



## Guide to the Philip Carrigain (1772-1842) Papers, 1763-1885

### Administrative Information

**Title and Dates:**

Philip Carrigain Papers, 1763-1885

**Repository:**

New Hampshire Historical Society  
30 Park Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-228-6688  
<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

**Collection Number:**

1955.003

**Author of Finding Aid:**

Original author Thomas E. Camden, April 1982. Rewritten and formatted by Laura Heath Reboul, September 2014.

**Creator:**

Carrigain, Philip, 1772-1842

**Language:**

The materials in this collection are in English.

**Extent:**

2 boxes

**Abstract:**

This collection includes papers relating to the activities of Philip Carrigain who was a lawyer, co-owner of a general store in Concord, NH, member of the New Hampshire Legislature, surveyor for the State, and producer of the first official map of New Hampshire. The collection consists of one manuscript box spanning the years 1763-1885 and contains correspondence; miscellaneous legal and financial documents such as bonds, deeds, notes and receipts; and two memorandum books.

## Access and Use

### **Acquisition Information and Provenance:**

Acquisition records for the Philip Carrigain Papers are nonexistent. It would appear that the collection came to the New Hampshire Historical Society as part of the Joseph Clough Papers. There is no acquisition record for the Clough Papers either. We do know that Joseph Clough was a first cousin of Philip Carrigain (Elizabeth Clough, mother of Philip Carrigain, was the daughter of Thomas Clough and sister of Obediah Clough, the father of Joseph Clough) and administrator of Philip Carrigain's estate. A daybook (Volume 4 in the Contents List of this finding aid) of the store of Philip and Obediah Carrigain was found in the Clough house in Canterbury in 1955 and was given to the New Hampshire Historical Society by Mrs. F. E. Clough Powers of Tilton.

### **Processing Information:**

This collection was processed by Thomas E. Camden in April, 1982. The finding aid was rewritten and formatted by Laura Heath Reboul in September, 2014. This finding aid follows the standards set forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

### **Access Restrictions:**

Available for research.

### **Location:**

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

### **Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:**

Due to the fragility of this collection, this collection requires library supervision when used.

### **Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:**

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Researchers are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

### **Preferred Citation:**

Philip Carrigain Papers, 1955.003. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.  
Date Accessed.

## Collection Overview

### **Biographical Information:**

Philip Carrigain was born in Concord, NH, on February 20, 1772, the son of Philip and Elizabeth (Clough) Carrigain. After graduating from Dartmouth College in 1794, he studied law with Arthur Livermore of Holderness, NH and settled in practice in Concord. From 1797 to 1800, he operated a general store with his brother Obediah in Concord.. The partnership in the general store dissolved in 1800 and Obediah Carrigain

became the sole owner. The store operated on North Main Street and advertised the sale of “drugs, medicines, surgeons’ instruments, English West Indies goods, dry goods, and shoes.” (Amsden, chapter XXII, p. 14).

In 1799, just down the street from the general store, Philip Carrigain built a large, in anticipation of his marriage to the daughter of President John Wheelock of Dartmouth College. The marriage did not take place and Carrigain was never able to fully finish the house. The structure became known about Concord as “Carrigain’s Folly.”

Carrigain served as Secretary of State in the New Hampshire Legislature from 1805-1809 and later as Clerk of the New Hampshire State Senate from 1821-1823. In 1806, he became one of the founders of a newspaper in Concord called the *American Patriot*, an early forerunner to the *New Hampshire Patriot*.

Although a lawyer by profession, Carrigain is best known for producing the first official map of New Hampshire, a responsibility issued to him by authority of the state legislature in 1816. In 1825 Governor David L. Morrill appointed him commissioner to survey any contemplated canal routes in the State of New Hampshire.

Philip Carrigain was known in New Hampshire as much for his personal qualities as for the work he did. He had quite a reputation for his speaking abilities and seemed always ready to take part in a festive occasion, whether it was a political, agricultural or social gathering. Carrigain was frequently called upon to affix his beautifully executed signature to many official and unofficial documents. It was his practice to sign everything that was put before him, but it was known by the proper authorities that “his signature was to go on nothing unless it was supplemented by a flourish beneath it, representing an eagle’s beak.” (Bell, p. 240)

Because of Carrigain’s diversified pursuits, his law practice suffered and he was forced to move to other areas of the state in the hope that they would afford better openings for a legal practitioner. Between 1822 and 1836, he practiced law in Loudon, Chichester, and Epsom. He eventually returned to Concord, where he “spent the remainder of his days in rather reduced circumstances.” (Bell, p. 239). He died in Concord in 1842 at the age of seventy.

#### References:

Grace P. Amsden. *A Capital for New Hampshire*. (Concord: typescript), 1961.  
C. H. Bell. *Bench and Bar of New Hampshire*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1894.

#### **Collection Scope and Content Note:**

The Philip Carrigain Papers contain papers relating to the activities of Philip Carrigain who was a lawyer, co-owner of a general store in Concord, New Hampshire, member of the State Legislature, surveyor for the State, and producer of the first official map of New Hampshire. The collection consists of one manuscript box spanning the years 1763-1885 and contains correspondence; miscellaneous legal and financial documents such as bonds, deeds, notes and receipts; and two memorandum books, one concerning the store kept by Philip and Obediah Carrigain and the other containing miscellaneous notes and records kept by Philip Carrigain.

Also with the Philip Carrigain Papers are four account books (three daybooks and a ledger) kept by Philip and Obediah Carrigain concerning the general store operated by them in Concord, New Hampshire from 1797-1800. The store, operating on North Main

Street, advertised the sale of “drugs, medicines, surgeons instruments, English West Indies goods, dry goods, and shoes.” (Amsden, chapter XXII, p. 14)

This collection contains the appointment of Philip Carrigain as commissioner to survey any contemplated canal routes in the state of New Hampshire. Signed by Governor David L. Morrill on June 10, 1825, this document is housed in oversized manuscript flat storage.

Reference:

Grace P. Amsden. *A Capital for New Hampshire*. (Concord: typescript), 1961.

**Arrangement:**

Papers in the manuscript box, spanning the years 1763-1885, are arranged in roughly chronological order. The two memorandum books follow, the first dated 1796-1824 and the second dated 1800-1841. The three daybooks for the general store are next and they are in chronological order. The last item in the boxes is the one ledger for the general store. The 1825 appointment to survey any contemplated canal routes in New Hampshire is housed in oversized manuscript flat storage.

Contents List

**Box 1**

- Folder 1        Legal documents includes a commission to construct a road from Durham to Coos, N.H signed by Benning Wentworth, 1763
- Folder 2        Legal documents includes bonds and deeds to father, Dr. Philip Carrigain, 1802
- Folder 3        Correspondence and legal documents concerning the map of New Hampshire, 1810-1871
- Folder 4        Miscellaneous correspondence, 1833-1885
- Folder 5        Miscellaneous legal documents, bonds, and deeds, 1813-1839
- Folder 6        Miscellaneous financial documents includes notes and receipts, 1829-1841
- Folder 7        Poem written for the Whig Festival at Concord, NH, September 30, 1834
- Volume 1        Memorandum book containing agreements about supplies left at the store of Philip and Obediah Carrigain to be sold on commission; also contains notes on law cases and various affairs in Chichester, 1796-1824 (7 ¾” x 6 ½”)
- Volume 2        Memorandum book; mostly legal matters; actions brought before Justices of the Peace; docket of cases in Court of Common Pleas and Superior Court; daybook; lawyer’s accounts for Concord and Epsom; accounts of the North Chichester Post Office; other miscellaneous notes, 1800-1841 (11” x 7”)

**Box 2**

- Volume 1        Daybook of Philip and Obediah Carrigain for general store, February – August 1797 (16” x 6 ½”)
- Volume 2        Daybook of Philip and Obediah Carrigain for general store, January – November 1798 (15” x 6 ½”)

- Volume 3 Daybook of Philip and Obediah Carrigain for general store, January 1800 – June 1801 (15” x 6 ¼”)  
Volume 4 Ledger of Philip and Obediah Carrigain for general store, 1797-1799 (16” x 6 ½”)

**Separated Materials:**

Appointment of Philip Carrigain as commissioner to survey any contemplated canal routes in the state of New Hampshire dated June 10, 1825 and signed by Governor David L. Morrill is housed in oversize manuscript flat storage.

**Subject Terms**

**People:**

Carrigain, Elizabeth (Clough)  
Carrigain, Obediah  
Carrigain, Philip, 1772-1842  
Carrigain, Philip, Dr.  
Clough, Joseph  
Clough, Obediah  
Clough, Thomas  
Livermore, Arthur, 1766-1853  
Morrill, David, L., 1772-1849  
Powers, F. E. Clough (Mrs.)

**Organizations:**

*American Patriot* newspaper  
Dartmouth College  
New Hampshire General Court

**Subjects:**

Canals  
General Stores  
Whig Festival, Concord, New Hampshire, September, 30, 1834

**Locations:**

Chichester, NH  
Concord, NH  
Coos, NH  
Durham, NH  
Epsom, NH  
Holderness, NH  
Loudon, NH  
Tilton, NH

**Occupations:**

Clerk – New Hampshire State Senate  
Governor – New Hampshire  
Lawyers  
Secretary of State  
Surveyors

## Related Materials

Joseph Clough Papers, 1984.012. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.

The New Hampshire Historical Society also holds several maps attributed to Philip Carrigain with the following call numbers: 912.778 C316 1816, 912.778 C 316 1818, 912.778 C316v, and 912.778b C744car.