

Guide to the Oren V. Henderson Great Bay and Little Bay Bridges Collection, 1927-1937

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Oren V. Henderson Great Bay and Little Bay Bridges Collection, 1927-1937

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society
30 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-6688
<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

1961.028

Author of Finding Aid:

Korrena Cowing

Creator:

Henderson, Oren V., 1870-1951

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 box ; 0.42 linear feet

Abstract:

The Oren V. Henderson Great Bay and Little Bay Bridges Collection, 1927-1937, consists of original documents and photocopies relating to the building and naming of the bridges across the Great and Little Bays, NH, namely the General Sullivan Bridge and the Scammell Bridge. Materials in this collection include reports, legislation, correspondence, newspaper clippings, and “Bridges over the Piscataqua” by Oren V. Henderson.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Oren V. Henderson Great Bay and Little Bay Bridges Collection was transferred from the library in 1961.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date and reprocessed by Korrena Cowing in March 2020. The finding aid was written by Korrena Cowing in March 2020. This finding aid follows the standards set forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Oren V. Henderson Great Bay and Little Bay Bridges Collection, 1961.028. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:

Oren V. Henderson was born on January 8, 1870 in Osceola, IA, son of James and Carry (Mahan/Maferno) Henderson. His family moved to Seward, NE, in 1879. After his mother's death in 1881 and his father's death in 1882, he returned to Iowa to live with his uncle. Henderson graduated from Valparaiso University and went on to teach in Iowa and North Dakota, and by 1893, he was teaching in schools in Rawlins County, KS. He was elected to the office of County Superintendent of Schools in 1898 and was reelected in 1900. On July 17, 1901, he married Henrietta Elizabeth Wilson (1880-1958) in Atwood, KS. Their daughter Edna was born there in 1903. Their daughter Helen was born in Topeka in 1914, and daughter Henrietta was born at Durham, NH, in 1917. In 1907, he accepted the appointment of State Superintendent of Schools and moved to Topeka, KS. He remained in the position for seven years.

Henderson then worked at the New Hampshire College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts (later the University of New Hampshire) in Durham, NH, beginning in 1915. He first served as

the Business Secretary for the college before being promoted in 1920 to Executive Secretary. In 1925, he became the Registrar, a position he held until 1939.

Henderson also served in several political positions, including on the Durham Board of Selectman, as a member of the House of Representatives, as the Speaker of the House from 1937 to 1938, and as a member of the Governor's Council from 1939 to 1941. Oren V. Henderson died on September 3, 1951 at Durham. Henrietta died there on March 16, 1958.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Oren V. Henderson Great Bay and Little Bay Bridges Collection consists of original documents and photocopies relating to the building and naming of the bridges across the Great and Little Bays, NH, namely the General Sullivan Bridge and the Scammell Bridge. Dating from 1927 to 1937, the materials in this collection consist of Oren V. Henderson's manuscript titled "Bridges over the Piscataqua" and his collection of newspaper clippings, legislation, notes, correspondence, programs, and reports detailing the history of these bridges. The bulk of the collection consists of photocopies of newspaper clippings, which describe the bridges from their first proposal, through objections, construction, and finally their opening and dedication. It has been noted in the folder title when a folder contains only photocopies.

Arrangement:

The materials in this collection are organized alphabetically into folders by type of material.

Contents List

Box 1

- Folder 1 Bridge naming papers: General John Sullivan Bridge, photocopies, 1935
- Folder 2 Bridge naming papers: Scammell Bridge, photocopies, 1931, 1935
- Folders 3-11 *Bridges over the Piscataqua* by Oren V. Henderson, photocopy, 1936
- Folder 12 Correspondence, programs, and meeting minutes, 1933-1935, undated
- Folder 13 Fay, Spofford and Thorndike of Boston report, photocopy, 1931
- Folder 14 Legislative bills and reports, 1927-1929
- Folder 15 Legislative bills and reports, 1931
- Folder 16 Legislative bills and reports, 1933-1937, undated
- Folder 17 Maps, 1933
- Folder 18 Newspaper clippings, photocopies, 1927-1930
- Folder 19 Newspaper clippings, photocopies, 1931
- Folder 20 Newspaper clippings, photocopies, 1932-1933
- Folder 21 Newspaper clippings, photocopies, 1934, 1937
- Folder 22 "Observations on the Title to Goat Island in Great Bay, and the Highway Rights Across the Same," photocopy, undated
- Folders 23-24 "Some Inside History and Observations of the Bridge Legislation," photocopies, 1927-1931

Separated Materials:

Three maps were removed to the Map Collection due to their size and can be found under call number 912.778 P676nb.

Proposed Highway Bridge between Durham and Newington on the First New
Hampshire Turnpike over the Piscataqua River, 1933
Proposed Piscataqua River Bridge Plan of Location, 1933
Location of Bridges provided for in House Bill No. 225, 1933

Subject Terms

People:

Henderson, Oren V., 1870-1951
Scammell, Alexander, 1747-1781
Sullivan, John, 1740-1795

Organizations:

New Hampshire. General Court. House of Representatives
New Hampshire. General Court. Senate

Subjects:

Bridges
Bills, Legislative
Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
Maps
Roads

Locations:

Dover, NH
Durham, NH
Newington, NH
Piscataqua River, NH

Occupations:

Legislators

Related Materials

Library

Henderson, Oren V. *Great Bay*. 1955. Call number: 917.78 G786h

Henderson, Oren V. *First New Hampshire Turnpike*. Durham, N.H., 1935. Call number: 625.7
N532h