

# WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street  
Worcester, Massachusetts

## ARCHIVES

Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights/  
“The Movement” Collection  
1998.23

Processed by William F. Carroll, C.A.  
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Series		Page	Box
	Collection Information.	3	
	Historical/Biographical Background.	4	
	Scope and Content.	5	
	Series Description.	6	
1	Organizational minutes.	7	1
2	Programs.	8	1 + OVS
3	Letters.	10	1
4	Serial Publications.	12	1
5	Clippings.	13	1
6	Programs, "Bring Abbie Home".	14	1
7	Letters re Abbie Hoffman.	15	1
8	Clippings re Abbie Hoffman.	16	1
9	Assassination International Committee.	18	1

## Collection Information

Abstract: The Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights collection provides insight into the civil rights and anti-war protests and activities of the 1960s, and includes events in the life of Abbie Hoffman during the mid 1960s and late 1970s.

Finding Aid: Finding Aid in print form is available at the Worcester Historical Museum, 30 Elm Street, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Preferred Citation: Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance: Donated by Robert A. Solari, Barre, Massachusetts, in 1998.

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

Hoffman, Abbie, 1936-1989.

Congress of Racial Equality.

Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee.

Youth International party.

Vietnamese conflict, 1961-1975 – Protest movements.

Civil rights demonstrations.

Civil rights demonstrations – Washington, D.C.

Civil rights demonstrations – Massachusetts – Worcester.

Civil rights demonstrations – New York (State) – New York.

Civil rights movements – united States.

Civil rights workers – United States.

Civil rights workers – Mississippi.

Civil rights – United States.

## Historical/Biographical Background.

Abbie Hoffman, 1936-1989, was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, and attended Worcester Academy. After graduating from Brandeis University he became active in the civil rights movement, and was involved in the Worcester Chapter of CORE, among other organizations. He was involved and active in working for civil rights for southern blacks during the “Freedom Summer”. In addition he was active in anti-war activities during the Vietnam War years, and engaged in numerous demonstrations and marches. Hoffman, along with Jerry Rubin and other activists, established the Youth International Party, the “Yippies”, in the late 1960s. Hoffman was a full time activist until 1973, when he was arrested on a charge of selling cocaine. He went underground at that time and disappeared until 1980, although he continued as an activist using an alias and disguises. He emerged from hiding in 1980, served a brief prison sentence, then returned to the world of activism, concentrating on environmental issues until his death by suicide in 1989.

### Scope and Content.

The Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights collection illustrates aspects in the life of Abbie Hoffman and the activities of the civil rights and anti-Vietnam War organizations and protests of the 1960s, as well as educational programs carried out to promote civil rights. The first part of the collection includes information, clippings, brochures, etc. of demonstrations, marches, and other activities of the 1960s to promote equal rights for southern blacks, and to encourage withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam. The second part of the collection deals with some of the events of the late 1970s from the emergence of Abbie Hoffman from hiding, his imprisonment and subsequent release, and his later activities. Items include clippings, letters, brochures, etc.

The collection provides insight into the anti-war/civil rights movements of the 1960s, with particular emphasis on the activities of Abbie Hoffman.

Collection control is to item level.

### Series Description.

- Series 1 Minutes. Meetings held in 1964 by Worcester, Massachusetts chapter of Congress of Racial Equality, officers included Abbie Hoffman.
- Series 2 Programs/Activities. Programs and other activities sponsored by CORE and other Civil Rights or Anti-War organizations during the 1960s. Include After School Program at Elizabeth Street School in Worcester, several marches and demonstrations, both local and in Washington, D.C.
- Series 3 Letters. Includes letters sent by or about Civil Rights or Anti-War organizations, letters to government officials protesting United States involvement in Vietnam, letters from government officials justifying United States involvement in Vietnam. 1960s.
- Series 4 Serial Publications. Newsletters printed by Friends of Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, Worcester chapter of CORE, etc. 1960s.
- Series 5 Clippings. Peace marches and rallies, Poor People's Corporation. 1960s.
- Series 6 "Bring Abbie Home" Programs. Programs and activities brochures, handbills, broadsides, re activities in support of Abbie Hoffman. 1978-1981.
- Series 7 Letters re Abbie Hoffman. Letters in support of commutation of sentence of Abbie Hoffman, 1981.
- Series 8 Clippings re Abbie Hoffman. Newspaper articles about Abbie Hoffman and his activities, 1978-1989.
- Series 9 Assassination International Committee. Newsletters ca. 1975.

Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights  
1998.23  
Series 1, Minutes

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	1998.23.1.1a-b	Minutes of Executive Council, Worcester CORE, December 4, 1964. 2 p. Aqp

Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights  
1998.23  
Series 2, Programs/Activities

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	2	1998.23.2.1	Notebook (blank) Mr. Robert Solaris, Room 11.
1	2	1998.23.2.2	Memorandum. Elizabeth Street School After School Program. List of suggestions. [inventory #1998.23.74]
1	2	1998.23.2.3a-c	Syllabus. Elizabeth Street School Afternoon Program, "Our Heritage", May 26, 1964. 3 p.
1	2	1998.23.2.4	Clipping. Evaluation of Elizabeth Street School after-school program. Worcester Gazette, June 15, 1964. Aqp included. [inventory # 1998.23.17]
1	2	1998.23.2.5	Letter. From Committee for Better Education re program at Elizabeth Street School, November 18, 1964.
1	3	1998.23.2.6	Handbill. Demonstration protesting Vietnam War to be held March 26, [19uu] [inventory #1998.23.52]
1	3	1998.23.2.7	Handbill. Demonstration in support of Planet Earth to be held in Washington, D.C., October 21, 1967. [inventory #1998.23.53]
1	3	1998.23.2.8	Handbill. March on Washington protesting Vietnam War, March 26 [19uu] [inventory #1998.23.50]
1	3	1998.23.2.9	Handbill. March on Washington for peace in Vietnam, November 27, 1965. [inventory #1998.23.51]
1	3	1998.23.2.10	Handbill. March on Washington to end the war in Vietnam, April 17, 1965. [inventory #1998.23.79]

Series 2, continued



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| 1   | 3     | 1998.23.2.11 | Handbill. WILPF committee meeting and teach-in at Clark University, October 15, 1965. [inventory #1998.23.54]  |
| 1   | 3     | 1998.23.2.12 | Brochure. Civil Rights Symposium, sponsored by NAACP and CORE, at Assumption College, Worcester, May 8, 1965. [inventory #1998.23.31]  |
| 1   | 3     | 1998.23.2.13 | Handbill. April 23 for Martin Luther King and Boston demonstration. [inventory #1998.23.30]  |
| 1   | 3     | 1998.23.2.14 | Handbill. Memorial Service in honor of James Lee Jackson and Martin Luther King. [nd] [inventory #1998.23.68]  |
| 1   | 3     | 1998.23.2.15 | Handbill. Rally for peace & freedom now. April 23 [19uu] at Little Theatre, behind Worcester Auditorium. [inventory #1998.23.67]   |
| 1   | 3     | 1998.23.2.16 | Handbill. Mississippi Freedom Project exhibit at Worcester Public Library, December 3-17, [19uu] [inventory #1998.23.66]   |
| 1   | 3     | 1998.23.2.17 | Handbill. Stop the U.S. War in El Salvador. Mass protest to be held in Washington, D.C., March 27, [19uu] [inventory #1998.23.29]  |
| OVS | OVS-1 | 1998.23.2.18 | Broadside. Concert, with Dick Gregory and Len Chandler, proceeds to the benefit of Worcester Chapter, CORE; Sunday October 4, 1964, at Little Theater, Worcester. Sponsored by Worcester Chapter, Congress of Racial Equality. |

Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights  
1998.23

Series 3, Letters

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	4	1998.23.3.1	Letter. Appeal for help, financial aid, etc., from Abbott Hoffman, Chairman, DRUM Association of Worcester. Nd. [inventory #1998.23.4a]
1	4	1998.23.3.2a-b	Letter. Information about Diana Roberson, Worcester resident working for civil rights in Mississippi, from Abbott Hoffman. 2 p. Nd. [inventory #1998.23.38]
1	4	1998.23.3.3a-b	Letter. Support for Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, from Abbott Hoffman, President, DRUM Association of Worcester, with manuscript note signed "Abbie". 2 p. Nd. [inventory #1998.23.38]
1	4	1998.23.3.4	Letter to Abbie and Sheila [Hoffman] from Diana [Roberson] about her activities in Mississippi. Nd.
1	4	1998.23.3.5	Letter from Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Solari to President Lyndon B. Johnson, protesting bombing in North Vietnam. February 9, 1965. [inventory #1998.23.60]
1	4	1998.23.3.6	Letter from Senator Edward M. Kennedy to Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Solari, about situation in Vietnam. February 16, 1965. [inventory #1998.23.64]
1	4	1998.23.3.7	Letter from James L. Greenfield, Assistant Secretary, Department of State, to Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Solari. February 23, 1965. [inventory #1998.23.55]
1	4	1998.23.3.8	Report to Massachusetts, from Sen. Leverett Saltonstall, concerning United States policy and self-interest in Vietnam. March 11, 1965. [inventory #1998.23.63]

Series 3, continued.

1	4	1998.23.3.9	Report from Office of Public Services, Department
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			of States, Washington, D.C., regarding situation in Vietnam. Nd. [inventory #1998.23.56]
1	4	1998.23.3.10	Report from Office of Public Services, Department of State, Washington, D.C., regarding neutralization or negotiated settlement in Vietnam. Nd. [inventory #1998.23.57]
1	4	1998.23.3.11	Letter. Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Solari from James L. Greenfield, Acting Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Department of State, Washington, D.C. Nd. [inventory #1998.23.58]
1	4	1998.23.3.12	Statement regarding United States air action against North Vietnamese military bases, from Office of Public Services, Department of State, Washington, D.C. Nd. [inventory #1998.23.59]
1	4	1998.23.3.13	Letter. Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Solari from Rep. Philip J. Philbin, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Congressional District, Massachusetts, concerning Vietnam situation. March 24, 1965. [inventory #1998.23.61]
1	4	1998.23.3.14	Letter. Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Solari from Leverett Saltonstall, U.S. Senate, concerning Vietnam situation. March 27, 1965. [inventory #1998.23.62]

Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights  
1998.23  
Series 4, Serial Publications

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	5	1998.23.4.1	Newsletter: The DRUM Association of Worcester, Inc. (Worcester area friends of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee). Nd. [inventory #1998.23.39]
1	5	1998.23.4.2a-b	Newsletter: The DRUM, Vol. I, No. 1. February 1964. 2 p. [inventory 1998.23.41]
1	5	1998.23.4.3a-c	Newsletter: The DRUM, Vol. I, No. 2. March 1964. 3 p. [inventory #1998.23.42]
1	5	1998.23.4.4	Newsletter: The DRUM, Special addition [sic]. Nd. [inventory #1998.23.43]
1	5	1998.23.4.5a-c	Newsletter: The DRUM, Vol. I, No. 3. April/May 1964. 3 p. [inventory #1998.23.43]
1	5	1998.23.4.6a-b	Newsletter: Worcester CORE-lator, Vol. I, No. 1. November 23, 1964. 2 p. 2 copies. [inventory #1998.23.34-35]
1	5	1998.23.4.7a-b	Newsletter: Worcester CORE-lator, Vol. I, No. 2. December 26, 1964. 2 p. [inventory #1998.23.36]
1	5	1998.23.4.8	Newsletter: CORE (Worcester Congress of Racial Equality). Nd. [inventory #1998.23.33]
1	5	1998.23.4.9a-f	Newsletter: Free Speech. Published by the teenagers of WISP. Nd. [inventory #1998.23.65]

Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights  
1998.23  
Series 5, Clippings

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	6	1998.23.5.1a-c	Clipping. Worcester Sunday Telegram, March 27, 1966, concerning peace rallies in Worcester and New York City. 3 p. Aqp.
1	6	1998.23.5.2	Clipping. Collage of clippings assembled by Poor People's Corporation regarding activities of the organization. [inventory #1998.23.69]

Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights  
1998.23  
Series 6  
“Bring Abbie Home” Activities

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	7	1998.23.6.1	Brochure. “Haven can’t wait: a life in the day of Abbie Hoffman.” August 23, 1978. [inventory #1998.23.1]
1	7	1998.23.6.2	Handbill. Tickets for “Bring Abbie home” concert, August 23, 1978. [inventory #1998.23.2]
1	7	1998.23.6.3a-d	Lists. Manuscript lists of reservations and payments, 4 p. [inventory #1998.23.16]
1	7	1998.23.6.4	Handbill. Clark University Speakers Forum presents Abbie Hoffman, March 28, 1982. [inventory #1998.23.47]
1	7	1998.23.6.5a-e	Broadside. Reception for Abbie; proceeds to go to Central Latin America Relief Organization, Saturday, March 27 [19uu] 5 copies. [inventory #1998.23.6-10]
1	7	1998.23.6.6a-c	Broadside. “Bring Abbie Home” concert and rally; August 23, 1978. 3 copies. [inventory #1998.23.3-5]
1	7	1998.23.6.7	Ticket. Bring Abbie Home night, Felt Forum [S.1], August 23, 1978.
1	7	1998.23.6.8	Ticket. Reception for Abbie. March 27, 1982. (Multiple copies)
1	7	1998.23.6.9	Memoranda. Notes and jottings. Nd

Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights  
1998.23

Series 7, Letters re Abbie Hoffman

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	8	1998.23.7.1a 1b	Letter. Leo S. Levy, Director, Executive Clemency Bureau, State of New York, to Mr. & Mrs. Robert A, Solari, re executive clemency for Abbie Hoffman. July 6, 1981. [inventory #1998.23.13a-b] envelope
1	8	1998.23.7.2	Note. Citizens of Worcester County to Gov. Hugh Carey, State of New York, re commutation of sentence for Abbie Hoffman. Nd.
1	8	1998.23.7.3	Letter. [Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Solari] to Abbie [Hoffman]. April 16, 1981. [inventory #1998.23.46]
1	8	1998.23.7.4a 4b	Petition. To Governor Hugh Carey, State of New York, re commutation of sentence for Abbie Hoffman. Nd. [inventory #1998.23.45a-b] envelope

Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights  
 1998.23  
 Series 8, Clippings re Abbie Hoffman

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	9	1998.23.8.1a-b	Clipping (photocopy) How Abbie Hoffman achieved the honorable, by Eric Howlett & Stephen Rodolakis. The Vigornia, Worcester Academy, Worcester, Mass. February 1979. 2 copies.
1	9	1998.23.8.2	Clipping. Editorial about Abbie Hoffman. The Vigornia, Worcester Academy, Worcester, Mass. November 1980. With manuscript note to Gloria. [inventory #1998.23.71]
1	9	1998.23.8.3	Clipping. "Amnesty for Abbie", Daily News, Sunday, June 25, 1978. Photocopy.
1	9	1998.23.8.4	Clipping. Bring Abbie back update, Village Voice, Nd. Photocopy.
1	9	1998.23.8.5a 5b	Clipping. "Abbie's back", New York Post, Friday, July 21, 1978. Photocopy. Folder for clippings.
1	9	1998.23.8.6	Clipping. Hoffman recalled in park Worcester Sunday Telegram, July 11, 1989. With Aqp.
1	9	1998.23.8.7	Clipping. Prospect House honors Hoffman. [S.l., Nd.] With Aqp.
1	9	1998.23.8.8	Clipping. Night for Abbie Hoffman is planned. Worcester Gazette, July 14, 1978. With Aqp.
1	9	1998.23.8.9	Clipping. How to fight City Hall, by Abbie Hoffman. Parade Magazine, June 24, 1984. With Aqp.
1	9	1998.23.8.10	Clipping. Abbie Hoffman to sue Nixon in "Beating". Worcester Sunday Telegram, September 27, 1981. With Aqp.

Series 8, continued

1	9	1998.23.8.11	Clipping. Benefit to "Bring Abbie Hoffman Home." [S.l., N.d.]
1	10	1998.23.8.12	Article. Abbie!, Calling a native son home, by



Charles B. Pierce. Worcester Magazine, September 1978. 2 copies. With Aqp. [inventory #1998.23.11-12]

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| 1 | 10 | 1998.23.8.13 | Article. Where have all the radicals gone?, by Amy Zuckerman. Worcester Magazine, June 28, 1989. [inventory #1998.23.48] |
| 1 | 10 | 1998.23.8.14 | Periodical. Yipster Times, August 1978. Articles and information about Abbie Hoffman. [inventory #1998.23.27]            |

Abbie Hoffman/Civil Rights  
1998.23  
Series 9, Assassination Information Committee

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	11	1998.23.9.1	Newsletter Flyer 1. Assassination Information Committee. Nd. Newsletter of the Yippie movement. [inventory #1998.23.15]
1	11	1998.23.9.2	Newsletter Flyer 2. Assassination Information Committee. Nd. Newsletter of the Yippie movement. [inventory #1998.23.14]