

# NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## LIBRARY

Manuscripts

No. 36

Date processed: August 16, 1976

- I. Title TURNPIKE COMPANIES COLLECTION, 1770-1883.
- II. The papers of Various local turnpike companies deposited in the Library on \_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_ In \_\_\_\_\_ converted the deposit to a gift.
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 1  
Approximate number of items: 50
- IV. Restrictions: none
- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of \_\_\_\_\_ in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.
- VI. Press release was issued on \_\_\_\_\_
- VII. Biographical note: When enough people thought that there should be a road between two points, they would get together, pool their capital, and sell stock in a Turnpike Co. Once the road was built, it would charge a toll, which would hopefully turn a profit and allow the company to pay dividends to its stockholders.  
The heyday of these turnpike companies was in the late 1700's and the early and middle 1800's. After that, most of the roads were taken over by the towns in which they lay, and the practice of collecting tolls for the most part abolished.  
(Note: See rate schedule in Box 1, Folder L, for a list of traffic exempt from toll. These exemptions are quite liberal, and the companies could be seen as performing a public service.)
- VIII. Analysis: Collection consists of 1 box, 4 ledgers.  
Folders within box are lettered in the upper left hand corner.  
Records of various New Haven area turnpikes  
N.B.--The records of the Derby Turnpike Co. are filed under the John E. Bassett & Co. papers (Box 53, Items 231&232). These also contain a history of the company with a good explanation of the nature of the Turnpike Company (Box 53, Folder P).

TURNPIKE COMPANIES PAPERS 1770-1883

Box 1--Papers of Companies, 1770-1883

- Folder A--Ledger of Oxford Turnpike Co.(Records) 1795-1883
- Folder B-- " " " " " "
  - Financial Records--Expenditures 1858-1877
- Folder C--Oxford Turnpike Co.-Maintenance Contracts, Bill, Expense List 1878-1884
- Folder D--Hartford & New Haven Turnpike Co.-
  - \* Toll tickets, letters, assessments of necessary repairs, etc.(See also Items 2 & 3.) 1798-1824
- Folder E--Cheshire Turnpike Co. Charter 1800
- Folder F-- " " " Toll Gate #2 tickets, signed by Pres.Rufus Hitchcock Not dated
- Folder G--Rimmon Falls Turnpike Co.
  - Stock Receipt, Rate agreement ↗ MOVED TO OVERSIZE #1 1803-04
- Folder H--New Haven & Milford Turnpike Co.
  - Subscription Lists 1804-05
  - (See also Items 4 & 5)
- Folder I--New Haven & Milford Turnpike Co.
  - Misc. Papers-Tax receipts, legal agreements, Power of attorney document, etc. (See also Items 4 & 5) 1855-67
- Folder J--Letter from Epaphroditus Champion to Nehemiah Hubbard regarding proposed turnpike from Middletown to New Haven 1812
- Folder K--Leavenworth Bridge Co. Reports 1817,1830
  - Derby Bridge and Ferry Co.(Leavenworth's successor)-papers, mostly regarding construction of new bridge 1833-46
- Folder L--Miscellaneous Items
  - (a)"Survey of a Highway near the Great (Housatonic?) River at a place called Caterockaway Newton April 20, 1770"
  - (b) County Court proceedings regarding projected road from Derby Landing to NW corner of New Haven County, with survey of route. 1798
  - (c) Gatekeeper's Records-not clear from which turnpike 1808-1812
  - (d) New Haven, Durham & Middletown Turnpike Co. Arguments against company throwing about 4 miles of road on towns of New Haven & East Haven (Same road mentioned in Folder J?) 1838
  - (e) Rate schedule No date or Company name ↗ MOVED TO OVERSIZE #1

Folder M -- See p. 2

\* TOLL TICKETS ARE PRINTED ON "RECYCLED" MAPS, LAMINATED WITH PRINTED SIDE FACING INWARD, TICKETS WERE THEN PRINTED ON BLANK SIDE. MAP PREDATES TURNPIKE SO EARLIER THAN 1800. FROM FRAGMENTARY PLACE NAMES (GENESEO, CONNACTO) MAP MAY BE OF N.Y. STATE.

## TURNPIKE COMPANIES COLLECTION

## LEDGERS

- Item 2: Record of the Hartford & New Haven Turnpike Co. 1799-1855  
(Minutes, Bill of Form, General Assembly Resolution, etc.)  
See also: Box 1, Folder D
- Item 3: Accounts of the Hartford & New Haven Turnpike Co. 1799-1856  
(Stock Transactions) See also Box 1, Folder D
- Item 4--New Haven & Milford Turnpike Co. Ledger 1802-1862  
(Account Book--stock transactions, etc.)  
See also Box 1, Folders H&I
- Item 5--New Haven & Milford Turnpike Co. Day Book 1802-1873  
(Stock transferrals, dividend receipts, etc.)  
See also: Box 1, Folders H&I

## Box 1

- Folder M - Miscellaneous additions, August, 1980 [6]
- Middle Road Turnpike Co., Woodbury, four shares, 1809; two to Jonas Hungerford; two to Jared Bidwell
  - New Haven & Milford Turnpike Co. Agreement to support dykes near the West Bridge, 1817, signed by Eben Townsend et.al. directors
  - Humphreyville & Salem Bridge Turnpike Co., 1849 insurance policy with Mutual Insurance Co. of Hartford for the Toll House in Derby

## Folder N - Papers concerning collection

OVERSIZE ITEM #1

- RATE PETITION, RIMMONS FALLS TURNPIKE CO., 1804 (FOLDER G)
- RATE SCHEDULE, NO DATE, NO COMPANY NAME. (FOLDER L.)