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Online Catalog Headings

Subject Names

Greenway, Joseph

Greenway, Hannah, d. 1810

Subject Topics

Yellow fever--Pennsylvania--Philadelphia--History 18th century--Sources

Document Types

Letters

Account books

Biographical/Historical Notes

Joseph and Hannah Greenway (also spelled Greenaway) were Philadelphia residents with close ties to coastal southern New Jersey, at least through Hannah who was the daughter of Samuel Eldredge (ca. 1730-1796) of Cape May. Joseph Greenway (died 1803) was listed in the 1785 Philadelphia city directory as a cooper on Water Street between South and Lombard, and as a shopkeeper on Water Street between Arch and Market. He moved in later years to 15 Norris's Alley and 89 Arch Street, with his final listing in 1803 on North Second St. In the summer of 1789, Greenway advertised the sale of lands in Cape Island (Cape May; see Evans 21865). Further family information can be gleaned from Joseph Greenway's will, which was written in 1796 and proved in 1803: he left his entire estate to his wife with the exception of the properties on Front and Water streets left to him by his father John Greenway; those properties (including all rental income) were held in reserve for his mother Abigail to use during her natural lifetime. The will was witnessed by two people whose letters are present in the collection, Matthew Nabon and Joseph Watson. Abigail Greenway, a widow, was as living on North Front Street from 1785 through 1801 according to the Philadelphia city directories. Hannah Greenway, relict of Joseph, died on August 30, 1810 at age 52; her death was announced in *Poulson's American Daily Advertiser*.

Collection Overview

The Greenway Family Papers are arranged in two series: Correspondence, and Documents.

Series I, Correspondence (1786-1802) has letters that were written to Joseph or Hannah Greenway, and contain mostly personal content. Topics include Joseph Watson's report of a mad dog and Moses Levy's request for accommodations on his next visit to Philadelphia; Levy's wife appears to be a niece of the Greenways. The letters were sent to the Greenways in various places including Cape May and Woodbury in New Jersey, Tinicum in Pennsylvania, and Georgetown in Delaware, addition to Philadelphia. Many of the writers appear to be