Philip M. Hamer papers, ca. 1900-1973
SCHS 1219.00
Containers 24/184-227

Creator: Hamer, Phillip M.

Description: 25 linear ft.

Biographical/Historical Note: Philip M. Hamer, a native of Marion, S.C., was a historian and archivist. Dr. Hamer taught at the University of Chattanooga and then at the University of Tennessee, where he wrote a history of the state. In 1935 he joined the newly-established National Archives, and became the national director of the first nationwide survey of Federal records. Dr. Hamer compiled "A Guide to Archives and Manuscripts in the United States," which was published in 1961. In 1951 he was appointed Executive Director of the NHPC (National Historical Publications Commission). In the 1960s Dr. Hamer edited the papers of Henry Laurens.

Scope and Content: This collection consists of personal and professional papers. Personal papers include school records, diaries, personal correspondence (1919-1971), and miscellaneous items. Professional papers include correspondence; Hamer's dissertation, published as "The Secession Movement in South Carolina, 1847-1852"; a manuscript of Hamer's history of Tennessee and related papers (1927-1932); historical writings about Tennessee, Southern colonial history, slavery, and other subjects; articles for the "Dictionary of American Biography" concerning significant persons in Tennessee history; a history of the Tennessee State Medical Association, and related papers (1929-1930); research material on numerous topics (1920s-1971); records pertaining to Hamer's work at the National Archives (1935-1963); papers relating to his directorship of the NHPC (1950-1960); correspondence and other papers pertaining to the Henry Laurens papers project (1960-1971); and papers relating to Hamer's membership and activities in various historical societies and other organizations (1930-1960). Also included are papers (ca. 1936-1971) of his wife Elizabeth Edwards Hamer (later Elizabeth Kegan), an archivist and librarian.

Preferred Citation: Hamer, Philip M. (Philip May), 1891-1971. Philip M. Hamer papers, ca. 1900-1973. (1219.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:
Hamer, Philip M. (Philip May), 1891-1971.
Kegan, Elizabeth Hamer.
Laurens, Henry, 1724-1792 -- Correspondence.
National Archives (U.S.)
Archivists -- South Carolina.
Historians -- South Carolina.
Secession.
Slavery -- Southern States.
South Carolina -- History.
Southern States -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775.
Tennessee -- History.
Genre  Diaries.
Histories.
Letters (correspondence)
Manuscripts.

Container list:

24/184-185  Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Personal papers, 1915-1971
SC native, historian, and archivist. Personal papers of Philip M. Hamer include biographical information, news clippings, obituary, family history including Buck family genealogy, photographs and certificates, invitations and programs for social functions. Diaries (1915-1925, 1938) regarding school and personal life. Memo books (1951-1970) regarding appointments.

24/185-186  Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Personal, academic correspondence 1919-1935. ¾ ft.

24/187-188  Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Personal and Professional Correspondence, 1936-1971. 1 ft.
SC native, archivist. Correspondence (1936-1971) pf Philip M. Hamer and his second wife, Elizabeth E. Hamer with historians, archivists, government officials and others regarding the National Archives, the Survey of Federal Archives project, the National Historic Publications Commission, the Henry Laurens Papers, various archival projects, Philip M. Hamer’s death, expenses, politics, and other personal, social and professional matters. Correspondents from SC, Washington DC, TN, LA and elsewhere include Estes Kefauver, SJ Folmsbee, W. Neil Franklin, Solon J. Buck, Felix Frankfurter (1951, 1961); Waldo G. Leland and others regarding the nomination of Vernon Clapp to the Librarian of Congress (1953); Richard Shryuck, Lyman Butterfield, President Dwight Eisenhower (1960); L. Quincy Mumford, Julian Boyd, Charles E. Lee, and others. Chronologically arranged.

24/189-190  Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Dissertation, other school work. Ca 1915-1918. Approx ½ ft.
Graduate of Wofford (1912), Trinity College (now Duke University 1915), and the University of Penn. (1918). School work of Philip M. Hamer, including his dissertation published as The Secession Movement in SC 1847-1852 with chapters on the various political campaigns and national and state conventions. Also notes, letters, maps regarding the dissertation. Also a paper on slavery and notes from American and Southern history, economics, and German classes.

24/190/5-9 Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Government reports, 1917-1919. 5 items
Bureau of Research and Statistics of the War Trade Board employee. Writings of Philip M. Hamer and others while employed by the War Trade Board regarding the economic resources of Romania, Hungary, Yugoslavia and elsewhere in Eastern Europe. Economic mobilization for World War I paper (1917). History of economic mobilization for WWI.

24/191-192 Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Teaching records, 1920-1935. Approx 1 ¼ ft.
Professor, department chairman, graduate dean of U of TN, Knoxville. Papers include class rosters, course descriptions, lecture notes, exams, memos, correspondence regarding applications for teaching positions and for UT graduate work, papers from students, courses, course outlines, and material regarding the U.T. debate council and its debates.

24/192-194 Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Tenn. History Ms. 1927-1932. 1 ½ ft.
Tennessee historian. Ms of Philip M. Hamer’s History of Tennessee commissioned and published the American Historical Society Inc. Includes outline, correspondence between Philip M. Hamer and J.A. Dailey, editor; bibliographic notes, Tenn. History notes, articles on Tenn. Archives and bibliography, maps, election returns by TN counties (1930-1932) and political broadsides from Knoxville and elsewhere in TN (1920s-1930s).

24/195/1-15 Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Historical writings, ca. 1920-1935. ½ ft
Tenn. Historian. Mss. of various articles on TN, colonial and slave history including a biography- never completed- of John Stuart, British Superintendent of Indian affairs for the Southern District (pre-1776); another vol. never completed (though commissioned) vol. II (later vol. III) of A History of the South; the British in Canada and the Southern Indians (1790-1794); the Building of Fort Loudoun; the Records of Southern History; The Wataugans and the Cherokee Indians in 1776; General Joseph Cooper and Secession; the Negroes Seaman Act in SC (1850-1860); the Preservation of Tennessee History; and other writings and book reviews.

24/196/1-25 Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Biography ms. 1928-1932. Approx 200 items.
Maynard, Return J. Meigs, and many others. Alphabetically arranged. Also material on Philip M. Hamer’s contribution to the Dictionary of American History.

24/196-197, 197B  Hamer, Philip M. 1891-1971
Medical history ms. 1929-1930. ¾ ft.
Tenn. Historian. Ms, notes and correspondence for the Centennial History of the Tennessee State Medical Association edited and in part written by Philip M. Hamer. Also speech by Philip M. Hamer “100 Years of the TN Med. Assn,” notes on medical association by counties, biographies of prominent physician, misc. essays, an appendix and correspondence regarding the project.

24/198-199  Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Research material, 1920s-1970. 1 ft.
Tenn. Historian. Copies of mss. collected by Philip M. Hamer in the course of research includes photoduplicate correspondence (1853-1877) of Col. O.P Temple with Gov. W.G. and Susan Brownlow and Horace Maynard, transcripts of records of the Winyah and all Saints Agricultural Society of Georgetown and Horry Counties, SC- journal and original correspondence of LT. William H. and Elizabeth Crockett from TN, KY, MS (1861-1872); Alexander M. Cloud’s “old Time Tazewell: Early History and Reminiscences of the County Seat;” transcript of a diary (1863) of EH Reynolds, a Confederate Soldier fighting in TN & GA; memoirs of Alfred Buffat (1904) regarding his families’ life in Switzerland and settlement in Knoxville after 1830; Edmund Atkin biography by JA Sharp; material on William A. Bowles, James P. Brownlee, William B. Campbell, William Carroll, James L. Jones, TN steam boats, the secession movement in TN, a history of the University of Tennessee (1970), diary (1789) of Joel Watkins; West Indies trade; William Gilmore Simms, Doctor John Burrell, Abe Lincoln and the correspondence of Mary A. McKinn (1901-1903) regarding war pension.

24/200-202  Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
National Archives work, 1935-1945. 1 ¼ ft.
National Archives employee. Work files, memos, reports, and correspondence regarding Philip M. Hamer’s work at the National Archives, including the survey of the Dept. of the Interiors records, much material on the WPA’s Survey of Federal Archives with records of ship registers for various coastal states and material regarding the finding medium committee of the National Archives.

24/202-203  Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
National Archives Papers, 1945-1950. ¾ ft.
Archivist at the National Archives. Correspondence, notes, reports, analyses, drafts of mss and handbooks (1945-1950) regarding the government records of WWII under the War Protection Board with material on the records of various agencies during the war. Also speech of Philip M. Hamer regarding the government records regarding Pennsylvania in WWII.

National Archives Projects, 1938-1963. 2 ft.
Archivist. Correspondence, memos, project reports, records, drafts of mss, analysis, policy statements, and other material of Philip M. Hamer’s career at the National Archives including work regarding the Civil Works Administration, the Works Progress Administration, budget
policy (1943-1947); Historical Records survey Projects (1940-1941); draft of ms for function and procedure manual at the NA; quarterly reports of the NA (1950), reports of the Interagency Records Administration Conference (1945-1948), NUCMC (1964-1965), European Archival sources, the Institute on the Preservation & Administration of Archives (1963). Also status slips on Philip M. Hamer (1943-1947), preliminary records of various federal agencies (1940s); Philip M. Hamer’s daily reports of activities (1935, 1938, 1942-1948).

24/207-208  **Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971**  
Archival writings, ca. 1935-1968. ¾ ft.  
SC native and archivist at the national Archives. Reports, speech mss, drafts of mss, statements and printed articles of Philip M. Hamer’s archival writings and others includes memos and reports on archival policy; reviews and notes regarding Philip M. Hamer’s Guide to Archives and Manuscripts and articles such as... “adventures of a Middleman in History,” “The Discovery of Unpublished Historical Documents,” and various other articles by Philip M. Hamer and others on the archival profession.

24/208-214  **Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971**  
Director of National Historic Publications Commission. Correspondence, drafts of mss, reports, and other material of Philip M. Hamer and others regarding the founding of the NHPC, Philip M. Hamer’s work on the Commissions reports to the President (early 1950s) entitled “A National Program for the Publishing of Historical Documents.” Also included are biographies and sources of Americans under consideration and the actual projects progress such as the Jefferson or Adams Papers supported by the NHPC. Also daily journal of Philip M. Hamer’s activities with NHPC.

24/212-213  **Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971**  
Archivist and co-editor of the Henry Laurens Papers. Correspondence of Philip M. Hamer’s while co-editor of the Henry Laurens Papers, funded by the National Historical Publications commission and SCHS, published by USC press. Also misc. papers, essays, pamphlets, reviews, and other information regarding Laurens, including the ms. of Philip M. Hamer’s speech; “Henry Laurens, Neglected Patriot” (1955).

24/214-220  **Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971**  
Professional, Historical organization papers, 1930-1970. 3 ft.  
Archivist and Historian; Correspondence, writings, announcements of conferences and meetings of professional or historical organizations Philip M. Hamer was involved with (1930-1970). Organizations included are: The American Association for State and Local history (1946-1965); American Historical Association (1938-1960); East Tennessee Historical Society (1930-1967); Institute of Early American History (1958-1959); Massachusetts Historical Society (1960) includes material regarding Henry Laurens; Mississippi Valley Historical Association (1930-1961); SCHS, Society of American Archivist (1937-1970) with Philip M. Hamer involvement as member of the Joint Committee on Historical Manuscripts, as vice president (1959) and President (1960), the professional standards committee and a working paper for a grant to survey state archives, the SAA directory and SAA meetings material; the Southern Historical
Association (1934-1958); the Henry Truman Library Institute (1954); and misc. historical societies and many other organizations. Alphabetically arranged.

24/220-223 Hamer, Philip M., 1891-1971
Social, Educational, Political Organization papers, 1930-1970. 1 ¼ ft.
Archivist and historian. Correspondence, invitations, membership fee, receipts and other material of Philip M. Hamer’s involvement in social, educational, or political organizations. Among the organizations are the Authors Club (1942-1961), Brown University (1962-1969); Clemson University (1963); the Cosmos Club, Washington DC (1942-1969) with work on the Library Committee and membership nominations; the Democratic Party (1936); Duke University (1936-1964); Kappa Alpha Fraternity (1962-1966); Tennessee State Teachers Association (1930-1932) and the Wofford College Alumni (1933-1970). Alphabetically arranged.

24/223 Hamer, Philip Boscomb, fl. 1920s
Papers, 1920s. 20 items
Wofford College graduate, father of Philip May Hamer. Annotated directory of Kappa Alpha Order (1865-1922) and lists of Kappa Alpha fathers and Sons and other material regarding the fraternity. Correspondence of Philip B. Hamer (1920s).

24/224-227 Hamer, Elizabeth Edwards, m. 1940
Papers, ca 1936-1971. 1 ¾ ft.