



BHC-MSS 0128
Guide to the Papers of the Reese Family
By Elizabeth VanTuyl
February 2021

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Reese, Frank

Title: Papers of the Reese Family

Dates: 1911-2008

Quantity: 1/2 manuscript box

Abstract: Frank D. Reese, son of Francis A. Reese, is a Bridgeport resident. Frank Reese's family has roots that go back several centuries in Connecticut and include extensive ties to the state's African American and Native American populations, as well as Cape Verdean. The collection consists largely of family photographs or copies of family photographs, photocopied vital records and family genealogies, and scanned and printed ephemera.

Language: English

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical History:

Frank D. Reese, son of Francis A. Reese, is a Bridgeport resident. His grandparents, John and Mary Reese, lived on Whiting Street in the city's South End neighborhood. John was a captain of a Bridgeport harbor barge. Frank Reese's family has roots that go back several centuries in Connecticut and include extensive ties to the state's African American and Native American populations, the Mason family, and others. His Gonsalves ancestors emigrated from Cape Verde, and some ancestors fought in the American Revolution. Much of the extended family was traditionally based in Central and Eastern Connecticut (Middletown and East Haddam.) The Caples family was partially a part of the Wonguk Indians, a part of the Algonquins.

Scope and Content note:

The collection consists largely of family photographs or copies of family photographs, photocopied vital records and family genealogies, and scanned and printed ephemera. Some original newspaper articles, correspondence, and documents are included. Photocopied material ranges from the 18th to 20th centuries.

Arrangement Note:

Arranged by family name and volume of research present.

Administrative information:

Provenance: Donation of Frank D. Reese, #2008.09 and #2008.10

Preferred Citation:

Papers of the Reese Family (BHC-MSS 0128), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

Names and Subject Tracings

Personal names

Reese, John
Gonsalves, Mary
Reese, Francis Antone
Gonsalves, Servino
Caples family

Subject tracings

Bridgeport, Conn.
Genealogy| sh85053742

Detailed box and folder listing

Box 1

1. Reese, Captain John; Townsend and Reese, Mary Gonsalves
2. Reese, Captain John, death certificate
3. Reese, Francis Antone, Report cards and diploma, 1931-1938
4. Reese, Francis Antone, Handbook for Boys [Boy Scouts of America], 1935-1936
5. Reese, Francis Antone, Vital records [photocopies], undated
6. Reese, Francis Antone, Ordnance School, Aberdeen, Maryland - documentation Reese, Francis
7. Antone (Frank A.), Baker's certificate, 1945
8. Reese, Francis Antone, Life insurance application, 1943
9. Reese, Francis Antone, Life insurance application-military, 1943
10. Reese, Francis Antone, Correspondence to F. A. Reese - military
11. Reese, Francis Antone, Correspondence to F. A. Reese
12. Reese, Francis Antone, Honorable Discharge, Feb. 28, 1946
13. Reese family correspondence, 1944-1977
14. Reese family, misc., undated
15. Servino Gonsalves genealogy, 1998
16. Gonsalves obituaries [photocopies], undated
17. Caples family, 1999
18. Scipio Native American ancestry [photocopies], undated
19. Photographs, 1911-1930
20. Sale of land to Lyman Caples
21. Jesse Slip of Middletown, Connecticut, photocopied documents and portions of published works
22. Short paper: "Blacks in Middletown Around the 1790s, Wesleyan University
23. Map of indigenous peoples' territory [Connecticut]