

Charles L. Sampson Collection Finding Aid MS126

Charles L. Sampson Collection (MS126)
1836-1986



Title Statement

Charles L. Sampson Collection Finding Aid MS126

Publication Statement

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717 Queen Street
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lhsc@alexlibraryva.org
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Profile Description

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Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MS126

Unit Date

1836-1986

Language

English .

Creator

Sampson, Charles L. (Charles Levi), 1915-2001

Extent

6.94 Cubic Feet 11 boxes

Repository

Local History and Special Collections Branch, Alexandria Library

Administrative Information

Biographical / Historical

Charles L. Sampson was a member of the Alexandria Volunteer Fire Department for over 40 years and was particularly associated with Columbia Engine Company #4. Interested in the history of the Alexandria Fire

Department, Sampson obtained the research papers of another volunteer fireman named William F. Hellmuth. Sampson's papers stem from Hellmuth's research.

Content Description

The collection contains the combined research papers of Charles L. Sampson and William F. Hellmuth. Sampson compiled and rewrote much of Hellmuth's research, producing short histories on the individual engine companies of the Alexandria Fire Department. Sampson also typescripted many articles from the Alexandria Gazette as well as primary documents like the Auditor's Annual Statement (1893) and correspondence. In addition to the research papers, the collection also contains correspondence from the Columbia Engine Co. #4 and the Alexandria Fire Department, meeting minutes, certificates, articles, and a few pictures. Sampson's research primarily covers the history of the Alexandria Fire Department from its beginning in 1774 with the organization of the Friendship Company to the 1960's. It also bound volumes of minutes, accounts, and other records from various fire companies and scrapbooks of news clippings about the department. The collection also includes Sampson's photographs covering not only fire related subjects but also Alexandria in general.

Keywords

Fire departments -- Virginia -- Alexandria

Fires -- Virginia -- Alexandria

Arrangement

Arrangement is by subject and divided into the following eight series.

I. Alexandria Fire Department Miscellaneous This series contains miscellaneous materials about the Alexandria Fire Department and general information.

II. Engine Companies This series contains items pertaining to the history of the Alexandria Fire Department and its individual engine companies. The series is further divided into the following categories: Individual Engine Company Names (ex: Columbia Engine Co. #4); General, which contains information relevant to all the engine companies; and, the Research Notes of William Hellmuth.

III. Events This series contains items pertaining to particular fires that occurred in Alexandria and are organized chronologically.

IV. Miscellaneous This series contains all items which do not directly relate to the Alexandria Fire Department and includes general notes and articles on firefighting.

V. Record Books This series contains bound volumes containing logs, minutes, membership rolls and financial information.

VI. Scrapbooks This series consists of scrapbooks containing news clippings relating to the Alexandria Fire Department from 1966-1986.

VII. Photographs This series of Sampson's photographs includes some fire department related materials but also photos featuring Alexandria in general.

VIII. Scrapbook Photographs Photos of different places in Alexandria, generally identified by street.

Description of Subordinate Components

Series I: General, 1844 - 1981

General--History: Includes papers entitled "History of the Alexandria Fire Dept." and "History by Companies"

Text 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

General--Notes: Includes papers entitled "General Info. Fire Dept. and Other Interesting Facts" and "Notes", and two photocopies of unidentified pictures.

Text 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

General--Typescript of Auditor's Annual Statement (1893) and Laws of Alexandria, D.C. (1844)

Unit Date 1844-1893

Text 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Alexandria Fire Dept and Volunteer Fire Dept.--Miscellaneous Documents: Newsletter, resolutions, memos, meeting minutes, and correspondence

Unit Date 1953-1981

Text 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Series II: Engine Companies, 1861 - 1984

Alexandria Hose and Engine Co., Crescent Fire Co., Hope Hose Co.--Notes: Typescript of meeting minutes, notices, and notes

Text 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Columbia Engine Co. #4--History: Typescript Alexandria Gazette articles (1930, 1941), paper entitled "Columbia Engine Co. #4 (formerly Star Company)," two pictures

Unit Date 1930-1941

Text 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Columbia Engine Co. #4--Miscellaneous Documents: Checks , correspondence , resolutions of respect certificates , draft of new constitution and by-laws

Unit Date 1943-1972

Text 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Columbia Engine Co. #4--Typescript of Old Record Book

Unit Date 1872-1967

Text 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Columbia Engine Co. #4--Search for Missing Property--Correspondence

Unit Date 1972-1974

Text 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Columbia Engine Co. #4--History of the Tower Bell: Correspondence (1984), Typescript of Alexandria Gazette articles (1971-1976)

Unit Date 1971-1984

Text 1 (box)

Container 10 (folder)

Friendship Fire Co.--History: List of Co. Members, paper entitled "Info. Compiled from Research of William F. Hellmuth"

Text 1 (box)

Container 11 (folder)

Hydraulion Engine Co.--History: Paper entitled "History of Hydraulion Steam Fire Engine Company"

Text 1 (box)

Container 12 (folder)

Potomac Engine Co.--Photocopied Pictures

Text 1 (box)

Container 13 (folder)

Relief Fire Co.--History: Booklet entitled "1788...A History of the Relief Truck and Engine Company No. 1 of the Alexandria Fire Dept. Alex. VA...1958," paper entitled "Relief Fire Co. History," news clipping (1921), typescript of news clipping (1925)

Unit Date 1921-1958

Text 1 (box)

Container 14 (folder)

Relief Fire Co.--Death of George Whalen: Typescript of witness accounts, picture of tombstone

Text 1 (box)

Container 15 (folder)

Star Fire Co.--History: Paper entitled "History of Star Fire Company"

Text 1 (box)

Container 16 (folder)

Sun Fire Co.--History: Paper entitled "Sun Fire Co--Alexandria Fire Dept."

Text 1 (box)

Container 17 (folder)

Sun Fire Co.--Controversy of 1861 Engine: Paper entitled "The Stolen (?) Hand Drawn Fire Engine"

Text 1 (box)

Container 18 (folder)

Research Notes of William Hellmuth

Text 1 (box)

Container 19 (folder)

Research Notes of William Hellmuth

Text 1 (box)

Container 20 (folder)

Research Notes of William Hellmuth

Text 1 (box)

Container 21 (folder)

Research Notes of William Hellmuth

Text 1 (box)

Container 22 (folder)

Series III: Events, 1841 - 1974

Destructive Fires (1841-1925): Typescript of Alexandria Gazette articles

Unit Date 1841-1925

Text 1 (box)

Container 23 (folder)

Fire of 1855: Typescripts of Alexandria Gazette articles, obituaries, tributes of respect (1855), typescript of Alexandria Gazette article (1974), pictures of monument at Ivy Hill and volunteer firemen, research on location of the graves of 7 firemen killed in the fire

Unit Date 1855-1974

Text 1 (box)

Container 24 (folder)

Market House Fire of 1871: Typescript of Alexandria Gazette article

Unit Date 1871

Text 1 (box)

Container 25 (folder)

Series IV: Miscellaneous, 1836 - 1982

Notes on Firemen Occupation

Text 1 (box)

Container 26 (folder)

Family Circle Magazine with article on Fire Service: Article entitled "Call Out the Vamps," p. 20

Unit Date 1942

Text 1 (box)

Container 27 (folder)

Volunteers a Vanishing Breed, editorial from MD Fire and Rescue Bulletin

Unit Date 1982-05

Text 1 (box)

Container 28 (folder)

Richmond Fire Dept.--History: Paper entitled "Richmond Bureau of Fire"

Text 1 (box)

Container 29 (folder)

Police Deaths: Typescript of Alexandria Gazette article

Unit Date 1930

Text 1 (box)

Container 30 (folder)

Jackson City--History: Typescript of letters, research notes of William Hellmuth

Unit Date 1836-1847

Text 1 (box)

Container 31 (folder)

Fire Company Miscellaneous

Unit Date 1967-1985

Text 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Pad of Membership Application from the Friendship Veterans Fireman's Association

Text 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Alexandria Fire Department Executive Committee - Salvage Committee Report

Unit Date 1967

Text 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Appointment Calendar "Workhorses of Yesteryear"

Unit Date 1985

Text 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Miscellaneous: Non-Fire Company Related

Unit Date 1894-1950

Text 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Card from Fleishman's Hotel 110 & 117 S. Royal St., Alexandria, Va.

Text 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Letter from Drummond Tobacco Co. to Dear Sir, St. Louis Missouri

Unit Date 1894-12-24

Text 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Prayer by an Unknown Confederate Soldier

Text 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

10 Menus from Various Restaurants in Norfolk, Petersburg, Detroit, Mich., etc.

Unit Date ca. 1950

Text 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Series V: Record Books, Mar 1871 - Sep 1980

Ledger

Unit Date 1871-03-06-1876

Books 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Columbia Steam Fire Co. - Log Book

Unit Date 1892-1895

Books 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Columbia Steam Engine Fire Company #4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1898-10-06-1906-07-04

Books 3 (box)
Container 1 (folder)

Reliance Steam Fire Engine Co. #5 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1910-02-1919-05
Books 3 (box)
Container 2 (folder)

Columbia Engine Co. #4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1919-08-20-1930-12-09
Books 3 (box)
Container 3 (folder)

Columbia Engine and Motor Co. #4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1945-06-06-1951-06-19
Books 3 (box)
Container 4 (folder)

Columbia Engine & Motor Co., No. 4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1947-02-05-1954-10-06
Books 3 (box)
Container 5 (folder)

Columbia Engine & Motor Co., No. 4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1951-07-11-1957-07-23
Books 3 (box)
Container 6 (folder)

Columbia Engine & Motor Co., No. 4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1957-08-07-1962-03-07
Books 3 (box)
Container 7 (folder)

Columbia Engine & Motor Co., No. 4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1962-04-04-1967-12
Books 3 (box)
Container 8 (folder)

Columbia Engine Co. #4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1968-02-1980-09
Books 3 (box)
Container 9 (folder)

Relief Truck & Engine Co. 1 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1872-1883
Books 4 (box)
Container 1 (folder)

Columbia Steam Fire Engine Co. 4 - Roll Book

Unit Date 1904-1915

Books 4 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Columbia Steam Fire Engine Co. 4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1906-1913

Books 4 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Columbia Steam Fire Engine Co. 4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1913-1919

Books 4 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Columbia Steam Fire Engine Co. 4 - Roll Book

Unit Date 1915-1922

Books 4 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Relief Truck & Engine Co. 1 - Cash Book

Unit Date 1916-1924

Books 4 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Columbia Engine & Motor Co., 4 - Roll Book

Unit Date 1923-1940

Books 5 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Columbia Engine & Motor Co., 4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1931-1945

Books 5 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Columbia Engine & Motor Co., 4 - Membership Roll

Unit Date 1934-1938

Books 5 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Columbia Engine & Motor Co., 4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1935-1946

Books 5 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Columbia Engine Co. 4 - Roll Book

Unit Date 1939-1947

Books 6 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Columbia Engine Co. 4 - Roll Book

Unit Date 1947-1959

Books 6 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Columbia Engine & Motor Co., 4 - Minute Book

Unit Date 1954-1971

Books 6 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Fireman's Magazine, VA State Fireman's Association

Unit Date 1949-1950

Books 6 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Series VI: Scrapbooks, 1966 - 1986**History Clippings**

Unit Date 1966-1977-06-29

Text 7 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

History Clippings

Unit Date 1977-11-29-1979-03-31

Text 7 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

History Clippings

Unit Date 1979-03-29-1981-12-21

Text 7 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Alexandria Newspaper Clippings

Unit Date 1982-01-05-1983-08-26

Text 8 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

History

Unit Date 1982-1984-11-20

Text 8 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

History, Mixed

Unit Date 1984-07-05-1986-01-02

Text 8 (box)

Container 3 (folder)