



## **Guide to the Leona C. Johnson collection, c. 1857-1999 (bulk: c. 1917-1999)**

**Processing Information:** Francesco Buccella (2024)

**Collection Numbers:** 2006.036, 2009.013, and 2011.016

**Biographical Note:** Leona Catherine Johnston (1907-2004) was born to George Nathaniel Johnston (1870-1918) and Emma A. Haynes (1873-1930) in Sudbury, Massachusetts, on December 6, 1907. Via maternal line, Leona was a tenth-generation descendant of Walter Haynes (1583-1664), an early settler in Sudbury. In 1926, she graduated from Sudbury High School, where she was nicknamed "Skeeziks." Leona was also president of the French Club and the History Club, respectively. She went on to graduate from the Framingham Normal School (present-day Framingham State University) with a Bachelor of Education and began as an elementary teacher at the Sudbury Center School in 1928. A year later, Leona married Burchell Montanye Johnson (1899-1969) and they had two children: Robert Neil Johnson (1932-2005) and Elinor Frances Johnson, later Banks (1933-2017). The family lived at 301 Old Lancaster Road. Leona also gained employment at several Sudbury-based businesses such as Dad's Wayside Lunch, Marian Heath Greeting Cards, and the Wayside Inn. She held memberships with the Sudbury Historical Society and the Sudbury Woman's Club. Leona remained in Sudbury throughout her life and passed away at Sudbury Pines Extended Care on May 11, 2004. Leona was later buried at the Old Town Cemetery.

**Scope Note:** This collection consists of correspondence, newspaper clippings, notebooks, photographs, postcards, programs, reports, scrapbooks, and other miscellaneous documents. Items primarily document a variety of events in the late nineteenth-century and twentieth century history of Sudbury. Topics largely include the Haynes Family, the Sudbury Public Schools, the Sudbury Tercentenary, and the Wayside Inn.

**Acquisition Information:** This collection was donated to the Sudbury Historical Society by the relatives of Leona C. Johnson to the Sudbury Historical Society in two parts: by her daughter-in-law, Janet Anderson Johnson, in 2006 and 2011, respectively; and by her granddaughter, Cathy B. Smith, in 2009.

**Separated Materials:** Due to size restrictions and preservation requirements, the Sudbury Center School photograph album (2006.036.0024) and the annual town reports from 1937 through 1956 (2011.016) are housed separately.

## **Collection Content**

### **Series I: Correspondence, 1968-1976**

This series consists of various correspondence, including philatelic covers, received by Leona C. Johnson while living at 301 Old Lancaster Road in Sudbury.

#### Box 1

##### Folder 1

Letter from Bill to Leona C. Johnson, 1976

Letter from Myles Standish to Leona C. Johnson, 1968

Sudbury Companies of Militia and Minute philatelic covers, 1975-1976

Town of Sudbury Bicentennial Committee Heritage Park mailing, 1975

### **Series II: Ephemera, c. 1888-1945**

This series consists of ephemera related to businesses and organizations within the Town of Sudbury, including an envelope from Dad's Wayside Lunch, where Leona C. Johnson had been employed.

#### Folder 2

Dad's Wayside Lunch envelope, c. 1925

Goodnow Library postcard, c. 1945

Hunt Store advertisement card, 1888

Parmenter Store candy bag, c. 1917

### **Series III: Photographs, c. 1928-1995**

This series consists of photographs of a variety of individuals, including Leona C. Johnson, in Sudbury, as well as scenes from the Sudbury Public Schools and the Sudbury Tercentenary.

#### Folder 3

Betty Bishop, Eleanor Greenawalt, and Leona C. Johnson photograph, 1995

Cardinal Richard Cushing at the Sudbury United Methodist Church photographs, 1964

Carl H. Roos photographs

Everett M. Sanders grave photograph, 1964

Haynes House photograph

#### Folder 4

Sudbury Center School class picture, 1928-1929

Sudbury Center School student portrait album, 1930-1931

#### Folder 5

Sudbury Tercentenary album, 1939

Sudbury Tercentenary photographs, 1939

**Series IV: Sudbury High School yearbook, 1926**

Yearbook from the Sudbury High School Class of 1926, from which Leona C. Johnson graduated. She also served as Class Secretary and Treasurer, and was part of the Yearbook Committee, serving as both the art and joke editor.

Folder 6

Sudbury High School yearbook, 1926

**Series V: Wayside Inn material, c. 1925-2000**

This series consists of material related to the Wayside Inn in South Sudbury. Leona C. Johnson is known to have been employed by the Inn at an unknown point during her working career.

Folder 7

Wayside Inn Christmas card, c. 2000

Wayside Inn menu

Wayside Inn postcards, c. 1925

Wayside Inn "Old-Time Sleighing Party" print

Wayside Inn Redstone Schoolhouse blank report card, 1927

Folder 8

Wayside Inn fire aftermath photographs, 1955

**Series VI: William F. Haynes material, c. 1885-1919**

This series consists of material related to William "Will" Francis Haynes (1870-1935), who was the uncle of Leona C. Johnson. Haynes was a native of Sudbury and worked as an officer (since circa 1900) and a turnkey (since 1912) at the Charlestown State Prison. He was also part of the Sudbury Brass Band.

Folder 9

Leroy J. Pierce "O, Charlestown, O, Charlestown!" poem, 1919

Sudbury Brass Band photograph, c. 1885

Sudbury News newspaper clipping, 1912

William F. Haynes photograph, 1901

**Series VII: Scrapbooks, 1875-1972**

This series consists of five scrapbooks, along with two notebooks that index each scrapbook. There are two scrapbooks compiled by Catherine Forsyth (1838-1900), two by her daughter, Emma A. Haynes, and one by her granddaughter, Leona C. Johnson.

Box 2

Index to scrapbooks notebooks

Emma A. Haynes scrapbooks, 1887-1892

Catherine Forsyth scrapbooks, 1875-1886

Leona C. Johnson scrapbook, 1923-1972