COLLECTION SUMMARY

Collection number: U.A. R.G. 3.3
Collection title: Charles Herlihy papers
Dates: 1927-1945
Size: 5 boxes & 1 oversized folder (3.8 linear feet)

Acquisition info.: Unknown
Accruals: No accruals are expected
Custodial history: Unknown

Language(s): Collection materials are in English.
Repository: Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library, Fitchburg State University
Conservation notes: Items with mold growth and newspaper clippings were copied onto acid free paper and the originals were discarded.

RIGHTS AND ACCESS

Access restrictions Collection is open for research.
Physical access restrict. None
Technical access restrict. None
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INFORMATION FOR RESEARCHERS

Preferred citation [item], Charles Herlihy papers, UA RG 3.3, Fitchburg State University, Fitchburg, Massachusetts.
Related collections
John Thompson papers.
John Randall Papers.
William Parkinson papers.
William Sanders papers.
Ellis White papers.
James Hammond papers.
Vincent Mara papers.
Michael Riccards papers.
Michael Rivard papers.

Separated material
None.

Published descriptions
Location of originals
Not Applicable.
Location of copies
Not Applicable.
Publication note
Not Applicable.

Subject headings
Education, Higher – Massachusetts – Fitchburg
Fitchburg State College - Presidents.
Fitchburg State College - Administration.
Fitchburg State College. President’s Office.
Fitchburg State College – Faculty.
Teacher Colleges - Massachusetts – History.
correspondence. aat
administrative records. aat
architectural drawings. aat

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Dr. Charles M. Herlihy (1891-1945) was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He received his A.B. degree in 1912 and his Master of Arts in 1915 from Boston College. Between degrees he attended the Boston Normal School and qualified for his teaching degree. He taught briefly at the Thorndike school in Cambridge starting in 1914 and was promoted to Special Assistant to the Superintendent within two years. He remained in that post for over five years, taking a leave of absence from 1918 to 1919 to serve as a second lieutenant in the Army Sanitary Corps during World War One.

In 1920 he was promoted by the state board of education to Assistant Supervisor, then later Supervisor, of Americanization for the Department. Through this position he became active in circles for adult education. He was President of the National Education Association Department of Adult Education from 1922-1924 and a member of the Americanization Committee of the
American Legion from 1924-1927.

The State Education Board elected Dr. Herlihy to succeed William Parkinson as principal of the Fitchburg Normal School in the fall of 1927. At thirty-four years old, he was the youngest in state history, and one of the youngest in the country, to be elected to the position of principal of a state normal school. His tenure also saw the name title change from Fitchburg Normal School to State Teachers College at Fitchburg in 1932, which in turn changed his title from principle to president.

Notable achievements of his tenure include the development of new and broadened curricular approaches, especially the establishment of the Industrial Arts program. Within a decade the program grew into a four-year degree program, a new Industrial Arts building was constructed, and women were encouraged to enroll in the program. Legislation during the 1930’s lead to the increase in the number of four year degree and master programs offered as well as a increase in strengthening the summer vocational program. During World War II, Herlihy ensured that the institution was involved in the war effort by participating in the Civilian Aviation and Naval Cadet Aviation training programs.

President Herlihy died suddenly of a heart attack in January of 1945. He left behind a wife Emma, and three children. Professor John L. Randall served as interim president providing the day-to-day administrative responsibility for the remainder of the academic year, until a permanent replacement was found.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contents are related to the presidency of Dr. Charles M. Herlihy at Fitchburg State Teachers College from 1927-1945. The collection consists of three series: Papers of the Office, Correspondence, and Buildings and Facilities. The largest group of papers in the Papers of the Office is related to Herlihy’s efforts with the National Youth Administration. The Correspondence files include topics such as day-to-day administrative records, adjustments made to teacher salaries, notes on hiring and firing of university employees, and general financial and institutional issues within the school. The correspondence series also contains subject files that show the correspondence in relation to projects conducted and administered during his tenure. Lastly, the Buildings and Facilities records contain contracts for all the upgrades and improvements done to the campus during Herlihy’s tenure.
COLLECTION INVENTORY

SERIES 1: Correspondence, 1927-1945
This series contains correspondence from and to the office of the President created under Herlihy’s tenure. This series is arranged by subject, and chronologically within the folder. Items that were compromised due to mold growth were removed and copied onto acid free paper.

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<th>Folder Title</th>
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<td>Division of Americanization and Immigration, 1938-1943</td>
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<td>Director of State Normal Schools, 1928</td>
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**SERIES 2: Papers of the Office, 1928-1945**

This series contains project files, activities, and events done under Herlihy’s tenure. This series is arranged by subject, and chronologically within each folder. Some subject folders also contain oversized materials that have been kept folded, such as payroll records, at the decision of the archivist.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder Title</th>
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<td>Defense Training Program, 1941</td>
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**SERIES 3: Buildings and Facilities, 1930-1937**
This series contains contracts of work from the Department of Education on various upgrades and construction of Fitchburg Normal School buildings and facilities. It also contains a pamphlet inventory of pictures and cast moldings located around campus. There were numerous oversized construction plans that have been maintained in an oversized folder. The folders have been arranged alphabetically by the name of the building, and then arranged chronologically.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder Title</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Contracts – Thompson Hall – Kitchen and Flooring, 1930-1937</td>
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