

## **Perham Foundation Records**

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## **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Perham Foundation Records

**Dates:** 1968-2003

**Collection Number:** 2003-39

**Creator/Collector:** Perham Foundation Foothill Electronics Museum

**Extent:** Approximately 25 linear feet

**Repository:** History San Jose Research Library

San Jose, California 95110

**Abstract:** Minimally processed administrative files of the Perham Foundation, received as part of the Perham Collection of Early Electronics in 2003. The Perham Foundation operated the Foothill College Electronics Museum in Los Altos Hills, California, between 1973 and 1991.

**Language of Material:** English

### **Access**

The records are available to the public for research by appointment with the Curator of Library & Archives.

### **Publication Rights**

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### **Preferred Citation**

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### **Acquisition Information**

Received in 2003 by History San Jose as part of the Perham Collection of Early Electronics

### **Biography/Administrative History**

The Perham Collection of Early Electronics is the legacy of radio pioneer Douglas McDonald Perham (1887-1967), an early wireless experimenter, radio broadcaster, and life-long collector. Perham's collection was acquired in 1963 by the Perham Foundation, a non-profit group made up of local electronics pioneers. In 1969, the Foundation raised funds to construct the Foothill Electronics Museum at Foothill College in Los Altos, California. The Museum, opened in 1973, was operated by the College until 1979 and by the Foundation and its many volunteers until its closing in 1991. During that time, the Perham Foundation continued to collect objects, photographs, publications, and archival collections. After twelve years in temporary storage, the Perham Collection, including the Foundation's records, was transferred by the Foundation to History San José in 2003.

### **Scope and Content of Collection**

The administrative files of the Perham Foundation include personnel, membership, and acquisition records; correspondence, public relations material, exhibit history, and documentation on the relationship between the Perham Foundation and Foothill College, and subsequent travels of the collection after leaving Foothill.

### **Indexing Terms**

Museum archives

Electronics--History

Nonprofit organizations

Foothill College

Los Altos Hills (Calif.)

Santa Clara County (Calif.)

[Perham Foundation Records Box Inventory](#)

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