

NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LIBRARY

Manuscripts
No. Mss# B65

Date processed: December 1985

- I. Title **Ferree Family Collection, 1898-1981**
- II. The papers of **the Ferree Family**
deposited in the Library on **1980**, by **Ruth Gill Foote**
~~xxx as a gift.~~ ~~converted into deposit to a gift.~~
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: **1/2**
Approximate number of items: **250 (including 5 volumes)**
- 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- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of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: This collection consists of photographs mainly
of the five Ferree sisters, their spouses and families. They
were the daughters of William Russell Ferree, 1817-1892, and
Mary Seward, 1819-1888. William Russell was listed as a grocer
at 415 State Street in the 1863 New Haven City Directory. At
that time his home address was 409 State Street. In the 1883
CD his home was given as 121 Lawrence Street where the family
continued to live for the rest of their lives. Most of the
family photographs in this collection were taken at that address.

The five sisters and their spouses were:
 1. Mary Seward Ferree, 1843-1917, m. Webster DeForest Foote,
1840-1917. He was a member of Yale Class of 1864. For
the greater part of his life he operated a retail grocery
business in and around New Haven, until in his declining
years he took up the nursery business, which he followed
until his death.
 2. Isabelle Green Ferree, 1846-1923, unmarried.
 3. Georgiana Tomlinson Ferree, 1856-1925, unmarried.
 4. Elizabeth Howell Ferree, n.d., m. Frank Warren Canada,
1855-1912. The 1903 New Haven City Directory listed him
as part-owner of Canada & Robertson, Hatters and Furriers,
882 Chapel Street.
 5. Susan Trowbridge Ferree (Kelsey) Powell, n.d., m. 1st (cont.)

Biographical note (cont)

Henry Kelsey, Jr., 1849-1883; m. 2nd Alfred Powell, n.d. He was listed in the 1903 New Haven City Directory as a real estate dealer at 58 Front Avenue, West Haven.

The donor of this collection was Ruth Gill Foote, 1886-1981, who lived at 632 Dixwell Avenue until her later years when she retired to Whitney Center. She was the daughter of John T. and Addie Russell Gill of West Haven. She married Arthur Ferree Foote, b. 1884, who was the son of Webster DeForest Foote and Mary Seward Ferree (one of the five sisters listed above.) He was a machine and tool designer in New Haven.

Analysis: This collection consists of one box of photographs. Most are in very good condition; the majority is identified. The first four folders contain loose photographs of the Ferree family. Folders E through H contain five small photographic albums and the pages removed from one larger album. The remainder is made up of photographs taken in and around New Haven, memorabilia and postcards. The trolley car material in Folders E, L and O is worthy of note.

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	<u>BOX 1</u>	<u>No. of items</u>
Folder A:	Photographs of the five Ferree sisters, undated	10
B:	Photographs of Ferree family members, identified	12
C:	Ferree family groups, identified	6
D:	Miscellaneous photos, unidentified, though many are obviously some of the Ferree sisters	51
E:	Pages removed from large photographic album 1898-1947 - family groups, trolley cars in New Haven, Connecticut scenes	10
F:	Pages removed from large photographic album, 1941-1949 - interior and exterior of family dwellings at 121 Lawrence Street and 632 Dixwell Avenue; many views of the Wilbur Cross Parkway during construction in 1947 taken from Dixwell Avenue in Hamden.	27
G:	Photographic albums of Frank Warren Canada and the Gill family, n.d.	3 v.
H:	Gill family photographic albums, n.d.	2 v.
I:	Dwellings, interior and exterior, mostly unidentified	35
J:	Yale campus, nd. and Boardman Trade School, interior, n.d.	12
K:	Photos on stiff cardboard backing: Old Christ Church, West Haven; Blizzard of 1888 Grove Street near Wooster; Thompson Building, Main Street and Campbell Avenue, West Haven; Mechanics Bank, New Haven, 1925, interior, "Allen Gill at work"	4
L:	Loose photos of New Haven and area landmarks, and negatives of old trolleys	31
M:	Memorabilia: Chamber of Commerce program book for New Haven Week Celebration, September 19-21, 1912; 2 Winchester War Service medals, 1918	3
N:	Postcards, 1905-1911 - Yale buildings; schools, churches and scenes in New Haven, West Haven and Branford; four postcards, 1949, showing ferry crossing Connecticut River from Rocky Hill to Glastonbury	41

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Box 1

Folder 0: Newspaper clippings, 1954-1981 - Ice storm 8
in New Haven, 1954; Chapel Square, 1967; last
trolley car run in 1948; Milestones in 75 years
of telephone progress, 1953; Ruth Gill Foote
obituary, 1981