

Hannum family papers

04

**Finding aid prepared by Celia Caust-Ellenbogen and Sarah
Leu through the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden
Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories.**

Last updated on December 11, 2014.

Kennett Township Historical Commission

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Summary Information

Repository	Kennett Township Historical Commission
Creator	Hannum family
Title	Hannum family papers
Call number	04
Date	circa 1850-1950
Extent	2.5 linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	<p>The Hannum family were members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) based in and around Kennett Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. Charles Beverly Hannum (born 1861) was employed at times as a railroad agent and owner of a general store. One of his sons, Edward Darlington Hannum (1892-1977), worked variously as a postmaster, greenhouse manager, florist, and mushroom grower. The Hannum family papers, circa 1850-1950, consist of various materials from the Hannum, Cloud, and Darlington families, including photographs, scrapbooks, financial records, and other documents. Best represented are Charles B. Hannum and Edward D. Hannum.</p>

Biography/History

The Hannum family were members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) based in and around Kennett Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania.

Charles Beverly Hannum was born in Chester County in 1861. At times he was employed as a railroad agent and owner of a general store. He married Caroline Darlington in 1890, and the couple had three sons: Edward Darlington Hannum (1892-1977), William T. Hannum (born 1895), and Charles Beverly Hannum, Jr. (born 1900).

Edward Darlington Hannum (1892-1977) married Sarah B. Cloud circa 1915, and the couple had two sons together: Joseph C. and Edward T. He was a graduate of Cedarcroft School in East Marlborough Township. At various times, he listed his occupation as postmaster, greenhouse manager, florist, and mushroom grower. Mushrooms became a dominant force in the local economy over the course of the 20th century; by the turn of the 21st century, well over half of the mushrooms consumed in the United States were produced in southern Chester County.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of various papers of the Hannum, Cloud, and Darlington families, including photographs, scrapbooks, financial records, and other documents. Best represented are Charles B. Hannum and Edward D. Hannum; there are also papers from Mary Matilda Cloud (1850s), Carrie D. Hannum (1890s-1910s), Eva L. Hannum, and others. Of interest are: a diary from J. Frank Hannum, 1871-1872 (transcription available on-site); postal account records from E. B. Darlington, postmaster of Norway (later renamed Rosedale, Kennett Township), 1887-1889; and store ledgers, presumably from the Hannum's general store, dating from the 1870s-1890s and from the 1940s.

Administrative Information

Kennett Township Historical Commission

Finding aid prepared by Celia Caust-Ellenbogen and Sarah Leu through the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories.

Sponsor

This preliminary finding aid was created as part of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories. The HCI-PSAR project was made possible by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Access Restrictions

Contact Kennett Township Historical Commission for information about accessing this collection.

Immediate Source of Acquisition Note

Gift of Sara Hannum Meadows, 2014.

Processing Information Note

Summary descriptive information on this collection was compiled in 2012-2014 as part of a project conducted by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania to make better known and more accessible the largely hidden collections of small, primarily volunteer run repositories in the Philadelphia area. The Hidden Collections Initiative for Pennsylvania Small Archival Repositories (HCI-PSAR) was funded by a grant from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

This is a preliminary finding aid. No physical processing, rehousing, reorganizing, or folder listing was accomplished during the HCI-PSAR project.

In some cases, more detailed inventories or finding aids may be available on-site at the repository where this collection is held; please contact Kennett Township Historical Commission directly for more information.

Controlled Access Headings

Family Name(s)

- Hannum family

Geographic Name(s)

- Chester County (Pa.)
- Delaware County (Pa.)
- Kennett (Pa. : Township)

Personal Name(s)

- Hannum, Charles B.
- Hannum, Edward D., 1892-1977

Subject(s)

- Genealogy
- General stores
- Local history
- Postmasters