

## Finding Aid

Date Range: 1934-2017

Bulk Date: 1993-2003

Creator: Nick Sunday

Number and type of containers: 21 letter-sized flip-top boxes

Storage Location: PCHS Library and Archives

Aid Created By: Ursula Romero (volunteer)

### **Biographical Information:**

Nick Sunday was born in Paterson, New Jersey in 1947. He spent much of his life studying art, and in the 1970s began creating Xerox art under the name Dark Dusting. In addition, Sunday collaborated with his wife, Joy Sikorski, on several children's books including the Paterson-inspired *Squeaky Chalk*, published in 2000. He continued to study and create art throughout his life, attending SUNY Albany in 1974, Skidmore College in 1978, and graduating from Hampshire College's school of communications and computer science in 1984. Throughout his life, he maintained an interest in art and graphic design, occasionally offering classes on various art techniques to local children.

Nick Sunday was an independent historian and researcher whose focus was primarily on the history of Paterson and its surrounding areas. To that end, he established the Jennie Tuttle Hobart Museum in 1993, the name of which he later attempted to change to The Paterson Museum, and which was eventually disbanded in 1995. In 2000, he established the Alexander Hamilton National Memorial. He created frequent newsletters pertaining to Paterson history and culture throughout the mid-1990s and early 2000s, titled *Mary Ellen* and *Salamander*, and often appeared in local newspapers discussing the history of the city. One of Sunday's primary interests was the city plan for Paterson which was originally drawn by Pierre Charles L'Enfant. In 2002, he wrote a book titled *Hidden City* which detailed the city's original plans. He also authored photo books *100 Garages* and *Paterson 1938*.

Though sometimes a controversial figure, Nick Sunday dedicated much of his life to the conservation and preservation of Paterson art, including the Garret A. Hobart Collection held at the Paterson Free Public Library and the ATP site in Paterson's Historic District.

Nick Sunday passed away on July 23, 2017 at the age of 70. He was survived by his brothers Joe, John, and Frank, his sister Lisa, and his nieces and nephews.

**Paterson Institutions and Persons:**

The Paterson Museum

The Paterson Free Public Library (Danforth Memorial Library, Reid Memorial Library)

Passaic County Community College/The Hamilton Club

Passaic County Historical Society

E.A. Smyk, Passaic County Historian

**Historical Topics and Sites:**

Allied Textile Printing Site

Gaetano Federici

Jennie Tuttle Hobart and Garret A. Hobart

Society for Useful Manufactures

Pierre Charles L'Enfant

The Paterson Falls/Great Falls Historic District

William Paterson

**Scope and Content:**

This collection contains a wide array of documents, including many articles from local newspapers (both photocopied and original), photographs, manuscripts, court records, and personal correspondence. The majority of the collection is dedicated to research regarding Paterson history, primarily focusing on the Allied Textile Printing site, the Society for Useful Manufactures, and the work of Pierre Charles L'Enfant.

Also included are correspondence between Sunday and Paterson officials from various institutions, including The Paterson Museum, the Paterson Free Public Library, and Passaic County Community College. The correspondence is frequently regarding art which was being held at each institution.

**Series:**

The collection consists of 21 boxes, each containing folders which were arranged alphabetically by topic upon receipt by PCHS, under the advisement that Sunday himself had arranged it as such.