

Addison Hutton Papers, 1823-1926

Coll. .no..1122

Finding aid prepared by Diana Franzusoff Peterson

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December 15, 2011

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Table of Contents

<u>Summary Information</u>	3
<u>Biographical note</u>	4
<u>Summary of collection</u>	4
<u>Administrative Information</u>	4
<u>Related Materials</u>	5
<u>Collection Inventory</u>	6
<u>Correspondence</u>	6

Summary Information

Repository	Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections
Creator	Hutton, Addison, 1834-1916
Title	Addison Hutton papers
Date	1823-1926
Extent	489.0 Items 2 document boxes and 4 packages
General Physical Description note	2 document boxes and 4 packages (489 items)
Language	English
Abstract	Papers consist of the correspondence of 19th-century Quaker architect Addison Hutton, primarily outgoing from Hutton; diaries, personal and business; and other materials.

Preferred Citation note

Haverford College Library, Haverford, PA, Special Collections, Quaker Collection, Addison Hutton papers, Coll. no. 1122

Biographical note

Addison Hutton (1834-1916) was born in Sewickley Township, Westmoreland County, PA, the son of Joel Wright and Anna Mains Hutton. He was briefly educated in Friends' schools. In 1850, he began apprenticeship as a carpenter with his father, later worked in a factory where he received lessons in architectural drawing from a fellow workman. From 1857-1861, he served as clerk and draftsman in the office of Samuel Sloan in Philadelphia, and by 1864, was a partner in the firm where he received architectural commissions, including the State Hospital in Middletown, CN, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Overbrook, PA and the first building on Swarthmore College's campus in Swarthmore, PA, Parrish Hall. After 1868, Hutton independently received many architectural commissions, including Barclay Hall at Haverford College (1875), Taylor and Merion Halls at Bryn Mawr College (1878), George School in Newtown, PA (1855), Women's Medical College in Philadelphia (1874), Vail Memorial Library at Lincoln University (1897) and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia (1902). Addison Hutton was a member of Philadelphia Monthly Meeting for the Western District (Society of Friends).

Summary of collection

Papers consist of the correspondence of Addison Hutton, primarily outgoing from Hutton; diaries, personal and business; genealogical studies of the Hutton family; letterbook, 1905-09; list of contracts, 1898-1908; miscellaneous papers and documents; reminiscences of Addison Hutton and Finley Hutton, his brother. Also two framed photographs of John and Rachel Cresson, great-grandparents of Mary Hutton Biddle and Thomas and Sarah Garrett, great-grandparents of James Biddle, Mary Hutton's husband, and two framed samplers stitched by Elizabeth Cresson in 1819 and Rebecca Savery (Hutton) in 1836.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections

Conditions Governing Access note

This collection is open for research use.

Conditions Governing Use note

Copyright restrictions may apply. Please contact the Archives with requests for copying and for authorization to publish, quote or reproduce the material.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Esther Biddle Yarnall gift, 1973.

Related Materials

Separated Materials note

Architectural drawings in 910I; one sampler in Special Collections cage.

One framed sampler and 2 photographs on shelf next to collection.

Correspondence

Collection Inventory

Genealogies. 3 items.

	Box	Folder
Mixed Materials	Box 1	Folder 1

Scope and Contents note

[Two genealogical studies of the Hutton family prepared by Finley Hutton, ca. 1916, and Gilbert Cope, n.d., and a family tree]

Folder

Folder 4

Reminiscences. 6 items.

Scope and Contents note

[partial autobiography of A.H.; partial biography of A.H. by Finley Hutton; and autobiographical recollections of Finley Hutton]

Correspondence**Folder**

Folder 2

Letters to Addison Hutton and miscellaneous letters, 1847-1926. 57 items.

Letter from J. W. (Joel W.) Hutton to James and Ann McGrew, dated Sewickley, 9 mo. 25th 1853,

Correspondence

Scope and Contents note

[gives his ideas on some of the meanings of Quakerism]

Letter from Joel W. Hutton to cousin, (James McGrew), dated Sewickley, 7 mo. 28th 1861,

Scope and Contents note

[tells of his meeting's conclusion not to contribute to war effort, but help families of soldiers in need]

Letter from Dr. Joseph Taylor to Addison Hutton, dated Burlington, N.J., 12 mo. 17, 1879,

Scope and Contents note

[re construction of Bryn Mawr College cottages]

Letter from Finley Hutton to Addison Hutton, dated Barnesville (Ohio), 9 mo 28, 1897,

Scope and Contents note

[re Separation of 1854 of Barnesville]

Letter from Finley Hutton to Mary Hutton Biddle, dated (n.p.) 7 mo. —, 1916,

Scope and Contents note

[speaks about Addison Hutton's character]

Letters of Addison Hutton, 1856-61. 51 items.

Box
Folder

Correspondence

Mixed Materials

Box 2

Folder 1

Scope and Contents note

[To sister Mary, dated Salem, 6 mo. 14, 1856, tells of getting job in carpentry business of Albert French

To brother Finley, dated Philadelphia, 12 mo 4, 1857,

Scope and Contents note

[describing Sloan offices and a walking tour of parts of Philadelphia]

To sisters Anne, Rebecca and Susan, dated 8 mo. 2, 1857,

Scope and Contents note

[advising them to read and learn bookkeeping to improve their lives]

To mother Ann Mains, dated Philadelphia, 5 mo. 24, 1857,

Scope and Contents note

[describing nature of his work at Sloan's]

To parents, dated Philadelphia, 6 mo. 7, 1857,

Scope and Contents note

[telling of architecture as life's work and ending with ornamental sketch]

To Finley, dated Philadelphia, 11 mo. 2, 1858,

Correspondence

Scope and Contents note

[names publication *City Architect*, to which he has contributed, and attributes architectural inspiration to Robert Grimacy, who gave him architectural drawing lessons in Salem]

To Mary, dated Philadelphia, 2 mo. 2, 1858,

Scope and Contents note

[tells of working on production of *Street Architecture*]

To mother, dated Philadelphia, 5 mo. 30, 1858,

Scope and Contents note

[tells of asking, but not receiving raise from \$5 to \$9 per week]

To Finley Hutton, dated Philadelphia, 1 mo. 22, 1859,

Scope and Contents note

[attending lectures at Franklin Institute in chemistry, astronomy, and mechanics]

To Mary Hutton, dated Philadelphia, 4 mo. 18, 1859,

Scope and Contents note

[reporting intention to look for better paying job in the west; attended Arch & Orange St. Meetings — "all parties seem afraid of committing themselves on the great questions of society..."]

To Mary, dated St. Louis, 5 mo. 29, 1859,

Correspondence

Scope and Contents note

r[eporting position at \$3 per day, but would like to return to Philadelphia]

To Mary, dated Philadelphia, 8 mo. 14, 1859,

Scope and Contents note

[at Sloan's for \$10 per week unless business picks up — then \$12/week]

To Finley, dated La Grange, near Woodville, Miss., 6 mo. 25, 1860,

Scope and Contents note

[tells of staying with Colonel Ventress for whom he is drawing plans for an addition to La Grange]

To Mary, dated Longwood, near Natchez, 11 mo 25, 1860,

Scope and Contents note

[on dissolution of the Union]

To Finley, dated Philadelphia, 2 mo. 3, 1861,

Scope and Contents note

[attributes Civil War to the "overreaching ambition of traitors"; if Virginia doesn't secede, confidence will be restored]

To Mary, Philadelphia, 4 mo. 4, 1861,

Scope and Contents note

Correspondence

[notes surrender of Fort Sumpter]

To Finley, Philadelphia, May 8, 1861,

Scope and Contents note

[reports work scarcity and unemployment possibility]

Folder

Folder 2

1862-66. 60 items

To mother, Philadelphia, 9 mo. 11, 1862,

Scope and Contents note

[discusses schooling of brother and sister, speaks of the draft and possible invasion of Pennsylvania]

To Mary, Pottsville, 9 mo. 17, 1862,

Scope and Contents note

[asks if Finley has claimed exemption to the draft as permitted Friends by state constitution]

To Finley, Pottsville, 9 mo. 24, 1862,

Scope and Contents note

[advising Finley not to accept draft if it comes and says he himself won't go, though would rather go "than lose my life"]

To Finley, Philadelphia, 1 mo 6, 1863,

Correspondence

Scope and Contents note

[reports that Friends are providing clothing to Contrabands (Freedmen) in Mississippi as noted in *The Friend* (vol. 36)]

To mother, Philadelphia, 9 mo. 9, 1863,

Scope and Contents note

[tells of new office of his own on Chestnut St.]

To Finley, Philadelphia, 2 mo. 1, 1865,

Scope and Contents note

[tells of going into oil business]

To Mary, Philadelphia, 4 mo. 1, 1866,

Scope and Contents note

[re Mary's possible disownment by Quaker meeting for having married a non-Quaker and how she should react]

1867-79. 56 items

Folder 3

To Mary, Philadelphia, 6 mo 2, 1867,

Scope and Contents note

To Finley, Philadelphia, 11 mo. 6, 1868,

Correspondence

Scope and Contents note

[employed to superintend building of new skating rink at 23rd and Chestnut Sts.]

To Finley, Philadelphia, 12 mo. 27, 1868,

Scope and Contents note

[work on a house in Penna. and a church in Tenn.]

To Finley, Philadelphia, 1 mo. 10, 1869,

Scope and Contents note

[about progress in construction at Swarthmore]

To Finley, Philadelphia, 4 mo. 24, 1870,

Scope and Contents note

[subpoenaed as a witness in the case of Seabrook vs. Swarthmore College; engaged to work on extension of hospital at Middletown and plans for the Rush library]

To Finley, Philadelphia, 7 mo. 20, 1870,

Scope and Contents note

[spends time in Cape May at Friends Cottage and names other visitors]

To Finley, Philadelphia, 8 mo. 21, 1870,

Scope and Contents note

Correspondence

[staying with the Smedleys in Bryn Mawr while building a cottage for himself in Bryn Mawr]

Folder 4

1880-90. 90 items

To Dr. James E. Rhoads, n.p., 1 mo. 24, 1886,

Scope and Contents note

[questioning reasons for his dismissal as Bryn Mawr College architect]

Folder 5

1891-1909. 31 items

To Mary H. Fritchman (sister), Germantown, 10 mo. 2, 1892,

Scope and Contents note

[mentions gift of new schoolhouse to Hicksite Philadelphia Friends by John M. George, to be located near Newtown, Bucks County]

To Finley, Germantown, 7 mo. 24, 1894,

Scope and Contents note

[reports John Biddle, made an elder by Select Quaker Meeting]

To Finley, Germantown, 10 mo. 7, 1894,

Scope and Contents note

Correspondence

[George Vaux and Isaac Sharpless will be overseers at the marriage of his daughter, Mary, to James Biddle]

To Finley, Germantown, 2 mo. 25, 1894,

Scope and Contents note

[refers to tariff issue and Cleveland's administration]

To Mary, Germantown, 3 mo. 22, 1896,

Scope and Contents note

[mentions several notable Quakers at meeting]

To Finley, Philadelphia, Nov. 4, 1896,

Scope and Contents note

[expresses happiness to news of McKinley's election]

To Addison Hutton Biddle, Washington, D.C., 1 mo. 9, 1907,

Scope and Contents note

[attends Architects Convention at which Sir Aston Webb receives medal from A.I.A.]

1910-1916. 44 items

Folder 6

To Finley, Wallingford, 4 mo. 9, 1910,

Correspondence

Scope and Contents note

[notes establishment of Quaker funeral procedure by Mary Baker Eddy]

To Finley, Wallingford, 5 mo., 28, 1910,

Scope and Contents note

[attends dedication of library given to the Institute for Colored Youth by "Scott's Andy"]

To Finley, Wallingford, 12 mo. 22, 1910,

Scope and Contents note

[lists books read]

Folder

Folder 3

Miscellaneous. 24 items.

Scope and Contents note

[Includes a lecture delivered by Addison Hutton to students of architecture in 1894; passport of A.H.; report of auditor on distribution of Addison Hutton's estate among the heirs; photographs of some of the buildings designed by A.H. and tracings for a painting of A.H. by Nan Yarnall]

Diaries and Letter book

1. Diaries. 1870-1915 and a diary segment, 1862-67. 43 items

Scope and Contents note

Correspondence

[Primarily personal entries, but also business entries, including accounts and copies of letters. Diary segment tells of attending lectures given by Anna Dickinson, Frederick Douglass, Charles Dickens]

2. Diaries, business. 1885-1914. 19 items.

Scope and Contents note

[Records architectural projects, contracts and bids, costs and expenses, notes on design and construction, some sketches and personal entries Various items pasted or laid in such as a map of Penna. railroad system in New Jersey laid in 1889 journal, list of Penna. legislature in 1893 journal; entries from January 17, 1902, to November 11, 1902, laid into 1903 journal. Diaries are primarily in the hand of Addison Hutton, but some probably in the hand of Walter Cresson until his death in 1893]

3. Letterbook. 1905-09. 1 item.

Scope and Contents note

[Copies of letters, personal and business, sent by Addison Hutton, with a directory of all recipients]

4. List. 1898-1908. 1 item.

Scope and Contents note

[Addison Hutton's contracts showing costs. One contract copy laid in]