The Winthrop Papers

A project of the Massachusetts Historical Society

The Winthrop Papers project is intended to continue the publication of historically significant papers relating to the Winthrop family. Winthrop materials in the collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society include a range of correspondence, commonplace books, printed works, maps, legal documents, portraits, artifacts, and photographs spanning the family’s history from fifteenth century England to twentieth century America.

Publication of the modern edition of Winthrop Papers began in 1929 and has to date resulted in the issuance of six volumes of family correspondence down to the year 1653. Under the current editorship of Dr. Francis J. Bremer of Millersville University future publication plans include

- continuation of volumes of correspondence that will conclude with the period of the American Revolution. Editing of the next volumes in this series is being undertaken by Dr. Mark Peterson of the University of Iowa and Dr. Alison Games of Georgetown University.

- a second series of volumes that will feature other documents and be topically organized. These will include a volume of Religious Writings, a collection of Legal Papers, and The Medical Notebooks of John Winthrop Jr.

Also of interest is Richard S. Dunn’s recent edition of John Winthrop’s Journal, which has been issued by Harvard University Press. A new page leads you to information about some of the special events and courses that commemorated the 350th anniversary of the death of John Winthrop.

Through this site at Millersville University we are also making available:

Copies of the Groton Gazette, the Winthrop Papers Newsletter:

- issue 1
- issue 2
- issue 3
- issue 4
- issue 5

Electronic seminars on puritanism and on the history of the Atlantic world in the 16th through 18th centuries will be run through the Winthrop Papers Project. These seminars will feature academic papers and opportunities to engage in chat sessions with the authors.

Draft transcriptions of some of the Winthrop material currently being worked on are accessible in the Winthrop Papers Web Archive.