



BHC-MSS 0007
Guide to the Papers of Irving Moy
By Meghan Rinn
2018

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Irving Moy

Title: Papers of Irving Moy

Dates: 1947-

Quantity: 3 manuscript boxes, 5 oversized boxes

Abstract: Irving Moy is the child of two Chinese parents. His experiences growing up in Bridgeport represent an insight into the city's Chinese-American community after the Second World War. Present in the collection is documentation of Moy's childhood in Bridgeport, his interest in the American Civil War and the Chinese-American soldier, Joseph Pierce, and his career within Connecticut's healthcare and social service systems. Mr. Moy continues to be active and involved with his interests.

Language: English

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical History:

Irving Moy was born in 1948, as a part of the post-WWII boom. His parents were both Chinese and entered the country illegally due to the Chinese Exclusion Act. Regardless, they were citizens and actively involved in the Bridgeport community. They ran a laundry, and Irving grew up within the Chinese Bridgeport community.

He attended school in Bridgeport for his entire K-12 career and went on to earn an A.B. from Washington University in 1970, a masters degree in architecture from Washington University in 1972, and a masters of arts in guidance and counseling from Fairfield University in 1976.

This wide array of education helped him to have a thirty two year long career in healthcare, where he worked in both the private sector and public sector over the years. His years of dedicated service saw him work with the Connecticut Department of Social Services to help develop requirements in Public Act 05-187, especially as it related to fire safety. Moy also helped draft reports submitted to the federal government containing similar information.

Moy also is president of Company F, 14th Connecticut Volunteer Infantry, which re-enacts the work of the infantry during the American Civil War. Moy's focus is on Joseph Pierce, the highest ranking Chinese soldier who fought in the Civil War. He has published a book

regarding Pierce, shedding important light on the presence of non-white citizens who participated in the conflict.

Moy's Civil War interest also saw him serve as a member of the 2009 Connecticut Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, as appointed by Governor M. Jodie Rell.

Mr. Moy continues to be active and involved with his interests, with the Wallingford Historical Society, and Central High School from which he graduated in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Scope and Content Note

The contents of the Irving Moy papers vary greatly, and reflect a diverse array of interests. In addition to Moy's interest in the American Civil War and his research on Joseph Pierce, there is extensive documentation of his childhood in Bridgeport, Connecticut, as well as information on the Chinese community of Bridgeport during the 1940s through the 1960s. This is reflected in his school material, as well as documents (including photographs) from the Bridgeport Chinese Community.

Additional material relates to Moy's career in healthcare, friends, and memorabilia collected. More accruals are likely to come into the collection.

Arrangement note:

Series I primarily contains material related to Moy's childhood and high school years spent growing up in Bridgeport, Connecticut. These include report cards, student newspapers, and a folder of material from cartoonist Phil Mendez who was a schoolmate. Material from college is also present.

The second series contains both personal material related to Moy's immediate family, including documentation of passage and naturalization, and photographs and material related to the larger Chinese community within Bridgeport. Series III contains material relating to Moy's friends, and series IV contains material relating to the American Civil War. Most of the material focuses on the Chinese soldier Joseph Pierce, but contains other research as well.

Series V relates to the Connecticut Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, whereas series VI contains additional outstanding material.

Series VII collects oversize material. Attempts have been made to mirror the above organization, but size has demanded some mixing of material.

Administrative information:

Provenance: Direct donation from Irving Moy, with potential forthcoming accruals. Formerly accession numbers 2015.23.2 and 2017.07. Accrual October, 2018.

Preferred Citation:

Papers of Irving Moy (BHC-MSS 0007), Bridgeport History Center.

Names and Subject Tracings

Subject tracings

American Civil War, 1861-1865

Bridgeport (Conn.)

Chinese American families.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Participation, Chinese American.

Detailed box and folder listing

Box 1

Series I: Bridgeport Schools

1. Biographical information on Irving D. Moy
2. Rick Wallace Award of Merit programme, 2008
3. Trustee of the year award from Board of Hebrew Healthcare, 2014
4. Diplomas and certificates
 - a. Admittance to high school, 1962
 - b. Washington University, A.B., 1970
 - c. Washington University M. Arch, 1972
 - d. Fairfield University, M.A., 1976
5. Material from Phil Mendez (high school classmate)
6. Bridgeport Public School report cards for grades 1-6, 1954-1960
7. Bridgeport Public School report cards for grades 7-8, 1960=1062
8. Bridgeport Public School report cards for grades 9-12, 1962-1965
9. Material from YMCA
10. Material from Washington School, 1965-1960
11. Material from Columbus High School, 1960-1962
12. Material from Central High School, 1962-1966
13. "Moments to Remember" booklet for class of 1969
14. Program, Student Council's 2nd Annual Hootany, January 22, no year
15. Criterion/Sound off Issues, April and June 1969
16. Criterion's Cub Reporter and the Underclassman, c. 2969
17. School honor students
18. Program, graduation exercises for Central High School, 1966
19. Clipping from graduation, 1966
20. Central High School correspondence as class president, 1976-1977
21. Program, Nutmeg Bowl, 1966
22. Photographs, Columbus High School, 1962
23. Material from Washington University, 1966-1967

Box 2

Series II: The Moy Family and the Chinese Community of Bridgeport

1. Biographical information of Chack Fong Moy (Ming Jo Ng)m Moy's father
2. Photographs of Moy family home in China, family.
3. Inoculation records for Chack Fong Moy
4. Passage documents and petition for Chack Fong Moy, 1947
5. Honorable discharge papers for Chack Fong Moy, April 4, 1949
6. Marriage certificate for Chack Fong Moy, July 1947
7. Naturalization certificate for Chack Fong Moy, February 16, 1968
8. Citizenship class material, 1969-1970
9. Memorial service, February 10, 2001
10. Death certificate, February 10, 2001
11. Property deeds and will, 1956-2001
12. Donation made in Chack Fong Moy's name, 2001
13. Memorial book for Chack Fong Moy, February 2001
14. "The Bridgeport Chinese Community" by Irving Moy
15. Biographical information on Wing Dep Leung (Wing Nen Lee)
16. Photographs, Chinese New Years Parties at China Inn and South China Restaurant, 1950s-1970s
17. Obituaries related to Bridgeport Chinese Community

Series III: Friends

18. Biographical file on Lois W. Beach, 1971-1994
19. "Failed Care" by Elizabeth Andstrom, 2015
20. Euology for Elizabeth Andstrom by Irving Moy, March 1, 2015
21. Memorial program for Geraldine Johnson, Bridgeport Superintendent, 2015

Series IV: Joseph Pierce and the Civil War

22. "An American Journey: My father, Lincoln, Joseph Pierce and Me" by Irving Moy, 2010
23. "A Chinese Yankee Soldier" by Irving Moy, undated
24. Research on Joseph and Martha Pierce, primarily from National Archives

Box 3

1. "Asians and Pacific Islanders and the Civil War" by the National Parks Service, 2015
2. Collection of Civil War documents
3. Civil War History of Max Zimmerman (Navy, relative of Richard Kenyon)
4. Civil War history of Arthur Cantor (family tree)
5. Civil War history of Herbert Stearns
6. Civil War history, Herberly, Calvery man and relative of Liz Andstrom
7. Civil War history, Captain Doten

Series V: Connecticut Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

8. Connecticut Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, 2009-2010
9. "Happy Birthday President Lincoln from the People" 2009

10. Additional material related to Lincoln bicentennial, 2009

Series VI: Outstanding material

11. 2013 Wallingford Memorial Day address
12. Presidential inauguration invitations given to Moy for Kennedy-Obama, 2016
13. Inauguration day souvenir from the US Post Service, January 20, 2009

Oversize

Box 4

1. Award presented by Wallingford Veterans Memorial committee, May 27, 2013)
2. Award presented by Hebrew Healthcare, 2015
3. Presidential coin, Obama, 2013
4. Rick Wallace Award of Merit, 2008
5. Department of Health Services ID cards plus business cards, 2013
6. CANPFA service award, undated
7. Award from Apple Herab, undated

Box 5

1. Seat cushions in red with black ink, Central Hilltoppers

Box 6

1. Carafe from Central HS Senior Banquet 1980
2. Goblet style glass, Central HS Senior Prom, 1979
3. Whiskey glass, Central HS senior prom 1977
4. Port glass, Central HS senior banquets 1977

Box 7

1. Barnum festival pennant, 1960
2. Central High School patch, class of 1966
3. Central High School hat, 1967
4. Two Central HS pennants
5. Washington school pennant
6. Barnum festival pin, 1976
7. Barnum festival pin undated

Box 8

1. Photo of Moy, undated
2. New York Times, November 20, 1863, Address and dedicat4ion of National Cemetery at Gettysburg
3. New York Times, April 14, 1865, Surrender at Appotomox

4. Yearbook, Criterion, 1966
5. Criterion student newspapers, 1966-1971

Box 9

1. Wine bottle from Central High School Class Reunion of 2016
(Note: Originally donated with wine inside. Decision was made to remove liquid from bottle out of concern of item being dropped and spilling.)

Accrual, October 5, 2018

On October 5, 2018, Mr. Moy dropped off additional material. Volume dictated an accrual. Of particular note is Mr. Moy's series of papercraft views of the Golden Hill United Methodist Church, produced in 1989, which are meticulously detailed.

Box 10

1. Certificate of apprenticeship in the Masons, June 1, 1999
2. Letters of awards and appointments
 - a. From Mag Morelli, recipient of CANPFA Rick Wallace Award of Merit, 2018
 - b. Letter in gratitude for serving on committee to develop 2010 Edition of "Guidelines for Design and Construction of Healthcare Facilities, 2009
 - c. Letter from John A. Danaher, CT DPS condition regarding appointment to State Codes and Standards Committee, January 2010
3. Tax bills for 52 High Street and 118 Congress Street from City of Bridgeport, 1956
4. Correspondence regarding treatment and death of Chack Fong Moy, including Moy family monument and Wall of Honor Profile in West Haven Veterans Museum and Learning Center
5. Correspondence regarding and including naturalization certificate of May Wan Moy (mother), 1964; 1986-1987
 - a. Certificates of naturalization, 1968, 1987, 1987
 - b. Congratulatory letters regarding citizenship from Congressman Abner W. Sibal, Senator Thomas J. Dodd, Governor John Dempsey, Senator Abraham Ribcoff,
 - c. Certificate of change of name, May 5, 1968
 - d. State correspondence regarding correction to birth date on naturalization certificate
6. Obituaries and remembrances for May Wan Moy, October 2017
7. Memorial book for May Wan Moy, October 2017
8. 1971 calendar from People's Savings Bank, 1971
9. Henry R. Kelly retirement program and Moy's remarks, July 1, 2008
10. Book, "Washington University in St. Louis: It's design and architecture", 1968

Box 11

1. Papercraft of Golden Hill United Methodist Episcopal Church, Study of church architecture with start of papercraft on it, 1989
2. Papercraft of Golden Hill United Methodist Episcopal Church, Church, side view, 1989
3. Papercraft of Golden Hill United Methodist Episcopal Church, Elm Street elevation, 1989
4. Papercraft of Golden Hill United Methodist Episcopal Church, front, 1989

Box 12

1. Tower of Golden Hill United Methodist Church sketch with ink, 1994
2. Photograph of Golden Hill United Methodist Episcopal Church interior, 1988

Box 13

1. Pen and ink drawing of 52 High Street, Bridgeport (Mr. Moy's childhood home) done by Mr. Moy, 1968
2. Sanctuary banners created by Mr. Moy, 1988

Box 14

1. Rick Wallace Award of Merit, 2008
2. Plaque of Appreciation from CT DPS, 2010
3. Clock and pen set presented by Connecticut Department of Health, Building, and Fire Inspection unit
4. Rubber stamp for Wing Lee Laundry, 105 Congress Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut, late 1950s-1960s
5. Bank deposit bag for Mechanics and Farmers Savings Bank, Corner Main and Bank Streets, late 1950s-1960s
6. Set of made items from required Industrial Arts course in the Bridgeport School System, 1959-1961 including wood door stop, wood match igniter, stamped tin box, stamped tin pie cutter