belonging primarily to Charles Rice. Primarily the ledgers contain financial records.

Box 2

Item 1: 1826-1858
Item 2: 1818-1826
Item 3: 1823- 1831

Box 3

Folder 1: 1812-1815
Folder 2: 1818-1816
Folder 3: 1821
Folder 4: 1822-1823
Folder 5: January 1825 – September 1825
Folder 6: 1826
Item 1: 1820-1825
Item 2: 1811-1820
Item 3: 1825 – 1845
Item 4: 1833-1840
Item 5: 1808 – 1816
Item 6: 1820-1840