



Guide to the Edward Hill Papers, 1875-1947

Administrative Summary

Title:

Edward Hill Papers, 1875-1923

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society

30 Park Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-228-6688

<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Numbers:

M 1990.038, M 1987.013 (m), M 2007.001

Creator of the Collection:

Hill, Edward, 1843-1923

Author of Finding Aid:

Updated by Sarah Galligan, December 2013 based on an earlier finding aid.

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

2 boxes and 1 folder

Abstract:

The Edward Hill Papers, 1843-1923, contains mostly correspondence, prose writings, and poetry writings. Hill spent much of his life in New Hampshire, where he painted scenes from the White Mountains. The collection also includes photographs, postcards, and other ephemera from the life of Edward Hill. There are also some papers of Hill's family within the collection.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Edward Hill Papers, 1875-1923, is composed of three accession numbers: M 1987.013 (m), M 1990.038, and M 2007.001. M 1990.038 was a gift of Velma Hughes Bruhn, 1990.

Processing Information:

Each accession within the collection was separately processed when it arrived at the New Hampshire Historical Society. The finding aid was updated by Sarah Galligan, December 2013, to follow 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, NH.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

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

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Edward Hill Papers, 1875-1923, Accession Number. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:

Edward Hill was born in Staffordshire, England on December 9, 1843 to Thomas and Maria Hunt Hill. Hill and his family immigrated to the United States and settled in Gardner, MA. Both Edward and his brother, Thomas Hill (1829-1908), started their careers as furniture decorators for the Heywood-Wakefield Company in Gardner. In 1869, Hill married Sarah L. Brown of Nashua, NH. Edward and Sarah had three sons: Ralph Waldo (born 1870), George Wilder (born 1873), and Thomas Allen (born 1880). Hill and his family settled in Littleton, NH, where he painted scenes from the White Mountains. Hill also wrote poetry, prose, and songs.

After the death of his wife, Sarah, in 1891, Edward traveled and studied in Europe. In 1899, he married Mary E. Wheeler of New Boston, NH, and by 1902, he had moved

west, leaving Mary behind. Hill ultimately made Hood River, OR, his headquarters and did extensive landscapes in the area. He died of a stroke on August 27, 1923.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Edward Hill Papers, 1843-1923, contains mostly correspondence, prose writings, and poetry writings. The collection also includes photographs, postcards, and other ephemera from the life of Edward Hill. There are also some papers of Hill's family within the collection. The Edward Hill Papers are divided into three series based on when the materials were accessioned into the collection. The three series are: Series I. Edward Hill Correspondence, 1893-1923; Series II. Edward Hill Family Papers, 1875-1947; and Series III. Edward Hill Papers, 1883-1925.

Arrangement:

The Edward Hill Papers are arranged into three series:

Series I. Edward Hill Correspondence, 1893-1923

Series II. Edward Hill Family Papers, 1875-1947

Series III. Edward Hill Papers, 1883-1925

Contents List

Series I. Edward Hill Correspondence, 1893-1923

Accession Number: M 1987.013 (m)

Extent: 1 folder, 8 items

Scope and Content: Edward Hill Correspondence, 1893-1923, is composed entirely of letters written to and from Edward Hill and his three sons: Thomas Allen, George Wilder, and Ralph Waldo. One letter between Thomas Allen and George Wilder contains a pressed flower attached to paper and signed Thomas A. Hill.

Series II. Edward Hill Family Papers, 1875-1947

Accession Number: M 1990.038

Extent: 1 box

Scope and Content: The bulk of Series two consists of the prose and poetry writings of Edward Hill, much in his handwriting. There is a folder of correspondence regarding the patenting of a Ford Auto starter, which includes letters from the inventor, the lawyers, the United States Patent Office, and Edward Hill. Papers dealing with Hill's family include newspaper clippings about Edward Hill, his travels and his death; one article concerning Edward's brother; naturalization papers for Hill's father; Masonic dues cards; and a few items of Ralph Waldo Hill.

Folder 1 Family papers, 1875-1923

Folder 2	Masonic dues, notices, etc., 1870-1919
Folder 3	Ralph Waldo Hill papers, 1870-1947
Folder 4	Ford Auto starter patent, 1911-1918
Folder 5	Miscellaneous prose stories, not dated
Folder 6	“Old Jonathan,” not dated
Folder 7	Poetry, 1902-1906
Folder 8	Poetry, 1907
Folder 9	Photocopies of Poetry written in 1907
Folder 10	Poetry, 1910-1921
Folder 11	Poetry, not dated
Folder 12	Miscellaneous papers, 1917, not dated

Series III. Edward Hill Papers, 1875-1925

Accession Number: M 2007.001

Extent: 1 box

Scope and Content: The third series contains correspondence, postcards, poetry, and miscellaneous ephemera. Much of the series is written from Hood River, OR, where Hill lived at the end of his life. Some of the correspondence also documents Hill’s trip through Italy, France, and England, in 1893. Hill wrote some of his letters from Europe on the reverse of programs and menus. There are also letters written while Hill lived in New Hampshire. Hill illustrated some of his letters.

Folder 1	Correspondence, 1875-1885
Folder 2	Correspondence, 1893-1923
Folder 3	Postcards, 1893-1915
Folder 4	Poetry, 1903-1907, not dated
Folder 5	Ephemera, 1875-1925
Folder 6	Photographs
Folder 7	Correspondence and miscellaneous papers, not dated

Subject Terms

Subjects:

- Artists
- Automobiles
- Landscape painters
- Masons
- Patents
- Poetry

Locations:

Denver, CO
Florence, Italy
Gardner, MA
Hood River, OR
Littleton, NH
London, United Kingdom
Los Angeles, CA
Naples, Italy
Nashua, NH
New Boston, NH
Portland, OR
Rome, Italy
Seattle, WA
Salt Lake City, UT
Venice, Italy
White Mountains, NH

People:

Hill, Edward, 1843-1923
Hill, George Wilder, born 1873
Hill, Ralph Waldo, born 1870
Hill, Thomas, 1829-1903
Hill, Thomas Allen, born 1880

Related Materials

The following are library materials related to George Hamilton Perkins housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society:

“Nature’s Nobleman, Edward Hill and His Art.” *Historical New Hampshire*, Vol. 44, Nos. 1 and 2, Spring/Summer, 1989.

Plymouth State College Art Gallery. *Edward Hill: A Man of his Time, March 8 – April 26, 1985*. Plymouth: Plymouth State College Art Gallery, 1985.

The New Hampshire Historical Society Museum holds many of Edward Hill’s paintings drawings, and sketchbooks.