

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES 2006.10

Raymond P. Harold
Collection

Processed by Christopher Lewis
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Collection Information

Abstract : Raymond P. Harold Collection

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

Preferred Citation : Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance: Donated by Ruth Zollinger in 2006, daughter of Raymond P. Harold.

MARC Access : Collection is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings

Historical/Biographical Notes

Raymond P. Harold (1898-1972) has been regarded as one of the most influential figures in Worcester's history. His business was "with the wage earner who saves money and buys a home." With that philosophy, he revolutionized thrift banking in Central Massachusetts. He was the chairman and chief executive officer of First Federal Savings and Loan Association. The institution had resources of more than \$400 million. Mr. Harold was chiefly responsible for the development of public housing and urban renewal in Worcester after WWII. He held the Isaiah Thomas Award, generally regarded as the highest civic honor in Worcester. Mr. Harold was appointed chairman of the Worcester Housing Authority in 1946 and later chairman of the Redevelopment Authority. He served in this dual capacity for many years. Under Mr. Harold's direction, Worcester was one of the first cities to secure surplus Quonset hut buildings put up by the city to house returning World War II veterans in the area known as Lincolnwood. Other low-income projects were Curtis Apartments and Great Brook Valley Gardens. He also helped establish the George F. Booth Memorial Apartments as the city's first housing project for the elderly. While with the Redevelopment Authority, Mr. Harold was instrumental in starting the Salem Street Redevelopment Project in the blighted Orange and Salem Street section downtown. For these civic achievements, he and the housing authority received a Freedoms Foundation Award in 1951. Mr. Harold also was a director of the Hundred Club of Massachusetts, an organization established in 1959 to provide financial assistance for widows and children of policemen and fire fighters who died while on duty. Earlier this year the Worcester Chapter, American Red Cross, established the Raymond P. Harold Award for heroism. He was a director of the Red Cross for many years. Besides his widow, he left three daughters, Charlotte I., wife of John D. Druce of West Boylston and Spruce Point, Dorothy A., wife of Lester C. Conner of Framingham, and Ruth L., wife of Dr. Robert M. Zollinger Jr. of Cleveland Heights. He also has seven grand children.

Scope and Content

This collection has two manuscript boxes, one containing photographs and the other containing several wooden plaques. There are also three photo albums that house photographs of the Isaiah Thomas Award ceremony and photographs of the 1953 Worcester tornado. The remainder of the photographs is situated in two oversized photo scrapbooks. These photographs are from miscellaneous events throughout Raymond P. Harold's life. There are two items in the collection that house various recognitions, awards and plaques. One is an oversized manuscript box, while the other is an album containing a testimonial to Raymond P. Harold recognizing his chairmanship for the Worcester Housing Authority from 1946-1954. The last items in the collection are a few super over-sized items that include records and honors from his service in the United States Army, a framed self-portrait photograph and finally, recognition of his lengthy service in the Worcester Federal Savings and Loan Association.

Series Descriptions

Series 1: Miscellaneous Photographs

Series 2: Isaiah Thomas Award – Photographs

Series 3: Plaques/Awards/Recognitions

Series 4: Tornado of 1953 – Photographs

Series 5: Objects-See Curator

Raymond P. Harold Collection
2006.10
Series 1, Miscellaneous Photographs

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2006.10.1.1	Ambassador James W. Riddleberger presents "Point Four Award to Raymond P. Harold. (May 9, 1960)
1	1	2006.10.1.2	YWCA buys land for building. (May 12, 1961)
1	1	2006.10.1.3	Seven previous Isaiah Thomas Award winners and the latest recipient. (April 17, 1963)
1	1	2006.10.1.4	Recipients of certificates of honor from Leicester Junior College. (June 8, 1963)
1	1	2006.10.1.5	Santiago Lonza of Chile, Robert Considine and Raymond P. Harold. (Dec. 29, 1958)
1	1	2006.10.1.6	Commencement at Assumption College.
1	2	2006.10.1.7	Commencement of Assumption College. (1964)
1	2	2006.10.1.8	Hereford cattle, Green Pastures Farm. (1956)
1	2	2006.10.1.9	First board of directors for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston (1932)
1	2	2006.10.1.10	Raymond P. Harold with a friend and colleague.
1	2	2006.10.1.11	Rev. Armand H. Desautels, Raymond P. Harold, Bishop John J. Wright and Robert Considine. (March 4, 1958)
1	2	2006.10.1.12	Honorary degree recipients, Holy Cross College. (June 1966)
1	3	2006.10.1.13	Worcester Polytechnic Institute. (May 14, 1958)
1	3	2006.10.1.14	President of Worcester Federal Savings, Raymond P. Harold. (1965)
1	3	2006.10.1.15	Executives of the Abbey National Building Society gathered in London, England. (Oct. 1948)

Raymond P. Harold Collection
 2006.10
 Series 1, Miscellaneous Photographs, cont.

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	3	2006.10.1.16	Oscar R. Kreutz, J. H. Robertson, Raymond P. Harold in the Grosvenor House in London, England. (Oct. 1948)
1	3	2006.10.1.17	Raymond P. Harold among other commercial executives.
1	3	2006.10.1.18	Raymond P. Harold and John Druce Jr. with Frank Taylor at the Taylor Woodrow Offices in London, England. (April 1964)
1	4	2006.10.1.19	Sir Harold Bellman, Managing Director of the Abbey Road-Building Society and President of the Building Societies Association of Great Britain; Morton Bodfish of the U.S. Building and Loan League; Raymond P. Harold of the Worcester Cooperative Federal Savings and Loan Association.
1	4	2006.10.1.20	Assumption College honorary degree recipients. (June 2, 1960)
1	4	2006.10.1.21	Theodore J. Achilles, Ambassador to Peru and Raymond P. Harold at the Yale Club. (July 27, 1959)
1	4	2006.10.1.22	Isaiah Thomas Award Dinner. (April 15, 1959)
1	4	2006.10.1.23	Presentation of Isaiah Thomas Award to Raymond P. Harold. (April 15, 1959)
1	4	2006.10.1.24	Armed Forces award of merit recipient. (May 5, 1960)
1	5	2006.10.1.25	The Federal Savings and Loan Associations of New England giving a \$4900 gift to the Tornado Relief Fund. (1953)
1	5	2006.10.1.26	Worcester Redevelopment Authority. (Feb. 7, 1958)

Raymond P. Harold Collection
 2006.10
 Series 1, Miscellaneous Photographs, cont.

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	5	2006.10.1.27	Several older people on a boat.
OVS		2006.10.1.28	Governor's Advisory Committee on Housing and Urban Renewal. (Feb. 1966)
OVS		2006.10.1.29	Officers of the 413 military headquarters.
OVS		2006.10.1.30	First directors meeting, New Springfield office building. (Nov. 29, 1965)
OVS		2006.10.1.31	Raymond P. Harold visiting a military squadron.
OVS		2006.10.1.32	President Lyndon Johnson.
OVS		2006.10.1.33	Governor Christian A. Herter spreading the first cement for the cornerstone of the George F. Booth Memorial Apartments for the Elderly. (Sept. 22, 1955)
OVS		2006.10.1.34	Jubilee Banquet for the Parish of the Holy Name of Jesus. (June 19, 1944)
OVS Vol. 1		2006.10.1.35	Miscellaneous photographs from various events in Raymond P. Harold's life.
OVS Vol. 2		2006.10.1.36	Miscellaneous photographs from various events in Raymond P. Harold's life.
SPR OVS		2006.10.1.37	A framed self-portrait photograph of Raymond P. Harold.

Raymond P. Harold Collection
2006.10
Series 2, Isaiah Thomas Award – Photographs

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
Photo Album 1		2006.10.2.1	Photographs from the Isaiah Thomas Award dinner and ceremony.
Photo Album 2		2006.10.2.2	Photographs from the Isaiah Thomas Award dinner and ceremony.

Raymond P. Harold Collection
2006.10
Series 3, Plaques, Awards, Recognitions

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	6	2006.10.3.1	Toast of Arthur H. Courshon, president of the National League of Insured Savings Associations, to Raymond P. Harold, president of the International Union of Building Societies and Savings Associations. (Oct. 23, 1968)
1	6	2006.10.3.2	Recognition of Ethiopian Airlines to Raymond P. Harold for crossing the equator. (September 24, 1959)
1	6	2006.10.3.3	Recognition of the Housing and Home Finance Agency to Raymond P. Harold on designating him as a member of the National Defense Executive Reserve. (July 1, 1958)
1	6	2006.10.3.4	Recognition of the International Cooperation Administration to Raymond P. Harold for facilities cooperation between countries concerning technical assistance. (May 9, 1960)
1	6	2006.10.3.5	An honorary article written about Raymond P. Harold in the Evening Gazette. (Oct. 1, 1933)
1	6	2006.10.3.6	A document conferring the degree of Dr. of Commercial Science to Raymond P. Harold from the College of the Holy Cross.
1	6	2006.10.3.7	Letter from the president of the United States to Raymond P. Harold concerning the International Congress of Building Societies and Savings Associations. (Oct. 17, 1968)
1	6	2006.10.3.8	A letter from the treasurer of the Worcester Cooperative Bank congratulating Raymond P. Harold on his election to the position of assistant treasurer. (Oct. 28, 1927)

Raymond P. Harold Collection
 2006.10
 Series 3, Plaques, Awards, Recognitions, cont.

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	6	2006.10.3.9	A citation for Raymond P. Harold for his active involvement in improving housing conditions in Peru through the Peruvian-American friendship. (Sept. 23, 1960)
1	6	2006.10.3.10	A document dedicating a room to the life and accomplishments of Raymond P. Harold.
1	6	2006.10.3.11	A letter of thanks to Raymond P. Harold from the Committee of Housing and Urban Development for his active involvement. (July 11, 1966)
1		2006.10.3.12	A wooden plaque with a copy of an article published in the Evening Gazette celebrating Raymond P. Harold's many accomplishments. (June 8, 1966)
OVS		2006.10.3.13	Recognition of promotion of Raymond P. Harold to Honorary Cadet Colonel for the Worcester Polytechnic Institute Reserve Officers Training Corps Cadet Battalion. (May 14, 1958)
OVS		2006.10.3.14	A memorial announcement proclaiming Raymond P. Harold's death. (Oct. 10, 1972)
OVS		2006.10.3.15	A resolution in gratitude to Raymond P. Harold for his outstanding service he has rendered as Chairman of the Worcester Housing Authority. (June 1, 1954)
OVS		2006.10.3.16	Recognition of distinguished service rendered to Raymond P. Harold for his cooperative work with Peru. (June 18, 1950)
OVS		2006.10.3.17	Doctoral diploma for Raymond P. Harold's completion of his Dr. of Commercial Science degree from the College of the Holy Cross. (June 8, 1966)

Raymond P. Harold Collection
2006.10
Series 3, Plaques, Awards, Recognitions, cont.

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
OVS		2006.10.3.18	Speech made by a Peruvian citizen in which he recognized Raymond P. Harold's housing work in Peru. (April 1956)
OVS		2006.10.3.19	Certificate of Service to Raymond P. Harold for his membership in the advisory committee known as the Federal Home Loan Bank Board Task Force. (May 30, 1963)
OVS		2006.10.3.20	A plaque with a photograph of a friend for which he is very appreciative.
OVS		2006.10.3.21	A certificate of Appreciation to Raymond P. Harold from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston.
OVS		2006.10.3.22	Recognition from the Building Trades Council and the Central Labor Union of Springfield, MA to Raymond P. Harold for his distinguished public service.
OVS		2006.10.3.23	A sincere thank you letter from a dear friend. (Oct. 5, 1951)
OVS		2006.10.3.24	A copy of an article concerning Raymond P. Harold's service as the Chairman of the Worcester Housing Authority published in the Evening Gazette. (Oct. 1, 1938)
OVS		2006.10.3.25	A memorial resolution commemorating the life and accomplishments of Raymond P. Harold. (February 15, 1973)
OVS		2006.10.3.26	A resolution commemorating Raymond P. Harold's resignation from the position as head of the Worcester Redevelopment Authority. (March 11, 1963)

Raymond P. Harold Collection
2006.10
Series 3, Plaques, Awards, Recognitions, cont.

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
OVS		2006.10.3.27	Recognition from the Board of Directors of the Worcester Federal Savings and Loan Association for the founding of the Raymond P. Harold Foundation (January 18, 1966)
OVS		2006.10.3.28	Recognition of the degree of Dr. of Laws be conferred upon Raymond P. Harold from Assumption College.
OVS		2006.10.3.29	A copy of an article concerning the presentation of the Thomas Award to Raymond P. Harold, published in the Evening Gazette. (February 24, 1959)
OVS		2006.10.3.30	A Certificate of Honor from the National League of Insured Savings Associations to Raymond P. Harold for his meritorious service for fostering the establishment of the International Savings and Loan Systems.
2		2006.10.3.31	A wooden plaque from the Savings and Loan Foundation to Raymond P. Harold for his esteemed service as a member of the board of trustees.
2		2006.10.3.32	A wooden plaque with a copy of an editorial praising the life and accomplishments of Raymond P. Harold, published in the Worcester Telegram. (Oct. 12, 1972)
2		2006.10.3.33	A wooden plaque with a copy of an editorial praising the life and accomplishments of Raymond P. Harold, published in the Worcester Sunday Telegram. (Oct. 15, 1972)
2		2006.10.3.34	A wooden plaque with a copy of an article written by Raymond P. Harold entitled, "The Worldwide Role of Savings and Loan Associations...A Self-help Program for Millions." (1967)

Raymond P. Harold Collection
2006.10
Series 3, Plaques, Awards, Recognitions, cont.

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
SPR OVS		2006.10.3.35	Various honors and records from Raymond P. Harold's service and involvement in the United States Army during WWI.
SPR OVS		2006.10.3.36	A resolution from the Board of Directors of the Worcester Federal Savings and Loan Association to Raymond P. Harold celebrating the thirty-fifth anniversary of his leadership. (December 7, 1962)
Album 1		2006.10.3.37	An album containing a testimonial to Raymond P. Harold commemorating his service as the chairman of the Worcester Housing Authority from 1946-1954.

Raymond P. Harold Collection
2006.10
Series 4, Tornado of 1953 – Photographs

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
Photo Album 3		2006.10.4.1	An album of photographs of destruction of a particular Worcester apartment neighborhood in the aftermath of the 1953 tornado.