

Finding Aid

Date Range: 1862-1976

Bulk Date: 1944-1964

Creator: D.S. Hammond

Containers: 22 flip-top document boxes

Storage Location: PCHS Library and Archives

Aid Created By: Boy Scout Troop 108 from Wayne; Nick Miragliotta's Eagle Scout Project

Biographical Information: Daniel Stanton Hammond III was born in Brooklyn, New York on September 22, 1887, the son of D. Stanton and Helena (Scott) Hammond. When he was a young boy, the Hammond family moved to Ridgewood where D. Stanton attended the local grammar and high school. Following graduation Hammond enrolled at Trenton Normal School with the intention of entering the teaching profession and graduated in 1905 at the age of 18. After graduation, an opening for the budding instructor came about in the Montvale, Bergen County school system. After more than 10 years as a teacher, Stanton was appointed principal of old Public School No. 1. Concurrently, Stanton followed his childhood passions of studying for the legal profession by commuting to New York University, and in 1932 was awarded a Doctorate in Jurisprudence. On February 1, 1954, following a 28-year long career as principal during which an estimated 2,300 pupils received their diplomas, Dr. Hammond retired from the profession.

During the 1920's there was considerable discussion among historically minded citizens about reviving the Passaic County Historical Society, an organization which had disbanded decades before. The first public meeting of the revitalized Society was held amid great enthusiasm on March 10, 1926. Nearly one month later, on April 5th, the first 20 member-elected trustees affixed their signatures to the Certificate of Incorporation. Nine years after the incorporation, Dr. Hammond was elected President and served until 1964. As President, Dr. Hammond played a leading role in persuading the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders of the necessity of extending financial support to the Lambert Castle Museum. Beginning with a small appropriation in 1944, the Freeholders have continued their subsidy over the years.

In recognition for his devoted interest in the history of the American Revolution, Dr. Hammond was awarded the McArthur Silver Medal (1964) and gold medal (1971) of the New Jersey Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.

During the winter of his life, Dr. Hammond frequently mentioned his beloved wife, who equally shared his interest and zest for local history. He married the late Mary Catherine Davison on July 9, 1919, and they were the proud parents of three children: Daniel Stanton, the late Eugene Davison, and Lois Eva.

Dr. D. Stanton Hammond, the last surviving organizer of the Passaic County Historical Society, died at his Paterson home on January 22, 1982.

Scope and Content: This collection consists of newspaper clippings from local newspapers that were attached onto pieces of brown paper. The subject range is quite broad, including folders on the atomic bomb, aviation, battlefields, Samuel Colt, crime, disasters, submarines, and the iron industry. There is one small part of the collection where the newspaper clippings are not attached to brown paper.

Series: The 22 boxes are organized alphabetically according to the name of the subject(s) the box contains. Most of the boxes are separated into folders which were arranged alphabetically. The boxes that did not have folders contained documents that pertained to the title of the box.