Collins, Porter papers

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Description is written in: English.
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Friends of Wood Memorial Library and Museum
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P.O. Box 131
South Windsor, CT 06074
Business Number: 860-289-1783
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URL: https://woodmemoriallibrary.org/
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Summary Information

Repository: Friends of Wood Memorial Library and Museum
Creator: Collins, Porter Allen
Title: Porter Collins papers
ID: 2021.13
ID [aspace_uri]: /repositories/21/resources/1108
Date [inclusive]: 1825-2014
Physical Description: 0.71 Cubic Feet
Language of the Material: English.
Abstract: The Porter Collins papers, 1825-2014, consist of materials compiled by South Windsor town historian Porter Collins, documenting the history of South Windsor and the Collins family.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Porter Collins papers (2021.13), Wood Memorial Library and Museum, South Windsor, CT.

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Biographical / Historical

Porter Allen Collins was born in Manchester, CT, on November 22, 1923 to Asher and Madelyn (Barnes) Collins. Porter attended grammar school at Wapping Five Corners, graduated from Ellsworth High School (South Windsor), and attended the University of Connecticut.

Porter worked several jobs over his life, including operating his family farm, Sunnyside Farm; as a school bus driver; as a supervisor at the McCormick Tobacco Company; and as a gift shop and Christmas tree farm owner. He taught adult education courses in history and floral design in Rockville, Manchester, East Windsor, and South Windsor. He was on the Bank of Rockville's advisory board and had been a courier for the South Windsor Board of Education.
Porter was an avid local historian. He served on the South Windsor Historic Commission, was a member of the South Windsor Historical Society, and wrote newspaper articles about South Windsor history. Porter was sexton of South Windsor's Wapping Cemetery for 45 years and served on the Cemetery Association's board of directors. In 1992, South Windsor appointed Porter its first town historian.


Porter was a lifelong resident of South Windsor. He passed away on December 9, 1994.

Scope and Contents

The Porter Collins papers, 1825-2014, consist of materials compiled by South Windsor town historian Porter Collins, documenting the history of South Windsor and the Collins family. The collection contains research files, which include newspaper clippings, photographs, and documents; a scrapbook; historical manuscripts, and histories of South Windsor and the Collins family.

Series 1. Historical research files (1850-1994) contains historical research files bearing on South Windsor history, Connecticut history, and U.S. history. Research files include newspaper clippings, photographs, and documents. We have preserved the original order of materials within files and arranged files chronologically.

Series 2. Collins family history (1825-2014) includes historical manuscripts, such as educational records, account books, a South Windsor bill, and a historical marriage certificate; and a history of the Collins family written after Porter's death.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in two series: Series 1. Historical research files; Series 2. Collins family history.
Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Conditions Governing Access

There are no restrictions on access to the collection for research use. Particularly fragile items may be restricted for preservation purposes.

Conditions Governing Use

Requests for permission to publish should be directed to the Wood Memorial Library archives staff. It is the responsibility of the researcher to identify and satisfy the holders of all copyrights.

Controlled Access Headings

- South Windsor (Conn.)
- Photographs
- Scrapbooks
- Research Notes
- South Windsor (Conn.)--History
- South Windsor (Conn. : Town)--Genealogy
- Schools--Connecticut—South Windsor
## Collection Inventory

### Series 1. Historical research files, 1850-1994

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
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<tr>
<td>Receipts and writing practice, 1850-1856</td>
<td>box Collins 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome to South Windsor scrapbook (1 of 2), 1853-1979</td>
<td>box Collins 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welcome to South Windsor scrapbook (2 of 2), 1853-1979</td>
<td>box Collins 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pleasant Valley first school, 1862</td>
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<td>Wapping, 1863-1993</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excerpts from the History of South Windsor by Judge Ralph M. Grant, plus supplemental files, Circa 1880-1985</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Windsor and South Windsor people (1 of 2), 1944-1994</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Windsor and South Windsor people (2 of 2), 1944-1994</td>
<td>box Collins 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of U.S. executive branch, 1945</td>
<td>box Collins 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>The South Windsor story [local history writeup], Circa 1970</td>
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<tr>
<td>Native Americans in Connecticut, 1970</td>
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<td>Untitled folder [primarily South Windsor], 1986-1994</td>
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<td>Town of South Windsor 150th anniversary calendar dedicated to Porter Collins, 1995</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connecticut witches, Undated</td>
<td>box Collins 2</td>
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<td>Windsor area cemetery listings, Undated</td>
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South Windsor: The History of Your Town, by Ann Cravin, Undated

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<th>folder skip</th>
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<td>Collins family, 1825-Circa 1970</td>
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<td>Bill of the 8th School District, South Windsor, by District Commissioner Collins, 1857</td>
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<td>James Barber - Elizabeth Collins marriage certificate, 1886</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collins account book, 1916-1922</td>
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<td>Collins account book, 1927-1929</td>
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<td>The Collins Family of South Windsor, 1575-2010, by Sherrill S. Collins, 2014</td>
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</table>

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