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## Henry Joseph Browne papers 4078408

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

### Rare Book and Manuscript Library

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Columbia University, Mail Code 1127  
535 W. 114th St.  
New York, NY 10027  
Business Number: (212) 854-5153  
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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Browne, Henry J.
<b>Title:</b>	Henry Joseph Browne papers
<b>ID:</b>	4078408
<b>ID:</b>	MS#0158
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1797-1980
<b>Physical Description:</b>	18.9 linear feet 41 boxes and 1 flat box
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English , Italian , French , Latin , Spanish .
<b>Abstract:</b>	Historian, archivist, social activist, and Roman Catholic priest, Browne taught at Catholic University of America (where he also served as University Archivist); St. Joseph's Seminary, Yonkers, N.Y.; Cathedral College; and Rutgers University. He was active in community affairs in New York and Paterson, N.J. His primary research interests were John Hughes, first archbishop of New York, and labor and church history.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Henry Joseph Browne papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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## Biographical sketch

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Father Henry Joseph Browne, born in the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood of Manhattan in 1919, was an historian, archivist, and community activist. He entered the Catholic priesthood as a young man and devoted himself, for a while, to a scholarly and ecclesiastical life. He received his Ph.D. in history from the Catholic University of America where he went on to serve as a faculty member in church history and the University Archivist. Upon leaving that position he returned to New York to teach first at St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers, then Cathedral College, and finally Rutgers University in New Jersey.

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## Biographical sketch

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His primary research interests were in social and labor history as well as church history, particularly in New York City. He published a number of pamphlets and articles on these issues, and a book on the history of the Catholic Knights of Labor. Additionally, he did extensive research on and drafted a biography of John Hughes, the first archbishop of New York.

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## Biographical sketch

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Upon Browne's return to New York after his tenure at the Catholic University of America, he became deeply involved in left-wing political activities and made a name for himself as a committed community and anti-war activist in the 1960s. He was active in both religious and secular social justice organizations such as the New York City Council against Poverty, the Catholic Committee on Urban Ministry, and the Priests' Senate. He strongly opposed the urban renewal activities displacing lower income tenants on New York's Upper West side and worked actively with community housing organizations such as the Strycker's Bay Housing Development to retain low-income housing options in New York City.

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## Biographical sketch

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In the last decade of his life Browne left the priesthood, though he was never officially defrocked, and settled in Paterson, NJ with his long-time partner, Flavia Alaya, and their three children. He took a job with Rutgers University and continued teaching almost until his death in 1980.

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## Scope and Content

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The collection contains material related both to Browne's work as an activist and an academic. A significant portion of the collection consists of Browne's research material on John Hughes, including Hughes's correspondence, letter books, and scrapbooks.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged in 3 series.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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Butler Library, 6th Floor  
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535 W. 114th St.  
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Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

[rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu)

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

### Revision Description

File created. xml document instance created by Carrie Hintz EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2009-02-12 2009-04-15 2019-05-20

### Restrictions on Access

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

### **Restrictions on Access**

This collection has no restrictions.

### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Papers: Source of acquisition--Alaya, Flavia. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--07/11/86. Accession number--M-86-07-11.

### **Ownership and Custodial History**

Gift of Flavia Alaya, 1986.

### **Processing Information**

Papers Processed CEH 07/--/08.

### **Accruals**

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact [rbml@columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@columbia.edu) for more information.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Materials**

Part of Abraham Lincoln collection MS#2028: Lincoln, Abraham To John Hughes, Washington, D.C., 21 October 1861, 1 a.l.s.; 2 pages

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## Controlled Access Headings

- City planning -- New York (State) -- New York
- City planning -- New Jersey -- Paterson
- United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Biographies (literary works)
- Photographic prints
- Clergy
- Historians
- Hughes, John, 1797-1864
- Guilday, Peter, 1884-1947
- Spellman, Francis, 1889-1967
- McCloskey, John, 1810-1885
- Cooke, Terence, 1921-1983
- Ryan, William Frederick, 1926-
- Seward, William H (William Henry), 1801-1872
- Weed, Thurlow, 1797-1882
- Rutgers University. Department of History
- Catholic Church. Archdiocese of New York (N.Y.)
- Catholic Church -- United States
- Fordham University

## Collection Inventory

### Series I: Research and Scholarship, 1792-1980

#### Scope and Contents

The Research and Scholarship Series contains Browne's research material, published articles and drafts, and lecture and reading notes

### Subseries 1: John Hughes Biographical Materials, 1792-1956

#### Scope and Contents

This Subseries, which forms the bulk of the Research and Scholarship series, contains primary materials relating to Archbishop John Hughes, such as Hughes's original correspondence and topical files, both arranged alphabetically. Hughes's correspondence files include letters from such notable figures as Abraham Lincoln, Popes Leo XII, Gregory XVI, and Pius IX. William Henry Seward was also a regular correspondent. This subseries also contains typescripts and microfilmed copies of Hughes's correspondence, as well as his letterbooks and scrapbooks. Additionally, the subseries contains material collected by other would-be biographers of Hughes, including an unpublished manuscript of a Hughes biography by Peter Guilday.

**Title/Description**

**Instances**

## Henry Joseph Browne papers 4078408

Correspondence-- A-Z, 1860-1895 <u>Physical Description:</u> (17 Folders)	box 1	folder 1 to 17
Correspondence		
A-R, 1826-1920 <u>Physical Description:</u> (18 Folders)	box 2	folder 1 to 18
S-Y and Unknown, 1840-1880 <u>Physical Description:</u> (7 Folders)	box 3	folder 1 to 7
Typescripts and Photocopies, 1827-1863 <u>Physical Description:</u> (6 Folders)	box 3	folder 8 to 13
Correspondence-- McCloskey-- Typescript, 1835-1836	box 3	folder 14
Correspondence		
Photostats	box 4	folder 1
Letterbooks, 1841-1854 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 volumes)	box 5	folder 1 to 2
Typescript of Letterbooks	box 5	folder 3
Photocopies, 1794	box 6	folder 1
Microfilm, 1986-1910 (5 rolls), 1986-1910	box 6	folder 2 to 7
<i>The Complete Works of John Hughes, Vol. 1</i>	box 6	folder 8
Correspondence--Father Smith	box 7	
Letterbook, 1857-1859	box 7	
Scrapbooks, 1844-1861 <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 volumes)	box 8	folder 1 to 3
Topical Files		
St. John's College-- Fordham, 1841-1846 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 8	folder 4 to 5
St. Joseph's Seminary, 1845-1855	box 8	folder 6
St. Patrick's Cathedral, 1839	box 8	folder 7
Statistics on Catholic Population, 1848-1855	box 8	folder 8
Varela, Felix (Obituary by Hughes), circa, 1855	box 8	folder 9
Thomas Cassidy's Materials on Hughes		
General	box 9	folder 1
General-- Transferred to Guilday	box 9	folder 2
Clippings, 1933-1934	box 9	folder 3



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Correspondence, 1933-1934 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 9	folder 4 to 5
List of Clergy in New York, 1847-1895	box 9	folder 6
McCloskey, Cardinal, 1879-1888	box 9	folder 7
McGlynn Case Materials	box 9	folder 8
Murray, Nicholas-- Memoirs, 1862	box 9	folder 9
Notes on Hughes's Meeting with Pope Leo XIII	box 9	folder 10
Peter Guilday's Material on Hughes		
Correspondence		
Guilday, 1927-1937 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 10	folder 1 to 2
New York Negotiation, 1928-1946	box 10	folder 3
Sisters of Charity, 1827-1846	box 10	folder 4
M.H. Ward, 1890-1909	box 10	folder 5
Research Notes, 1928-1930s		
General <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 10	folder 6 to 7
Church History	box 11	folder 1
Clippings (originals and photocopies), 1827-1861	box 11	folder 2
DuBois Material	box 11	folder 3
Hughes Genealogical Material	box 11	folder 4
Letters Referenced in Hassard's <i>John Hughes</i>	box 11	folder 5
McKenna Clan History	box 11	folder 6
Notre Dame and Baltimore Archives Research	box 11	folder 7
Research in Europe, 1929	box 11	folder 8
St. Patrick's Cathedral Archives	box 11	folder 9
San Francisco	box 11	folder 10
Outline of Hughes Biography	box 11	folder 11
Register of Documents in Jesuit Archives, Rome Relating to Hughes	box 11	folder 12
Manuscript of Hughes Biography <u>Physical Description:</u> (4 Folders)	box 11	folder 13 to 16
Manuscript of Hughes Biography	box 12	folder 1 to 3

Physical Description: (3 Folders)

Henry Joseph Browne's Hughes Biography, circa, 1956		
Research Notes <u>Physical Description:</u> (4 Folders)	box 12	folder 4 to 8
Research Notes <u>Physical Description:</u> (6 Folders)	box 13	folder 1 to 6
Drafts and Notes <u>Physical Description:</u> (5 Folders)	box 14	folder 1 to 5
Manuscript <u>Physical Description:</u> (5 Folders)	box 15	folder 1 to 5

**Subseries 2: Scholarly Research-- Church and Social History, 1947-1980****Scope and Contents**

This subseries is comprised of Browne's research materials and published articles, including his master's thesis, and extensive notes he used to prepare and present his classroom lectures. These files indicate Browne's interest in church and social history.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Church History Research and Resources <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 volumes)	box 15	folder 6 to 7
Browne's Publication List	box 16	folder 1
Publications-- General, 1956-1958	box 16	folder 2
Publications-- In Typescript	box 16	folder 3
Publications and Clippings, 1956	box 16	folder 4
Articles, 1952-1957	box 16	folder 5
Browne on Jack Egan, 1980	box 16	folder 6
<i>The Catholic Church in American Life</i> <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 16	folder 7 to 8
Catholic University of America-- Research Notes	box 16	folder 9
"Catholics Face a New Frontier," 1960	box 16	folder 10
Church History Articles, 1951-1956	box 16	folder 11
Church and Labor Research	box 16	folder 12
"Diocesan Clergy of New York: An Historical Sketch," 1950-1951	box 16	folder 13
"The Faculty and the Archivist," circa, 1960s	box 16	folder 14
"Groping for Relevance in an Urban Parish," 1971	box 16	folder 15

"Housing the Poor: The Confused Catholic Social Apostolate", 1968	box 17	folder 1
"Majority Interests", 1979	box 17	folder 2
"Maxima Vigilantia"	box 17	folder 3
Molly Maguires, 1947	box 17	folder 4
"One Stop Above Hell's Kitchen: Sacred Heart Parish in Clinton", 1976 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 17	folder 5 to 6
Parochial Archives-- Notes, undated	box 17	folder 7
"Power and the Institutional Church", 1967	box 17	folder 8
"A Preliminary Survey of the Historical Bibliography of the Archdiocese of New York", 1946	box 17	folder 9
"St. Ann's on East Twelfth Street New York City, 1852-1952", 1952	box 17	folder 10
"Terence Powderley: His Relationship with the Catholic Church", 1945 <b>Scope and Contents</b> (Browne's Master's Thesis)	box 17	folder 11
"Toward Symbolic, Theopolitical Ministry"	box 17	folder 12
Urban Renewal-- Various., 1966	box 17	folder 13
Teaching Materials		
American Community, 1976	box 18	folder 1
Church History-- Catholic University of America <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 18	folder 2 to 3
Church History-- St. Joseph's	box 18	folder 4
Civil War and the Church	box 18	folder 5
Comparative Social Movements, 1975	box 18	folder 6
Medieval History, 1967	box 18	folder 7
Notes, 1952-1970s <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 Folders)	box 18	folder 8 to 10

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## Series II: Personal and Professional, 1944-1980

**Scope and Contents**

This series relates to Browne's professional duties as a priest, academic, and an archivist, as well as his involvement in community and social justice organizations.

**Subseries 1: Correspondence, 1944-1980****Scope and Contents**

The correspondence subseries includes one run of correspondence that is arranged chronologically, and one run of Browne's correspondence that is arranged alphabetically by correspondent. There is no significant difference in the content or research value of these runs.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
1944-1953 <u>Physical Description:</u> (7 Folders)	box 19	folder 1 to 7
1954-1956 <u>Physical Description:</u> (6 Folders)	box 20	folder 1 to 6
1957-1960 <u>Physical Description:</u> (7 Folders)	box 21	folder 1 to 7
1961-1968 <u>Physical Description:</u> (7 Folders)	box 22	folder 1 to 7
1968-1969 <u>Physical Description:</u> (6 Folders)	box 23	folder 1 to 6
1970	box 24	folder 1
1979	box 24	folder 2
1980	box 24	folder 3
1980-- Condolence Letters	box 24	folder 4
Undated	box 24	folder 5
Regarding John Carroll, 1958-1959	box 24	folder 6
Regarding John Hughes Biography, 1949-1956 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 24	folder 7 to 8
Regarding <i>Knights of Labor</i> , 1949-1950	box 24	folder 9
A-Z, 1944-1969 <u>Physical Description:</u> (10 Folders)	box 25	folder 1 to 10
Society of American Archivists, 1944-1957 <u>Physical Description:</u> (4 Folders)	box 25	folder 11 to 14

**Subseries 2: Topical Files, 1949-1980**

**Scope and Contents**

This subseries contains files relating to Browne's political and professional life, including his work with the New York City Council Against Poverty, and his work with faith-based social justice organizations including the Catholic Committee Urban Ministry. These files are arranged alphabetically.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Book Reviews, 1950-1977	box 26	folder 1
Cathedral College, 1961	box 26	folder 2
Catholic Archives, 1950	box 26	folder 3
Catholic Charities, 1959-1960	box 26	folder 4
Catholic Committee on Urban Ministry (CCUM)		
General, 1973-1980 <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 Folders)	box 26	folder 5 to 7
General, 1973-1980 <u>Physical Description:</u> (4 Folders)	box 27	folder 1 to 4
Board of Directors' Correspondence, 1976-1980	box 27	folder 5
Bulletins, Newsletters, and Printed Material, 1974-1979	box 27	folder 6
Correspondence, 1971-1977	box 27	folder 7
Liberty and Justice for All Conference, 1976	box 27	folder 8
Memoranda, 1972-1975 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 28	folder 1 to 2
Clippings, 1949-1980 <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 Folders)	box 28	folder 3 to 5
<i>Dictionary of American Biography</i> Entries, 1956	box 28	folder 6
Ethnic Parishes, 1974-1979	box 28	folder 7
Fulbright Award, 1957	box 28	folder 8
Internal Life of the Church, 1959-1960	box 28	folder 9
Italian-Americans	box 28	folder 10
Kelleher, Stephen, 1977	box 29	folder 1
<i>Life</i> Magazine, 1960	box 29	folder 2
Mediating Structures Project, 1977	box 29	folder 3
Modernism in Religion, 1963	box 29	folder 4
New York City Council Against Poverty		
General, 1967	box 29	folder 5
Agendas, 1967-1968		

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<u>Physical Description</u> : (3 Folders)	box 29	folder 6 to 8
Agendas, 1968	box 30	folder 1 to 4
<u>Physical Description</u> : (4 Folders)		
Bulletins, 1967-1968	box 30	folder 5
Memoranda, 1967-1968	box 30	folder 6
Memoranda, 1968	box 31	folder 1 to 2
<u>Physical Description</u> : (2 Folders)		
Minutes, 1967-1968	box 31	folder 3 to 5
<u>Physical Description</u> : (3 Folders)		
<i>New York Times</i> Letters, 1965	box 31	folder 6
Parish Schools, Undated	box 31	folder 7
Photographs, Undated	box 31	folder 8
Priests' Senate		
General, 1966-1969	box 32	folder 1 to 6
<u>Physical Description</u> : (6 Folders)		
Correspondence, 1968	box 32	folder 7
Protestant Social Reform, Undated	box 32	folder 8
Puck Cartoons-- Church and Labor	box 32	folder 9
Religions and the Labor Movement, Undated	box 33	folder 1
Rutgers University		
Administrative, 1969-1979	box 33	folder 2 to 5
<u>Physical Description</u> : (4 Folders)		
Sociology Department, 1976-1978	box 33	folder 6
St. Gregory's Parish-- Staff Meetings and Notes, 1968	box 34	folder 1
Shaw, Richard, 1977	box 34	folder 2
Task Force on Social Ministries, 1980	box 34	folder 3
Vatican Council	box 34	folder 4
West Park Religious Council, 1959	box 34	folder 5

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### Series III. Urban Planning and Community Organizing, 1959-1979

**Scope and Contents**

This series chronicles Browne's involvement in urban planning and urban renewal initiatives in New York City and Paterson, New Jersey.

**Subseries 1: Paterson, New Jersey, 1972-1979****Scope and Contents**

This subseries contains Browne's files relating to his work with organizations such as the Paterson Coalition, a coalition of local community organizations working together for the general betterment of their community, and local groups committed to historic preservation.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Correspondence, 1972-1979 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 34	folder 6 to 7
Great Falls Development Corporation, 1973-1979	box 34	folder 8
History, 1977-1979	box 35	folder 1
INCCA Carroll Street Housing, 1977-1979	box 35	folder 2
Minutes and Agendas (Various Groups), 1973-1978	box 35	folder 3
Paterson Coalition, 1973-1976 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 35	folder 4 to 5
Save Paterson's Living American Social Heritage (SPLASH), 1975	box 35	folder 6

**Subseries 2: West Side Urban Renewal, 1959-1979****Scope and Contents**

This subseries documents Browne's involvement in issues of urban renewal on New York's Upper West Side. Notably, it documents the development and early activities of the Strycker's Bay Neighborhood Council and Strycker's Bay Housing Development, including correspondence, meeting minutes and agendas, and manuscript and printed material dealing with the development of the Upper West Side of Manhattan.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
General, 1964-1979 <u>Physical Description:</u> (3 Folders)	box 36	folder 1 to 3
City-Wide Squatter's Movement, 1971	box 36	folder 4
Clippings, 1973-1974	box 36	folder 5
Clippings-- Broadway Local, Undated	box 36	folder 6
Joint Parish Committee, 1959-1960	box 37	folder 1
New York City Housing Authority, 1974-1976	box 37	folder 2
Publications and Manuscripts, 1960s	box 37	folder 3

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Ratensky, Samuel, 1959	box 37	folder 4
Redevelopment Sites, 1971-1974	box 37	folder 5
Religious Organizations, 1961-1963	box 37	folder 6
Reports and Plans, 1960	box 37	folder 7
Sacred Heart Parish Centennial, 1977	box 37	folder 8
Statements and Press Releases, 1961-1962	box 37	folder 9
Strycker's Bay Cooperative, 1960-1969 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 38	folder 1 to 2
Strycker's Bay Neighborhood Council		
General, 1960-1979 <u>Physical Description:</u> (4 Folders)	box 38	folder 3 to 6
General, 1967-1979 <u>Physical Description:</u> (6 Folders)	box 39	folder 1 to 6
General, 1980 and Undated, 1980, Undated <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 40	folder 1 to 2
General, Microfilm	box 40	folder 3
Correspondence, 1965-1971 <u>Physical Description:</u> (5 Folders)	box 40	folder 4 to 8
Correspondence-- Schafer, Roger, 1960-1961	box 41	folder 1
Community Action Projects, 1966-1967 <u>Physical Description:</u> (2 Folders)	box 41	folder 2 to 3
Housing Committee, 1960-1961	box 41	folder 4
Legal Documents, 1971	box 41	folder 5
New York City Board of Estimate, 1970-1971	box 41	folder 6
New York City Housing Authority, 1968-1973	box 41	folder 7
Newsletters and Announcement, 1970-1971	box 42	folder 1
Project Committee, 1966-1967	box 42	folder 2
Relocation Committee, 1960	box 42	folder 3
Reports, 1967-1970	box 42	folder 4
Statement of the Role of Federal Government in Urban Affairs,, 1966	box 42	folder 5
West Side Neighborhood Organizations, 1959-1960	box 42	folder 6



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