NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LIBRARY

Manuscripts
No. 86

I. Title AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES COLLECTION, 1794-1869

II. The papers of
   deposited in the Library on
   In
   converted the deposit to a gift.

III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 1/2
    Approximate number of items: 10

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V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of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:

Society for the Promotion of Agriculture (Connecticut Agricultural Society). This Society was organized in 1794. Members represented farmers from throughout Connecticut and met twice a year to discuss the state of agriculture and any experiments or discoveries "that may be beneficial." In 1818 the Society changed its name to The New Haven County Agricultural Society. It continued to meet twice each year but now concentrated its efforts on producing shows and fairs and sponsoring lectures. It also published transactions (reports of several committees) and awarded premiums for best farms, livestock, produce, and dairy products.

See also Transactions of the Society for Promoting Agriculture of the State of Connecticut, New Haven, 1802; Transactions of the New Haven County Agricultural Society, New Haven, 1840, 1841.

New Haven Horticultural Society (The Horticultural Society of New Haven, later the New Haven County Horticultural Society). Founded in 1830, the Society stated that its "efforts ... shall be solely directed to improvement in the useful and ornamental branches of horticulture." It was composed of members of both sexes "but the efforts of the ladies, will be directed more particularly to the ornamental branches, two departments shall be organized, viz. Male and Female, with powers respectively to choose their own officers." By 1837
the stated objectives of the Society were "the collection and dissemination of superior seeds of vegetables and fruits - the encouragement of Horticultural labor and cultivation of a correct Horticultural taste." The Society sponsored an annual fair and exhibition at which it awarded prizes (premiums) for articles of "uncommon excellence."

See also New Haven County Horticultural Society, Charter and By-laws, New Haven, 1837, 1847, 1854; Addresses Delivered at the Annual Fair, New Haven, 1843, 1845, 1848, 1849; Transactions of the Society, New Haven, 1842, 1844, 1847, 1848; Annual Report, New Haven, 1850, 1851, 1852, 1853-54, 1856.

The Pomological Society (New Haven). The Pomological Society was founded in 1844 for the purpose of improving the raising and cultivation of fruit. Members met to discuss various experimental techniques for the culture and preservation of fruits and examined and evaluated specimens of ripened fruits brought to the meetings. Occasionally papers of the proceedings were published.

VIII. Analysis:

This collection consists of four ledgers and two folders. The ledgers include accounts of the founding of the societies, rules and regulations, by-laws, and minutes of meetings. The Society for the Promotion of Agriculture ledger is signed by the founding members. For a more detailed description of the contents of the ledgers, see the Table of Contents.

One folder holds loose material found in a Pomological Society ledger. The other holds copies of a premium awarded by the New Haven County Agricultural Society in 1843, the original of which is in the Curatorial Department of the New Haven Colony Historical Society. The number of items in each folder is indicated in parentheses following the title of the folder.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Box I:

### Society for the Promotion of Agriculture (Connecticut Agricultural Society)

**Ledger** - entitled "Records of the Society for the Promotion of Agriculture 1794 -"

- August 12, 1794 - April 6, 1802
- Account of founding of Society
- Rules and regulations
- Signatures of founders
- List of additional members, by counties
- Queries "Proposed and adopted by the Society for answer by any Gentlemen who wish to promote Rural Economy"
- Minutes (lists members present and business communications on agricultural subjects)

### New Haven County Agricultural Society

**Folder A: Premium (4)**

- Three photographic copies, one negative. Diploma awarded to Mr. William Bradley, Hamden, for pair of working oxen, four years old, 1843. Original is in Curatorial Department.

### New Haven Horticultural Society (The Horticultural Society of New Haven; The New Haven Horticultural Society)

**Ledger**

- December, 1830 - March 16, 1842
- Printed by-laws, October, 1837
- Copy of Articles of Association, December, 1830
- List of original members
- Report of organizational meeting and press clipping
- Resolutions adopted
- Minutes of meetings, May 17, 1831 - June, 1839
- Premium lists, attached to ledger, October 3, 4, 1833; August 26, 1838; June, 1839
The Pomological Society (New Haven)

Folder B: Miscellaneous (2)

- American Pomological Society, 1866, Announcement of Annual Meeting
- Loose page from Ledger #2
- Invitation to Pomological Festival, n.d. [1]

Ledger #1

October 21, 1844 - August 17, 1855

- "The Rules of American Pomology," printed, attached to cover
- Report of organizational meeting, October 21, 1844
- Constitution
- List of founding members
- Minutes, October 31, 1844 - August 17, 1855

Ledger #2

- Letter to Editor, Newark Advertiser, n.d., from I.M. Ward
- Minutes, August 24, 1855 - August 13, 1869

Folder C: Miscellaneous - added June, 1980 [2]

- Season ticket: Agricultural Society Exhibition, 1847
- Programme: State Board of Agriculture meeting, New Haven, January 8-10, 1867