

# Guide to the Doolittle Family Papers

MS 961



compiled by John Espy

September 1983

Yale University Library  
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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 961

**CREATOR:** Doolittle family

**TITLE:** Doolittle family papers

**DATES:** 1687-1859

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2.5 linear feet (2 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Legal and financial papers, deeds, and correspondence concerning the Doolittle family of Cheshire, Connecticut. Also included are prints engraved by Amos Doolittle, who settled in New Haven. Many of the papers concern Andrew Hull, a member of the Connecticut legislature.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0961>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0961>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from Hurwitz in 1946.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Doolittle Family Papers (MS 961). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Inventory

For a listing of collection contents, please consult the [Collection Inventory](#).

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## Biographical / Historical

Amos Doolittle: engraver; born in Cheshire but lived most of his adult life in New Haven, Conn.; charter member of the Governor's Foot Guard; worked also as a silversmith; one of his principal works was an engraving entitled "Display of the United States of America."

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## Scope and Contents

This is a collection of papers, mostly legal and financial, concerning the Doolittle family of Cheshire, Connecticut; and of prints engraved by Amos Doolittle, who settled in New Haven. The nineteen different prints include a late version of one of the famous "Battle of Lexington" series, and a complete set of the "Prodigal Son" prints. There is also one engraving plate.

The family papers are mostly deeds and wills concerning Cheshire, Connecticut; these include a survey of land, 1687 Oct 23, a plan for a highway, 1737 Sept. 23, and 49 deeds. There are only three items of correspondence. A principal figure in the papers is Andrew Hull (1754-1824); for information about him, and a more detailed description of the family papers, see the appendix to this register, which consists of obsolete catalog cards.

Further engravings by Amos Doolittle are in Miscellaneous MSS (Sattig Collection) and at the Yale Art Gallery, a copy of a lease signed by him is in Miscellaneous MSS (Freemasons Miscellaneous), and printed material about him is at the Beinecke Rare Book Library.

The papers were purchased from Hurwitz in July 1946, at least partly with the help of C. Sanford Bull.

## Collection Contents

### Inventory, 1687-(1778-1859)

b. 1, f. 8-12	Legal and financial papers	1687-1850, undated
b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence	1798, 1832-1834
b. 1, f. 2-7	Deeds	1760-1859
b. 1, f. 13	Miscellaneous papers: lottery ticket, recipe for green dye, Constitution of the Female Beneficent Society	1781, undated
b. 1, f. 14	List of engravings by Amos Doolittle, compiled by Everett Hale Whitlock A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1954
b. 2, f. 15	Oversize papers: deed, estate inventory, property map	1811-1821, undated
Engravings by Amos Doolittle		
b. 2, f. 16	The Prodigal Son	1814
b. 2, f. 17	Certificates	undated
b. 2, f. 18	Bookplates (one with engraving plate), banknotes	undated
b. 2, f. 19	Battle of Lexington	1832
b. 2, f. 19	George Washington, with Benjamin Trumbull's <i>Funeral Discourse</i>	[1800?]
b. 2, f. 19	Alexander I	undated

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## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Families

### **Geographic Names**

Cheshire (Conn.)

### **Genres / Formats**

Deeds

Engravings (prints)

### **Occupations**

Engravers

### **Names**

Doolittle, Amos, 1754-1832

Hull, Andrew

### **Families**

Doolittle family