



**THE CENTER FOR POPULAR MUSIC
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY, MURFREESBORO, TN**

GEORGE HAMILTON, IV COLLECTION

17-027

Creator:

Hamilton, George, IV (July, 19, 1937 - September 17, 2014)
Hamilton, George, V (November 11, 1960 -)

Type of Material:

Manuscript Materials, Photographs, Performance Documents, Posters, Sound Recordings

Physical Description:

1.67 linear feet of textual manuscript materials
0.2 linear feet of manuscript sound recordings
79 performance documents, including oversized posters, handbills, and programs
15 photographs
44 serials
13 books
97 commercial sound recordings, including LPs, 45-rpms, and CDs
3 commercial DVDs

Dates:

1960-2015

RESTRICTIONS:

All materials in this collection are subject to standard national and international copyright laws. Center staff are able to assist with copyright questions for this material.

Provenance and Acquisition Information:

This collection was donated to the Center by George Hamilton, V in four installments from January through March of 2018.

Arrangement:

There was very little original arrangement scheme for the collection other than some separation of format, which was kept during processing. The processor devised the basic

organizational scheme for the collection, reorganizing materials within component groups where necessary.

Subject/Index Terms:

Hamilton, George, IV, 1937-2014
Country music--1961-1970.
Country music--1971-1980.
Country music--1981-1990.
Country music--1991-2000.
Country music--2001-2010.
Country music—England
Country music festivals
Country music radio programs.
Musicals.
Cline, Patsy, 1932-1963

Agency History/Biographical Sketch:

George Hamilton, IV was born July, 19, 1937 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He started his recording career at age 19 with the rock n' roll 'teen ballad' song, "A Rose and a Baby Ruth", which became ABC-Paramount Records' first million-seller. After a few years as a "pop" recording artist and touring with Buddy Holly, Chuck Berry, Gene Vincent, Eddie Cochran, Little Richard, Sam Cooke, The Everly Brothers & other 1950s rock n' roll and R&B artists, Hamilton became the first "pop" star to "go country" moving to Nashville in 1959. He signed with producer Chet Atkins at RCA Records and became a member of the Grand Ole Opry in 1960. Among his country hit recordings, his "signature song" was "Abilene" (RCA Records, 1963). Hamilton was deemed "The International Ambassador of Country Music" for his extensive touring throughout Europe and as host of country music television variety shows in Canada and the United Kingdom. He was the first country artist to have his television shows aired in Hong Kong, South Africa & New Zealand. He also became the first American country music artist to perform in Czechoslovakia and Russia.

In the 1980s & 1990s, Hamilton was a frequent musical guest with Billy Graham Crusades, while also making lengthy country music tours of Britain & Ireland and touring Canada & the USA. Throughout the 1990s and 2000s, he narrated and co-starred in "Patsy Cline - A Musical Tribute", which toured British & Irish Theatres, including a three-month run at The Whitehall Theatre in London's "West End" Theatre District (Britain's "Broadway"). His final British & Irish Theatre Tour was in the Spring of 2013. He continued touring and maintained regular appearances on the Grand Ole Opry until his passing on September 17, 2014.

Scope and Content:

This collection consists of materials collected by George Hamilton, IV and his son, George Hamilton, V documenting Hamilton, IV's music career. The manuscript papers consist of handwritten notes, radio scripts, newspaper clippings, articles photocopied from books, journals, newspapers, magazines, correspondence, photographs, posters and programs.

Collection Contents (Folder/Box List):

Box #	Folder #	Description
Box 1		Manuscript Radio/Play Scripts
	Folder 1	"Charlotte Country Music Story"
	Folder 2	"History of Country Music" [BBC] & "A Pickin and a Grinnin" [BBC]
	Folder 3	"History of the Railroad" [BBC]
	Folder 4	"How the West was Sung" [BBC] - folder one
	Folder 5	"How the West was Sung" [BBC] - folder two
Box 2		Manuscript Material
	Folder 1	Czechoslovakia
	Folder 2	Miscellaneous George Hamilton Manuscripts
	Folder 3	Lonstar [Polish musician]
	Folder 4	Miscellaneous Friends of George
	Folder 5	Patsy Cline Musical Theatre Production / Tours in Britain & Ireland
	Folder 6	Programs
	Folder 7	Small posters and handbills
	Folder 8	Seasonal Theater Schedules
Box 3		Manuscript News Material
	Folder 1	Various Magazines
	Folder 2	Press Releases
	Folder 3	Newspaper clippings
	Folder 4	Newspaper clippings
Box 4		Manuscript News Material
	Folder 1	Newspaper clippings
	Folder 2	Newspaper clippings
	Folder 3	Newspaper clippings
	Folder 4	Newspaper clippings
Box 5		Manuscript Sound Material
	Ray Price	<i>There's Always Me</i> Demo
	K. Kristofferson	<i>When I loved Her</i> Demo
	Jimmie Hayes	<i>Sit At My Table</i> Demo
	Jimmie Hayes	<i>Give Me Your Heart</i> Demo
	Jimmie Hayes	<i>Life Time of Heartaches</i> Demo
	Jimmie Hayes	<i>Between The Two Of Us</i> Demo
	Ira & Charlie Louvin	<i>The Family Who Prays (Shall Never Part)</i> Demo
	Kenny Kenton and his Kats	<i>Won't You / Yukon Rock</i>
	Bill Anderson	<i>It Just Don't Take Me Long to Say Good-Bye / In Case You Ever Change Your Mind</i>
	Acuff Rose	<i>A Poor Man's Bouquet</i>

Materials Cataloged Separately:

Per Center policy, certain formats are cataloged separately for accessibility. These include serials, Reading Room books, rare books, performance documents, and sound recordings. The Reading Room books are searchable through the MTSU Walker Library catalog, all other materials are searchable through the Center's website database or in-house. [For a complete list of separated materials, please contact the archivist.]

Location:

All manuscript materials are located in the special collections storage area filed by accession number. Oversized posters are housed in the map drawers with the other oversized materials. Commercial sound recordings are stored with their respective formats.

Related Materials:

The Center holds other country music and international touring collections, including D.F. Cusic Papers (86-001), Charlie Walker Collection (08-020), and others.

The Hamilton Family has also donated related materials to the Southern Folklife Collection at the University of North Carolina, The Moravian Music Foundation, Winston-Salem, NC, and The Country Music Hall of Fame Library and/or Country Music Foundation, Inc., Nashville, TN.

Processed by Olivia Beaudry, March-April 2018.