

Gretchen Holbrook Gerzina Research Collection PVMA Library

Professor Gretchen Gerzina, and her husband, Anthony, spent hundreds of hours researching her book *Mr. and Mrs. Prince: How an Extraordinary 18th-Century Family Moved Out of Slavery and Into Legend* (New York: Harper Collins, 2008) in the PVMA library's collection of manuscripts, account books, and daybooks. Lucy Terry (later Prince) lived with the Wells family on Old Deerfield's main street as an enslaved servant until her marriage to Abijah Prince in 1756. Although unpublished, she is known as the first African American poet. Abijah Prince lived much of his life as a slave in Northfield, Massachusetts. He served in the French and Indian wars of the 1740s and became a free man and entrepreneur. These two former slaves married, became property owners, and original settlers of Vermont.

The Gerzina's research files that supported the writing of her remarkable book were donated to the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association in 2015. They contain notes and photocopies of materials researched here and elsewhere, and supplement the contents of *Mr. and Mrs. Prince*.

Research Notes Container List

Box 1

Libraries, historical societies, general materials
Library materials
Account books
Memoir of Mrs. Chloe Spear
[Research on other African Americans]
New England slavery
Military
Slaves in Deerfield
Religion
French & Indian Wars, 1744-48 (King George's War)
Census
Material culture
Governor & Council, 1785
Calendars, chronology

Box 2: Individual Research files

Josiah Prince
Ebenezer Hunt
Doolittle family papers
Doolittle family
Hugh Hall
Williams (2 folders)
Williams, Stephen
Samuel Terry, Jr.
Samuel Terry, Sr.

Benning Wentworth
Wells family
Jonathan Ashley
Burt family
Field family
Abijah Prince
Royall Tyler/S.R. Bradley
Festus
Lucy
Caleb Sharp
Jeffrey Brace
Ralph Way
Ethan Allen
Scipio Smith
Hebert Honestman
Quack, Samuel Boston
Hull, Amos & Agrippa
Abijah Prince, Jr.
Drucilla Prince
Tatnai Prince
Duroxa
Noyes family
Brownson
Isaac Searler
Caesar
Oliver Waters and co-conspirators
David Proper
Other Princes
Daisy Turner
Peter Thomas / Stephen Pellom

Box 3

Author's galleys and manuscript of *Mr. and Mrs. Prince*
Several proof copies of book's dustjacket