George Melnik (1919-2006) spent most of his life in Deerfield where he served as a town selectman, member of the school committee, and took an active role in numerous clubs and associations. He was a noted grower of irises, and became an expert in local family history. For many years he served as town historian and frequently spoke on Deerfield’s history, the area’s agricultural history, and genealogy. Many individuals contacted him seeking information regarding their ancestors. In 1971 he was selected chairman of the Deerfield Tercentenary Committee, and presided over town-wide celebrations and events in 1973.

The Melnik Papers consist of genealogical research notes, Deerfield vital records (births, marriages, deaths), cemetery records, school records, notes on local history, correspondence and other materials relating to the 1973 Tercentenary, and general correspondence.

Papers donated by Carol Melnik McShane

CONTAINER LIST:

Box 1
Genealogy notes

Fol. 2 – Abercrombie
Fol. 3 – Ackerman/n
Fol. 4 – Allen
Fol. 5 – Atwood
Fol. 6 – Ball
Fol. 7 – Barnish/Clark
Fol. 8 – Baronas-Baranowski
Fol. 9 – Bell
Fol. 10 – Bridges
Fol. 11 – Cadigan (including Whalen, Meagher, Mettigan, Manix, Cledry, Hafey and Brennan)
Fol. 12 – Childs, David W. (1809-1879)
Fol. 13 – Curtis
Fol. 14 – Decker, Gottlieb (1828-1919)
Fol. 15 – Field
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Box 2
Genealogy notes
  Fol. 1 – Jones
  Fol. 2 – Martin
  Fol. 3 – Newcomb
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  Fol. 6 – Smith, Apollos W. (1814-1886)
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Box 3
  Fol. 1 – Correspondence, 1970-1995
  Fol. 2 – Deerfield Schools, Enrollment lists, 1901-1910
  Fol. 3 – Deerfield Schools, Enrollment lists, 1911-1927
    Fol. 4 – Deerfield Tercentenary (correspondence, reports, newspaper clippings,
      drawings, committee information), 1967-1973
  Fol. 5 – Federal census enumerated by Geo. Sheldon, 1870; 1880
  Fol. 6 – Hilltop Farm, Deerfield (folded map)
  Fol. 7 – Memorial Hall renovations, 1968-1969
  Fol. 8 – Notes on transportation/infrastructure
  Fol. 9 – Nathan Frary, property transfers in S. Deerfield, 1794-1832
  Fol. 10 – Resident Physicians of Deerfield by Lawrence Dame, 1973
  Fol. 11 – Wapping schoolhouse

Box 4
  Fol. 1 – Deerfield births, 1898-1899; 1901
  Fol. 2 – Deerfield births, 1898-1940
  Fol. 3 – Deerfield marriages, 1891-1901
  Fol. 4 – Deerfield marriages, 1949-1951
  Fol. 5 – Deerfield deaths, 1883-1887
  Fol. 6 – Deerfield record of internments, 1861-1991
  Fol. 7 – Laurel Hill cemetery (copy of bylaws, notebook listing graves)
  Fol. 8 – West Deerfield Cemetery, Wisdom Way (folded map) 1932

Box 5
  Deerfield marriages, 1900-1916; 1917-1932; 1933-1941; 1941-1948; 1949; 1959-1969;
    1970-1984 (7 notebooks)
  Copy of Register of voters, town of Deerfield, 1884-1892