James M. Sanborn Papers, 1874-1910 (Collection 1916)

Finding aid prepared by Yasmin Damshenas in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT), with assistance from Lilace Hatayama; machine-readable finding aid created by Caroline Cubé.

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**Title:** James M. Sanborn Papers  
**Collection number:** 1916  
**Creator:** James M. Sanborn, Ca. 1840-1920  
**Contributing Institution:** UCLA Library Special Collections  
**Language of Material:** English  
**Physical Description:** 1 document box and 1 shoebox (.5 linear ft.)  
**Date:** 1889-1910  
**Abstract:** A collection of letters written to James M. Sanborn and his wife Lilia Sanborn. Includes letters from their sons, extended family, and friends and associates, as well as a ledger and some visiting cards.  
**Physical Location:** Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.  

**Biography/History**  
James M. Sanborn and Lilia settled in the city of Alhambra in Los Angeles County, California by the 1890s. James M. Sanborn was born in Maine circa 1840 and became a dry goods businessman after starting a dry goods business partnership in 1866 with his uncle, James W. Sanborn, a successful merchant in Port Huron, Michigan. Lilia was a Massachusetts native born in 1845. The couple married in 1868 and had three sons, George, Charles, and Hugh Sanborn. George, their eldest, worked for the Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo Railway Company in Hamilton, Ontario in the late 1890s. Hugh contracted typhus and passed away in Johannesburg, South Africa in January of 1902. James Sanborn became a fruit grower in the San Gabriel Valley once the family settled in California. Lilia passed away in 1910.  

**Restrictions on Access**  
Open for research. STORED OFF-SITE AT SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact UCLA Library Special Collections for paging information.  

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**Preferred Citation**  
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**UCLA Catalog Record ID**  
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**Processing Note**  
Processed by Yasmin Damshenas in the Center for Primary Research and Training (CFPRT), with assistance from Lilace Hatayama, January 2012.  

**Scope and Content**  
This collection consists mostly of letters received by James M. Sanborn and, his wife, Lilia Sanborn, residents of Alhambra, in Los Angeles, California. These include letters from family residing in Michigan; from their son George who worked with the Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo Railway Company in Hamilton, Ontario; updates about their son, Hugh’s, illness and death in Johannesburg, South Africa in 1902; and condolence notes from friends and family sent to James Sanborn upon Lilia’s death in 1910. There are also a series of letters sent by relatives touring through Europe in 1903. The cities visited include: (London, Dresden, Nuremberg, Naples, Paris, Amsterdam, Rome, Venice and Florence. The collection also contains a ledger and some visiting cards.  

**Indexing Terms**  
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.  

**Subjects**  
Sanborn, James M. --Archives.

<p>| Box 1 | Letters. ca. 1898-1910. |
| Box 2, Folder 1 | Letters. 1898-1902. |
| Box 2, Folder 2 | Letters. 1898-1903. |
| Box 2, Folder 3 | Letters. 1898-1902. |</p>
<table>
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<th>Letters. 1898-1902.</th>
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<td>Box 2, Folder 5</td>
<td>Visiting cards. ca. 1898-1910.</td>
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<td>Box 2, Folder 6</td>
<td>Ledger. 1889-1890.</td>
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