Guide to the Canoga Park High School Collection

Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives
Title: Canoga Park High School Collection
Creator: Canoga Park High School, 1914-1957
Creator: Hicks, Ermon K.
Identifier/Call Number: URB.CPHS
Extent: 1.00 linear feet
Date (inclusive): 1914-1957

Abstract: The Canoga Park High School Collection consists of photocopies of the student newspaper, commencement programs, playbills, football rosters and schedules, programs from installation and awards ceremonies, and high school events. The collection also contains programs for community and holiday events, a yearbook, and Ermon K. Hicks’ graduation announcement. The History of Canoga Park High School is documented by two publications, the first a narrative fragment compiled from the Canoga Park High School History Scrapbook, and the second, a collection of letters written to the school, the school principal, or members of the faculty by alumni in military service during World War II.

Language of Material: English

Biographical Information:
Canoga Park High School (CPHS) is the oldest high school in the west San Fernando Valley. It opened with 14 students and 2 teachers on October 4, 1914. CPHS was originally named Owensmouth High School. In 1914, CPHS was located on the second floor of Owensmouth Grammar School. The first graduation on the campus of Owensmouth High School occurred in June 1916. The graduating class consisted of two students, Edith Haas and Solly H. Patrick. On September 11, 1916, Owensmouth High started the school year with a new building and a new location at 6850 Topanga Canyon Blvd. in Canoga Park. Included in the new campus was an open air theater known as the Greek Theater which served as a venue for entertainment, plays and commencements.

On June 12, 1929, a fire destroyed the upper floor of the school. The left and right wings remained in use, but bungalows were required until the completion of new buildings in early 1931. In 1931, the town of Owensmouth changed its name to Canoga Park and the school was also renamed Canoga Park High School. In 1953, the Greek Theater was torn down to make room for a physical education field and in 1971 an earthquake destroyed many of its original iconic buildings. New air conditioned structures opened in 1978. The mascot for the school is a hunter and their sports teams are known as the Hunters.

Scope and Contents
The Canoga Park High School Collection consists of two parts, the first a narrative fragment compiled from the Canoga Park High School History Scrapbook, and the second, a collection of letters written to the school, the school principal, or members of the faculty by alumni in military service during World War II. The Canoga Park High School Collection is divided into two series, the Ermon K. Hicks Files (1934-1937), arranged alphabetically, and Historical Files (1914-1957), arranged chronologically.

Arrangement of Materials:
Series I: Ermon K. Hicks Files, 1934-1937
Series II: Historical Files, 1914-1957

Conditions Governing Access:
This collection is open for research use.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Preferred Citation:
For information about citing items in this collection consult the appropriate style manual, or see the Citing Archival Materials guide.
Processing Information:
Shawn Stamm, September 2010

Subjects and Indexing Terms
Documents

Series I: Ermon K. Hicks Files, 1934-1937

Box 1, Folder 1  Commencement Programs, 1935-1937
Box 1, Folder 2  Ermon Hicks Graduation Announcement, 1937
Box 1, Folder 3  Football rosters and schedules, 1934-1937
Box 1, Folder 4  Holiday and community event programs, 1934-1935
Box 1, Folder 5  Hunters’ Call (school newspaper), Vol. VII-VIII, 1936 October 13-1937 June 24
Box 1, Folder 6  Installation and Awards Ceremony programs, 1935-1936
Box 1, Folder 7  Six period program, 1935
Box 1, Folder 8  Theater playbills, 1935-1937
Box 1, Folder 9  Yearbook, 1937

Series II: Historical Files, 1914-1957

Box 1, Folder 10 Mellie M. Calvert, “History of Canoga Park High School, 1914-1957,” September 1973
Box 1, Folder 11 H. O. Duke, Principal, “Letters from Alumni During World War II, Canoga Park High School,” 1956
Box 1, Folder 12 H. O. Duke, Principal, “Letters from Alumni During World War II, Canoga Park High School,” 1956
Box 1, Folder 13 H. O. Duke, Principal, “Letters from Alumni During World War II, Canoga Park High School,” 1956
Box 1, Folder 14 H. O. Duke, Principal, “Letters from Alumni During World War II, Canoga Park High School,” 1956
Box 1, Folder 15 H. O. Duke, Principal, “Letters from Alumni During World War II, Canoga Park High School,” 1956
Box 1, Folder 16 H. O. Duke, Principal, “Letters from Alumni During World War II, Canoga Park High School,” 1956
Box 1, Folder 17 H. O. Duke, Principal, “Letters from Alumni During World War II, Canoga Park High School,” 1956
Box 1, Folder 18 H. O. Duke, Principal, “Letters from Alumni During World War II, Canoga Park High School,” 1956