

MSS. Collection #121

**Draper Family Papers, ca. 1914-1997 [bulk ca. 1930s-1950s].
1 box (61 folders) ca. 1100 items.**

NOTE: The numbers cited in parentheses, e.g. 1:5, refer the researcher to the Series#:Folder# in which that name/topic will be found.

INTRODUCTION

This collection contains approximately 200 items, of various types relating to Harold M. Draper, Harold M. Draper Jr., and Mrs. Grace Sharpe Draper. The material on Harold Draper includes documents and letters relating to his work for the Greensboro Coca-Cola Bottling Company during the 1930s. Also included are two U.S. Patent Certificates for inventions created by Draper in the early 1920s.

Materials relating to Harold M. Draper Jr. include documents, letters, and photographs from his military service during World War II as a photographer. There are some items that offer biographical information about Harold M. Draper Jr. There is one book, on the 401st Bomb Group history, of its service in England.

Also included are copies of letters from J. Spencer Love, president and founder of Burlington Industries, to one of his secretaries, Miss Grace Sharpe (Mrs. Harold M. Draper Jr.). These letters offer an interesting glimpse into how Love dealt with and treated those who worked for him.

This miscellaneous collection of materials document aspects of United States and world history through letters, photographs, magazines, newspapers, and other forms printed materials.

Arrangement: The collection is arranged alphabetically by material type into four series, and then alphabetically within the series. The series are: **Correspondence**, 1930-1994; **Maps**, n.d.; **Photographs**, 1930-1946; and **Printed Material**, 1917-1969. The book *401st Bomb Group* is filed with the Rare Books under 1995.59.1 and includes a picture of Harold M. Draper Jr.

Provenance: This collection was acquired in May 1995 from Mrs. Harold M. Draper Jr., and assigned number 1995.59.1.

Processing: This collection was organized by Archives Assistant Katie Nash, and the finding aid was completed in April 2005.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Harold M. Draper (ca. 1891-1938) lived in Richmond, Virginia, prior to moving his family to Greensboro in the early 1920s. The collection contains no biographical information about him, but the Greensboro city directories outline his career in Greensboro. He was married to a woman named Edna V. The 1922 city directory has the first listing of Harold M. Draper as the manager of Sands and Company. He continues to appear in the city directories during the years of 1923-

1936 as the manager of the Greensboro Coca-Cola Bottling Company. However, during 1937-1938, he is listed as the secretary-treasurer of the Greensboro Coca-Cola Bottling Company.

Harold M. Draper Jr. (1915-1995) was born in Richmond, Virginia. He had a sister, Gladys D. Seawell, who also lived in Greensboro. He and his wife, Grace Sharpe, were married for 47 years and had four sons, Harold M. Draper III (Knoxville, TN), John T. Draper (Greensboro), William M. Draper (Raleigh), and Edwin L. Draper (Asheville), and a daughter, Melanie D. Redman (Walkertown). Thirteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren survived him.

Little is known about Harold M. Draper Jr. prior to his graduation from Greensboro High School (later Grimsley). However, according to an application letter he composed in 1946, he attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from 1932-1936, and was a Commerce graduate (1:1). After graduating from UNC Chapel Hill, he began his first career as a graphic artist working for the Greensboro Coca-Cola Bottling Company. He worked there for 13 years as the head of advertising.

During World War II, Harold M. Draper Jr. served as a Technical Sergeant of photography for the 613th Bombardment Squadrons, 8th Air Force. In 1944, he graduated from the U.S. Army Air Forces Technical School of photography in Lowry, Colorado. While serving in the U.S. military, he received the EMAT (European) Campaign Medal with six bronze stars, the Distinguished Unit Badge, and the Good Conduct Medal. Draper was also a member of the U.S. Power Squadrons.

According to the city directories, from 1953-1966 Harold M. Draper Jr. owned his own sign business, "H.M. Draper & Company." In 1968, it was renamed to "Triad Signs." In 1970, he joined Greensboro's Parks and Recreation Department and dedicated the next twelve years to building nature trails in Hagan-Stone Park. Draper retired in 1982.

Over the course of his career with the Parks and Recreation Department, he served as the second president of the T. Gilbert Pearson Chapter, National Audubon Society, and as the Land Use chairman of the Rural Suburban Community Council for Guilford County. In addition to this service, he was an active member of the following organizations: Sierra Club, Piedmont Bird Club, 5-County Resource Conservation and Development Committee, Guilford County Commissioners Task Force on Water Quality, and Guilford County Parks and Recreation Commission. Awards he received include: local Audubon Chapter's Meritorious Service award (1983) and the Nat Greene Sertoma "Service to Mankind" award (1990).

Harold M. Draper was an environmentalist and dedicated most of the later part of his career to helping rescue the endangered Eastern bluebird population. He constructed hundreds of bird houses and placed them all over Hagan-Stone Park. In recognition of his work and service, Greensboro Parks and Recreation named a memorial nature trail at Hagan-Stone Park in his honor. The dedication ceremony for the "Harold M. Draper Jr. Nature Trail" took place on January 21, 1995. On January 27, 1995, Harold M. Draper Jr. passed away at the age of 80.

Biographical Sources: The obituary of Harold M. Draper, Jr. was published in the Greensboro *News & Record* on January 28, 1995. Additional biographical information was acquired from two newsletters: *The Piedmont Birder*, the *Piedmont Bird Club News*, Volume 6, Number 3, January-February 1995, and the *City Beat*, Volume 23, Issue 2, February 1995.

SCOPE & CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains a variety of materials, ranging from letters, magazines, photographs, certificates, documents, newspapers, and other forms of printed material. The items represent the different stages of life and work, as well as the personal and professional interests of Harold M. Draper and his son Harold M. Draper Jr. The bulk dates of materials relating to Harold M. Draper are the late 1930s to the mid 1940s; while the bulk of the materials relating to Harold M. Draper Jr. date from 1941-1950. The collection contains virtually no information that cohesively pieces together the biographical history of Harold M. Draper or Harold M. Draper Jr.

Extensive in both variety of content and number of items, the **Correspondence** series is one of the most interesting. For example, the correspondence between J. Spencer Love and employees of Burlington Industries, Inc. offers a glimpse into how the founder and CEO of this large manufacturing/textile company treated his employees with respect, equality, and fairness (1:12-16). The other letters and documents offer detailed recollections of conversations and correspondences that took place involving Harold M. Draper, Harold M. Draper Jr., individuals from the Coca-Cola Bottling Company, and the U.S. military.

The **Photographs** contains a wide variety of images portraying street and landscape scenes in Europe; military personnel, aircraft, and ships; the Coca-Cola Bottling truck and the interior of the business; and Harold M. Draper Jr. A small group of photographs of note are those taken of actress and musician Marlene Dietrich (3:8).

The largest series in the collection is the **Printed Materials**, with a wide variety of printed items including pamphlets, magazines, newspapers, and certificates. Of particular interest are all the magazines with articles, stories, and/or photographs of J. Spencer Love and Burlington Industries, Inc. (4:9-14, 4:17-18). Also of interest are two certificates from the Department of the Interior, United States Patent Office, recognizing Harold M. Draper's two inventions during the early 1920s, which include a Broom Rack and Bottle dispenser/cooler machine (4:3-4).

The smallest series is the **Maps**, containing only one map. The item is an American Red Cross map showing all the American Red Cross Clubs and Underground Transport stations in London, England (2:1).

The Draper Family Papers are a small collection offering only a glimpse at various themes and events. The items in the collection focus on the lifestyles, work, and events of which Harold M. Draper and Harold M. Draper Jr. were a part, with little to no information that alludes to the biographical history and memoirs of these two men.

SERIES DESCRIPTIONS

1. Correspondence. 19 folders (ca. 80 items). 1930-1994 [bulk 1930-1945].

The correspondence is arranged alphabetically either by the name of the company or individual. Most of the correspondence took place between the Coca-Cola Bottling Company and the Chattanooga Glass Company, or J. Spencer Love and his employees. The letters and documents offer both business and personal insights about employee/employer relationships during the 1930s and 1940s.

Of particular interest in the letters and documents between the Coca-Cola Bottling Company and the Chattanooga Glass Company is the correspondence between Harold M. Draper and J. Frank Harrison in March 1933 (2-4 weeks before Congress made beer legal nationwide),

concerning the possible sale of beer at the Coca-Cola Bottling Company in Greensboro. J. Frank Harrison warns that the sale of beer will drastically affect the sale of Coca-Cola in a negative way, but ultimately it is up to individual managers to monitor sales (1:6).

The majority of the letters within the subseries J. Spencer Love express how kind and considerate Love was towards his employees and their appreciation of his kindness. These letters and documents reflect a period when employers of large companies and corporations seem to have cared about their employees, as well as their own reputation. This is best expressed in an office memorandum written by J. Spencer Love in 1943. He was concerned that others in the office felt that when he and other employees went on a business trip to Palm Beach, Florida, they were only having a good time swimming and lying in the sun. In response to this concern, the memorandum states, "...though occasionally they sandwich in something interesting and a good time, the work is hard, the hours are long and irregular and the details are demanding" (1:14). Also included are letters and documents exchanged between J. Spencer Love and in particular, Miss Gracie Sharpe (prior to becoming Mrs. Harold M. Draper Jr.; 1:12-13, 1:15-16).

Other correspondence of interest can be found in the subseries Military (U.S. Army). Within this subseries is a letter written by Harold M. Draper Jr. to his parents while he was at the Technical Training School in Lowry, CO, discussing his life in the military during WWII and situations at the Technical Training School regarding photography (1:17).

2. Maps. 1 folder (1 item). N.d. (1940s?)

The American Red Cross map of London contains an excellent color map showing various American Red Cross clubs throughout the city as well as black and white photographs of the club building exteriors. The map highlights places to see, theatres, and cinemas throughout London, as well as appropriate Underground Stations for each place. In addition, the map also provides transportation routes using the Underground and Underground Stations for the American Red Cross clubs. This map not only provides a glimpse of how London used to look possibly during the 1940s but also offers a window into the various architectural styles of buildings in London. For those traveling to London, this map and its photographs made navigating the city much easier (2:1).

3. Photographs. 9 folders (ca. 70 items). 1930-1946 [bulk 1940-1946].

The photographs are arranged alphabetically by subjects, which include the Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Harold M. Draper Jr., and the U.S. military during the 1940s and 1950s. They offer a glimpse into life all over the world during this time. It is possible that many, if not all, of the photographs were taken by Harold M. Draper Jr.

Of interest is a photograph of Harold M. Draper Jr.'s commanding officer during 1943-44, Col. Harold W. Bowman (3:1). Bowman also can be found in the book *401st Bomb Group* on the 11th page from the beginning (there are no page numbers).

Also of interest in the Coca-Cola Bottling Company group is a photograph of the Coca-Cola bottling truck (ca. 1930s) with a sign on the back reading "Stopping at Greensboro Airport" (3:3).

Many of the photographs taken during World War II are of different countrysides and street scenes in areas all over the world. Not only are the landscapes of various areas portrayed, but other images captured are of people from overseas, personnel in the military, ships, and aircraft. Of particular interest are photographs of the actress and musician Marlene Dietrich singing to soldiers and U.S. Army personnel (3:8).

4. Printed Material. 32 folders (ca. 60 items). 1917-1969 [bulk 1940-1960].

The items within this series are arranged alphabetically by type and then by subject. There are a number of excellent graphics relating to the Coca-Cola Bottling Company, textile manufacturers, Burlington Mills, J. Spencer Love, environmental catastrophes such as Hurricane Hazel, and many other Southern cotton and textile mills. The types of printed materials portray a wide range of ways that information, graphics, and promotional materials were published during the 1940s and 1950s.

Of particular interest are two U.S. Patent certificates granted to Harold M. Draper for inventions of a broom rack and bottle cooler/dispenser. Included with these certificates are the drawings and explanations (4:3-4).

In addition to J. Spencer Love being featured in stories and on the covers of various magazines, Gracie Draper (head of Wear-Test at Burlington Mills) is shown packing a woman's slip into a box so a "wear tester" can try it on and report on the advantages and insufficiencies (4:18). Articles and stories dealing with J. Spencer Love can be found in the following folders: 4:10-14, 4:20, 4:24.

A unique highlight of this series is a newspaper titled *The Rev Meter* published in Denver, Colorado, that specifically represents photography, camera crews, and specialty skills relating to photography. In this particular edition from May 28, 1943, the articles discuss cinematography technical processes, photography training, and camera repair in Lowry, Colorado (where Harold M. Draper Jr. attended the Technical School for photography; 4:19).

Also documented in this series is the catastrophe of Hurricane Hazel, which hit the North and South Carolina shores in 1954. There are a number of newspapers, both local and regional, that contain stories and reports relating to this hurricane (4:23).

Of particular historical note, is a program that was published for the Burlington Mills business conference that took place in Roaring Gap, North Carolina, in June 1944. Within this program is a brief timeline discussing the evolution of Burlington Mills, showing candid shots of employees, and including a fold out page capturing multiple aerial views of different Burlington Mills plant locations on the East Coast (4:30).

FOLDER LISTING

<u>Series</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	1	Correspondence --Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Atlanta, GA -- 1930 & 1946
	2	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Chattanooga Bank Building * Carter, Paul B. * Finlay, Edward * Boydston, Horace E.
	3	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Chattanooga Glass Company -- 1930 * Harrison, J. Frank * Powell, R.L. * Link, J.W.
	4	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Chattanooga Glass Company -- 1931 * Harrison, J. Frank * Bloodworth, Thomas * Hobgood, Mr. F.P.
	5	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Chattanooga Glass Company -- 1932 * Settles, R.T. * Harrison, J.F.
	6	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Chattanooga Glass Company -- 1933 * Harrison, J. Frank
	7	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Chattanooga Glass Company -- 1934 * Settles, R.T. * Finlay, Ed * Consolidated Cork Corporation * Heyman, Mr. Oscar -- Pres. of Consolidated Cork Corp.
	8	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Financial Account -- 1930
	9	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Greensboro, NC * Carter Organization, the
	10	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Hickory, NC -- 1935 * Willard, J.J.
	11	“ -- Cramerton Mills, Inc. -- n.d. * Cramer, Stuart W. Jr. -- President
	12	“ -- Love, J. Spencer -- n.d. * Sharpe, Grace (Miss)
	13	“ -- Love, J. Spencer -- 1941
	14	“ -- Love, J. Spencer -- 1943 * Carr, Howard L. * Carr, Frances S.
	15	“ -- Love, J. Spencer -- 1945 * Sharpe, Grace (Miss)
	16	“ -- Love, J. Spencer -- 1946 * Sharpe, Grace (Miss)

<u>Series</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	17	Correspondence -- Military (U.S. Army) -- 1943-1944 * Lowry Field, Colorado * Townsend, James * Bowman, Harold W. * Headquarters Technical School, AAFTTC
	18	“ -- Miscellaneous * Sharpe, Grace (Miss)
	19	“ -- Miscellaneous -- Memo -- 1944
2	1	Maps -- American Red Cross Map of London -- n.d.
3	1	Photographs --Bowman, Col. Harold W. -- 1944 * 401 st Bomb Group
	2	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Atlanta, GA * Jones, Harrison -- President
	3	“ -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company -- Greensboro, NC * Harrison, James B.
	4	“ -- Draper, Harold M. -- 1940's (?)
	5	“ -- Memo -- 1994
	6	“ -- Military (U.S. Army)
	7	“ -- Military (U.S. Army)
	8	“ -- Military (U.S. Army) * Dietrich, Marlene
	9	“ -- Sands & Company -- Greensboro, NC * Vaughan, Leonidas C. -- District Manager
4	1	Printed Material --Advertisement -- Burlington Mills -- 1947
	2	“ -- Brochure -- Coca-Cola -- 1930, 1991 * Atlanta, GA -- 1991
	3	“ -- Certificates -- Patents & Trademarks -- 1917
	4	“ -- Certificates -- Patents & Trademarks -- 1928 * Miller, Monroe -- Attorney at Law * Robertson, Thomas E. -- Commissioner of Patents
	5	“ -- Coca-Cola -- Advertisements (stickers) * Willard, J.J.
	6	“ -- Coca-Cola -- Cover (envelope)
	7	“ -- Diploma -- Military (U.S. Army) -- 1943, 1945 * Burwell, H.S. -- Brigadier General * Curry, John T. -- Major General, U.S. Army * Martin, R.B. -- Major AGD (Adjutant General, Deputy) * Fort Bragg, NC
	8	“ -- Magazine -- <i>American Fabrics</i> (reprint)
	9	“ -- Magazine -- <i>Bur-Mill Review</i> -- 1950
	10	“ -- Magazine -- <i>Bur-Mill Review</i> -- 1951
	11	“ -- Magazine -- <i>Bur-Mill Review</i> -- 1953
	12	“ -- Magazine -- <i>Forbes</i> -- 1947
	13	“ -- Magazine -- <i>Forbes</i> -- 1951

<u>Series</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents</u>
4	14	Printed Material -- Magazine -- <i>Forbes</i> -- 1961
	15	“ -- Magazine -- <i>LIFE</i> -- July 25, 1969
	16	“ -- Magazine -- <i>LIFE</i> -- August 8, 1969
	17	“ -- Magazine -- <i>Rayon Textile Monthly</i> -- 1943
	18	“ -- Magazine -- <i>The State</i> -- 1949 * Draper, Grace (see page 8)
	19	“ -- Newspaper -- Photography * <i>Rev-Meter, the</i> * Lowry Field, Colorado
	20	“ -- Newspaper Clippings -- Burlington Industries/Mills * Love, J. Spencer
	21	“ -- Newspaper Clippings -- Burlington, NC -- 1949
	22	“ -- Newspaper Clippings -- Coca-Cola Bottling Company
	23	“ -- Newspaper Clippings -- Hurricane Hazel -- 1954
	24	“ -- Newspaper Clippings -- Love, J. Spencer
	24.1	“ -- Newspaper Clippings -- Love, Spencie * Drew, Dr. Charles
	25	“ -- Newspaper Clippings -- Miscellaneous * Tryon Place * Battle of Guilford Courthouse
	26	“ -- Newspaper Clippings -- Southern Textile & Cotton Mills * Gregg, William * Graniteville Cotton Mill, Graniteville, SC * Swint, Samuel H.
	27	“ -- Pamphlet -- J. Spencer Love (1896-1962)
	28	“ -- Pamphlet -- Legal -- 1919 * Graham, W.A. * Allen, W.M.
	29	“ -- Pamphlet -- Military * 401 st Bomb Group, 200 Missions
	30	“ -- Programs -- Burlington Mills Business Conference -- 1944 * Graystone Inn * Klopman, William
	31	“ -- Programs -- Bur-Mill Controller's Department -- 1945 * Rowe, C. Eugene * Vassar, Walter * Taylor, John S. * Cowan, John C. Jr.
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Note: The numbers following the name/subject entry indicate in which Series#:Folder# that name/topic can be found (e.g.-- 1:1). If no Series#:Folder# (e.g.-- 1:1) is listed, then a number will indicate in which Series the name/topic can be found. Dates of the items are given in parentheses for an individual Series/Folder or, if at the end, for the entire subject/name entry (no date = n.d.). The abbreviation GSO indicates a Greensboro association. Numbered entries come before alphabetical listings.

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