

NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LIBRARY

Manuscripts
No. 89

Date processed: August, 1978

- I. Title Sage, Henry Pinney (1865 - 1944) Papers on Connecticut milestones (1922 - 1940).
- II. The papers of deposited in the Library in July, 1945, by Mrs. Henry P. Sage.
~~in~~ as ~~converted the deposit to a gift.~~ a gift.
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 14 inches.
Approximate number of items: 307 (incl. 2 vols.)
- 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- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated to the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:

See Page 2.

VIII. Analysis: These papers consist of three (3) boxes.

In addition to the manuscript of "Ye Mylestones of Connecticut", the Papers include film negatives and positives of photographs of Connecticut milestones taken by Dr. Sage. They include hand drawn maps showing the locations of milestones, correspondence from state agencies, historical societies and interested individuals, as well as supportive material relating to Connecticut milestones.

VII Biographical note:

Henry P. Sage was born in Unionville, Connecticut, in 1865 and was brought to New Haven at the age of seven. He graduated from the Sheffield Scientific School and in 1891 from the New York Medical College. After a two-year medical residency in New York, he returned to New Haven to take over his father's medical practice.

Sage was a man of diverse talents and interests. In addition to his medical practice, he wrote well regarded articles on national and international fiscal problems. He was a founding member of the New Haven Automobile Club, President of New Haven Kiwanis, a vestryman of St. Paul's church, and was known for his sense of humor.

Dr. Sage developed an interest in the milestones that had been placed along Connecticut's turnpikes and highways in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Between 1922 and 1940 he pursued this interest vigorously and developed it into a scholarly avocation. He studied the lore of milestones and their history since Roman times. He delved into colonial Connecticut laws governing their erection, and he outlined different periods of their development and placement.

Dr. Sage mapped out the Connecticut turnpike and highway routes of colonial times, dividing them into districts and series and with his wife drove these routes searching for milestones that once had stood along them. He likened these trips to fishing expeditions. When he found a milestone, he would highlight the inscription with chalk, photograph it and enter its location on a map and in his records. He recorded the locations of over 150 milestones out of an estimated 600 - 800 thought to have been placed along these colonial roads.

The sum total of Dr. Sage's deep involvement with milestones is set forth in his fascinating article "Ye Milestones of Connecticut" published in the NHCHS Papers, volume X, 1951. The manuscript of this definitive study of Connecticut milestones is a part of these Papers and is basic to them. Dr. Sage sent the article in modified form to various historical societies and libraries and used it as a basis for talks to civic groups, and once over the radio. The text "grew like topsy" for its preface is dated 1929, the text 1931, with a 1937 addendum and an observation of 1940.

Dr. Henry Sage limited his study of milestones to Connecticut. His pursuit of his avocation in adjacent states was minimal. He engaged in correspondence on the subject of Connecticut's milestones with the State Librarian, the Chairman of the State Department of Highways, historical societies and interested individuals. His scholarly research on Connecticut milestones is unique and must stand above all other efforts in the field.

Henry Pinney Sage died in New Haven on December 3, 1944.

Content Guide

Sage, Henry Pinney (1865 - 1944) Papers on Connecticut Milestones (1922-1940).

Box I

- Folder A - Ye Mylestones of Connecticut, 1922 - 1940. (1 vol.)
Original typescript with photos.
- B - Ye Mylestones of Connecticut (1 vol.)
Extra pages with photos
- C - Ye Mylestones of Connecticut (1)
Introduction, 1926 - 1929.
- D - Scripts of talks and text of an article on milestones. (7)
- E - Mounted photos of milestones. (26)
- F - Mounted photos of milestones. (21)

Box II

- Folder A - Turnpike notes (4)
- B - Photos and negatives. (18)
- Hartford-Farmington-Milldale
 - " " -Bristol Branch
 - Old stones
 - New Haven-Meriden-Hartford Turnpike
 - Norwich Town-Colchester
 - New Haven-Middletown Pike
 - New London-Old Mystic
 - Hartford-Saybrook
 - " -Tolland
 - Norwalk-Ridgefield
 - New Haven-Cheshire Pike
 - " -Litchfield Pike
 - " -Saybrook
 - Hartford-New Hartford (Albany Turnpike)
 - Norwich Town-Franklin-Windham
 - Hartford-Silver Lane
 - " -Enfield (East side)
 - Norwalk-Danbury Norwalk-Ridgefield
 - Pawcatuck-Bridge Line
- C - Photos and negatives. (49)
- New Haven-Bridgeport (West side)
 - Hartford-Suffield-Unionville-Windsor Locks
 - Fairfield
 - Windham-Boston (Abington stones)

Folder C (cont'd.)

Hartford-Litchfield-Danbury
" -Meriden
" -New Britain
Norwich Town-Lebanon-Andover
Northwill stone-Washington (Original Smithville)
Seymour #7, Round Hill stone
New Milford-Town Hill stone
Break neck Hill stone
Norwich-Salem
Norwich Town-Canterbury
New Haven-State Street-Meriden
The Winsted stone, Norfolk #1
Cornwall hollow stone
Stones, not milestones
Willsville-Lanesville
Norwich-Voluntown series
New London-Saybrook
Salisbury stone, Saybrook #XVIII
Branford stone #8, Hinckley Hill
Norwich Town-Plainfield-Sterling
New Haven-Wallingford
East Farms-Killingworth Town-West Ashford (1774)
Hartford-Colchester
Zero milestone, Washington, D.C.
Stone at East Brookfield, Mass.
Typical stones (Prints only)
Monuments and unusual stones
Middletown-Saybrook
Silver Lane-South Manchester
Litchfield-Woodbury-Norfolk Pike
Suffield stone #12, Windsor Plain
Hartford-Springfield (East side of river)
Hartford-Mansfield-Ashford, etc.
" -Litchfield-Danbury-New York
" -Colchester-Tolland
" -Farmington-Southington
" -Windsor-Bristol-Meriden Post Road
Killingworth stones
Milestone on route Mass. #9
New York State stones (Lansingburgh-Whitehall line)
Norwich Town-Lebanon
Norwich Town-Voluntown
Massachusetts stones
Extra prints of various stones
Photos of Dr. Henry P. Sage

Folder D - Field notes of Dr. Henry P. Sage (39)

E - Newspaper clippings related to milestones. (16)

Content Guide

Sage, Henry Pinney (1865 - 1944)

Papers on Connecticut Milestones (1922 - 1940).

Box III

Folder A - Maps	(10)
B - Correspondence received from state agencies	(25)
C - " " general (A-H)	(30)
D - " " " (I-S)	(32)
E - " " " (T-W)	(24)
F - Miscellaneous	(3)