Collection Summary

**Title:** Howard Pew papers  
**Span Dates:** 1889-1942 and undated  
**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1889 – 1905)  
**Accession No.:** A1986-6  
**Creator:** Pew, Howard, 1857? – 1917  
**Extent:** 1 container ; .5 linear foot  
**Language:** Collection material in English  
**Repository:** Library and Archives, U.S. Marine Band, Washington, D.C.  

**Summary:** Howard Pew was a newspaper reporter, newspaper owner, bandmaster, and band manager in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth centuries. Bands that he managed included the Sousa Band, Gilmore’s Band, Creatore’s Band, and the US Marine Band, among others. Pew’s papers consist of photographs, correspondence, business cards, a concert program, and foreign currency.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and listed alphabetically therein.

**Names:**  
Gilmore, P. S. (Patrick Sarsfield), 1829-1892  
Gilmore's Band  
Pew, Howard, approximately 1857 – 1917  
Santelmann, William H. (William Henry), 1863-1932  
Sousa, John Philip, 1854-1932  
Sousa Band  
United States Marine Band

**Subjects:**  
Band Music  
Lexington (Ky.)  
Military bands – American  
Philippines  
Saint Louis (Mo.)  
United States Marine Band – History  
Washington, DC

**Occupations:**  
Musicians  
Theatrical managers

Administrative Information

**Provenance**

Gift of Andrew B. Morden of Vancouver, Washington, in May 1986. Morden’s stepfather Preston F. Pew was the son of Howard Pew.
Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

Processing History

GySgt Michael Ressler accepted the collection in 1986. MGySgt Jane Cross processed the collection and coded the finding aid for EAD format in 2019.

Other Repositories

Researchers interested in the management of the Sousa Band should consider the David Blakely papers held at the New York Public Library, the Jay Gilmore Sims papers at the University of Illinois, and the John Philip Sousa Collection at the University of Texas at Austin.

Related Material

The John Philip Sousa papers (A1970-1) contain materials related to Sousa Band tours and management.

Copyright Status

Materials from the Howard Pew papers are governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.) and other applicable international copyright laws. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

Access and Restrictions

The Howard Pew papers are open to research. Researchers must contact the Marine Band Library and Archives to schedule a research appointment.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [item, date, container number], Howard Pew papers, Marine Band Library and Archives, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Howard Pew was most well known in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century as a manager for the Sousa Band, Gilmore’s Band, Creatore’s Band, and the US Marine Band, among others. However, he began his professional life in the newspaper industry.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>circa 1857</td>
<td>born in Michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>circa 1870s – 1880s</td>
<td>reporter at the <em>Chicago Times</em> during the Wilbur F. Storey regime as a drama critic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>reporter at the <em>St. Paul Pioneer Press</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>partial owner of the <em>Daily Herald</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885 – 1892</td>
<td>traveled to New York City in as a press agent for Patrick Gilmore’s Band and remained as business manager until Gilmore’s death in 1892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891 – 1892</td>
<td>served on the management staff of David Blakely’s organization, which managed tours of the US Marine Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892 – 1897</td>
<td>served as a manager of the Sousa Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897-1902</td>
<td>manager of the Thomas Orchestra, Banda Rosa, Carlisle Indian Band, Vienna Strauss Orchestra, and various touring artists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>managed Brooke’s Chicago Marine Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>circa 1903 – 1911</td>
<td>managed Giuseppe Creatore’s Band</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>managed the American tour of the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Arthur Nikisch (final management contract)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917</td>
<td>died in North Hudson Hospital in Jersey City, New Jersey, after an illness lasting three weeks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Scope and Content Note**

The Howard Pew papers span the period from 1889 to 1942, with the majority of materials dating from 1889 to 1905. The collection consists of portrait photographs of conductors and an ensemble, correspondence, two business cards of Pew, a Marine Band concert program, and foreign currency. Of particular interest is the correspondence, which contains two letters of recommendation for Pew, one of which is handwritten by John Philip Sousa. The presence of the Japanese invasion currency is inexplicable, but interesting nonetheless.

**Organization of the Howard Pew papers**

The collection is organized into 1 series:

- I. Papers, 1889-1942 and undated
Description of Series
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>I. Papers, 1889-1942 and undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This series consists of three photographs, two letters, two business cards, a concert program, and foreign currency. The materials are arranged chronologically and then alphabetically therein.

**BOX-FOLDER 1/1** Pew, Howard, undated

Two business cards, one as the tour manager of the US Marine Band, the other as manager of the London Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Arthur Nikisch.

**BOX-FOLDER 1/2** Santelmann, William H., undated

Portrait photograph of the leader of the US Marine Band, autograph on reverse.

**BOX-FOLDER 1/3** Sousa, John Philip, undated

Portrait photograph with autograph on reverse.

**BOX-FOLDER 1/4** Gilmore’s Band, 1889

Photograph of Patrick Gilmore and his Band in St. Louis, Missouri.

**BOX-FOLDER 1/5** Correspondence, July 3, 1893

Letter from John Philip Sousa recommending Howard Pew as an excellent tour manager of the US Marine Band and Sousa Band.

**BOX-FOLDER 1/6** Correspondence, July 5, 1893

Letter from Chief Clerk of the US Senate Claus W. Johnson recommending Howard Pew as a sagacious, competent, and shrewd man, especially in respect to entertainment enterprises.

**BOX-FOLDER 1/7** Program, March 25, estimate 1902-1905


**BOX-FOLDER 1/8** Japanese invasion currency, circa 1942

Fifty centavo note issued by the Japanese government in the Philippines.