

A Guide to the J. J. Fahrney Papers, 1886-1936 SC 0303

J. J. Fahrney Papers
1886-1936



Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 0303

Unit Date

1886-1936

Language

English .

Abstract

The J. J. Fahrney Papers, 1886-1936, document the Fahrney Wheel Corporation (variously J. J. Fahrney & Sons) and its proprietor J. J. Fahrney of Timberville, Virginia.

source

Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates

Creator

Fahrney, J. J. (John Jerome), 1864-1937

Extent

0.2 cubic feet 1 box

Repository

James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open to research. Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection. Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the James Madison University Special Collections Library to use this collection.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have been transferred to the James Madison University Special Collections Library. For more information, contact the Special Collections Library Reference Desk (library-special@jmu.edu).

Acquisition Information

Acquired at Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates' Summer Americana & Variety Auction on August 24, 2019.

Processing Information

The materials were received in disorder and with no particular arrangement. The archivist imposed an order based on material format.

Preferred Citation

[identification of item], [box #, folder #], J. J. Fahrney Papers, 1886-1936, SC 0303, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Bio/Historical Note

John Jerome Fahrney (1863/1864-1937) was born in Rockingham County, Virginia to Peter and Treacy Hannah Fahrney. Fahrney was an inventor, wheelwright, blacksmith, mechanic, and broom factory operator. He was also the founder and president of Fahrney Wheel Corporation. Fahrney held several patents for inventions that improved the functionality of automobiles.

Scope and Content

The J. J. Fahrney Papers, 1886-1936, primarily document the Fahrney Wheel Corporation (variously J. J. Fahrney & Sons) and its proprietor J. J. Fahrney of Timberville, Virginia.

Financial documents primarily comprise invoices from Cray Brothers, Standard Oil Company, Duplex Mill & Manufacturing Co., and Ford Motor Company. A blank Fahrney Wheel Corporation subscription booklet is included along with a 1916 invoice from Henkel & Company Printers, Publishers for "setting up type forms for subscription for stock." The collection also includes three deeds for land in Timberville.

Automobile related advertising circulars and marketing materials also include correspondence. Companies from which Fahrney received circulars include Firestone; Capt. W. A. Collings, Inc.; The Holsman Automobile Company; and The Air-Friction Carburetor Company.

Correspondence is primarily business related and concerns Fahrney's business and inventions, but a small selection of letters are more personal in nature. For example, an October 4, 1916 letter from Fahrney's wife Annie provides an update on happenings in Timberville while Fahrney is in Hagerstown, Maryland. A 1926 letter to his daughter Gladys is also included. Other correspondents include Metz Company, Standard Oil Company, patent attorney E. G. Siggers, and Cray Brothers.

Patents issued to J. J. Fahrney include water pump attachment for automobiles (1915), explosion engine vaporizers for heavy fuels (1916), tire heaters (1919), and cider press (1925).

Ephemera includes Fahrney Patent Automobile Wheel advertising postcards, a Fahrney Wheel Corporation card listing the company's board of directors, and wheel imagery.

Keywords

Letters (correspondence)
Financial Records
Invoices
Deeds
Patents
Advertising
Postcards
Family-owned business enterprises -- Virginia -- History
Advertising -- Automobiles -- Virginia -- History
Patents -- Virginia -- History
Inventions -- Virginia -- History
Timberville (Va.) -- History -- 19th century
Timberville (Va.) -- History -- 20th century
Rockingham County (Va.) -- History -- 19th century
Rockingham County (Va.) -- History -- 20th century
Virginia -- Economic conditions -- History
Jeffrey S. Evans & Associates

Bibliography

Obituary of J. J. Fahrney, *Daily News-Record*, February 2, 1937.

Provenance

Per auctioneer's catalog, the collection was from the Fritz and Loretta Orebaugh estate in New Market, Virginia.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged topically into seven folders.

Description of Subordinate Components

Deeds

Unit Date 1886-1907

Mixed Materials [1000898622] 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Patents

Unit Date 1904-1925

Mixed Materials [1000898622] 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Advertising circulars

Unit Date 1906-1932, undated

Mixed Materials [1000898622] 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Correspondence

Unit Date 1909-1926

Mixed Materials [1000898622] 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Financial documents

Unit Date 1910-1919

Mixed Materials [1000898622] 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Empty envelopes

Unit Date 1910-1936

Mixed Materials [1000898622] 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Fahrney Wheel Corporation advertising postcards and assorted ephemera

Unit Date undated

Mixed Materials [1000898622] 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)