PENOBSCOT MARINE MUSEUM

Inventory for Manuscript Collection

PMM 83 Otis Harriman Survey Books

1762-1868 Bulk 1840-1868

½ box .5 linear feet Accession No. LB1999.43

Stephen Phillips Memorial Library

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PMM 83 Otis Harriman Survey Books

Harriman, Otis, 1815-1888

Survey books, 1762-1868

½ box (.5 linear feet)

Land surveyor and farmer from Prospect, Maine.

Eight surveyor's notebooks for towns in Waldo and Hancock County, Maine. Six are from surveyor Otis Harriman, containing notes on his surveys of land in Prospect and Stockton, Maine, in the mid nineteenth century. The other two predate Harriman. One contains notes on one the first European surveys of the area: a 1762 survey of townships along the Penobscot River granted to David Marsh, covering land later in Bucksport, Orland, Penobscot, Sedgewick, Blue Hill, and Surrey. The last volume contains a survey of Belfast taken in the 1790s.

In English

Roger Harriman; Gift; 1999; LB1999.43 Finding aid available; folder level control

Subject Headings:

Harriman, Otis, 1815-1888

Maine--Surveys

Surveyors

Surveys

Prospect (Me.)

Stockton (Me.)

Belfast (Me.)

Bucksport (Me.)

Acquisition:

These volumes were donated to the Penobscot Marine Museum by Roger Harriman.

Restrictions

This collection is open for research. No special restrictions apply.

Condition:

This collection is mostly in good condition, with wear commensurate with age and use.

Historical Note:

Otis Harriman (1815-1888) was a land surveyor and farmer who lived in Prospect, Maine. Harriman was most active as a surveyor between 1840 and 1870, working primarily in Prospect but surveying land throughout Waldo County as needed. Prospect itself became three towns during this period, as Searsport was formed from the western part of town in 1845 and Stockton from the southern part in 1857.

Two of the volumes in this collection predate Harriman. One is from the one of the earliest formal European surveys of the Penobscot River valley, encompassing six townships on the east side of the Penobscot River (later, Bucksport, Orland, Penobscot, Sedgewick, Blue Hill, and Surrey) which had been granted to a group of Massachusetts and New Hampshire proprietors headed by David Marsh. This survey was made in 1762, when Jonathan Buck led

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an early group of European settlers to settle on that claim. The other is an early survey of the town of Belfast.

Scope and Content:

This collection contains eight surveyor's notebooks for towns in Waldo and Hancock County, Maine. Six of them are from Otis Harriman, covering surveys in Prospect, Stockton, and nearby towns, 1840-1868. These mention land owners, types of holdings, natural features, vegetation and ecosystems, and, in brief notes, anything else relevant to the land survey.

The other two survey books were apparently collected, at some point, by the Harriman family. One is a 1762 field book for a survey of the six townships east of the Penobscot River that were granted to David Marsh in that year, surveyed by Benjamin Johnson and David Trott. This is one of the first European surveys of the lands that became the towns of Bucksport, Orland, Penobscot, Sedgewick, Blue Hill, and Surrey. The other is a survey book of the town of Belfast, including lands around the Goose River east of the Passagassawakeag, taken between 1794 and 1801 by surveyors John Cochran and Alex Clark.

Box and Folder List:

Box Folder

- 1 1 Field book, survey of the six townships granted to David Marsh, 1762, by Benjamin Johnson and David Trott
 - Surveys of Belfast, 1794-1801, by John Cochran and Alex Clark
 - 2 Surveys by Otis Harriman, July 1840
 - Surveys by Otis Harriman, September November 1840
 - 3 Surveys by Otis Harriman, 1853-1858
 - Surveys by Otis Harriman, 1855-1858
 - 4 Surveys by Otis Harriman, 1858-1861 Surveys by Otis Harriman, 1865-1868

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