

*Newly Available and Processed Collections at the  
Historical Society of Pennsylvania*

**W**HAT FOLLOWS ARE DESCRIPTIONS of some of the collections at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania that have either been acquired within the past year or more fully processed and therefore made more available and accessible to researchers. Full finding aids and catalog records for these processed collections, and many others, can be found online at <http://hsp.org/collections/catalogs-research-tools/finding-aids> and <http://discover.hsp.org>.

**John Cadwalader Estate Volume, 1786–1796**

1 volume  
Collection 3831

John Cadwalader (1742–86) worked as a merchant before establishing for himself a successful military career. During the Revolutionary War he organized eighty-four men into the volunteer “Greens,” or “Silk Stocking Company,” which trained at his house in Philadelphia. After news of the Battle of Lexington in April 1775, he became colonel of the Third Battalion of the Philadelphia Association of Volunteers. He was at the head of his battalion for the first reading of the Declaration of Independence in the State House yard on July 8, 1776. John participated in the December 1776 Battle of Trenton and crossed the Delaware River, but was unable to unload his artillery onto the ice in Burlington, New Jersey. After the war, he moved to Shrewsbury, Maryland, where he eventually served three terms in Maryland’s House of Delegates. He married Williamina “Willy” Bond (1753–1837), and the couple had three sons. The ledger documenting the administration of John Cadwalader’s estate is maintained in two dos-à-dos sections, one containing memoranda, inventories, and miscellaneous transactions from March 1786 and the second consisting of memoranda and receipts by the estate from November 1790. Both deal largely with the

administration of Shrewsbury Farm, with references to other Cadwalader holdings. The volume contains details on the family's slave holdings. In addition to general inventories of the men, women, and children that were owned by the estate, there are, for some individuals, agreements concerning their disposition after Cadwalader's death. These agreements contain names, dates, and promises of humane treatment and "warm and comfortable lodgings." The ledger also contains significant details on items owned by the family, including furniture, housewares, and livestock, especially horses. There are several pages of receipts showing mares and stallions that were sold by the estate.

### **Addition to Chew Family Papers, 1659–1986**

1 item

Collection 2050

A letter from Benjamin Chew to Robert Owen, November 27, 1824, has been added to this large collection. Robert Owen, born in Wales, United Kingdom, was one of the founders of utopian socialism. He came to the United States in 1824 in search of a place to establish a utopian community, and he later did so in New Harmony, Indiana. In this lengthy letter, Benjamin Chew (1793–1844), of Philadelphia's Chew family, wrote to Owen attempting to convince him to establish his utopian community in western Pennsylvania.

### **United Methodist Church Eastern Pennsylvania Congregations Records, 1832–2002**

4 volumes

Collection 3854

The Historical Society of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference (EPC) of the United Methodist Church was founded in the 1860s. This voluntary organization is open to all members of the EPC, and it works in conjunction with EPA Commission on Archives and History members. The collection, which was gathered by the historical society, includes records of a wide swath of churches of the EPC, most of which are located in south-

eastern Pennsylvania. Minutes in volumes comprise the vast majority of the records, which date from the 1830s to early 2002, with the bulk of the records dating from the mid 1800s to the mid 1900s. In addition to minutes, some of the volumes contain primarily financial documentation, and there are also folders of loose papers, newsletters, scattered photographs, copper plates, VHS tapes, reel-to-reel audio, and a reel of film.

**Grim-McFarland-Woodbridge Family History Collection, circa  
1905–2007, undated**

7 boxes, 2 flat files

Collection 3706

This family history collection documents several members of the Grim, McFarland, and Woodbridge families over several generations. The Grim and McFarland families came together with the eighteen-month marriage of Joseph McFarland (1833–67) and Susan Elmira Grim (1842–1927), beginning in August 1866. Shortly after Joseph McFarland married Susan Grim in 1866, the couple learned he was dying from tuberculosis. At the time, they were living in the crowded home of Joseph McFarland's parents at 1653 N. Eighth Street in Philadelphia. However, her father, Jacob Grim (1819–96), had just built a new, spacious house, and the young couple moved into what would later be called "The Historic Grim Home" at 1314 Franklin Street, Philadelphia. Approximately one half of the collection documents family history and genealogy, while the remaining material centers on the life and work of Katherine Adele McFarland-Gerken, a granddaughter of Joseph and Susan McFarland, who served abroad as a Red Cross nurse in the 1920s. Much of the material records her nursing and travel experiences from 1921 to 1925. The collection includes family correspondence, memoirs, photographs, travel souvenirs, genealogical charts, and other items. There are several Civil War letters addressed to Susan Grim McFarland from her cousin Nicholas Grim, who served with the 28th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers and the 147th Regiment, which participated in General Sherman's 1864 march.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of America Records, 1902–2009**

74 boxes

Collection 3823

Big Brothers Big Sisters of America (BBBSA) is a national network of local agencies that administer the Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring model. In this program, a child facing adversity is matched with an adult volunteer in a relationship supported by professional staff. The mentorships are intended to help children succeed in school, avoid risky behaviors such as fighting and alcohol or drug use, and improve self-confidence. Organized Big Brothers and Big Sisters mentoring began in New York City in or around 1904, and similar programs were formed in dozens of cities over the following years. The Big Brothers Big Sisters Federation was incorporated in 1921 but struggled during the Great Depression and dissolved in 1937. However, local mentoring programs continued, and new national organizations were later formed: Big Brothers of America, founded in 1946 and headquartered in Philadelphia, and Big Sisters International, founded in 1970 and headquartered first in Washington, DC, then Chattanooga, Tennessee, then Philadelphia. The two organizations merged in 1977 to form BBBSA, with headquarters in Philadelphia and 357 affiliated agencies. In 2013, BBBSA moved its headquarters to Irving, Texas. The Big Brothers Big Sisters of America records span the life of the organization from its founding to recent times through internal administrative files and external press materials, such as promotional ads and video recordings. As extensive as the administrative records are, there are few, if any, financial documents. Making up the bulk of the collection is records of policies and procedures of BBBSA, board minutes, conference materials (including recordings on cassette tapes), constitutions and bylaws, lists of board members and of affiliated agencies, manuals, reports, brochures, and press kits. There are also clippings, some correspondence, newsletters, framed items, and artifacts such as plaques, trophies, and embossing stamps. Audio-visual items make up a good third of the collection and include audiocassettes, VHS tapes, U-Matic tapes, reel-to-reel audio and video, and a few unknown videocassette formats.

**Charles H. Sykes Papers, 1836–1942 (bulk 1909–1942)**

5 boxes, 1 flat file

Collection 3656

Charles H. “Bill” Sykes was a political cartoonist for Philadelphia’s *Evening Public Ledger* newspaper from the 1910s to 1942. Born in Alabama in 1882, he received a degree from the Drexel Institute and worked for many prominent publications, including *Life* magazine. This collection features a group of original political cartoons for the *Evening Public Ledger* drawn in crayon, pencil, and India ink. Most of the original artwork depicts the build-up to World War II and the early months of US involvement in the war. The collection also includes numerous newspaper clippings of his political cartoons, some personal correspondence, ephemera, and miscellaneous drawings, including several patriotic drawings for Philco.

**Addition to Borie Family Papers, 1832–2011**

1 flat file

Collection 1602

These additions to the Borie Family Papers include two roughly equal groupings: Borie family history papers and the papers of Lysbeth Knickerbocker Boyd Borie. The Borie family of Philadelphia originated from French émigré John Joseph Borie (1776–1834). Early members of the American family worked as merchants. Through marriage, the Bories became linked to many other local families, including the McKeans, Leaches, Norrises, Sewells, and Rushes. Papers in the family history section, which take up about half the collection, consist of photocopies of vital records, obituaries, and pages from publications on the family or from family members; web print-outs of genealogical information; loose and framed photographs and photo albums, correspondence, personal financial volumes; published books and yearbooks; clippings and ephemera, and other items. The other half of the donation consists of the papers of Lysbeth Knickerbocker Boyd Borie, daughter of D. Knickerbocker Boyd and Elizabeth H. Mifflin, who married Henry P. Borie. Lysbeth graduated from the Agnes Irwin School and Bryn Mawr College (class of 1925) and was a poet, author of several children’s books, and freelance advertising copywriter. She was

director of public relations at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, 1957–67; president of the Junior League of Philadelphia, 1930–32; and active in the Independence Hall Association, Friends of Independence National Historical Park, and several other civic organizations. She died in 1990 at age eighty-seven. Borie's personal papers document the bulk of her life, from high school until her death. Materials include correspondence; poems, short stories, radio scripts, and other writings; photos and a photo album; clippings, books, and other printed material; ephemera; student materials; awards; a stamp collection; 16mm film; a VHS videocassette; artifacts; and other items.

### **Stuart F. Feldman Papers, 1937–2011**

88 boxes, 2 volumes

Collection 3741

Stuart F. Feldman (1937–2010) was a lawyer, author, consultant, and independent advocate who was active in a wide variety of civic and cultural programs and projects. Initiatives that he proposed and successfully spearheaded included creation of the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia; legislation that made billions of dollars available to Vietnam veterans for education, counseling, and jobs; and the Martin Luther King Memorial in Washington, DC. Mr. Feldman worked for the Securities and Exchange Commission (1961–63), Appalachian Regional Commission (1965–67), Department of Transportation (1967–69), US Conference of Mayors (1969–79), and as senior vice president of the National Constitution Center (1994–97), among other positions. Born in Philadelphia, he graduated from Cheltenham High School and received a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Pennsylvania, 1958, and a doctoral degree from Penn's Law School, 1961. The Stuart F. Feldman Papers include subject files, correspondence, minutes, typed and handwritten notes, reports, clippings, pamphlets, and other items. The papers provide substantial documentation of Feldman's ideas and work, both public and behind the scenes, across a wide variety of topics and over several decades. Most of the material concerns Feldman's professional activities, but there are also a few typed journal entries and scattered letters that discuss his personal life.

**Balch Institute Political Ephemera Collection, 1941–1974, undated**

4 boxes, 3 flat files

Collection 3472

This collection of material that was collected by the Balch Institute for Ethnic Studies contains a variety of publications and other printed matter generally related to elections, political matters, and political parties. The vast majority of the collection dates to the 1970s; however, there are a few folders of papers from the 1940s and 1960s. The collection covers, though not widely, national and regional politics, and especially centers on the 1972 presidential election. The collection is roughly arranged into four groups. The first group contains publications, flyers, advertisements, pamphlets, and other ephemera related to the 1972 president election involving Democratic candidates George McGovern (president) and Sargent Shriver (vice president) and Republican incumbents President Richard Nixon and Vice President Spiro Agnew. Highlights include an array of pamphlets describing each party's platform, a folder of pins and bumper stickers from Nixon's campaign, and a copy of Nixon's acceptance speech that he gave at the Republican National Convention in Miami, Florida. There is also a single folder of material from the campaigns of third-party candidates, including Ed Muskie and Hubert Humphrey. The second group consists of street lists of registered voters from 1971 for Philadelphia's Tenth, Eleventh, Fifty-Fourth, and Sixtieth Wards and from 1972 for the Second through Seventh and Tenth to Eleventh Wards in Chester, Delaware County. The third group contains documentation produced by the Republican Party generally (including mailing lists and an informational guide to the Republican National Convention), as well as by related organizations, such as young Republican clubs in New York and Florida. The remaining materials in the collection are comprised of scant and miscellaneous publications and ephemera from different political parties, such as the Prohibition Party, the Socialist Party, and the Constitution Party, as well as advertisements, pamphlets, and other items produced by local and state politicians for various elections. A miscellaneous folder contains a few interesting groups of items, such as a press release pertaining to and pictures of Bella Abzug, a United States representative from New York, and a letter and pamphlets from the War Resisters' League. Remaining with this collection, though not necessarily related to its contents, are a

commemorative medal from United Nation World Youth Assembly and a souvenir pen bearing Spiro Agnew's signature, as well as a group of newsletters and photographs of astronauts from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

### **Girls' Coalition of Southeastern Pennsylvania Records, 1976–1998**

3 boxes

Collection 3743

The Girls' Coalition of Southeastern Pennsylvania was an advocacy group for girls and women that was active in the Philadelphia area from 1980 to 2001. The organization worked to promote the self-esteem and visibility of young girls as leaders through hosting conferences and forums covering various issues that included the education of girls, mother-daughter relationships, and girls in sports. Reports of these conferences were published and distributed nationally, impacting the advocacy and study of girls. The coalition also established the annual Estey Award, named after one of the founding members, which recognized the achievements of girls and programs in the community that promoted the self-esteem and leadership of girls. The collection consists mainly of the records of the board of directors as well as materials pertaining to the conferences and Estey Awards sponsored by the coalition. This collection provides valuable information relating to feminism and women's advocacy in late twentieth-century America.

*Historical Society of Pennsylvania*

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