Philip Ackley Stanton: Finding Aid

Finding aid prepared by David P. Levitus.
The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens
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Descriptive Summary
Title: Philip Ackley Stanton Papers
Dates: 1907-1929
Collection Number: mssStanton papers
Creator: Stanton, Philip Ackley, 1868-1945
Extent: 336 items in 1 box
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
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Abstract: The collection consists of papers related to the political, business and personal life of Southern California real estate developer and politician Philip A. Stanton (1868-1945). The majority of the collection concerns Philip Stanton's political relationships, ambitions, and positions.
Language of Material: The records are in English.
Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
Provenance
Biographical Note
Philip Ackley Stanton (1868-1929) came to California in 1887, became president of several real estate companies, and was responsible for building the towns of Huntington Beach (originally Pacific City, 1901) and Seal Beach (originally Bay City, 1915). The town of Stanton is named after him and he assisted in its 1911 incorporation. He served in the California assembly (1903-10), including a term as speaker from 1909 to 1910, served as a member of the Republican National Committee for California 1912 to 1916. In 1910, Stanton lost the Republican gubernatorial primary to the progressive Hiram Johnson.
Scope and Content
The collection consists of papers related to the political, business and personal life of Philip A. Stanton. The papers span the years from 1909 to 1929. The majority of the collection concerns Philip Stanton’s political relationships, ambitions, and positions. Notable items include letters from William H. Taft, Samuel M. Shortridge, fellow legislators, and exchanges with Charles C. Chapman and Henry M. Wisler about citrus growers’ aid to the suffering civilian populations of Western Europe during World War I.
One folder contains correspondence related to Stanton’s business interests, almost exclusively in real estate and land development in Orange and Los Angeles Counties. It is organized chronologically. Notable items include a letter from Henry E. Huntington, several from his son Howard Huntington, and fifteen letters from Isaias W. Hellman, the prominent German-Jewish L.A. based businessman.
The one folder of newspaper clippings concerns Stanton’s political career, specifically the 1910 Republican gubernatorial primary and 1916 Republican senatorial primary. An ornate leather-bound scrapbook, decorated with metal plates, contains eleven telegrams and letters from such notables as David Starr Jordan, Harrison Gray Otis, and Hiram Johnson, congratulating Stanton on his role as California Assembly Speaker in defeating anti-Japanese legislation in 1909.
Overall, the papers illuminate the tight social networks that linked leading businessmen, land development, and the powerful conservative wing of the California Republican Party. Major subjects include land development in Orange and L.A. Counties and state and national politics in Southern California, including the California Assembly, Republican National
Committee, the 1920 Presidential election, the status of Japanese in California, and relief of European civilians affected by World War I. Major participants include Charles C. Chapman, Isaias W. Hellman, Henry E. Huntington, Howard Huntington, Senator Samuel M. Shortridge, President William Taft and Henry M. Wisler.

**Arrangement**

The collection is grouped into folders by document type, the folders are in alphabetical order and files within every folder are arranged chronologically, except for political correspondence. Three folders contain political correspondence, arranged in alphabetical order of the author’s name.

**Indexing Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library’s Online Catalog.

**Personal Names**

Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964.
Johnson, Hiram, 1866-1945.
Stanton, Philip Ackley, 1868-1945.

**Corporate Names**

California. Legislature. Assembly -- History -- Sources.
California. Legislature -- Officials and employees -- Archives.
Republican National Committee (U.S.)
Republican Party (Calif.)

**Subjects**

Governors -- California -- Election.
Japanese -- California.
Legislators -- California -- Archives.
Real estate development -- California, Southern.
World War, 1914-1918.

**Geographic Areas**


**Genre**

Letters (correspondence) -- California 20th century.

**Alternate Authors**

Chapman, Charles C.
Huntington, Henry Edwards, 1850-1927.
Otis, Harrison Gray, 1837-1917.
Shortridge, Samuel Morgan, b. 1861.

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**Box 1**

**mssStanton papers**

**Correspondence: Business. 1907-1929**
Physical Description: 47 items.

**Correspondence: Lothian Estate. 1915-1929**
Physical Description: 26 items.

**Correspondence: Personal. 1908-1929**
Physical Description: 27 items.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 65 items.</td>
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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 48 items.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Physical Description: 47 items.</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Correspondence: Scrapbook on Anti-Japanese Legislation. 1909</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 1 item.</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ephemera: Newspaper Clippings. 1910-1916</th>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ephemera: Pamphlets, Invitations, Programs. 1907-1929</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Description: 25 items.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Ephemera: Used Envelopes. 1907-1929</th>
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