



Post Family Collection,
1796-1935
(bulk dates: 1833-1888)

Special Collections Department/Long Island Studies Institute

Contact Information:
Special Collections Department
Axinn Library, Room 032
123 Hofstra University
Hempstead, NY 11549
Phone: (516) 463-6411, or 463-6404
Fax: (516) 463-6442
E-mail: LISI@hofstra.edu
<http://www.hofstra.edu/Libraries/SpecialCollections>

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| Compiled by: | [M. O'Connor] |
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Post Family Collection, 1796-1935 (bulk dates: 1833-1888)
3.6 c.f.

Joseph Post, son of Edmund and Catherine (Willits), was born in Westbury, Long Island, New York, in 1803. In 1828, he married Mary W. Robbins, daughter of Willet and Esther (Seaman). Joseph and Mary were members of the Westbury Monthly Meeting (Society of Friends/Quakers), and were both well-known abolitionists who numbered among their friends some of the most progressive thinkers of their day.

The bulk of this collection is comprised of letters written to Joseph and Mary Post from 1838-1888. Notable correspondents include the following: Lucretia Mott, abolitionist and women's rights leader; Isaac Post (Joseph's brother), noted abolitionist and spiritualist; Rev. George Truman; and Cyrus Peirce. Topics discussed are slavery, the Civil War, Christianity, Friends' Meetings, theological matters, and general everyday life. Also included in the collection are artifacts, engravings, genealogy documents, general print materials, indentures, Monthly Meeting testimonies, pamphlets, photographic prints, poems, receipts, silhouette prints, sketches, song lyrics, survey diagrams, and a family photo album.

Particularly noteworthy items include the following: a photographic print of abolitionist Mary H. (Post) Hallowell (daughter of Isaac Post), whose home in Rochester, NY, was a stop on the Underground Railroad; a framed silhouette print of the famous Quaker preacher, Elias Hicks; a framed engraving of Lucretia Mott; and indentures related to the sale of land in Merrick as well as other locations. Also notable are photographic prints of Joseph Post, Mary Post, Esther Robbins, Willet S. Robbins, Mary Willis, Henry Willis, and Isaac Post.

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Box and Folder Listing

Box 1
Folder

Description

- 1 Letter to Mary W. Post (addressed to Joseph Post) from Tredwell (?), Dec. 1833. (Note: letter is written on printed document titled "Address of the Female Anti-Slavery Society of the City of Hudson. N.Y. to their Fellow-Citizens
- 2 Letter to Joseph and Mary Post from George Truman, Jun. 28, 1844
- 3 Letter to Joseph and Mary Post from George Truman, May 20, 1845
- 4 Letter to Joseph from George Truman, Aug. 10, 1848

Box 2
Folder

- 1 Letter from I.K? [Isaac K.?] Post to his cousin, Libby [Elizabeth Post?], Aug. 12, 1856
- 2 Letter to Catharine M. and Elisabeth Post (care of Henry Mott, Cow Neck), c.1840s-1850s (Note: Catharine M. is referred to as "Cassie," while Elizabeth is called "Libby.")

Box 1
Folder

Description

- 5 Letter to Elisabeth and Catharine Post from Mother [Mary Post], c. 1840s-1850s

Box 2
Folder

- 3 Letter to Joseph and Mary Post from Lucretia Mott, Dec. 5, 1861

Box 1
Folder

- 6 Letter to Joseph and Mary Post from George Truman, Aug. 31, 1863

Box 2
Folder

- 4 Letter to Joseph and Mary Post from Cyrus Peirce, May 1867
- 5 Letter to Joseph and Mary Post from George and Catharine H. Truman, Jul. 15, 1867
- 6 Letter to Mary W. Post from Cyrus Peirce, Nov. 8, 1868
- 7 Letter to Joseph Post from Lucretia Mott, c. 1860s
- 8 Letter to Joseph and Mary Post from Israel Drake, Apr. 25, 1875
- 9 Letter from Oliver Johnson to Mary W. Post concerning the death of her Husband, Joseph, Jan. 19, 1888
- 10 Letter to Mary Post from Elias Lewis, Jr. concerning the death of her husband, Joseph, Jan.19, 1888
- 11 Letter (fragment) to [Joseph and Mary] Post from Cyrus Peirce, n.d.
- 12 Letter (fragment) to [Joseph and Mary Post], n.d.
- 13 A translated copy of a letter from Major Marconny to William Savery. David Sands and Company, n.d.

Box 1
Folder

Description

- 7 Extract of a letter from Miss Seward to Mr. Boswell concerning Doctor Johnson, n.d.

Box 1
Folder

Description

- 8 Indenture (land) between William Loines and Henry Post (both of the Town of North Hempstead), Apr. 7, 1790
- 9 Indenture (land) between Edmund Smith and John Titus (Westbury, NY), May 2, 1796 (Note: the indenture involved the sale of a certain lot piece or parcel of salt meadow known as “Merrock” [Merrick])

Oversize Collection

Box 1 **Folder**

- 2 Indenture (land) between Edmund Post and William Willets, Jun. 8, 1797
- 3 Indenture (land) between Hannah Fish and Joseph Post, May 27, 1836

Box 2 (cont'd) **Folder**

- 14 Indenture (land) between brothers James and Benjamin Smith of Hempstead, NY, copy undated (Note: Indenture concerned a “certain lot of Meadow which layeth at Merrick Neck so called that was given them by there father Jonathan Smith.”)
- 15 Receipts of Joseph Post, 1843-1876, with gaps (note: includes a receipt for a \$100.00 payment to Dr. Kingsley for cancer treatment. Receipt stipulated that any future treatment for a recurrence of the disease would be done for free.)
- 16 Testimony about Mary W. Post that was read and approved by the monthly meeting (Society of Friends) of Westbury and Jericho, Feb. 16, 1839. (Note: document was signed by Sarah P. Titus)

Box 1 **Folder**

- 10 “The Testimony of the Monthly Meeting of Westbury on Long Island concerning our beloved Friend John Willis deceased,” n.d. (Note: John Willis was born in 1734 and died c. 1788)

Box 2 **Folder**

Description

- 17 Account and Testimony of John Steel concerning Quaker members John Story and John Wilkinson, copy undated (Note: Story and Wilkinson threatened separation from the Quaker movement in England in the 1670s)
- 18 Diary page (fragment) – includes inventory of horses, Spring 1839 and entries about the weather, 1836, 1841

- 19 Genealogy documents listing birth/death and marriage dates, plus some genealogical information from 1785 to 1854, n.d. (Note: one page is dedicated entirely to James and Phebe (Willis) Post and their children
- 20 Poem – “A few lines written in early life after sitting down some time in silence at twilight,” (author unknown), n.d.
- 21 Song lyrics (handwritten) – “A German Trust Song,” copy undated. (Note: this song was written by Lampertus in 1625)
- 22 Survey diagram – “property about to be conveyed by Joseph Post to Elizabeth P. Hiller,” Dec. 6, 1844. (Note: Surveyor was William S. Hauxhurst)
- 23 Wedding invitation from Catharine M. [Post] Willis to the marriage of her daughter Mary W. to J. [John] Augustus Albertson on June 7, 1888 at Westbury, Long Island.

Box 1
Folder

- 11 “The advice of Evan Ellis, late of Chester County, deceased, to his Daughter when at Sea,” n.d. (Note: letter addressed to Lydia Ellis Junior)
- 12 “Some Expressions which I heard delivered by William Hunt in a publick Meeting at Matinecock...,” (author unknown), n.d.

Box 2
Folder

- 24 Pamphlet - Scattered Seeds, Vol. LXVII, December Supplement, 1935
- 25 General print material – “A Chapter of Modern Chronicles; In which certain events which lately took place in the city of Gotham are truly set forth,” n.d.

Box 1
Folder

Description

- 13 News clipping (handwritten copy) – “From a London Paper – Dublin, November 27,” copy undated. (Note: tells the story of the forgery trial of Thomas Edward Bellamy in 1802.)

Box 3
Folder

| | <u>Format</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|----|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1 | Photographic print | c.1890 | MWA [Mary (Willis) Albertson?] in horse drawn carriage. Photo by B. J. Smith, Architectural Photographer |
| 2 | Photographic print | Dec. 1910 | Portrait of Mary H. (Post) Hallowell |
| 3 | Photographic print | Dec. 1910 | Portrait of Mary H. (Post) Hallowell |
| 4 | Silhouette print (framed) | 1830 | Elias Hicks – published by John Hopper – New York, 1830 |
| 5 | Photographic print (matted) | n.d. | Jacob Hicks' house |
| 6 | Photographic print | c. 1860s-early 1900s | Portrait of John D. Hicks |
| 7 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1890s | Portrait of Elizabeth P. Hiller |
| 8 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1890s | Portrait of Elizabeth P. Hiller |
| 9 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1890s | Portrait of J.T. Hiller. Print produced by The Lewis Publishing Co. |
| 10 | Engraving (framed) | c.1840s-1880 | Portrait of Lucretia Mott. Painted by J. Kyle; engraved by J.S. Artain |
| 11 | Sketch | c.1850s-1870s | Portrait of Joseph Post |
| 12 | Photographic print | c.1850s-1870s | Portrait of Joseph Post. Print produced by The Lewis Publishing Co. |
| 13 | Photographic print | c.1850s-1870s | Portrait of Joseph Post. Print produced by The Lewis Publishing Co. |
| 14 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1880s | Portrait of Mary Post |
| 15 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1880s | Portrait of Mary Post |
| 16 | Photograph (hand-colored & cased) | c. 1840s-1854 | Portrait of great-grandmother Esther Robbins |
| 17 | Photographic print (cased) | c. mid-1850s ? | Portrait of grandmother's brother Willet S. Robbins |

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|----|--------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 18 | Photographic print | c.1870s-1890s | Portrait of Uncle Isaac Willis (Henry Willis' father) by Mock's Studio |
| 19 | Photographic print | c.1870s-1890s | Portrait of Aunt Mary [Seaman?]Willis (mother of Henry Willis) by Mock's studio |
| 20 | Photographic print | n.d. | P.P. [Phebe P.?] Willis' house, Westbury, NY |
| 21 | Photographic print | n.d. | P.P.W. [at Westbury home?]. Photograph by B.J. Smith, 747 Broadway, NY |
| 22 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1870s | Portrait of S. [Samuel?] Willis |
| 23 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1870s | Portrait of S. [Samuel?] Willis |
| 24 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1870s | Portrait of S. [Samuel?] Willis |
| 25 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1870s | Portrait of S. [Samuel?] Willis |
| 26 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1870s | Portrait of S. [Samuel?] Willis |
| 27 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1870s | Portrait of S. [Samuel?] Willis |
| 28 | Photographic print | c.1860s-1870s | Portrait of S. [Samuel?] Willis |
| 29 | Photographic print | c. 19 th century | House – Jericho, NY |

(Separated to Image Collection Box 21)

Postcard, c. 19th century - Friends' Meeting House and Seminary, New York, NY

Box 4

Photo album – Post Family, c. 1860s-1890s

Box 5

Artifact – Carriage Box, n.d.

Box 6

Artifact - Bonnet of Esther Robbins – made by “H.A Ward, Plain on Bonnet Maker, No. 67 Madison-St, (Near Catharine,) New-York,” n.d.

Box 7

Artifact - Bonnet box for bonnet of Esther Robbins, n.d.