

Kane, Foulke, and duPont family photographs

Collection ID: DN163

Accession #: 2022.5

Finding Aid prepared by Kelin Baldrige



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SERVICES

Summary Information

Repository	Chester County History Center
Creator	unknown
Title	Kane, Foulke, and duPont family photographs
Date [bulk]	1880s-1920s
Date [inclusive]	1865-1974, undated
Extent	.6 linear feet
Location note	Chester County History Center Photo Archives
Language	eng
Language of Materials note	eng
Abstract	The Kane, Foulke, and duPont family photographs date from 1865-1974 and measure .6 linear feet. They include photographs of Jean Kane Foulke and her daughter, Jean Kane Foulke duPont, who were both activists, in addition to photographs of each of their families.

Preferred Citation note

[Identification of item], Kane, Foulke, and duPont family photographs, DN163, Chester County History Center Photo Archives, West Chester, PA.

Historical Note

Jean Kane Foulke (1867-1962) was a farmer, farm advisor, political activist, and leader in the Women's Suffrage Movement in Chester County. An incredibly active social and political reformer, Foulke worked with numerous organizations, on various political campaigns, and gave her time and expertise to help fight several social issues. In her 1962 obituary, the Daily Local News wrote, "Name almost any worthwhile civic project in the West Chester area and the chances are that Mrs. Jean Kane Foulke had a hand in launching it."

Foulke was born in Wilmington, DE on May 28, 1867, to John Kintzing and Mabel Bayard Kane. She had seven siblings, including Anne Francis Kane (1864-1888), John Kinzing Kane, Jr. (1866-1866), Florence Bayard Kane (1868-1943), Elizabeth Kane Rhein (1870-1946), James Ashton Bayard Kane (1871-1937), John Kent Kane (1873-1937), and Robert VanRensselaer Kane (1876-1876).

On May 14, 1888, Jean Kane married George Rhyfedd Foulke, moved to the Bala Farm in Chester County, and became an active member of the Brandywine Grange. Due to early financial setback on the farm, Jean took on odd jobs and developed a keen interest in her husband's farm work. She shadowed him and, in doing so, learned the day to day as well as the bigger picture of running a farm. This proved crucial to her family's future when, in 1901, George was accidentally shot by their 12 year-old son in a hunting accident, leaving Jean a 34 year-old widow with three children – George R. Foulke, Jr., Jean Kane Foulke, Jr., and Willing Bayard Foulke.

After George's death, Jean Kane Foulke used the skills she learned from her husband to fill his role running both Bala Farm (the Foulke family farm) and John Mitchell's Reculver Farm, earning the same salary her husband had before her. In addition to the general management of the farms, Foulke's knowledge and business instinct led her to convert Bala Farm from a dairy farm to a feeder farm to support the Reculver cows – a decision that led to an increase in profits. Through her work, she earned a stellar reputation as a farm manager and, at one point, managed five farms at once.

Foulke's success as a farm manager also led to her work with the Pennsylvania Board of Agriculture. In 1913, she became the only female farm advisor, the first woman appointed to the board, and served as a Farmer's Institute lecturer.

During her work with the Department of Agriculture, Foulke was an ardent suffragist and women's rights activist. However, the Department of Agriculture disapproved of her activism and, in response, limited the amount of work she was given and barred her from speaking in certain locations.

World War I shifted her focus away from her disappointment with the Board of Agriculture. As a woman and a farm expert, Foulke was uniquely poised to help satisfy the agricultural needs that arose during the war. Her efforts centered on maintaining the American food supply through the employment of women workers. She advised many units of the Woman's Land Army in addition to employing women on the farms she managed.

After the war and the passing of the 19th Amendment, Foulke focused on her work with the Democratic Party of Pennsylvania, farm management, and family. In 1934, a democrat was elected governor of Pennsylvania, and Foulke hoped her contributions to the Democratic Party would be rewarded with an appointment as the Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture, a position for which she was well qualified. However, she was rewarded with no position whatsoever.

Foulke was devastated by the snub, and shifted her focus back towards farm management and community service. She served as a member or leader in no less than six organizations in West Chester and gave her energy to support the effort led by Leslie Pinckney Hill to establish the West Chester Community Center, now the Melton Center.

Jean Kane Foulke duPont (1891-1985) was a suffragette, prison reform activist, and philanthropist born in Lenape, Chester County, PA.

The only daughter of Jean Kane Foulke, duPont inherited her mother's progressivism and passion for social reform. In 1919, she helped found the Prisoners' Aid Society of Delaware as well as Bridge House. In 1916, she picketed the White House with a group of fellow suffragettes in an effort to convince President Woodrow Wilson to advocate for and act on behalf of their cause.

During World War I, duPont was a leader in the Women's Auxiliary for the Delaware Committee and the Council of National Defense. She also led "Save the Babies" stations which ultimately led to child welfare programs in Delaware.

In 1964, she proposed that the University of Delaware establish a training and educational program for Delaware's correctional workers. She additionally created a \$400,000 endowment for the university on the condition that the university agreed to train correctional personnel, donated a 10-year grant for the sociology department to study prison reform and prisoner rehabilitation issues which led to the school's criminal justice program, and made yearly donations to the sociology department to study social welfare.

duPont married industrialist E. Paul duPont on June 9, 1910, with whom she had six sons, E. Paul, Jr., Francis George, Stephen, Benjamin Bonneau, Robert Jacques, and Alexis Irénée.

George Rhyfedd Foulke (1867-1901) spent the entirety of his life on Bala Farm in Sconnetown, East Bradford Township. Foulke died in a hunting accident on Thanksgiving Day in 1901 when his 12-year-old son, George R. Foulke, Jr., accidentally shot him. Obituaries describe Foulke as a reformer and deeply curious farmer who wrote and experimented extensively.

George Rhyfedd Foulke, Jr. (1889-1949), the eldest son of George Sr. and Jean Kane Foulke, was a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Class of 1911 and developer of coal properties in West Virginia. In 1915, he married Dorothy Fisher Newhall Foulke of West Chester, with whom he had three daughters.

Willing Bayard Foulke (1898-1984) was the youngest son of George Sr. and Jean Kane Foulke. In 1925, he married Elizabeth Innes Bennett in West Chester. After their wedding, they lived briefly at Bala Farm before moving to Media, PA.

Eleuthere Paul duPont (1887-1950) was an American industrialist, founder of Du Pont Motors, and owner and president of Indian Motorcycles. He was the son of Francis Gurney duPont and Elise Wigfall Simons duPont and married Jean Kane Foulke, Jr. in 1910. E. Paul duPont's mother, Elise Wigfall Simons duPont, was the daughter of Dr. John Hume Simons and Eliza Wigfall Simons and the sister of Alice Flagg Simons, Thomas W. Simons, and Constance W. Simons.

Florence Bayard Kane (1868-1943) of Wilmington, DE was Jean Kane Foulke's sister. She was decorated by King Victor Emmanuel for her relief work during the Messina earthquake in 1908, which included the

organization of an emergency hospital in Philadelphia and relief work among the homeless following the earthquake. She was a member of the Delaware Library Commission and organizer of the state's travelling library system.

Scope and Contents and Arrangement note

This collection contains photographs of the Kane, Foulke, and duPont families as they branch off from Jean Kane Foulke and Jean Kane Foulke duPont.

The photographs represent members Jean Kane Foulke's family, including her parents, John Kinzing Kane and Mabel Bayard Kane, a few of her siblings, including Anne Francis Kane and Florence Bayard Kane, and her maternal grandparents, James Asheton Bayard, Jr. and Anne Francis Bayard.

They also represent Foulke's nuclear family, including husband George Rhyfedd Foulke, Sr. and children, George Rhyfedd Foulke, Jr., Jean Kane Foulke, Jr., and Willing Bayard Foulke.

From there, the photographs depict Jean Kane Foulke, Jr.'s nuclear family, including her husband, E. Paul duPont, and a group portrait with her six sons – Francis George duPont, E. Paul duPont, Jr., Robert Jacques Turgot duPont, Alexis Irene duPont, Benjamin Bonneau duPont, and Stephen duPont.

Finally, Jean Kane Foulke duPont's mother-in-law, Elise Wigfall Simons duPont is represented along with members of her family, including father Dr. John Hume Simons and sister Alice Flagg Simons.

Researchers should not expect to find extensive photographs of family members not listed above. However, there is a selection of unidentified family members and identified portraits, some with unclear connections to the family (see inventory).

There are also extensive photographs of the Foulke family farm, called Bala Farm, in Sconnetown, East Bradford Township.

Many of the photographs came to CCHC in labeled envelopes. However, some of the photographs inside the envelopes did not represent the name on the label. In such cases, the photographs were identified and sorted accordingly.

The photographs in this collection are first arranged alphabetically by person. After the portraits are photographs of locations associated with the family, most notably Bala Farm. Finally, there are unidentified photographs and miscellanea.

Administrative Information

The Kane, Foulke, and duPont family photographs were donated to the Chester County History Center by Alison duPont in 2022.

Controlled Access Headings

Du Pont, Jean Kane Foulke, 1891-1985

Du Pont, E. Paul (Eleuthère Paul), 1887-1950

Foulke, Jean Kane, 1867-1962

Foulke, Jean Kane, 1867-

DuPont, Eleuthère Paul, 1911-1963

Activists

Suffragists

East Bradford (Pa. : Township)

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use.

Collection Inventory

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date	# of items
1	1	James A. Bayard and Anne Francis Bayard	1865, undated	2
1	2	Elise Wigfall Simons duPont	1937, circa 1870-1880	5
1	3	Jean Kane Foulke duPont	1892-1898, 1908-1912, 1938, 1951, 1959, 1974	18
1	3	Jean Kane Foulke duPont and Mabel Bayard Morris	Circa 1898	1
1	4	Jean Kane Foulke duPont and Robert Jacques Turgot duPont	1923	5
1	4	Jean Kane Foulke duPont and Eleuthere Paul duPont	1920s	2
1	4	Jean Kane Foulke duPont, Francis George duPont, E. Paul duPont, Jr., Robert Jacques Turgot duPont, Alexis Irene duPont, Benjamin Bonneau duPont, and Stephen duPont.	Circa 1928-1929	1
1	4	E. Paul duPont and sons	Circa 1928-1929	1
1	4	duPont family on water	1920s-1930s	3
1	5	George Rhyfedd Foulke	1989, undated	4
1	6	George Rhyfedd Foulke, Jr.	1890-1895, 1918	12
1	6	George Rhyfedd Foulke, Jr., Dorothy Fisher Foulke, and Dorothy Fisher Foulke, Jr.	Circa 1920	1
1	6	George Rhyfedd Foulke, Jr. and Dorothy Fisher Foulke, Jr.	Circa 1917	1
1	7	Jean Kane Foulke at two and a half years old	Circa 1970	2
1	7	Jean Kane Foulke as a child	Circa 1971-1972	1
1	7	Jean Kane Foulke, young adult	1889-1895	16
1	7	Jean Kane Foulke with children	1889-1890	3
1	7	Jean Kane Foulke	1938	1
1	8	Willing Bayard Foulke	1899, circa 1908, circa 1917-1919	15
1	9	George Rhyfedd and Jean Kane Foulke children	1889, 1894-1905	28
1	10	Foulke Family portraits (Dorothy Fisher Foulke, Jr., unidentified)	1927, undated	2

1	11	Anne Francis Kane	Circa 1870, circa 1880	3
1	12	Florence Bayard Kane	Circa 1871, circa 1888	3
1	13	John Kinsing Kane	circa 1855, circa 1880	5
1	14	Mabel Bayard Kane	Circa 1850, circa 1890, undated	7
1	15	Kane Family portraits (Betsie Kane, Elizabeth Kane Shields, Bissy Kane, Jean Kane and sisters [?], unidentified)	1882, undated	4
1	16	Julia DeVeaux Powel (Mrs. William Parker Foulke) and others	Circa 1884	4
1	17	Dr. John Hume Simons portrait	undated	3
1	17	Dr. John Hume Simons memorial, Augusta, Florida	undated	1
1	17	Alice Flagg Simons	undated	1
1	18	Anne Francis Bayard	undated	5
1	18	James Bayard	undated	2
1	18	Martha Pintard Bayard	undated	1
1	18	Samuel Bayard	undated	1
1	18	Jane DuVal Leiper Kane (Mrs. John K. Kane) (1797-1866)	undated	2
1	18	John K. Kane (1795-1858)	undated	2
1	18	Peel Hall, south bank of the Schuylkill, North Philadelphia, painting circa 1800	undated	1
1	19	Friends and unidentified family	undated	6
	OS	Dr. John Hume Simons portrait	undated	4
2	1	Bala Farm	19 th century	63
2	2	Bala Farm	20 th century	153
2	3	Identified properties (“The Pod” in Chestnut Hill and McCoy stone home)	1889, 1970	5
2	4	Unidentified properties	1932, 1937	42
2	5	Unidentified men hunting	undated	13
2	6	Miscellanea	1894, undated	3