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1975-29

GEORGE FROST (FROST) FAMILY COLLECTION  
 (1701-1845)  
 DURHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
 ACCESSION #75-29

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Lauren H. Wolley  
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## GEORGE FROST (FfROST) FAMILY COLLECTION (1701-1845)

Durham, New Hampshire

The Frost Papers (1701-1845) contain both the business and personal records of George Frost (1720-1796) and his son George Jr. (1765-1841). The Frost business records are made up of shipping accounts and correspondence, store, mill, and farm accounts, business correspondence, deeds and legal documents. Personal Papers contain family accounts, personal correspondence and tax receipts. There is one item, a "pockitt book", dated 1704-1712, that belonged to John Frost, father of George Frost and is located at the beginning of the Personal Papers.

Harvard Business School's Baker Library also houses a Frost Business Collection (1759-1884) which contains records of general store and other mercantile accounts kept by George Frost Jr. and his sons George and William Frost.

The Frost Papers were given to the Historical Society in 1975 by Charles Henry Sawyer and George Frost Sawyer who are directly descended from George Frost.

## GEORGE FROST (1720-1796)

## Biographic Sketch

The elder George Frost was born in Newcastle, New Hampshire July 26, 1720. As a young man he married widow Mary Richards who died October 10, 1757 leaving no children. In 1760 George married a second time to the widow Margaret Weeks Smith (1729-1816) and raised a family of four children, George Jr., Mary, Martha Wentworth, and Col. John.

George Frost received an education from his Uncle the Rev. John Blunt. Upon completion of his education he entered the counting house of his Uncle Sir William Pepperrell and soon became supercargo and captain of one of his uncle's vessels, Flying Fish in 1740. Frost was a merchant for twenty years. From 1760-1770 he lived on his farm at Rye, New Hampshire and resided there until 1779 when he moved to Durham, New Hampshire. Following the organization of Strafford County he was appointed Associate Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and held office until 1791. He was appointed Justice of the Peace in 1768 and served as Judge from 1773-1791. George was a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1777, 1778 and 1789, Councillor in New Hampshire 1780-1784, moderator of the Durham New Hampshire town meetings 1775-1777, 1779, 1781, 1789, and Selectman of Durham in 1776 and 1781. He was delegate to the Fourth Provincial Congress convened at Exeter, May 17, 1775 and was also a member of the town's Committee of Correspondence. He died at Lubberland on Great Bay June 21, 1796.

## GEORGE FROST JR. (1765-1841)

## Biographic Sketch

George Frost Jr. born December 3, 1765, married Margaret Burleigh (1770-1846) of Newmarket, New Hampshire and had four children named Mehitable Sheafe, George, William Pepperrell, and Elizabeth. George Jr. was also a merchant, magistrate, and farmed extensively throughout

his lifetime. In 1807 he was representative from Durham to the New Hampshire Legislature. He served as the fourth Postmaster of Durham, appointed July 1, 1808. He served in Captain Alfred Smith's company of militia during the War of 1812 and was moderator of the town meetings at Durham from 1812-1814 and 1828. In 1800 he purchased of Jonathan Woodman the Valentine Hill house, erected in 1749 in Durham, N.H. George Frost died on April 10, 1841.

The Frost Collection is arranged chronologically into two series; eighteenth and nineteenth century Business Papers and eighteenth and nineteenth century Personal Papers.

The following sub-series of Business Papers are; the shipping correspondence and accounts, farm accounts, deeds and general business correspondence of George Frost and George Jr. and the store, mill and legal documents of George Jr.

Shipping accounts include all bills, receipts and invoices as well as two ships logs dated 1757 which reveal general expenses of voyages made, cargo bought and sold, and weather reports kept during that year. Legal documents include estate papers, wills, official records of land purchases and sales and various lawsuits involving patrons of George Jr's store in Northwood, New Hampshire.

Series Two, eighteenth and nineteenth century Personal Papers, is divided into the personal accounts, personal correspondence and tax receipts of both George Frost and George Jr.

Personal Correspondence contains two letters from William Plumer dated 1821 and 1825 and a eulogy to Henry Mellen written sometime after July 1809.

A genealogy of the Frost Family can be found at the beginning of the collection.

Reference material pertaining to the Frost Family can be found in the following books.

Fairchild, Byron, Messrs. William Pepperrell, N.Y., Cornell Univ. Press, 1954.

Frost, John Eldridge, The Nicholas Frost Family, N.H., Cabinet Press, 1943.

Frost, Norman Seaver, The Frost Genealogy in Five Families, Mass., Frost Family Association of America, 1926.

Lovett, Robert W., "A Tidewater Merchant in New Hampshire", The Business History Review, Vol. XXXIII, No. 1, 1959.

## INVENTORY

Business Papers  
Shipping Correspondence

## Box 1

Folder 1	June 1746- 25 Nov. 1749
Folder 2	Jan. 1750- 19 Nov. 1750
Folder 3	8 March 1751 - 14 Nov. 1753
Folder 4	Jan. - Dec. 1755
Folder 5	12 Jan. 1756 - 7 June 1757
Folder 6	26 April 1760 - 4 Aug. 1791

## Shipping Accounts

Folder 7	1734 - 1739	Flying Fish
Folder 8	1740 - 1745	"
Folder 9	1746	"
Folder 10	1748	"
Folder 11	1749	"
Folder 12	1750	"

## Box 2

## Shipping Accounts Cont'd

Folder 13	1751	Flying Fish, Molly, Betsy
Folder 14	1752	"
Folder 15	1753	"
Folder 16	1754	"
Folder 17	1755	Lovely Lass
Folder 18	1756	Richard, Lion
Folder 1, 2A	1757	Lion
Folder 2	1758	"
Folder 3	1759	"
Folder 4	1760 - 1763	"
Folder 5	1766 - 1768	"
Folder 6	1782 - 1792	Accounts - General
Folder 7	1749 - 1757	wages - receipts

## BUSINESS PAPERS CONT'D

## Store Accounts

Box	<b>2</b>		
	Folder	<b>8</b>	1750 - 1769
	Folder	<b>9</b>	1770 - 1773
	Folder	<b>10</b>	1775 - 1786
	Folder	<b>11</b>	1787 - 1790
	Folder	<b>12</b>	1791 - 1792
	Folder	<b>13</b>	1793 - 1794
	Folder	<b>14</b>	1795 - 1796
	Folder	<b>15</b>	1797 - 1800
	Folder	<b>16</b>	1801 - 1819
	Folder	<b>17</b>	1820 - 1841
	Folder	<b>18</b>	undated material
	Folder	<b>19</b>	undated material

## Store, Mill, Farm Accounts

Box	<b>3</b>		
	Folder	1	Northwood Store 1791 - 1800
	Folder	2	Lamphrey River Mills 1772 - 1792
	Folder	3	Farm Accounts 1746 - 1767
	Folder	4	Farm Accounts 1768 - 1801

## Business Correspondence

Folder	5	1760 - 1820
Folder	6	1821 - 1839

## Legal Documents

## Lawsuits

Folder	7	1771 - 1775
Folder	8	1796 - 1800
Folder	9	1801 - 1836

## Legal Documents

## George Frost

Folder	10	1771 - 1810
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## BUSINESS PAPERS CONT'D

Legal Documents

Land Docs.

Box 3, Folder 11 1776 - 1887

Legal Documents

General

Folder 12 1787 - 1835

Legal Documents

Undated

Folder 13 not dated material

Box 4

Estates, Deeds

Folder 1 John Burleigh estate papers  
1763 - 1779

Folder 2 John Burleigh estate papers cont'd  
1782 - 1789

Folder 3 John Burleigh estate papers cont'd  
1790 - 1799

Folder 4 Henry and Mehitable Burleigh estate papers  
1800 - 1812

Folder 5 John, Henry, Mehitable Burleigh  
no date

Folder 6 George Frost (1720 - 1796) estate papers  
1794 - 1803

Folder 7 Ebenezer and John Smith estate papers  
1749 - 1785

Folder 8 Clough and Ayers estate papers  
1794 - 1808

Folder 9 1740 - 1788 Deeds Durham, Northwood, Ports-  
mouth, Sanbornton, Gilman-  
ton.

Folder 10 1790 - 1794 Deeds Durham, Northwood, Ports-  
mouth, Pittsfield, Hampton  
Chichester, Greenland.

Folder 11 1795 - 1799 Deeds Durham, Northwood, Dover  
Pittsfield.

Folder 12 1800 - 1805 Deeds Northwood, Durham, Ports-  
mouth, Exeter, Newmarket.

Folder 13 1806 - 1810 Deeds Durham, Northwood, Dover  
Barnstead, Pittsfield.

Folder 14 1811 - 1826 Deeds Durham, Northwood, Ports-  
mouth, Gilman, Newcastle  
Barrington.



CARDS FOR CATALOG

Names

Subjects

Burleigh, Henry	Accounts
Burleigh, John	Lumbering
Burleigh, Mehitable	Merchants
Frost, George (1720-1796)	Newfoundland
Frost, George Jr. (b.1765)	Shipping
Pepperrell, William	Ships: Flying Fish Lovely Lass Richard Lion
Plumer, William	West Indies

Towns

Durham  
Newcastle  
New Market  
Northwood  
Rye