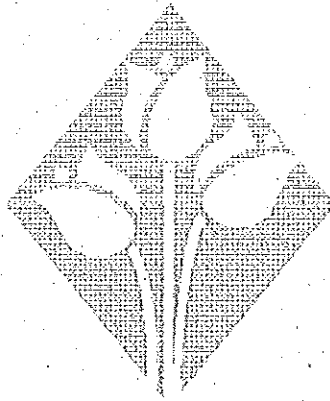


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SEP 03 1998

Connecticut Historical  
Commission



August 22, 1998

David O. White  
Museum Director  
State of Connecticut  
Connecticut Historical Commission  
59 South Prospect Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-1901

Dear Mr. White:

Although this letter comes to you extremely overdue, heartfelt thanks are tucked within. I can't thank you enough for your wonderful publication Connecticut's Black Soldiers 1775-1783. It has helped me tremendously in understanding the role of the Black soldier in the era of the American Revolution. I'm so grateful to you for having sent it my way.

Judging from the map of Connecticut's *Freedom Trail*, it appears to be quite impressive. William Grimes' grave site in New Haven certainly needs to be added. I am just now piecing together his life, and the lives of his children, in New Haven. It appears that Grimes' daughter, Mary Augusta Grimes

Cromwell Lathrop was involved with Connecticut's aristocratic black society with a possible connection to Amos Beman's family who was pastor of the Dixwell Avenue Congregational Church.

While in Connecticut I found the following tangible remnants of Grimes' life:

- 1) Letters for the negotiation of his freedom housed at the Litchfield Historical Society.
- 2) The 1855 version of Grimes' book housed at the New Haven Colony Historical Society.
- 3) Both the 1824 and 1855 copy of his book housed at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library (part of the James Weldon Johnson collection).
- 4) Grimes' grave which includes his wife and other family members (see attachment).

I have also enclosed a copy of the *New Haven Register* of June 26, 1998, as you requested.

Please don't hesitate to phone or write to me if you should need additional information on Grimes and his family.

Sincerely,



Regina E. Mason  
10944 San Pablo Avenue, 710  
El Cerrito, CA 94530  
(510) 236-3596

Grove Street Cemetery Interments: William Grimes

Owner: William Grimes  
#2 Central, Tier 5

P.C. \$100

<u>NAME</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
Robert C. Cromwell (1)	58	Oct. 10, 1868
Esther M. Cromwell (2)	24	Jul. 13, 1868
William Grimes (3)	90	Aug. 7, 1865
Clarissa Grimes (4)	73	Dec. 16, 1869
Thomas Williams (5)	50	Oct. 5, 1848
Eliza Williams (6)	49	Nov. 25, 1846
Mary A. (Agusta) L. (Lathrop) (7)	74	Jul. 25, 1894

Relationship to William Grimes:

- (1) son in law to William Grimes; 1st husband of Mary A. Grimes Cromwell Lathrop
- (2) granddaughter of William Grimes; daughter of Mary A. Grimes Cromwell Lathrop
- (3) William Grimes the Runaway slave
- (4) wife of William Grimes
- (5) relationship unknown
- (6) relationship unknown
- (7) eldest daughter of William Grimes