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Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Joseph Johnson diary

1772-1773

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Compiled by Susan P. Waide, 2015

Summary

Creator: Johnson, Joseph, 1751?-1777

Title: Joseph Johnson diary

Date: 1772-1773

Size: .2 linear feet (1 volume)

Abstract: The Joseph Johnson diary, dated November 18, 1772 to February 1, 1773, was kept by Mohegan preacher Joseph Johnson during his time teaching children of the Tunxis tribe in Farmington, Connecticut. At least one child of European settlers also attended his school. Joseph Johnson was educated at Eleazar Wheelock's Indian Charity School, and eventually moved to Farmington at the suggestion of his future father-in-law and fellow Mohegan clergyman, Samson Occom. Along with Occom and other leading Christian Indians from New England and Long Island, Johnson helped establish the community of Brothertown Indians in New York during the 1770s. He was ordained at Hanover, New Hampshire, in 1774. The diary records Joseph Johnson's arrival and residence among the Farmington Indians, his activities, religious matters, and the progress of the school. It concludes with his farewell sermon, extensive but incomplete.

Preferred citation: Joseph Johnson diary, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

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Key Terms

Occupations

Clergy

Educators

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Diaries

Geographic Names

Farmington (Conn.) -- History

Subjects

Indians of North America -- Education -- Connecticut

Indians of North America -- Missions -- Connecticut

Mohegan Indians

Sermons, American -- 18th century

Tunxis Indians -- Missions