

# **Potts family papers**

**01**

**Finding aid prepared by Celia Caust-Ellenbogen and Michael  
Gubicza through the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden  
Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories.**

---

Last updated on November 09, 2012.

Pottsgrove Manor

## Table of Contents

---

Summary Information.....	3
Biography/History.....	3
Scope and Contents.....	4
Administrative Information.....	5
Related Materials.....	6
Controlled Access Headings.....	6

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository</b>	Pottsgrove Manor
<b>Creator</b>	Potts family
<b>Title</b>	Potts family papers
<b>Call number</b>	01
<b>Date</b>	1720-circa 1905
<b>Extent</b>	2 linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English

**Abstract** John Potts (1710-1768), the founder of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, was a prominent business man and ironmaster. Potts married Ruth Savage in 1734 and the couple had 13 children. The Potts family papers, 1720-circa 1905, are comprised of materials relating to the Potts family and their property in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. These materials include account ledgers, deeds, indentures, and family genealogy.

---

## Biography/History

---

John Potts (1710-1768), the founder of Pottstown, Pennsylvania, was a prominent businessman and ironmaster. Potts married Ruth Savage in 1734. In 1751 he purchased 995 acres of land from Samuel McCall where he built his family home, Pottsgrove Manor. His family moved into the residence in 1753, and in 1761 Potts began to plan the city of Pottsgrove (re-named Pottstown in 1815). Potts died in 1768, the father of 13 children. The house and estate were purchased by his eldest son, Thomas, who then sold the land and home in 1783.

## **Bibliography:**

Montgomery County, Pennsylvania Historic Sites. "Pottsgrove Manor." Accessed March 21, 2012. [http://www.montcopa.org/historicsites/cwp/filesserver,Path,HISTORICSITES/PGM\\_History.pdf,assetguid,de4da9d0-7a3c-410b-ba40daeb1c27c9a9.pdf](http://www.montcopa.org/historicsites/cwp/filesserver,Path,HISTORICSITES/PGM_History.pdf,assetguid,de4da9d0-7a3c-410b-ba40daeb1c27c9a9.pdf)

---

## **Scope and Contents**

---

This collection is comprised of materials relating to the Potts family and their property in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. These materials include account ledgers, deeds, indentures, and family genealogy. An inventory is provided below--items marked "on loan" are currently housed at Pottsgrove Manor, but are the property of the Pottstown Historical Society.

### **Potts family papers**

- Indenture between Samuel Nutt and Israel Taylor, 1720
- Marriage certificate of John Potts and Ruth Savage, 1734 [on loan]
- Indenture signed by Thomas Potts, 1734
- Page from family Bible listing birth dates of nine of the children of John and Ruth Potts, 1735-1740 [on loan]
- Receipt for payment to Samuel Rhodes signed by Thomas Penn, 1740
- John Potts Ledger "Pottsgrove Ledger 1749", 1742-1759 [on loan]
- Indenture between John Potts and Samuel McCall Jr., 1751
- Indenture between Jacob Early and Jacob Rhodes, 1760
- Indenture between Samuel and Mary Burkloe and John Potts, 1765
- Indenture between John Potts and Adam Clakner, 1765
- Indenture between John Potts and William Dewees Jr., 1765
- Indenture between Jeremiah Boone and John Potts, 1765
- Deed between John and Ruth Potts and their son Joseph Potts, 1768
- Medical degree of Jonathon Potts, 1768 [on loan]
- Indenture between John Potts and Daniel and Elizabeth Calvert, 1770
- Documents relating to John Potts estate and will, circa 1770

- Indenture between executor of John Potts estate, Samuel Potts to Joseph Levensgood, 1771
- Indenture between David Potts and John Potts Jr., 1772
- Parchment map of 8 lots drawn from land formerly owned by John Potts, 1774
- Indenture between John Flower and Thomas Rutter and Samuel Potts, 1779
- Ledger Bennett/Trenton, 1786-1789 [on loan]
- Deed for John Markley to Fredrick Beidenman for Log Messuage, 1799
- Indenture between Samuel Rhodes and John Koplín, 1785 -Charcoal drawing of front of Pottsgrove Manor, signed Mrs. M. W. Yerger, circa 1800
- Marriage certificate of Issac Williams Jr. and Deborah Potts, 1815
- Deed for Lydia Ganger and Peter Gruver administrators of the estate of Joseph Carey, deceased to Louis S. Bachman, 1850
- Postcard of Mill Park Hotel, circa 1901-1905
- Postcard of Mill Park Hotel, circa 1901-1906
- Postcard of Mill Park Hotel, circa 1905
- Handwritten manuscript of Potts genealogy by Mrs. James, undated
- Handwritten copy of Mrs. James manuscript, undated
- Framed drawing of Mill Park Hotel, undated [on loan]

---

## **Administrative Information**

---

### **Pottsgrove Manor**

Finding aid prepared by Celia Caust-Ellenbogen and Michael Gubicza through the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories.

### **Sponsor**

This preliminary finding aid was created as part of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories. The HCI-PSAR project was made possible by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

### **Access Restrictions**

Contact Pottsgrove Manor for information about accessing this collection.

## **Immediate Source of Acquisition Note**

This collection is comprised of materials collected by Pottsgrove Manor or on loan from the Pottstown Historical Society.

---

## **Related Materials**

---

### **Related Archival Materials Note**

Historical Society of Pennsylvania: Forges and Furnaces collection, 1727-1921, Col. 212.

Historical Society of Pennsylvania: Jonathan Potts papers, 1766-1780, Col. 0521.

Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Potts family papers, 1733-1874, Col. 520.

---

## **Controlled Access Headings**

---

### **Family Name(s)**

- Potts family

### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Montgomery County (Pa.)
- Pottstown (Pa.)

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Potts, John, 1710-1768

### **Subject(s)**

- Genealogy
- Iron founding
- Ironwork, Colonial