

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES

Harry Devine
Collection

2000.52

Processed by William F. Carroll, C.A.
September 2000

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Collection Information

Abstract : Harold G. (Harry) Devine was a Worcester boxer and 1928 bronze-medal winner with the U. S. Olympic Team in Amsterdam. Following a successful career in boxing, he was a furrier in Worcester for many years.

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository.

Preferred Citation : Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Gift of Barry Hurwitz, N. Oxford, Mass., August 2000.

Notes : The collection includes a large number of clippings, moved to clippings files, and artifacts moved to Collections.

MARC Access : Collection is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings (lsh, aat, tgm, gmgcp)

Devine, Harry, (Harold G.), 1911-1999.
Boxers (Sports) – Massachusetts – Worcester.
Jewish boxers – Massachusetts – Worcester – Photographs.
Olympic games (10th : 1928 : Amsterdam)
Photographs. lsh
Furriers – Massachusetts – Worcester. aat
Fur trade – Massachusetts – Worcester.
Massachusetts. State Guard. 21st Infantry – Photographs.

Historical/Biographical Notes

Harold G. Devine (Harry) was born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1911, moved to Worcester in 1917 and lived on Water Street. He began boxing at the Boy's Club at age 12, and soon left school to compete in amateur matches throughout Massachusetts. He was a member of the U.S. Olympics boxing team for the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam, where he won the bronze medal. He boxed professionally for several subsequent years, and entered the fur trade in 1930, where he remained until retirement in 1994. He continued to train boxers into the 1950s. Devine died in 1999 at the age of 88.

Scope and Content

The collection is comprised of over 90 photographs, the bulk taken in the 1920s and 1930s during his boxing career, and around 1946 during a period with the Massachusetts State Guard. Other photographs include colleagues in the fur trade. The collection also includes letters (1940s) relating to services performed with the State Guard and related activities. Collection includes scrapbooks and numerous clippings mostly ca. 1928 (moved to clippings file), and miscellaneous items. Artifacts include military hat, PFC stripe, boxer's shorts, statuette.

Series Description

Series 1: Photographs. Includes 93 photographs, 1920s to 1960s, highlighting Devine's boxing career, service with State Guard, and business colleagues.

Series 2: Letters. Includes two letters relating to State Guard service, American Red Cross, 1940s.

Series 3: Miscellaneous. Includes typed poem, diary with clippings, 1954 directory of former Olympic games participants.

Harry Devine Collection
2000.52
Series 1, Photographs

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2000.52.1.1-.65	21 st Infantry, Massachusetts State Guard, encampment, ca. 1946 : snapshots, 4 x 5 in. / ca. 1946. (65 items)
1	2	2000.52.1.66-.68	Harry Devine : 4 x 6 in. / K. S. Melikian, Photographer, Worcester, Mass., ca. 1928. (3 items)
1	2	2000.52.1.69-.71	Unidentified groups, ma include Harry Devine : snapshots, 4 x 6 in. / ca. 1930. (3 items)
1	2	2000.52.1.72	American Olympic boxers at Amsterdam, Wesley Barry, movie actor, in center of group : group photograph, 5 x 7 in. / Algemeen Handelsblad, Amsterdam, 1928.
1	2	2000.52.1.73-.74	Harry Devine : 5 x 7 in. / ca. 1920s-1930s. (2 items)
1	2	2000.52.1.75-.76	Mostly unidentified, Harry Devine jogging in part : 5 x 7 in. / ca. 1940s. (2 items)
1	2	2000.52.1.77	Mary Devine, 1915 : 3 x 4 in. on 5 x 6 in. mat / 1915.
1	2	2000.52.1.78	1928 Olympic boxers aboard SS Roosevelt at Amsterdam : 8 x 10 in. / Algemeen Handelsblad, Amsterdam, 1928.
1	2	2000.52.1.79	Spike Webb : autographed portrait, 8 x 10 in. / 1928.
1	2	2000.52.1.80	Harry Devine, other boxers : 8 x 10 in. / K. S. Melikian, Photographer, Worcester, Mass., ca. 1928.

Series 1, continued

1	2	2000.52.1.81	Harry Devine with unidentified person : 8 x 10 in. / ca. 1930.
1	2	2000.52.1.81-.86	Group portraits including Harry Devine : 7 x 9 in. / ca. 1930s. (6 items)
1	2	2000.52.1.87	21 st Infantry, Massachusetts State Guard : group photograph, 8 x 10 in. / Ted Woolner, Photographer, Worcester, Mass., ca. 1946.
1	2	2000.52.1.88-.91	Individual and group photographs, including Harry Devine : 8 x 10 in. / ca. 1960s. (4 items)
1	2	2000.52.1.92	Harry Devine : 6 x 8 in. / ca. 1928.
OVS		2000.52.1.93	Marciano-LaStarza fight : 11 x 14 in. / Bauman Photography, Brockton, Mass., 1953.
OVS		2000.52.1.94	Mounted photographs of Harry Devine as boxer, portrait of Harry Devine, front and back of Olympic medal : 15 x 22 in. / K. S. Melikian, 1928.

Harry Devine Collection
2000.52
Series 2, Letters

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	3	2000.52.2.1	Letter from Hope Hubbard, Acting Chairman, Camp & Hospital Entertainment Committee, American Red Cross, to Harry Devine, Ionic Avenue Boys Club; thank you for arranging sports program; January 24, 1945. Typescript.
1	3	2000.52.2.2	Letter from Col. Francis E. Savage, 21 st Infantry, Massachusetts State Guard, commanding, to PFC Harry Devine; thank you for organizing sports entertainment; January 23, 1946. Typescript.

Harry Devine Collection
2000.52
Series 3, Miscellaneous

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	4	2000.52.3.1	United States Olympians – former members of U. S. Olympic Teams : pamphlet / April 1954.
1	4	2000.52.3.2	<i>The face on the barroom floor</i> : [Kipling or Service?], poem. Aqp. 2 p.
1	4	2000.52.3.3	County road map of Worcester County, Massachusetts, 1977.
1	5	2000.52.3.4	“Boxing record for Harry Devine”, notebook of manuscript notes and clippings, 1924-1928. Fragile.
1	6	2000.52.3.5	Scrapbook of clippings relating to career of Harry Devine, 1920s-1990s.