

NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

Newly Available and Processed Collections at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania

What 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 are more available and accessible to researchers. Full finding aids or 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/>.

William Redwood Account Books, 1749–1814 (bulk 1775–90)

10 volumes

Collection Amb.7256

William Redwood, son of Abraham Redwood and his second wife Patience Phillips, was born in 1726 in Newport, Rhode Island. There he worked for a number of years as a merchant in partnership with Elias Bland. In 1772, Redwood moved to Philadelphia, where he continued business. From 1782 to 1787, he lived at and helped maintain the family's plantation on the island of Antigua in the West Indies. The William Redwood records are comprised of ten financial volumes, journals, daybooks, and ledgers. They span Redwood's career from Newport to Philadelphia to Antigua and date from the mid-1700s to the early 1800s. Most of them document his work in Philadelphia; however two volumes contain information on his Newport business and partnership, and two contain detailed financial records concerning the family's Antigua plantation.

Marriott C. Morris Collection on Cycling, 1839–1937

3 boxes

Collection 3712

Marriott Canby Morris (1863–1948) was a resident of the Germantown section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who attended Haverford College. He was an avid cyclist and accomplished photographer. The collection consists of materials that Mr. Morris collected regarding cycling and cycling organizations, including books, booklets, catalogs, serials, newspapers, photographs, ephemera, and newspaper clippings. Other items include road books, a local publication on lawn tennis from the 1880s, and photographs. Additionally, there are two large photo albums of a cycling tour of Europe Morris took in 1890.

**National Grange Mutual Insurance Company Records,
circa 1850–circa 1988**

49 boxes, 69 volumes

Collection 3718

In 1963, the Valley Mutual Insurance Company was incorporated in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. It was the result of a merger of five small farm mutuals operating in Cumberland and Franklin Counties: Franklin County Mutual Insurance Company, Friendship Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Franklin County, Lurgan Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Franklin County, Centennial Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and Cumberland Valley Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company. In 1988, the Mutual Assurance Company of Philadelphia purchased Valley (then named Valley Insurance Company). Mutual Assurance merged with the National Grange Mutual Insurance Company in 1996. These records of the National Grange Mutual Insurance Company consist of material from the Valley Insurance Company and the smaller firms that merged to form it. Papers, in both boxes and volumes, include financial records, meeting minutes, and administrative correspondence. Most of the volumes are financial in nature—daybooks, ledgers, cashbooks—but there are also annual reports, policy statements, and minute books.

Junior League of Philadelphia Records, 1912–2009

17 boxes

Collection 3717

The Junior League of Philadelphia Inc., founded 1912, is an organization of women devoted to volunteerism and community improvement. It was initially established to help create settlement houses in Philadelphia. Over time, the group became involved with a large number of causes, from war relief to children's care, and today continues its legacy of citywide community involvement. The Junior League celebrated its one hundredth anniversary in 2012. This collection of the records of the Junior League of Philadelphia Inc. consists of board and committee minutes, 1912–2009; annual reports, 1927–2004; and newsletters and member communiqués, circa 1940–2005.

Stiefel Family Papers, circa 1920–2007

6 boxes

Collection 3516

Samuel H. Stiefel (1897–1958) was born in the New Jersey farming community of Norma, where his parents had settled from Poketilov, Russia (now part of the Ukraine), some ten years prior. The Stiefel family moved to Philadelphia when Samuel was ten years old. His brother Abraham built one of the city's first movie houses, the Popular Theater, in a Jewish community in North Philadelphia. In 1903, members of the Stiefel family set up another movie theater in Philadelphia, the Fairyland on Market Street. In the following years, they opened the Pearl Theater in the Strawberry Mansion neighborhood of Philadelphia and other theaters in Pennsylvania, Baltimore, New York, Washington, DC, and California. Theaters run by the Stiefels, notably the Uptown Theatre in Philadelphia and the Howard Theatre in Washington, were part of the so-called "Chitlin Circuit" and gave starts to many black entertainers whose music later appealed to a wider audience. The Stiefels were also in the film distribution business and produced live shows and at least one film. Samuel befriended a number of movie stars, managed actors Mickey Rooney and Peter Lorre, and produced two Mickey Rooney movies. Although it touches on various members of the Stiefel family, the collection primarily

documents the life and work of Samuel H. Stiefel and his son Bernard M. (“Sonny” Stiefel”). In addition to materials pertaining to the Stiefels’ various theaters and other work in the entertainment business—including involvement with firms that managed B. B. King—there are also materials related to the Queen Village Neighbors Association, of which Bernard Stiefel was executive director in the early 1990s. This collection is likely to be of particular interest to ethnic historians as well as to historians of music, theater, and popular culture.

Print Club Archives, 1915–93

154 boxes, 84 volumes, 5 flat files

Collection 2065

Since its founding in 1915, the Print Club has achieved a national and international reputation and membership. Originally, its purpose was to establish in Philadelphia a medium for the dissemination, study, production and collection of works by printmakers. In 1926 the club mounted a Joseph Pennell retrospective. It displayed the drawings of Brancusi, Modigliani, and Picasso in 1930 and the works of a group of modern American printmakers in 1936. In the 1940s, the club conducted master classes under Stanley William Hayter and others. It has published editions of prints by such artists as Frascioni, Kaplan, Paone, Spruance, Andrade, Osborne, Cummings, Spiegelman, and others, and has sold on consignment the works of many of its artist members. In 1942, the Print Club donated its collection of prints to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, forming the core of the institution’s fledgling print department; the club has continued to add to this collection each year through a purchase award from its annual international competition. Renamed the Print Center in 1996, its mission has expanded to include appreciation and encouragement of the printed image in all forms, including photography. The Print Club archives consist of a variety of files covering its administrative, financial, exhibition, and general history, from the club’s founding in 1915 to 1993. While the majority of the records are loose paper in format, the collection also contains several bound volumes, photographs, prints, proof sheets, negatives, and an audio tape. Currently the collection is arranged by the various accessions the Historical Society has received from the Print Club. Files containing minutes, annual reports, and exhibition and artist information

provide an overview of the Print Club's history, but researchers should also look at the correspondence files, some of which contain thoughtful insight into decisions and adjustments made regarding Print Club administration and events. Membership and artist lists may also attract genealogists to the collection.

Frank L. and Edith Cadwallader Howley Papers, circa 1870–circa 1970

4 boxes, 1 volume

Collection 3720

Frank L. Howley, born in Hampton, New Jersey, in 1903, formed his own Philadelphia-based advertising company in 1930s, completed a distinguished military career during and after World War II, worked at New York University, and wrote several books. Howley actively served in the US Army from 1940 to 1949 and eventually worked his way up to the rank of brigadier general. Overseas, he fought in the Battle of Normandy and helped reestablish the governments in the French cities of Cherbourg and Paris. He served as deputy commandant (1945–47) and then commandant (1947–49) of the US-occupied sector in Berlin, Germany. He played an instrumental role reinstituting that city's government while dealing with delegations from France, the USSR, and Britain. Howley was discharged from the army in 1949. He, along with his wife, Edith (née Cadwallader), and family moved to West Grove, Pennsylvania. He took the position of vice chancellor of New York University and went on to author several books. He died in Virginia in 1993. This collection documents the history of the Howley and Cadwallader families, dating back to the 1800s, through correspondence, photographs, photo albums, scrapbooks, and a smattering of other genealogical records. There are significant groups of letters from Edith to Frank during the war, as well as between members of the Cadwallader family. The collection also contains a few published items relating to Frank Howley's war work, including one of his books, *Berlin Command* (1950), and a series he produced for *Collier's* magazine. Additionally, there are yearbooks, certificates, plaques, and a few miscellaneous artifacts.

**Philadelphia Fellowship Commission Phonograph Recordings
Collection, circa 1945–53**

27 boxes, 600 audio files

Collection 3572

The Philadelphia Fellowship Commission was formed in 1941 as a community service organization aimed at promoting better relations between diverse ethnic and religious groups. The organization sponsored educational and job assistance programs and was active in the establishment of Philadelphia branches of the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The Philadelphia Fellowship Commission was a pioneering, well-connected, and extremely active early civil rights organization. The collection includes broadcast recordings of programs sponsored by the commission for Philadelphia-area radio stations WFIL and WIP. Programs include *Within Our Gates*, *Philadelphia Award*, *Valor Knows No Creed*, *Lest We Forget These Great Americans*, and others. Also included are commercial music recordings from RCA Victor, Columbia, Capitol, and other record companies and several recordings of auditions and tests of potential announcers.

Joseph Lockard Papers, 1928–88

30 boxes

Collection 3673

Joseph F. Lockard worked in Philadelphia for the Democratic City Committee during the 1950s and 1960s. By signing up nonregistered voters as Democrats, Lockard was instrumental in building the Democratic “machine” that assisted party leaders get elected during the 1960s. Lockard worked as administrative assistant to US representative William J. Green Jr. and maintained ties to many political players, such as Joseph S. Clark, Richardson Dilworth, Natalie Saxe Randall, Judge Charles Weiner, and Congressman Joshua Eilberg. Lockard later obtained a political science degree from Temple University and formed his own political consulting firm, Lockard Associates. The Joseph F. Lockard papers are devoted to his work with the Democratic City Committee of Philadelphia. The bulk of these papers were produced while Lockard worked as administrative assistant to William J. Greene Jr. Intriguing groups of correspondence,

memos, reports, and clippings shed light on the city's Democratic Party's political processes, policy creation, and election efforts. Although many documents describe political matters at the national and state levels, most of the papers in the collection highlight the local reform movement, its development, main figures, proponents, and opponents. There are also papers on city ward realignment and files on Lockard's participation in Democratic national conventions from 1956 to 1964, in addition to a significant grouping of voting records arranged by ward. There are numerous subject and name files that contain a wealth of information on city issues, politicians, and businessmen during the 1960s. To a lesser extent, the papers also document Lockard's political consulting firm's work in the 1970s and 1980s, as well as his personal life.

Tony Reese Papers, circa 1953–2013

5 boxes

Collection 3719

Tony Reese, born Attilio Resci in Foggia, Italy, in 1919, was a popular performer both in Philadelphia and nationally. He was raised in South Philadelphia, attended South Philadelphia High School, and served with the US Army during World War II. He developed a partnership and comedy act with Pepper Davis, whose real name was David Asner, and the duo performed across the United States and Canada. Together they appeared on the *Ed Sullivan Show* and other televised variety shows of the mid-twentieth century. They also performed overseas and gave a command performance for Prince Ranier and Princess Grace of Monaco. Reese died in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, in 2013. This collection of Reese's papers mostly covers his career as a performer and includes numerous transcripts of comedy routines, clippings and programs, and musical arrangements. There are also a few personal papers including his obituary, biographical material, photographs, a CD, and a DVD.

Folklife Center of International House Records, circa 1970s–circa 2000

34 boxes

Collection 3716

The Folklife Center of the International House, located in Philadelphia, hosted workshops and programs on folklore and traditional music from around the world. This collection of its records consists of a variety of administrative and programming files that include correspondence, pamphlets, reference materials, questionnaires, memos, financial papers, lectures, and catalogs. Additionally there are audio and video cassettes, reel-to-reel audio tapes, floppy disks, and photographs.

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