Inventory of the Tercentenary Celebration, Kennebunkport, Collection (Collection #74)

The Brick Store Museum
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by J. Butler, Manuscript Curator
December 7, 1993

Table of Contents:
Physical Description
Box and Folder Breakdown

Physical Description:

This collection of materials was amassed by Harry Small, owner of the Shawmut Inn, Kennebunkport, and one-time employer of the donor, while he was chairman of Kennebunkport’s tercentenary celebration in 1953.

It includes correspondence, lists of donors, committee notes and reports, a mock-up of the final program, artists’ drawings, financial records, newspaper articles, etc. In its totality, the collection presents not only a look at how such an event is planned for and executed in a small town (including the disappointments, failures, squabbles), but a look at Kennebunkport in particular. Here are the social levels – the literary lights, the Cape Arundel socialites, the local people who had roots in the town, and the newer commercial class. It is an interesting social collection.

The collection is stored in one box. Its access number is 1992-61.1-14.

Box and Folder Breakdown:

Box 1:

Folder 1: Notes concerning constitution and by-laws of the Historical Society of Kennebunkport. Miscellaneous items pertaining to the planning of the tercentenary. Historical Society stationery, etc.

Folder 2: Items concerning the republishing of Kenneth Roberts’s Arundel in a special edition for the celebration.

Folder 3: Correspondence, 12/1952 – 11/1953
Folder 4: Miscellaneous brochures, programs, invitations
Folder 5: Bills, receipts, and correspondence regarding bills
Folder 6: Lists and notes pertaining to program advertising
Folder 7: Edward Mayo drawings for the program
Folder 8: Committee notes, reports, etc.
Folder 9: Correspondence and lists concerning donations for expenses. Includes many of Kennebunkport’s notable summer people, including Anna Roberts, G. H. Walker, Susannah Tarkington, Betty Trotter.
Folder 10: Open House brochures, the Kennebunks, 1931, 1939, 1949
Open House brochure, Eliot, Maine, 1952
300th Anniversary brochure, Wells, ME, 1953
Just Down Maine Folks and Places, Vol. 1, No. 1, with Chronicles of Kennebunkport, ME, enclosed
Seacrest Inn advertising flyer
Arundel Opera Theater materials
Shawmut Inn, envelopes (2)
Shawmut Inn, Annual Bugle (newsletter), 5/5/1950
Town of Kennebunkport stationery
List of items given to Mr. Charles Small by Mrs. George Weinstein 5/10/1953
Folder 11: Mock-up of tercentenary program
Folder 12: Photocopies of newspaper articles

The following are also in this box:

Program, Coronation Ball, Elizabeth II, England, 1953
Two copies 300th Anniversary Program, one with program for submission re-enactment
The Fine Cone, magazine, Summer 1953. Lead article on the 300th celebration of Wells and the Kennebunks.

The following are stored elsewhere, as indicated:

Kennebunkport Playhouse program, 1951 season. Misc. Box 17, Folder 12
Coming Events poster for tercentenary celebration. Misc. Box (0) #1, Folder 2

# # #