



Drawings from the Offices of Kane Enterprises 2537

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on July 14, 2020.
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Manuscripts and Archives

PO Box 3630
Wilmington, Delaware 19807
askhagley@hagley.org
URL: <http://www.hagley.org/library>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Historical Note	3
Scope and Content	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	5
Controlled Access Headings	5
Collection Inventory	5

Summary Information

Repository:	Manuscripts and Archives
Source - dnr:	Kane, Richard
Creator:	James W. Flaherty, Inc
Title:	Drawings from the Offices of Kane Enterprises
ID:	2537
Date [inclusive]:	1948-1977
Physical Description:	45 item(s)
Physical Description:	rolled drawings
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Consists of drawings and plans for various local properties, including du Pont family estates.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Historical Note

Drawings from the Offices of Kane Enterprises was donated to Hagley in 2012 by Richard E. Kane, owner of Kane Enterprises. Most recently located in Hockessin, Delaware, Kane Enterprises was a local construction company that specialized in du Pont family residential and du Pont-sponsored institutional projects.

Before the founding of Kane Enterprises, Richard Kane was the owner and operator of James W. Flaherty Inc., located at 1911 Liberia Street in Wilmington, Delaware. The company was founded by James W. Flaherty after his purchase of another local contracting firm, Stewart & Donohue. At one time that firm employed thirty men. In 1952, Flaherty took on partners in the company. The first meeting of the new firm was held on April 8, 1952 with a slate of directors that included James W. Flaherty, W. Amos Norton, Charles W. Kane, Kathleen Flaherty, and Mary McCormick. The first officers (and new partners in the firm) of the new company were: James W. Flaherty, president; W. Amos Norton, vice president and secretary; and Charles W. Kane, treasurer. The new company purchased all of the equipment previously held by Flaherty and inherited scheduled jobs and an extensive client list. At that time, work was being done for Mr. and Mrs. Donald Carpenter, Lamnot du Pont Copeland, Reynolds du Pont, and S. Hallock du Pont.

Throughout the 1950s and 1960s, James W. Flaherty, Inc. continued to grow and became one of the preferred contactors in Wilmington. Clients included Mt. Cuba Botanical Park, 'Winterthur,' 'Granogue', 'Calmar,' 'Squirrel Run,' and Hagley Museum (the Crowninshield Dam). The officers of the company remained the same until a tragic accident on March 31, 1970 when Charles. W. Kane was killed in a bulldozer accident at 'Windmar,' the estate of Mrs. David Craven along Kennett Pike.

Following the untimely death of Kane, the remaining officers of the company met and decided unanimously to give Kane's widow, \$5,000 for his services over the past three decades. Following the tragic death of his father, Richard Kane, also an employee of the company, decided he was ready to become more involved in company's management. He approached the partners about a buyout, which they ultimately agreed to after tense negotiations. After two decades in existence as a partnership, James. W. Flaherty, Inc. was now a sole proprietorship. Kane retained most of the same employees who had worked for his father, and also hired new ones, bringing the number of employees to more than thirty by the later part of the 1970s. The firm largely retained the same client base as it had for decades. Major projects undertaken during the tenure of Richard Kane included the visitor's center at Winterthur, 'Lamborn' the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. du Pont, the granite bridge over the ponds at 'Mt. Cuba,' and a number of others.

In 1983, Kane decided to close the doors of the company and sell off the property at 1911 Liberia Street. Shortly thereafter, he opened Kane Enterprises which primarily did work at 'Mt. Cuba' and 'Invergarry,' as well as others. Kane was also subcontractor on the rebuilding of Smith's Bridge in Montchanin in 2002. In operation from 1983 to 2005, Kane Enterprises closed when its owner, Richard Kane retired.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Content

Consists of various plans for many local estates and churches. Included in the collection are items from Mt. Cuba, Calmar, and Squirrel Run to name a few. Also included are plans for the rectory at Sacred Heart Church in Wilmington, Delaware.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Items in the collection are listed by property and owner, and arranged chronologically.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Manuscripts and Archives

PO Box 3630

Wilmington, Delaware 19807

askhagley@hagley.org

URL: <http://www.hagley.org/library>

Provenance

Gift of Richard E. Kane, 2012

Processing Notes

Items are stored in document sleeves/bags. Their respective OS (oversize) number refers to which bag they are housed in.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Kane, Richard

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances
Estate of Dr. & Mrs. L.E. Farr, Underground Lines , 1948 January 15	oversize 1
Sacred Heart Rectory, Entrance, Wilmington, DE , 1955 February	oversize 1
Sacred Heart Rectory, Proposed Dining Room, Wilmington, DE, 1956 March 14	oversize 1
Sacred Heart Church, Block Garage, Elevation and Plan, Wilmington, DE, 1956 April 12	oversize 1

Sacred Heart Rectory, First Floor, Plan, Wilmington, DE, 1957 January	oversize 1
Sacred Heart Rectory, Second Floor, Plan, Wilmington, DE, 1957 January	oversize 1
Sacred Heart Rectory, Third Floor, Plan, Wilmington, DE, 1957 January	oversize 1
Sacred Heart Rectory, Basement, Plan, Wilmington, DE , 1957 January	oversize 1
Sacred Heart Rectory, First Floor, Proposed Alterations, Wilmington, DE, 1957 February	oversize 1
Sacred Heart Rectory, Second Floor, Proposed Alterations, Wilmington, DE, 1957 February	oversize 1
Point Lookout Farm, Pipe Lines & Electric Locations (pool), Montchanin, DE , 1958 July 25	oversize 1
Noxentown Pond, Proposed Spillway, 1960 February 22	oversize 1
E.N. May Residence, Sewage Disposal Field, Montchanin, DE, 1960 August 19	oversize 1
Biderman Golf Club Inc., Old Farm House, First Floor, Plan, Wilmington, DE , circa 1960	oversize 1
Biderman Golf Club Inc., Old Farm House, Second Floor, Plan, Wilmington, DE , circa 1960	oversize 1
Trinity Church, Parking Lot Catch Basin, Wilmington, DE , circa 1965	oversize 1
Estate of Mr. & Mrs.Irenee May, Study of the Ponds and Spillways, Montchanin, DE, 1966 March 26	oversize 1
Nelson T. Shields, Sewer System, Greenville, DE , 1966 August	oversize 1
Estate of Mr. & Mrs. W. Glasgow Reynolds, Undergorund Lines at Barn, Old Kennett Road, Centreville, DE, 1967 May 6	oversize 2
Estate of Mr. Pierre S. du Pont, III, Sewage Disposal Field, Rockland, DE, 1967 June 3	oversize 2
Subdivision of Armstrong Farm for Lammot du Pont Copeland, Hockessin, DE (traced from original, 1943), 1968 January 31	oversize 2
Estate of Mr. & Mrs. David Stockwell, Countour Map, Barn, 1968 December 17	oversize 2
Estate of Mr. & Mrs. David Stockwell , Countour Map, Log House, circa 1968	oversize 2
Estate of Mr. & Mrs. David Stockwell , Log House, detail of sliding doors , circa 1968	oversize 2
Mt. Cuba Botannical Park, Location of Plugs, Hockessin, DE, 1968 May 22	oversize 2

Silliman Estate, Landscape Plan, Montchanin, DE, 1968 May 27	oversize 2
Mt. Cuba Botanical Park, Miscellaneous Garden Plan, Hockessin, DE, C. 1968	oversize 2
Mt. Cuba Botanical Park, Entrance Catch Basin, Hockessin, DE , 1969 August 14	oversize 2
Silliman Estate, Electric Lines, Greenville, DE, 1969 October	oversize 2
Estate of Mr. William K. du Pont, Dog Kennels, Corner Ketch, DE, 1969 October 13	oversize 2
Mt. Cuba Botanical Park, Sewage Disposal System at C. Smith Residence, Hockessin, DE, 1969 November	oversize 2
Estate of S.H. du Pont, Elevations for Peacock Pens, 'Squirell Run,' Wilmington, DE, 1970 April 27	oversize 3
Granite Markers, Wilmington Parks Department, 1970 October	oversize 3
Property of Richard S & William K. du Pont, 814 West Street, Wilmington, DE , 1970 December	oversize 3
Estate of S.H. du Pont, Underground Pipelines at Peacock House, 'Squirrel Run,' Wilmington, DE, circa 1970	oversize 3
Estate of Mr. & Mrs Richard S. du Pont, 'Calmar,' Gasoline Tank and Service Lines, Centreville, DE, circa 1970	oversize 3
Estate of Mr. & Mrs. Richard S. du Pont, 'Calmar,' Contour Map, Centreville, DE , 1971 August 13	oversize 3
Estate of Mr. & Mrs. Richard S. du Pont, 'Calmar,' Contour Map, Centreville, DE, 1971 August 13	oversize 3
Hagley Musuem & Library, Proposed Underbridge Parking, Wilmington, DE , 1972 August 18	oversize 3
Residence of Mr. & Mrs. William K. du Pont, Countour Map for Proposed Pond, Corner Ketch, DE, 1973 September 25	oversize 3
Grace Chruch, Trash & Garbage Shelter, Wilmington, DE, 1970 October	oversize 3
Lamnot du Pont Copeland Estate (Mt. Cuba), Pump House Locations, Hockessin, DE, 1975 September 9	oversize 3
Flower Farm, Elevations , 1977 June 7	oversize 3
Dr. & Mrs. Julian Hill, Proposed Powder Room, Alterations, Westover Hills, DE, n.d.	oversize 3
Dr. & Mrs. Julian Hill, Proposed Powder Room, Plan, Westover Hills, DE, n.d.	oversize 3