

Original

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CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
HISTORICAL MATERIALS COLLECTION

Register

Compiled by
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microfiche edition

New Hampshire Historical Society
Manuscripts Division

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
HISTORICAL MATERIALS COLLECTION

Scope and Content Note

After completion of a preliminary inventory in September 1983, the Concord Public Library Historical Materials Collection was transferred to the New Hampshire Historical Society and is on permanent loan to this institution.

For a number of years, the Concord Public Library has housed an important collection of original manuscripts and miscellaneous printed matter all bearing directly on the history of Concord, New Hampshire. Due to a lack of staff, budget, and time, the material was never reviewed, arranged, inventoried and properly preserved so that it could be made accessible to the public.

Early in 1983, upon the advice of the Concord Public Library Director, the President of the Board of Trustees of that institution and the Director of the New Hampshire Historical Society, it was decided that the collection of manuscripts and printed matter should be arranged, inventoried and preserved. The Concord Public Library Foundation agreed to fund the appointment of an archivist and an assistant and would provide necessary supplies. The project was started in March 1983 and a final inventory was completed in January 1984.

The Concord Public Library Historical Materials Collection was compiled largely by the late Judge Elwin L. Page, a distinguished and colorful Concord resident. Many of the more important manuscript items include annotations made by Judge Page and reveal information not readily apparent to the researcher. After serious consideration, it was decided by the archivist and the assistant to maintain the order which was imposed on the material by Elwin Page and former library employees as much as possible. In some cases, this proved difficult as some items appeared to be simply out of place. For the most part, however, the original collection order has been maintained. The materials have been arranged alphabetically in a curious blend of person and subject. Some subject headings reflect a very general approach, such as "Politics" while others are more specific, such as "Silver Industry in Concord". Many important individuals are represented in this collection. Of special note are items by Philip Carrigain, William E. Chandler, John Farmer, Isaac Hill, Franklin Pierce, Parker Pillsbury (extensive correspondence and writings), Edna Dean Proctor, William Stark, and Timothy Walker. To overcome difficulties in locating particular items due to the irregularity of the arrangement, a detailed name and subject index has been prepared to accompany the inventory.

The collection is organized into two distinct series. Series I, which comprises the bulk of the collection, consists of sixteen Hollinger document storage boxes and is largely manuscript material. Series II consists largely of record books, both financial and legal, and other material documenting particular Concord organizations and businesses, such as "Concord Female Benevolent Society" and "Sons of Temperance". This material is arranged alphabetically by name of organization and is stored in four Hollinger record storage boxes. Materials in Series I are recorded on pages 1-63 of the inventory. Series II items are recorded on pages 64-65 of the same inventory.

New Hampshire Historical Society
Manuscripts Division

The following index was prepared to accompany the inventory to the Concord Public Library Historical Materials Collection. The index is a selected name and subject index only. It is arranged alphabetically and all entries are followed by a location symbol. For example, an entry for the Abbot-Downing Co. reads as follows:

Abbot-Downing Co. 3:4

The location symbol 3:4 indicates that in Box 3, Folder 4 of the Concord Public Library Historical Materials Collection, there is information concerning the Abbot-Downing Co. All underlined items are names of newspapers or journals.

These cards have been
added to the catalog. 5/90
BKM

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New Hampshire Historical Society
Manuscripts Division

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
HISTORICAL MATERIALS COLLECTION

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