Guide to the Pellerano Family Papers MSS.2015.10.22

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The Pellerano Family Papers, 1879-1945 (bulk 1879-1894) document the business and professional lives of the Pellerano family. The records consist of business ledgers that belonged to Clorinda, Pedrina, and Nicholas Pellerano as well as school essays written by Nicholas Pellerano during his time at Santa Clara College, from 1888-1891. Also included are photographs, correspondence, and other ephemera associated with the Pellerano, Boitano, and Wempe families. This collection is arranged into two series: Series I. Business Ledgers and Essays, 1879-1894; and Series II. Photographs, Letters and Miscellanea, 1879-1945 (bulk 1879-1894).

This collection is located in Santa Clara University Library's Archives & Special Collections.

Language of Material: English

Access
Collection is open for research.

Access Restrictions
None

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Preferred Citation
Pellerano Family Papers, MSS.2015.10.22, Santa Clara University Library, Archives & Special Collections.

Processing Information

Biographical History
The Pellerano Family was originally from Italy and immigrated to the United States sometime in the last half of the nineteenth century. Nicholas Pellerano was a licensed pharmacist-turned-banker who attended Santa Clara College from 1888-1891 and Heald's Business College of San Francisco in 1891. Nicholas was at one point the vice-president of the Bank of America in San Jose and when he died, he was on the advisory board of the San Jose office of Bank of America. His sister Pedrina appears to have run Pellerano's Pharmacy alongside him, as her name was listed along with his in directories for the business. Nicholas Pellerano married Marie Wempe during a trip to Europe. His sister Clorinda Pellerano married Angelo Boitano and his other sister, Mary Pellerano, married Gerhardt Wempe in 1903. This collection includes material from the Boitano and Wempe families.

Bibliography
"Wealthy Business Man Wins San Jose Belle." San Francisco Call, June 18, 1903. (Accessed Sept. 30 2015)

Organizational History
Santa Clara University was founded in 1851 by the Society of Jesus as Santa Clara College and is California's oldest operating institution of higher learning. It was established on the grounds of Mission Santa Clara de Asís, the eighth of the original 21 California missions. The college originally operated as a preparatory school and did not offer courses of collegiate rank until 1853. The institution became known as the University of Santa Clara in 1912, when the schools of...
engineering and law were added. For 110 years, Santa Clara University was an all-male school. In 1961, women were
accepted as undergraduates and Santa Clara University became the first coeducational Catholic university in California. The
number of students and faculty tripled over the next decade and the university began the largest building program in
school history with eight residence halls, a student union, and an athletic stadium. In the early 1970s, the Board of Trustees
voted to limit the size of the undergraduate population, an action that was intended to preserve the character and ensure
the quality of the university for generations to come. In 1985, the university adopted Santa Clara University as its official
name.

Bibliography
1979.

Related Material
The Golden Butterfly Album, 1883-1891. Link to online record on Santa Clara University Library website:
http://sculib.scu.edu/record=b1789623

Arrangement
This collection is arranged into two series: Series I. Business Ledgers and Essays, 1879-1894; and Series II. Photographs,
Letters and Miscellanea, 1879-1945 (bulk 1879-1894).

Scope and Content of Collection
The Pellerano Family Papers, 1879-1945 (bulk 1879-1894), document the lives of the Pellerano, Boitano, and Wempe
families in the San Francisco Bay Area. The records consist of the personal papers of Nicholas, Clorinda, and Pedrina
Pellerano along with memorabilia associated with several other family members. Nicholas Pellerano was an early
vice-president of Bank of America and previously worked as a licensed pharmacist. He was also a student of the Santa
Clara College Commercial Department from 1888-1891. His sister Pedrina assisted him in running his own pharmacy,
Pellerano Pharmacy.

Subjects and Indexing Terms
California -- History -- 19th century -- Archival resources
Santa Clara University (Calif.)
University of Santa Clara (Calif.)
Santa Clara College (Calif.)
Santa Clara County (Calif.)
Series II. Photographs, Letters & Miscellanea, 818 1879-1945 1879-1894

Scope and Content

This series documents the lives of the Pellerano, Boitano, and Wempe families through letters, photographs, and other ephemera. Also included is a Selective Service Medal of Nicholas Pellerano, a decoration awarded to individuals who aided the success of the Selective Service (drafted personnel) during World War II.

Arrangement

This series is arranged by format.

Box 2: Pellerano-Boitano Photographs and Letters, 820 circa 1879-1909
   Folder 5: Portraits and Letters (folder 1 of 2), undated
   Folder 6: Portraits and Letters (folder 2 of 2), undated
Box 3: Wempe-Pellerano Photo Album, 821 circa 1879-1900
Box 4: Contents of Wempe-Pellerano Photo Album, 822 circa 1879-1900
Box 5: Nicholas Pellerano's Selective Service Medal, Casata dei Molle Seal, 823 1945, and undated