

Daniel Shaw Papers

Cambridge Historical Commission
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Provenance: Received by the Cambridge Historical Commission in July 1995.

Collection ID: CHC014

Dates: 1844-1879

Extent: 1 document box

Finding aid by: Meta Partenheimer, July 2017

Access: Collection is available for research under the CHC rules of use

Processing Note: One photograph of an unidentified woman was removed and placed with the archival storage box "Misc. People." It was labeled "Daniel W. Shaw Collection" for identification purposes. Fifteen 1" by 2" cards that had illustrations on them which only could be seen when held to a light were given to SPNEA in July of 1995.

Historical and Biographical Note:

Daniel W. Shaw was co-owner of the Shaw & Applin Furniture Company, manufacturers of wholesale parlor, office, lodge and church furniture. Formerly called Braman, Shaw & Co., it became Shaw & Applin after 1877 when Daniel Shaw and Sumner Applin succeeded H.B. Braman. The company's salesrooms were located at 27 Sudbury Street and 71 Portland Street in Boston and its factory was at 54 Bridge Street, East Cambridge. From 1890 to 1968, the Cambridge city directory lists the company's name as the Shaw Furniture Co, and after 1912 it is listed at 50 Second Street, East Cambridge.

Shaw was also treasurer of the North Cambridge Masonic Charity Lodge, located at 147 North Avenue, from its inception in 1870 until 1882.

In addition, it appears that Shaw was an officer in the North Avenue Orthodox Congregational Society, located at 1803 Massachusetts Avenue (formerly North Avenue), since he played a role in the construction of its parsonage at 21 Roseland Street in 1873. Founded in 1857 as the Holmes Congregational Society, it became the North Avenue Orthodox Congregational Society in 1867.

Collection Description:

The Shaw Collection is comprised of 25 folders of Daniel W. Shaw's personal correspondence; his papers relating to both the Braman Shaw & Co., and the Shaw & Applin Furniture Company, including receipts and bills from Cambridge-area businesses; several personal account books; and various insurance policy contracts. The collection also includes miscellaneous papers relating to Shaw's position as treasurer of the North Cambridge Masonic Charity Lodge and bills and receipts associated with the 1873 construction of a parsonage on Roseland Street in Cambridge for the North Avenue Orthodox Congregational Society.

Folder list:

1. Personal account/notebooks, 1875-1878
2. Personal correspondence, 1863-1879
3. Personal life insurance contracts, 1871, 1876
4. Personal miscellaneous information, c. 1864-1879
5. Personal receipts and bills, 1844-1969
6. Personal receipts and bills, 1870
7. Personal receipts and bills, 1871-1873
8. Personal receipts and bills, 1874
9. Personal receipts and bills, 1875-1879
10. Brama, Shaw, and Co./Shaw and Applin – stationary, envelopes, receipts, and bills, c. 1866-1879
11. North Cambridge Charity Lodge – contracts and certificates, 1865-1875
12. North Cambridge Charity Lodge – receipts and bills, nd
13. North Cambridge Charity Lodge – receipts and bills, 1870
14. North Cambridge Charity Lodge – receipts and bills, 1871
15. North Cambridge Charity Lodge – receipts and bills, 1872
16. North Cambridge Charity Lodge – receipts and bills, 1873
17. North Cambridge Charity Lodge – receipts and bills, 1874
18. North Cambridge Charity Lodge – receipts and bills, 1875
19. North Cambridge Charity Lodge – miscellaneous information, nd, 1871
20. North Avenue Orthodox Congregational Society (21 Roseland Street) – receipts and bills, nd, 1868
21. North Avenue Orthodox Congregational Society (21 Roseland Street) – receipts and bills, 1869
22. North Avenue Orthodox Congregational Society (21 Roseland Street) – receipts and bills, 1870
23. North Avenue Orthodox Congregational Society (21 Roseland Street) – miscellaneous information, no date, c. 1873
24. Miscellaneous pamphlets and map of eastern United States, no date, 1859
25. By-laws and reports of miscellaneous societies, c. 1840s-1870s