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Joshua Child Collection

2003.011

Processed by Nasrin Rohani &
William F. Carroll, CA
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Series	Subseries	Page	Box
	Collection Information	3	
	Historical/Biographical Notes	4	
	Scope and Content	4	
	Series Description	4	
1	Tax Warrants	5	1, 2
2	Joshua Child Accounts	7	1
3	Tax Lists and Assessments	8	1
4	Deeds	9	1, 2
5	Receipts	12	1
6	Miscellaneous Legal Documents	14	1, 2
7	Miscellaneous	15	1, 2

Collection Information

Abstract : Joshua Child, descendant of Ephraim Child who came to Watertown in 1630, was a Lincoln constable, selectman, and held other municipal duties. By trade he was a farmer, weaver, and trader. Collection reflects family financial affairs and official business as constable.

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository.

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Provenance : In part deposit by Lincoln Historical Society; in part provenance unknown.

MARC Access: Collection is catalogued in MARC under the following subject headings (lcsb, aat, gmgpc, etc.)

Lincoln (Mass. : Town) -- Politics and government.
Lincoln (Mass. : Town) -- Officials and employees.
Lincoln (Mass.) -- History.
Public records -- Massachusetts -- Lincoln (Town). lcsb
Deeds -- Massachusetts -- Lincoln. aat
Warrants -- Massachusetts -- Lincoln (Town). aat
Tax records -- Massachusetts -- Lincoln (Town). aat
Indentures -- Massachusetts -- Lincoln.
Taxation -- Massachusetts -- Lincoln (Town).
Tax collection -- Massachusetts -- Lincoln (Town).
Finance, Public -- Massachusetts -- Lincoln (Town).
Real property -- Massachusetts -- Lincoln.
Child, Joshua, 1749-1822.
Child, Joshua, d.1778.
Child family.
Childs family.

Historical/Biographical Notes

Joshua Child (1716-1778) was born in Watertown, Massachusetts. He was a son of Daniel Child and Beriah Bemis and a descendent of Ephraim Child, who came from Great Britain to America on 1630 and became one of the first Deacons of the church in Watertown. Joshua married Grace Bemis in 1742 and they had eight children. In 1750 Joshua bought a small farmstead (thirteen acres in Concord, in an area that would become part of Lincoln in 1754) from his brother Elisha (Elijah) who was a blacksmith. Joshua and his descendants lived in Lincoln for over a century. Joshua Child described himself as a "yeoman". He worked as a farmer, weaver, and trader and served as a constable and selectman for the Town of Lincoln. His farm was among the smallest and least valuable homesteads in Lincoln. Two of his sons, Daniel and Joshua Jr., served as Lincoln Minute Men at Concord's North Bridge on April 19, 1775. His grandson, Judge Joshua III, born in 1785, was one of the first Lincoln natives to make a fortune elsewhere and return home to Lincoln in 1832. The bulk of Joshua Child's farm was sold in 1838 to neighbor William Francis Wheeler.

Scope and Content

The collection comprises deeds, wills, correspondence, and other financial and legal documents from the mid 18th to the mid 19th century that relates to the Child family. County and town tax warrants and tax lists are included since Joshua Child served as a constable and selectmen for the town. The documents in this collection show how the Child family supported itself prior to the Revolution. The records chronicle the family's farming, weaving, and trading in the agriculturally based economy of Colonial Lincoln. Of the 122 items in the collection, only 30 items are from the 19th century.

Series Description

Series 1: Tax Warrants, 1761-1787. (50 items)

Series 2: Joshua Child Accounts, 1764-1776. (6 items)

Series 3: Tax Lists and Assessments, 1762-1787. (7 items)

Series 4: Deeds, 1720-1821. (19 items)

Series 5: Receipts, 1744-1828. (25 items)

Series 6: Miscellaneous Legal Documents, 1765-1865. (5 items)

Series 7: Miscellaneous, 1806-1834. (7 items)

Joshua Child Collection
2003.011
Series 1, Tax warrants

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2003.011.1.1	County and town tax warrant to Joshua Child : manuscript / December 1, 1761. [Accessioned as 1982.47.4]
1	2	2003.011.1.2	County and town tax warrant to Joshua Child : manuscript / November 23, 1762.. [Accessioned as 1982.47.2]
1	3	2003.011.1.3	County and town tax warrant to Joshua Child : manuscript / December 1, 1763. [Accessioned as 1982.47.3]
1	4	2003.011.1.4	Town tax warrant to Joshua Child : manuscript / November 20, 1765. [Accessioned as 1982.47.6]
1	5	2003.011.1.5	County and town tax warrant to Joshua Child : manuscript / November 14, 1766. [Accessioned as 1982.47.5]
1	6	2003.011.1.6	Town tax warrant to Joshua Child : manuscript / December 24, 1767. [Accessioned as 1982.47.7]
1	7	2003.011.1.7	County tax warrant to Joshua Child : manuscript / December 19, 1768. [Accessioned as 1982.47.8]
1	8	2003.011.1.8	Highway tax warrant list to Zachariah Weston, Surveyor of Highways : manuscript / April 6, 1768.
1	9	2003.011.1.9	County tax warrant to Joshua Child : manuscript / December 16, 1769. [Accessioned as 1982.47.11]

Series 1, continued

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| 1 | 10 | 2003.011.1.10 County tax warrant to Joshua Child : manuscript /
December 31, 1770. [Accessioned
as 1982.47.10] |
| 1 | 11 | 2003.011.1.11 Town tax warrant to Joshua Child for the southerly part of
Lincoln : manuscript / December 31, 1770. [Accessioned
as 1982.47.12] |
| 1 | 12 | 2003.011.1.12 Assessors warrant to collect taxes : manuscript / August 13,
1781. |
| 2 | OVS | 2003.011.1.13 Commonwealth of Massachusetts tax warrant to Joshua
Child : print and manuscript / June 25, 1781. |
| 1 | 13 | 2003.011.1.14 Assessors warrant to collect taxes : manuscript / February
12, 1782. |
| 1 | 14 | 2003.011.1.15-.38 Town of Lincoln receipts for tax payments :
manuscript / 1762-1768.
(24 items) |
| 1 | 15 | 2003.011.1.39 Highway tax warrant to Joshua Child : manuscript / May
29, 1787. |
| 1 | 16 | 2003.011.1.40-.50 Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Town of
Lincoln Treasurer receipts / mostly manuscript.
(11 items) |

Joshua Child Collection
2003.011
Series 2, Joshua Child Accounts

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	17	2003.011.2.1	Joshua Child account book A : manuscript in binder / 1764-1766. [Accessioned as 1982.45.1]
1	18	2003.011.2.2	Joshua Child account book B : manuscript in binder / 1765-1768. [Accessioned as 1982.45.2]
1	19	2003.011.2.3	Joshua Child account book C : manuscript in binder / 1767-1773. [Accessioned as 1982.45.3]
1	20	2003.011.2.4	Joshua Child account book D : manuscript in binder / 1768-1770. [Accessioned as 1982.45.4]
1	21	2003.011.2.5	Joshua Child account book E : manuscript in binder / 1769-1772. [Accessioned as 1982.45.5]
1	22	2003.011.2.6	Joshua Child account book F : manuscript in binder / 1768-1776. [Accessioned as 1982.45.6]

Joshua Child Collection
2003.011
Series 3, Tax Lists and Assessments

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	23	2003.011.3.1	Joshua Child tax list - North list : manuscript in binder / 1762. [Accessioned as 1982.46.3]
1	24	2003.011.3.2	Joshua Child tax list - North list, fragments of 1769, receipts of 1770 : manuscript in binder. [Accessioned as 1982.46.1]
1	25	2003.011.3.3	Joshua Child tax list - South list : manuscript in binder / n.d. (ca. 1770) [Accessioned as 1982.46.2]
1	26	2003.011.3.4	Joshua Child highway tax list : manuscript in binder / 1772. [Accessioned as 1982.46.7]
1	27	2003.011.3.5	Joshua Child tax list - North list, with warrant : manuscript in binder / 1776. [Accessioned as 1982.46.5]
1	28	2003.011.3.6	Joshua Child tax list for Ordination tax : manuscript in binder / 1781. [Accessioned as 1982.46.4]
1	29	2003.011.3.7	Joshua Child tax list and highway tax list : manuscript in binder / 1787. [Accessioned as 1982.46.6]

Joshua Child Collection
2003.011
Series 4, Deeds

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	30	2003.011.4.1	Deed from Ebenezer Wellington to Joseph Stratten for 10 acres land in Watertown, in consideration of 50£; reverse used by Joshua Child for tax calculations : manuscript / deed dated July 20, 1720. [Accessioned as 1982.47.1]
1	31	2003.011.4.2	Deed from Jonathan Stearns to Joshua Child for 60 acres land in Township #2, in consideration of 80£ : manuscript / February 9, 1836-7. [Accessioned as 1982.48.1]
1	32	2003.011.4.3	Mortgage deed from Joshua Child to Edmund Wheeler for 10 acres land and buildings in Lincoln, and another ½ acre land in consideration of 73£ 17/ 4p. : manuscript / April 25, 1768. [Accessioned as 1982.48.7]
1	33	2003.011.4.4	Deed from Enoch Brooks et ux. to Joshua Child for 27+ acres woodland and mowing in Lincoln, in consideration of 147£ : manuscript / April 25, 1768. [Accessioned as 1982.48.8]
1	33	2003.011.4.4a	Plan of land in Lincoln conveyed from Brooks to Child, April 25, 1768 : manuscript / April 25, 1766. [Accessioned as 1982.48.9]
1	34	2003.011.4.5	Deed from Eleazer Brooks to Joshua Child for 5 acres upland in Lincoln : manuscript / May 1773. [Accessioned as 1982.48.10]
1	35	2003.011.4.6	Deed from Joshua Child, Sr. to Joshua Child, Jr. for 38 acres land in Lincoln, in consideration of 53£ : manuscript / April 21, 1774. [Accessioned as 1982.48.12]

Series 4, continued

1	35	2003.011.4.6a	Lease of land from Joshua Child Jr. to Joshua Child Sr. for 38 acres land in Lincoln, in consideration of 26£ : manuscript / April 21, 1774. [Accessioned as 1982.48.13]
1	36	2003.011.4.7	Quitclaim deed of Grace Child, widow of Joshua Child, [et al.], for dower rights and share of the estate to Joshua Child Jr. : manuscript / April 13, 1781. [Accessioned as 1982.48.14]
1	37	2003.011.4.8	Deed from John Adams to Joshua Child (Jr.) for 4 acres land in Lincoln in consideration of 29£ : manuscript / March 29, 1782. [Accessioned as 1982.48.16]
1	38	2003.011.4.9	Deed from Oliver Mann to Joshua Child for 42 acres land in Lincoln, in consideration of 190£ : manuscript / July 25, 1785. [Accessioned as 1982.48.15]
1	39	2003.011.4.10	Deed from Oliver Mann to Joshua Child for 7 acres land with dwelling, barn, and cooper shop, in consideration of 120£ : manuscript / May 8, 1784. [Accessioned as 1982.48.17]
1	40	2003.011.4.11	Quitclaim deed from Elijah Child to Joshua Child for share of father's estate, in consideration of 9£ : manuscript / April 24, 1790. [Accessioned as 1982.48.19]
1	41	2003.011.4.12	Deed of Joshua Child to Joseph Adams for 24 acres land, barn, and part of a dwelling, in consideration of 160£ : manuscript / December 12, 1791. [Accessioned as 1982.48.18]
2	OVS	2003.011.4.13	Deed of Jonathan Hammond to Joshua Child for two third parts of James Priest estate in Waltham, in consideration of 126£:manuscript/ April 1, 1792. [Accessioned as 1982.48.20]

Series 4, continued

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| 1 | 42 | 2003.011.4.14 Deed of Bulkley Adams to Joshua Child for 17 acres land in Lincoln, in consideration of 78£ : manuscript / February 18, 1794. [Accessioned as 1982.48.21] |
| 1 | 43 | 2003.011.4.15 Quitclaim deed of Daniel Child [et al.] to Joshua Child for 17 acres land in Lincoln, in consideration of \$607 : manuscript / November 8, 1800. [Accessioned as 1982.49.2] |
| 1 | 44 | 2003.011.4.16 Deed of Nathaniel Call to Joshua Child for land and building in Lincoln, in consideration of \$450 : manuscript / October 26, 1801. [Accessioned as 1982.49.1] |
| 1 | 45 | 2003.011.4.17 Deed of Joshua Child to John Child for land in Lincoln, in consideration of \$100 : manuscript / March 28, 1808.[Accessioned as 1982.49.3] |
| 1 | 46 | 2003.011.4.18 Plan of land conveyed by Capt. Joshua Brooks to Joshua Child : manuscript / 1810. [Accessioned as 1982.48.11] |
| 1 | 47 | 2003.011.4.19 Deed of Joshua Child to John Child [et al.], his children for 50 acres land and buildings (home lot), and other land in Lincoln, no monetary consideration : manuscript / December 14, 1821. [Accessioned as 1982.49.4] |

2003.011
Series 5, Receipts

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	48	2003.011.5.1	Joshua Child receipt to Jenison for medicines / 1744.
1	48	2003.011.5.2	Joshua Child receipt to Abel Prescott / 1745.
1	48	2003.011.5.3	Receipt to Jonathan Hammond for funeral charges / 1760. [Accessioned as 1982.48.2]
1	48	2003.011.5.4	Receipt to Jonathan Hammond / 1763. [Accessioned as 1982.48.3]
1	48	2003.011.5.5	Receipt to Joseph Colbura (?) / 1782.
1	48	2003.011.5.6	Timothy Wesson receipt to Joshua Child / 1784.
1	48	2003.011.5.7	Jacob Foster receipt to Joshua Child / 1785. [Accessioned as 1982.49.17]
1	48	2003.011.5.8	Grosvenor Tarbell receipt to Joshua Child / 1790.
1	48	2003.011.5.9	Receipt to Joshua Child for coffin / 1800.
1	48	2003.011.5.10	Nathan Brown receipt to Joshua Child / 1802.
1	48	2003.011.5.11	Paul Raymond and John Esty receipt to Joshua Child / 1807. [Accessioned as 1982.49.8]
1	48	2003.011.5.12	Receipt to John Child / 1822. [Accessioned as 1982.49.8]
1	48	2003.011.5.13	Martha Billings receipt to Mary Childs / 1826. [Accessioned as 1982.49.8]
1	48	2003.011.5.14	Mary and Betsy Child receipt to Dr. George Russell / 1826. [Accessioned as 1982.49.8]
1	48	2003.011.5.15	Mary Child receipt to Dr. Russell / 1829. [Accessioned as 1982.49.8]

Series 5, continued

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| 1 | 48 | 2003.011.5.16 Elizabeth Child receipt to Dr. Russell / 1830. |
| 1 | 48 | 2003.011.5.17 Elizabeth Child receipt to Josiah Bartlett / 1830.
[Accessioned as 1982.48.8] |
| 1 | 48 | 2003.011.5.18 Receipt for provisions, signed Henry Rice / 1833.
[Accessioned as 1982.49.8] |
| 1 | 48 | 2003.011.5.19 Receipt of Mary and Elizabeth Child to Henry Rice /
1836.[Accessioned as 1982.49.7] |
| 1 | 48 | 2003.011.5.20 Receipt of Mary Child for taxes / 1848.
[Accessioned as 1982.49.8] |
| 1 | 48 | 2003.011.5.21 Funeral charges and receipts list / n.d. |
| 1 | 48 | 2003.011.5.22 Bill to John Child for taxes / 1824. |
| 1 | 48 | 2003.011.5.23a-b Bill for taxes assessed against Mary and Betsey
Child /1826. [Accessioned as 1982.49.8]
(2 copies with different dates) |
| 1 | 48 | 2003.011.5.24 Bill for taxes assessed against Mary and Betsey Child /
1827. |
| 1 | 48 | 2003.011.5.25 Bill for taxes assessed against Mary and Betsey Child /
1828. [Accessioned as 1982.49.8] |

Joshua Child Collection
2003.011
Series 6, Miscellaneous Legal Documents

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	49	2003.011.6.1a-b	Appointment of Joshua Child as Guardian of Elisha Child and William Child, children of Elisha Child, deceased : manuscript / October 1765. (2 copies) [Accessioned as 1982.48.5]
2	OVS	2003.011.6.2	Will of Jonathan Hammond, Waltham : manuscript / February 27, 1776. [Accessioned as 1982.48.4]
1	50	2003.011.6.3	Arrest warrant for Abraham Wesson for debts : manuscript / June 9, 1769.
1	51	2003.011.6.4	Court order to Ephraim Wesson to pay debt to Joshua Child : manuscript / March 8, 1790.
2	OVS	2003.011.6.5	Copy of will of Mary Child : manuscript / December 12, 1865. [Accessioned as 1982.49.15]

Joshua Child Collection
2003.011
Series 7, Miscellaneous

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Identification #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	52	2003.011.7.1	Quarter bill for expenses at Harvard College for Joshua Child : print and manuscript / October 2, 1806. [Accessioned as 1982.49.16]
2	OVS	2003.011.7.2a	Letter from Joshua Child to John Child : manuscript / September 13, 1812. [Accessioned as 1982.49.10]
2	OVS	2003.011.7.2b	Letter from Joshua Child to John Child : manuscript / February 14, 1812. [Accessioned as 1982.49.9]
2	OVS	2003.011.7.3	Letter from G. E. Plummer to Mary and Elizabeth Child : manuscript / May 22, 1834.
2	OVS	2003.011.7.4	Acknowledgment of gift of book to Harvard College to Mary Childs : manuscript and print / Josiah Quincy, President, July 29, 1842.
2	OVS	2003.011.7.5	Letter from Newhalls to Mary and Elizabeth Child : manuscript / September 23, 1847. [Accessioned as 1982.49.14]
1	53	2003.011.7.6	Recipe for dying cotton and lining yarn : manuscript / n.d.
1	54	2003.011.7.7	Recipe for blancmange jelly : manuscript / n.d. [Accessioned as 1982.49.11]