



BHC-MSS 0194
Guide to the Papers of Rufus P. Cushman
by Meg Rinn
February 2022

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Cushman, Rufus

Title: Papers of Rufus P. Cushman

Dates: 1929-1970

Quantity: .5 liner feet

Abstract. Rufus Cushman worked at City Savings Bank starting in 1949 and was heavily involved in various Bridgeport community groups including Community Chest, the Boys Club, and the Bridgeport Public Library board. This collection features a selection of correspondence, speeches, and citations from the community groups he worked with.

Language: English

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical History:

Rufus Cushman was born in 1898 and grew up in Monson, Massachusetts, in a family that owned a wool mill. He attended Amherst College after graduating from Monson Academy.

He served in the Army Reserve during the First World War and then went on to work as a bookkeeper in Boston. He married Clara J. Morse in 1920.

In 1939 he became Assistant to the President of the City Savings Bank in Bridgeport, moving up the ranks until he became Executive Vice President in 1949. He remained a part of the bank until retiring in 1963.

Cushman was active in Bridgeport community life, acting as a part of various civil defense organizations during the Cold War. He also served as a part of the Community Chest, Director of the Boys Club, the Financial advisory Committee, President of the Board of the Bridgeport Public Library and many other groups.

Cushman died in 1970.

Scope and Content note:

The collection is not comprehensive in any way, and mainly features correspondence, as well as scattered speeches and select citations from various community organizations that Cushman worked with.

Arrangement Note:

Collection prioritizes correspondence, followed by speeches, then community activities and events.

Administrative information:

Provenance: 1975.30, gift of Clara Cushman

Preferred Citation:

Papers of Rufus P. Cushman (BHC-MSS 0194), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

Names and Subject Tracings

Personal names

Cushman, Rufus P.

Corporate names

City Savings Bank

Subject tracings

Bridgeport, Conn.

Nonprofit social services

Detailed box/folder listing

Box 1

7. Biography, undated
8. Correspondence, 1929-1939
9. Correspondence, 1940-1949
10. Correspondence, 1957
11. Correspondence, 1966-1970
12. Correspondence, from grandchildren, 1957-1970
13. Addresses/speeches, 1940s-1970s
14. Monson Academy and Amherst College events, 1952, 1970
15. Photographs misc. and Bridgeport Redevelopment Agency, 1950s-1960s
16. Community activities, 1960s-1970s
17. Certificates, 1898-1970
18. Citations from and photographs of Henry Morgenthane Jr., 1944