



BHC-MSS 0135
Guide to the Papers of the Scanzillo Family
By Meg Rinn
May 2021

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Diedolf, Joan T.

Title: Papers of the Scanzillo Family

Dates: 1918-1989

Quantity: 1 linear foot (2 oversize boxes)

Abstract: The Scanzillo family represents one of the oldest Italian American families that settled in Bridgeport. Focusing on Americo (October 13, 1898- June 12, 1981), the son of Gabrielo Scanzillo and his wife, Americo himself was a lawyer and later member of the state senate. The clippings within the scrapbooks are especially useful in examining the integration of Italian American families into New England at the turn of the 20th century, when ethnic discrimination was common.

Language: English

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical History:

The Scanzillo family represents one of the oldest Italian American families that settled in Bridgeport. Focusing on Americo (October 13, 1898- June 12, 1981), the son of Gabrielo Scanzillo and his wife, Americo himself was a lawyer. He went on to serve in the Connecticut State Senate.

Scanzillo married his wife Lillian Altieri on November 26, 1926. Together they had one daughter, Joan. Americo is buried at Mountain Grove cemetery.

Scope and Content note:

The scrapbook album was assembled by Americo's daughter, Joan, and donated along with several newspapers saved by Scanzillo during the second World War. Within the scrapbook are original photographs and clippings from Americo's political career, both in English and Italian. This material is especially useful in examining the integration of Italian American families into New England at the turn of the 20th century, when ethnic discrimination was common.

Arrangement Note:

Arranged chronologically.

Administrative information:

Provenance: 1996.08, gift of Joan Diedolf.

Preferred Citation:

Papers of the Scanzillo Family (BHC-MSS 0135), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

Names and Subject Tracings

Personal names

Diedolf, Joan T.
Scanzillo, Americo
Scanzillo family

Corporate names

City of Bridgeport
State of Connecticut

Subject tracings

Bridgeport, Conn.
Italian Americans

Detailed box and folder listing

Box 1 – Scrapbook, 1918-1989

Box 2

1. Scrapbook photocopies, 1996
2. Newspapers of select events, 1940s