

BOWNE HOUSE ARCHIVES



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BOWNE FAMILY PAPERS OF FLUSHING, L.I.

BFP #2018.1.01-02 (PDF copy)

Deed, William Bromefield to John Bowne

Date: November 12, 1653 New Style

Citation:

Deed, William Bromefield to John Bowne, November 12, 1653, BFP #2018.1.01-02, Bowne Family Papers of Flushing, Long Island, AC# 2018.1, Bowne House Archives, Flushing, NY.

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NOTES ON 17TH- AND 18TH-CENTURY DOCUMENTS

Dates:

1. Quaker dates: early Quakers used the numbers, not the names, of the months and the days of the week. (Note that the numbering of the months was different in the Old Style calendar—i.e., their "seventh month" is September, not July.)
2. Old Style ("O.S.") vs. New Style (N.S.): Prior to 1752, English people mostly used "Old Style" dating, which followed the Julian calendar and began the New Year on March 25. However, the Dutch and many other European countries followed the "New Style" calendar in use today. By the 17th century, the Old Style calendar had fallen ten days behind the New Style.
3. Dual dating: because the New Style calendar began the year on January 1 and the Old Style began it on March 25, dates that fall in between are sometimes given in a format like 1663/4 or 1663-4.

Common abbreviations:

y ^e = the or thee	y ^m = them
y ^t = that	w th = with
y ⁿ = than or then	w ^{ch} = which

Note: words like "ye" are spelled with the Old English character thorn, which looks like the letter "y" but is pronounced "-th."

Money is denominated in pounds, shillings, and pence, in columns as follows: £ : s : d

Reading 17th- and 18th-century handwriting:

Transcriptions are already available for some of the Colonial-era documents from the Bowne House Archives; transcription of the rest of our collection is an ongoing project. We recommend the following resources for those who would like to learn how to read early modern handwriting for themselves:

Kip Sperry, *Reading Early American Handwriting* (Genealogical Publishing Company, 2009) - book available from Amazon.com and other online retailers

Library of Congress Research Guide: "Paleography: Interpreting Handwriting in Genealogical Research" - <https://guides.loc.gov/paleography/early-american-handwriting>

Online tutorial from Harvard's Beinecke Library: "Quarantine Reading: Learn to Read Secretary Hand" - <https://beinecke.library.yale.edu/article/quarantine-reading-learn-read-secretary-hand>

November the 12th 1653

I the said witness that
William Bromfield of fluffing hand
sould and doe by these presents bargain
set over and sell unto John Bound
inhabitant of fluffing in the province of
the new netherland my four acres of
ground more or less bounded on the one side
by a lott belonging unto John Lutor on
the other side by the common which lott
was formerly bought by me William
Bromfield of William Willson and now
sould by me againe unto John Bound
for him his heirs executors administrators
or assigns perpetually to possess and enjoy
for ever together with all the founding thereto
belonging so that neither I nor any by or
from me shall molest or disturb the aforesaid
said John Bound or his assigns from
the quiet and peaceable enjoyment of the
aforesaid ground and founding also of the
aforesaid William Bromfield doe ingage
my selfe to save the aforesaid John Bound
harmless from all bills bonds mortgages or
ingagements which have been made unto any
concerning the said land by me William
Bromfield witness my hand
the mark of William Bromfield
William Willson

This was entered in the office of
the north Riding the 30th of July

By me Anthony waters 1669

Clarke

Entered & Recorded
in the
of the
North Riding
County

William Bramfield
Ric. Clerk of Sales

600000