

Historic Hingham Scrapbook, 1909-1976

Repository: Hingham Public Library

Creator(s): Unknown

Quantity: 1 half document box

Processed By: Stephanie McBain

Provenance

This collection was donated to the Hingham Public Library by an anonymous donor.

Historical Note

The collection relates to many of the prominent figures within the Hingham historian community in the 20th century. Some of the most frequent names to appear throughout the collection are Howard Henderson, Charles Marble, Alan Hersey, John P. Richardson, and Hingham Historical Society President James Wheaton.

Howard Henderson was born in Hingham on July 16, 1895 to Gustavus and Mary Maynard Henderson. In 1922 he married Sarah Whitman, with whom he had several children. Sarah died in 1965 and the next year Howard got remarried to Lenore Turner. He worked at the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency for 40 years, starting out in the Chicago office as a copywriter and eventually working his way to the New York office after becoming Vice President of the company in 1936. He died in New Jersey on January 10, 1982 and is buried in Hingham.

Charles Marble was born in Hingham on July 11, 1858 to Demerick and Deborah Groce Marble. He was a member of the Hingham High School Class of 1875, the second class ever to graduate from the school. In 1884 he married Estella Sprague; they did not have any children. Charles worked for the Rich and Marble heating and plumbing business until his retirement. He served as Assistant Postmaster and was a member of the Board of Registrars, the Board of Health, and the School Committee. He was also Director of Hingham Cooperative Bank and a member of the Hingham Fire Department, the Hingham Veteran Firemen's Association, Old Colony Lodge, the Wompatuck Club, the Hingham Historical Society, and many other clubs and organizations. He died in Hingham on November 27, 1948 at 90 years old.

Alan Hersey was born in Hingham on February 23, 1887 to Frederic and Addie Lincoln Hersey. He graduated from Harvard in 1909, after which he went to work in the Portland office of the Maine Central Railroad. In 1911 he started working with the Hingham Mutual Fire Insurance Company, where he worked for 43 years and served on the Board of Directors after his retirement. He was also the President and Historian of the Hingham Rotary Club. In 1915 he married Ada Hersey, and they had two daughters. He died on August 11, 1973.

John P. Richardson was born in Boston in 1934 or 1935. His family moved to Hingham while he was in high school. John was an environmental specialist and historian with a degree in horticulture from the UMass Stockbridge School of Agriculture. He was also a great collector of Hingham memorabilia and a member of the Hingham Historical Society, the Wompatuck State Park Advisory Council, the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions, the

Massachusetts Audubon Society, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. He never married and died on February 8, 2011.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains materials relating to the history of Hingham and to some of the prominent figures in the town's historical community. The materials are arranged in scrapbook format and were originally housed in a binder, which they were removed from for preservation purposes with the original order kept intact within archival folders.

Items in the collection include correspondence, newspaper articles and advertisements, reminiscences about Hingham's past written by town historians, miscellaneous obituaries, pamphlets and programs, and certificates. Time periods touched upon include World War II, Hingham's Tercentenary celebration and reflections on the founding of the town, and subjects include various well-known Hingham landmarks and citizens.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into the following series:

- Series I. Historic Hingham Scrapbook, 1909-1976

Series I. Historic Hingham Scrapbook, 1909-1976

Folders 1-2

The collection is comprised of materials about Hingham's history, mainly relating to the time of the town's founding and the late 19th and early-to-mid 20th centuries. Materials include correspondence, newspaper clippings, brochures, and pamphlets.

Correspondence is all Howard Henderson's, and is between him and Charles Marble, Alan Hersey, Madeleine Loder, Simon Barilaro, Mildred Burr, Fred B. Cole, Ann Whidden, Elizabeth Coatsworth, James Wheaton and other members of the Hingham Historical Society, and Henderson's siblings. Some of Henderson's correspondence with Wheaton discusses the life of Howard's father, Gustavus Henderson.

Newspaper articles included are on the Tercentenary of John Tower in 1909; a series on the first settlers of Hingham; the Old Ship Church; a history of the Hingham Debating Society; lists of Hingham men and women in service during World War II; the new shipyard during World War II; the 100th anniversary of "White Church"; the opening of new ferries to Boston in 1948; Hingham Harbor, the islands, and Madam Derby; the arrival of a Swedish ship with a cargo of cars in 1957; the opening of a well on Free St.; the history and needs of the Hingham Public Library; Hingham's population increase; the Jacobs Farmhouse; a heron colony in Hingham; the old buttonwood tree; the vandalism of murals at Fort Warren on George's Island; Triphammer Pond Wildlife Reservation; the New England Friends Home; World's End; and "In Search of a Heart," about a heart buried on Nantucket, by Edward Rowe Snow.

Other newspaper clippings include miscellaneous advertisements, business lists, and notices of upcoming displays, shows, and speakers from the early-to-mid 20th century; reminiscences by Charles Marble, George Melcher, "Cap'n Bill" Vinal, Alan Hersey, and John P. Richardson;

letters to the editor by Alan Hersey, John P. Richardson, and James Wheaton; the "Town Topics" and "Prowler" columns; various obituaries ca. 1948-1974; and stories on anniversary and birthday celebrations.

Pamphlets include a program for a 1935 representation of a colonial church service; a 1948 list of Old Homes open to the public; the Hingham Historical Society preservation of the Derby Academy building; and a Hingham Historical Society pamphlet about the Old Ordinary.

Also included are a 1941 zoning map and town bulletin; a list of the town officials in 1920; a story called "Our Dumb Animals" about the cats of Coventry; a certificate commemorating Gustavus and Mary Henderson's contribution to the Hingham 275th Anniversary Fund; the last issue of Alan Hersey's newsletter *Chips*; census numbers from 1765-1970; a recollection of Mildred Burr and Herbert Cole's wedding; typed reminiscences by Howard Henderson; "Howard Henderson" by Lenore Henderson; several of Henderson's Hingham Historical Society membership cards; copies of the Hingham Historical Society newsletter; and press about the book *When I Think of Hingham*.