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_The Witches: Salem, 1692_

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Primary Sources for the Events in Salem

Hill, Frances. _The Salem Witch Trials Reader._ Cambridge: Da Capo Press, 2000. A selection of edited sources for understanding the events in Salem, including a manuscript held at the Newberry, a transcription of Robert Roules’s deposition describing a massacre of American Indians at Marblehead, Massachusetts in 1677 (original manuscript call number: VAULT Ayer MS 252). **Call number:** BF1576 .H55 2000

Lawson, Deodat. _Christ’s Fidelity the Only Shield Against Satan’s Malignity. Asserted in a sermon deliver’d at Salem-Village the 24th of March, 1692._ London: R. Tokey, 1704. The second edition of Lawson’s sermon in Salem during the hysteria. An edited edition of the sermon notebook of Salem’s Puritan minister, Samuel Parris, during the witch-hunt is also available (Call number: F 61 .C71 v. 66). **Call number:** Case B 88 .49

Mather, Cotton. _Memorable Providences, Relating to Witchcrafts and Possessions._ Boston: Richard Pierce, 1689. Mather’s account of the possession of the Goodwin children of Boston is thought by some to have inspired “copycats” at Salem. **Call number:** VAULT Case B 8884 .197

Mather, Cotton. _The Wonders of the Invisible World._ London: John Dunton, 1693. The account of the trials and call for continued vigilance against witchcraft by one of the most important Puritan leaders in Massachusetts, rebutted in Robert Calef’s *More Wonders of the Invisible World* (1700, call number Case 3A 978). **Call number:** VAULT Ayer 150.5 .N4 M4 1693

Mather, Increase. _Cases of Conscience Concerning Witchcrafts._ ca. 1693. A partial manuscript, with annotations and contents in Mather’s hand, of his _Cases of Conscience Concerning Evil Spirits…_, published in 1693. This defense of the trials by Cotton Mather’s father nonetheless criticized the use of “spectral evidence” (apparition of witches or spirits in dreams or visions). The manuscript includes Mather’s famous formulation, “It were better that Ten Suspected Witches should escape, than that one Innocent Person should be Condemned.” **Call number:** VAULT Case MS B 8884 .558

Rowlandson, Mary White. *A true history of the captivity & restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson, a minister's wife in New-England*. London: Joseph Poole, 1682. The original American captivity narrative; it was widely read in New England and in England, and such stories contributed to the demonization of American Indians and the fear of evil forces in the wilderness surrounding towns such as Salem. Call number: VAULT Ayer 256 .R88 1682 or VAULT Ruggles 303

**Primary Sources for Witchcraft in the 1600s**

Glanvill, Joseph. *Saducismus Triumphatus, or, Full and Plain Evidence Concerning Witches and Apparitions*. London: F. Collins and S. Lownds, 1681. One of the most influential books on witchcraft at the time, and a major influence on the Mathers. Call number: Case B 88 .3403


Institoris, Heinrich. *Malleus Maleficarum*. Strassburg?: Johann Preuss?, ca. 1484. The famous “Hammer of Witches,” this is the best-known guide for detecting and prosecuting witches. Editions from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries are also held at the Newberry, as well as an English translation and scholarly edition by Christopher Mackay (call number BF1569.A2 I58 2006). Call number: folio Inc. 526

Scot, Reginald. *The Discoverie of Witchcraft*. London: William Brome, 1584. An illustrated argument against the belief in witchcraft, exposing the methods that some conjurers used to fool the gullible. The Newberry also holds editions from 1651 and 1665 as well as a 1930 edition. Call number: Case B 88 .799

*Early English Books Online*. This online database features digital facsimiles of English books, 1475-1700, including hundreds of titles on witchcraft.

American Ancestors. This online genealogical database from the New England Historic Genealogical Society contains a wealth of information on individuals and towns in colonial New England.

To find many other items on Salem in the Newberry collection, search for these subject headings:

“Witchcraft-Massachusetts-Salem”

“Salem (Mass.)-History”

To find many other items on witchcraft in the Newberry collection, search for the subject heading “Witchcraft” and its many geographic, chronological, and topical subdivisions.