

Guide to the Records of the Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers International Union, Locals 623, 320, 601, and 719 BHC-MSS 0113

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Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library

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Summary Information

Repository:	Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library
Creator:	Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers International Union, Local 623
Creator:	Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers International Union, Local 320
Creator:	Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers International Union, Local 601
Creator:	Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers International Union, Local 719
Title:	Records of the Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers International Union, Locals 623, 320, 601, and 719
ID:	BHC-MSS 0113
Date [inclusive]:	1940-1950
Physical Description:	.5 Linear Feet
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Reflecting the extensive nature of Bridgeport industry during the Second World War and into the 1950s, the Records of the Mine, Mill, and Smelter Workers International Union, Locals 623, 320, 601, and 719 provides a snapshot of union activity at various Bridgeport employers.

Preferred Citation

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Biographical / Historical

The International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers began in 1916, and was focused on both worker protection and desegregation efforts. It appointed out and active communists to high level positions within the organization, often drawing unwanted attention and suspicion during the height of the cold war.

Its locals were highly attentive to local requirements and needs, hence the presence of three different locals in this particular collection. Given the extent of Bridgeport industry at the time and how much of it revolved around metal work, it is not surprising that there was a need.

Further research is being conducted into the three locals at this time.

Eventually the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers merged with the United Steelworkers of America, which endures to the present.

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Scope and Contents

These local unions represented workers in various companies, rather than one dedicated company as is the case with other union collections at the Bridgeport History Center. However, most of the material within the collection represents agreements or classifications, with little additional context. As such, this collection is best understood as a snapshot of events, rather than a continuous record.

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Arrangement

The collection is divided into four series, representing each of the unions. Series I focuses on Local 623, Series II focuses on local 320, local 601 makes up series III and local 719 comprises series IV.

All material is arranged chronologically in its respective series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

1978.22 – donation of Local 5623, 1978.103, gift of Univesity of Colorado 1977.69, donation of Brass workers Federal Labor Union no. 24411

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Controlled Access Headings

- Labor unions.
- Iron and steel workers--Labor unions

Collection Inventory

Series I - Local 623

Title/Description	Instances	
Constitution - international union, 1940	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 1
Union dues form, undated	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 2
Occupational definitions, 1944	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 3
Job classifications, 1947	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 4
Memos and reports, 1943-1944	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 5-11
Union election leaflets, 1949	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 12
Union election correspondence and report, 1949	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 13
Agreement with Jenkins Brothers, 1944		

Misc, undated	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 15
Buttons local 623, undated	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 16

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Series II - Local 320

Title/Description	Instances	
Agreements, 1944, 1947	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 17
Flyers, 1950	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 18

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Series III - Local 601

Title/Description	Instances	
Agreements, 1945, 1947	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 19

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Series IV - Local 719

Title/Description	Instances	
Material, employer unknown, 1950	BHC-MSS 0113 Box 1	folder 20

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