

Louis L. and Nettie S. Horch Papers 6636038

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Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library

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Summary Information

Repository:	Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library
Creator:	Horch, Louis L
Creator:	Corbett, Harvey Wiley, 1873-1954
Creator:	Roerich, Nicholas, 1874-1947
Title:	Louis L. and Nettie S. Horch Papers
ID:	6636038
Date [inclusive]:	1920s-1960s
Physical Description:	3 document boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	This collection includes office papers and reference papers related to the professional and civic activities of Louis L. and Nettie S. Horch, the Master Institute of United Arts, the Master Apartments, and the Bloomingdale Neighborhood Conservation Association.

Preferred Citation

Louis L. and Nettie S. Horch papers. Dept. of Drawings & Archives, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University.

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Biographical / Historical

Mr. and Mrs. Horch financed and directed the Master Institute of United Arts, a New York Citybased insitution that taught the fine and dramatic arts that was founded by Nicholas Roerich in 1921. For much of its existence, the Master Institute was housed in the Master Apartments, designed by Harvery Wiley Corbett in 1929 for Roerich and built on the site of the former Horch mansion at 310 Riverside Dr. in New York City. After ligitgation in 1938, the Horches took ownership of the building. They were also closely associated with the Bloomingdale Neighborhood Conservation Association, an cooperative partnership between the City of New York and private citizens to improve the housing and social conditions of residents of the Bloomingdale neighborhood in New York City.

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Scope and Content

This collection includes office papers and reference papers related to the professional and civic activities of Louis L. and Nettie S. Horch, the Master Institute of United Arts, the Master Apartments, and the Bloomingdale Neighborhood Conservation Association. Additionally, the collection includes documentation regarding the Master Building, which housed the Master Institute of United Art, the Master Apartment Hotel, and the Riverside Museum (formerly known as the Roerich Museum), as well as many of the Horchs' Harlem redevelopment projects. Seeing as Louis and Nettie Horch were instrumental in many redevelopment and conservation projects in Harlem, their papers shed light on the Morningside Heights of the 1950s and 1960s.

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Scope and Content

Series I: Master Institute of United Art documents the institution founded by Nicholas Roerich, and run by Louis and Nettie Horch. Includes charters, correspondence, financial documents, deeds, permits, and the lease.

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Scope and Content

<u>Series II: Master Apartment Hotel</u> documents the apartments and hotel located in the Master Building, including correspondence, floor plans, financial documents, inventories, and rent rolls.

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<u>Series III: Master Building</u> is made up of documentation regarding the building, including mortgages, deeds, blueprints, and appraisals. Also includes legal documentation from The Master Operating Corp.

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Scope and Content

<u>Series IV: Bloomingdale Neighborhood Conservation Association</u> is made up of records regarding a cooperative partnership between residents of Morningside Heights and the City of New York. Includes, but is not limited to: correspondence, reports, meeting minutes, newsletters, flyers, and publicity materials.

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Scope and Content

<u>Series V: Riverside Museum</u> also formerly known as the Roerich Museum, this series contains documentation of the museum located in the Master Building, including catalogs, information regarding the Roerich Museum Apartments, Certificate of name change, deeds, and the litigation that allowed the Horchs to take over the building.

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Scope and Content

<u>Series VI: Adele Levy Memorial Park</u> consists of documentation regarding a failed effort to open a playground in Riverside Park. Includes committee meetings, correspondence, and publications.

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<u>Series VII: Westside Urban Renewal Area</u> includes correspondence, meeting minutes, and publicity materials.

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Scope and Content

<u>Series VIII: Other Projects</u> contains documentation regarding other Harlem redevelopment projects the Horchs were not instrumental in.

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Scope and Content

<u>Series IX: Personal Papers</u> includes receipts and bills, correspondence, including letters from Mayor Robert F. Wagner and the Riverside Democrats.

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Scope and Content

<u>Series X: Newspaper Clippings</u> contains numerous articles relating to Harlem neighborhoods and buildings.

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Arrangement

This collection contains ten series: Series I: Master Institute of United Art; Series II: Master Apartment Hotel; Series III: Master Building; Series IV: Bloomingdale Neighborhood

Conservation Association; Series V: Riverside Museum; Series VI: Adele Levy Memorial Park; Series VII: Westside Urban Renewal Area; Series VIII: Other Projects; Series IX: Personal Papers; Series X: Newspaper Clippings

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library

Revision Description

File created. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2010-03-30 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is available for use by appointment in the Department of Drawings & Archives, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University. For further information, please email avery-drawings@library.columbia.edu.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Gift of Oriole Feshback. Accession number--1986.005.

Processing Information

Drawings Processed Zoe Milgram (Archives Intern) 03/2011.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Architecture -- United States -- Designs and plans
- Apartment houses -- New York (State) -- New York
- New York (N.Y.) -- Buildings, structures, etc
- Horch, Louis L
- Horch, Nettie S
- Bloomingdale Neighborhood Conservation Association
- Master Apartments building (New York, N.Y.)
- Master Institute of United Arts, Inc
- Master Operating Co

General Note

This collection was donated by Oriole Feshback in 1986 (accession number 1986.005)

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Collection Inventory

Series I: Master Institute of United Art

Scope and Contents

documents the institution founded by Nicholas Roerich, and run by Louis and Nettie Horch. Includes charters, correspondence, financial documents, deeds, permits, and the lease.

Title/Description	Instances	
Warranty Deeds, 1923-1925	box 01	folder 01

Includes 2 Warranty Deeds, 1 letter.			
Chemical Bank, 1957-1964	box 01	folder 10	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 38 receipts, 1 statement, 3 certificates of officers, 4 assorted legal documents, 14 letters.			
Finances, 1959-1963	box 01	folder 11	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 3 reports, 2 letters.			
Westinhouse Electric Corporation, 1961-1962	box 01	folder 12	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 3 invoices, 5 letters, 1 Assumption of liability contract, proposal.			
Correspondence, Tax exemptions, 1935-1965	box 01	folder 13	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 36 letters, 2 affidavits, 1 copy of Section 503, 1 questionnaire for religious, charitable, scientific, literary organizations, 2 page analysis of income, salaries.			
Documentation, Tax exemptions, 1931-1937	box 01	folder 14	
Scope and Contents			
27 assorted programs, flyers, copy of Section 19.101-1.			
Legal Documents, 1962-1963	box 01	folder 15	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 2 letters, Agreement of Indemnification, and Bargain and Sale Deed.			
Correspondence, J. Stanley Halperin, 1962-1963	box 01	folder 16	
Scope and Contents			
35 letters.			
Correspondence, Greenbaum, Wolff, and Ernst, 1948-1949	box 01	folder 17	
Scope and Contents			
33 letters.			
Correspondence, Miscellaneous, 1942-1963	box 01	folder 18	

12 letters.

Discharge of contract of conditional sale, 1946-1949box 01folder 02Scope and Contents 2 items.hox 01folder 03Mortgage, King's County Savings Bank, 1962box 01folder 03Lease Agreement, 1967box 01folder 04Permits, 1967box 01folder 05Scope and Contents 2 items.items.folder 05Charter, 1943 Apr 16drawer 94Scope and Contents 1 sued by the Regents of the University of the State of New York.folder 06Scope and Contents 2 items: 1 original, 1 copy.box 01folder 06Charters, 1943 Scope and Contentsbox 01folder 06Scope and Contents 2 items: 1 original, 1 copy.box 01folder 06Scope and Contents 1 folder 05folder 06folder 06Scope and Contents 1 secope of Charter issued by the Regents of the University of the State of New York, application for charter, 3 copies of Provisional Charter, 3 copies of Amendment to Charter, 2 copies of Amendment to Provisional Charter, 3 copies of Amendment to Charter, 2 copies of Amendment to Provisional Charter, 3 copies of Amendment to Charter, 4 letters.box 01folder 07By-laws, undatedbox 01folder 08folder 08folder 08Scope and Contents 3 items.isems.folder 07folder 08Scope and Contents 3 items.isems.folder 07folder 08Scope and Contents 3 items.folder 07folder 08Scope and Contents 3 items.folder 07folder 08Scope and Contents 3 items.folder			
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Scope and Contents Concert held at Philharmonic Hall/Lincoln Center.	3 items.		
Concert held at Philharmonic Hall/Lincoln Center.	Poster for "The 1966 Late Late Concerts", 1966 Apr 16	drawer 94	
	Scope and Contents		
Prudential Insurance Company 1935-1949 box 01 folder 09	Concert held at Philharmonic Hall/Lincoln Center.		
Fractional Instance Company, 1960 1919	Prudential Insurance Company, 1935-1949	box 01	folder 09

Includes 36 letters, Extension of loan, 3 receipts.

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Series II: Master Apartment Hotel

Scope and Contents

documents the apartments and hotel located in the Master Building, including correspondence, floor plans, financial documents, inventories, and rent rolls.

Title/Description	Instances	
Closing Statement, 1962	box 01	folder 19
Scope and Contents		
Includes Resolution to the Board of Trustees, 9 full agendas, 6 partial agendas, 1 Contract of Sale, 2 copies of Termination of Lease, 1 list of debits, 1 Closing Statement.		
Building Report, 1922	box 01	folder 20
Scope and Contents		
6 items.		
Payroll and Rent Roll, 1948-1957	box 01	folder 21
Scope and Contents		
22 items.		
Inventories, 1953-1963	box 01	folder 22
Scope and Contents		
6 items.		
Publicity Material, undated	box 01	folder 23
Scope and Contents		
Includes 4 brochures, 1 postcard, 1 application for apartment, 2 copies of "Additional Information."		
Letterhead, undated	box 01	folder 24
Scope and Contents		
5 items.		
Floor plans, undated	box 01	folder 25

5 items.

Correspondence, Tenants, 1956-1960	box 01	folder 26	
Scope and Contents			
8 letters.			
Correspondence, Shapiro & Gottesman, 1953-1954	box 01	folder 27	
Scope and Contents			
19 letters			
Correspondence, Robert E. Hill, Inc., 1958	box 01	folder 28	
Scope and Contents			
2 letters.			
Correspondence, Finances, 1948-1952	box 01	folder 29	
Scope and Contents			
15 various letters and statements.			
Finances, General, 1928-1952	box 01	folder 30	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 33 various statements, calculator receipts, 3 Statements of Operation, 3 pages of detailed ledger.			
Finances, Investors Syndicate, 1948-1957	box 01	folder 31	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 10 letters, 8 pages of notes, Corporate Note Secured by Mortgage, 5 pages of various documents sent with letters, and 4 newspaper clippings.			
Rent laws, 1964	box 01	folder 32	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 2 copies of letter, note regarding original.			
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Series III: Master Building

is made up of documentation regarding the building, including mortgages, deeds, blueprints, and appraisals. Also includes legal documentation from The Master Operating Corp.

Title/Description	Instances	
Photographs, 310 Riverside Drive, New York, NY, undated	box 01	folder 33
Scope and Contents		
3 black and white photographs.		
Copy of blueprint (?), undated	box 01	folder 34
Scope and Contents		
3 items.		
Deeds, 1916-1927	box 01	folder 35
Scope and Contents		
Includes 4 deeds, 4 warranty deeds.		
Bonds, 1899-1926	box 01	folder 36
Scope and Contents		
5 items.		
Mortgages, 1905-1926	box 01	folder 37
Scope and Contents		
4 items.		
Closing Statement, 1923	box 01	folder 38
Scope and Contents		
2 documents.		
Purchase Agreement, 1934	box 01	folder 39
Scope and Contents		
1 item.		
Correspondence, Samuel Kronsky, Co., 1948-1949	box 01	folder 40
Scope and Contents		
Includes 6 letters, and 4 various statements.		
Correspondence, Appraisals, 1948-1966	box 01	folder 41

6 letters.

Appraisals, 1932-1948, 1932-1948	box 01	folder 42	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 1 copy of 1932 appraisal, 3 copies of 1948 appraisal.			
Appraisal, 1962, 1962	box 01	folder 43	
Scope and Contents			
2 bound copies.			
The Master Operating Corp., Report of Change in Identity	box 01	folder 56	
The Master Operating Corp., Certificate of incorporation, 1958	box 01	folder 57	
Scope and Contents			
1 item.			
The Master Operating Corp., Bill of Sale, 1962	box 01	folder 58	
Scope and Contents			
Includes Bill of Sale, 1 letter.			
he Master Operating Corp., Litigation, 1960-1961	box 01	folder 59	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 1 letter, 4 various statements, 1 copy of claim.			

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Series IV: Bloomingdale Neighborhood Conservation Association

Scope and Contents

is made up of records regarding a cooperative partnership between residents of Morningside Heights and the City of New York. Includes, but is not limited to: correspondence, reports, meeting minutes, newsletters, flyers, and publicity materials.

Title/Description	Instances	
Proposed neighborhood conservation contract, 1963	box 01	folder 60
Scope and Contents		
Contract not filled out.		

Scope and Contents	box 01	folder 61	
1 item.			
Constitution and By-laws, 1960-1961	box 01	folder 62	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 2 letters, 2 copies of By-laws.			
Letterhead, undated	box 01	folder 63	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 3 envelopes, 1 page letterhead, 1 flyer.			
Lease, 1965	box 01	folder 64	
Scope and Contents			
1 item.			
Reports, 1959-1963, 1959-1963	box 01	folder 65	
Scope and Contents			
8 items.			
Reports, 1966-1967, 1966-1967	box 01	folder 66	
Scope and Contents			
7 items.			
Steering Committee Minutes, 1959-1960, 1959-1960	box 02	folder 01	
Scope and Contents			
49 agendas and minutes.			
Correspondence, Fund raising, 1960-1964	box 02	folder 10	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 28 letters, 1 pledge form.			
Correspondence, tax exemptions, 1963	box 02	folder 11	
Scope and Contents			
3 letters.			
Memos, 1959-1966	box 02	folder 12	

37 items.

Memos, Juliet Brudney, 1959-1966	box 02	folder 13	
Scope and Contents			
48 items.			
Meeting invitations, 1959-1960?	box 02	folder 14	
Scope and Contents			
22 items.			
Press Releases, 1963-1964	box 02	folder 15	
Newsletters, 1960-1966	box 02	folder 16	
Scope and Contents			
24 items.			
Photographs, undated	box 02	folder 18	
Scope and Contents			
4 color photographs.			
"Parks, Plans, People - A Prologue", 1963	box 02	folder 19	
Scope and Contents			
3 items.			
Steering Committee Minutes, 1961-1963, 1961-1963	box 02	folder 02	
Scope and Contents			
19 agendas and minutes.			
Grosvenor House, 1960-1962	box 02	folder 20	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 1 brochure, 1 letter.			
Steering Committee Minutes, 1964-1967, 1964-1967	box 02	folder 03	
Scope and Contents			
16 agendas and minutes.			
Finances, 1959-1965	box 02	folder 04	

26 various statements and reports, 1 copy of Statement of Cash Receipts and Distributions from Aronson & Oresman, CPA.

	1 00	6.1.1 07	
Correspondence, Miscellaneous, 1959-1960	box 02	folder 05	
Scope and Contents			
26 letters.			
Correspondence, Miscellaneous, 1961-1967	box 02	folder 06	
Scope and Contents			
32 letters.			
Correspondence, Juliet Brudney, 1959-1961	box 02	folder 07	
Scope and Contents			
53 letters.			
Correspondence, Hortense Gabel, 1959-1965	box 02	folder 08	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 28 letters, 3 newspaper clippings.			
Correspondence, Carol Petegorsky, 1959	box 02	folder 09	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 6 letters, 1 copy of resume.			
Bloomingdale Neighborhood Recreation Committee, Flyers, 1950-1962?	box 02	folder 17	
Scope and Contents			
41 items.			

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Series V: Riverside Museum

Scope and Contents

also formerly known as the Roerich Museum, this series contains documentation of the museum located in the Master Building, including catalogs, information regarding the Roerich Museum Apartments, Certificate of name change, deeds, and the litigation that allowed the Louis and Nettie Horch to take over the building.

Title/Description	Instances	
Program, Laying of Cornerstone, 1929	box 01	folder 44

1 item.

Certificate of Name Change, 1938	box 01	folder 45
Scope and Contents		
Includes certificate, 2 receipts.		
Certificate of Special Merit, 1962 Jan 15-18	drawer 94	
Scope and Contents		
Given by the Printing Industries of Metropolitan New York, Inc. "for an outstanding example of printing displayed in the 20th Exhibition of Printing"		
Certificate of Distinguished and Exceptional Service, 1957 Oct 18	drawer 94	
Scope and Contents		
Given by Robert I. Wagner, the Mayor of the City of New York, "in recognition of [Riverside Museum's] cooperation with artists' associations, their encouragement of our American artists, and their aid in the cultural education of our citizenry, all without cost to the city.		
Deeds, 1927-1928	box 01	folder 46
Scope and Contents		
Includes 4 Warranty Deeds, 2 Deeds.		
Floor plan, 1966	box 01	folder 47
Scope and Contents		
1 item.		
Construction Work Balance Sheet, 1929	box 01	folder 48
Scope and Contents		
3 pages.		
Correspondence, Chatham Phoenix, 1930-1931	box 01	folder 49
Scope and Contents		
19 letters.		
Correspondence, Miller & Hubel, 1931	box 01	folder 50

Includes 5 letters, 9 various statements.

Correspondence, 1949-1964	box 01	folder 51	
Scope and Contents			
11 letters.			
Roerich Litigation, 1929-1939	box 01	folder 52	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 12 letters, 3 legal documents.			
Catalogs, 1927-1935	box 01	folder 53	
Scope and Contents			
7 items: "The Roerich Museum Presents a Collection of Important Paintings for unrestricted public sale at the American Art Association Anderson Galleries, Inc. (1930); Master Institue of the Roerich Museum [Course offerings for] 1929-1930; "The Docks Bridges Waterways of New York by COntemporary Artists of the Metropolitan Area" (1935); "Exhibition of Plans for a Restoration of King Solomon's Temple, Corona Mundi International Art Center, Inc." (1927) [4 copies]			
"A Guide to Asian Collections in American Museums", 1964	box 01	folder 54	
Scope and Contents			
1 item.			
Roerich Museum Apartments, 1931	box 01	folder 55	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 2 brochures, 1 letter.			
`Return to Table of Contents			

Scope and Contents

consists of documentation regarding a failed effort to open a playground in Riverside Park. Includes committee meetings, correspondence, and publications.

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence, 1963-1966	box 02	folder 21

23 letters.

Committee Meetings, 1963-1964	box 02	folder 22
Scope and Contents		
4 agendas and meeting minutes, 6 various statements.		
Publications, 1964-1966?	box 02	folder 23
Scope and Contents		
Includes 2 brochures, 2 flyers.		
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Series VII: Westside Urban Renewal Area

Scope and Contents

includes correspondence, meeting minutes, and publicity materials.

Title/Description	Instances	
Correspondence, Demov & Morris, 1959-1964	box 02	folder 24
Scope and Contents		
20 letters.		
Meetings, 1959	box 02	folder 25
Scope and Contents		
21 various letters, minutes, and statements.		
Preliminary Plan, 1959	box 02	folder 26
Scope and Contents		
1 item.		
[^] Return to Table of Contents		
Series VIII: Other Projects		
Scope and Contents		

contains documentation regarding other Harlem redevelopment projects that were not spearheaded by Louis and Nettie Horch.

Title/Description

Instances

Bloomingdale Neighborhood Recreation Committee, 1963?

Scope and Contents	box 02	folder 27	
Includes 4 brochures, 3 press releases, 2 meeting minutes.			
Neighborhood Council for the Redevelopment of Riverside Park, 1963-1966	box 02	folder 28	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 10 copies of newsletter, 9 various flyers, statements.			
Riverside Park Program Committee, 1963	box 02	folder 29	
Scope and Contents			
Includes flyer, 2 copies of Resolution, 4 press releases, and 7 various meeting invitations and minutes.			
Bloomingdale Conservation Project, 1963	box 02	folder 30	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 6 various flyers.			
Frederick Douglass House, 1963	box 02	folder 31	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 3 flyers, 1 postcard, and program for groundbreaking.			
Creative Housing, 1961-1962	box 02	folder 32	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 1 letter, 1 press release, 1 meeting minutes.			
The Morningside Citizen, 1961-1964	box 02	folder 33	
Scope and Contents			
2 newsletters.			
Miscellaneous, 1959-1964	box 02	folder 34	
Scope and Contents			
Includes 2 brochures, 8 various flyers, 1 resume (Mary M. Bower), newsletters, and meeting minutes.			
The New York City Housing Authority's Federally-Aided Program, 1962	box 02	folder 35	

1 program.

Blank certification of corporate authority to transfer, 1949	box 02	folder 36
Scope and Contents		
3 items.		
65 Park Terrace, Photograph, undated	box 02	folder 37
Scope and Contents		
1 black and white photograph.		
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Series IX: Personal Papers

Scope and Contents

includes receipts and bills, correspondence, including letters from Mayor Robert F. Wagner and the Riverside Democrats.

Title/Description	Instances	
Louis Horch, Photograph, undated	box 03	folder 01
Scope and Contents		
1 black and white photograph.		
Notes, 1935-1971?	box 03	folder 10
Scope and Contents		
Approximately 78 handwritten notes on scraps of paper.		
Correspondence, Miscellaneous, 1948-1972	box 03	folder 02
Scope and Contents		
Includes 31 letters, 2 sheets of stationary from Hotel Metropole Bruxelles.		
Letter and certificate issued by Mayor Robert F. Wagner, 1960	box 03	folder 03
Scope and Contents		
Includes 4 copies of letter from Mayor Wagner, 1 copy of draft letter to Mayor Wagner, 2 copies of letter sent		

box 03	folder 04
box 03	folder 04
box 03	folder 05
box 03	folder 06
box 03	folder 07
box 03	folder 08
box 03	folder 09
s and buildings.	
Instances	
box 03	folder 11
	box 03 box 03 box 03 box 03 box 03 s and buildings. Instances

5 newspaper clippings regarding various subjects.

Various Articles, 1958-1959, 1958-1959	box 03	folder 13	
Scope and Contents			
Approximately 26 newspaper clippings regarding various subjects.			
Various Articles, 1960, 1960	box 03	folder 14	
Scope and Contents			
Approximately 39 newspaper clippings regarding various subjects.			
Various Articles, 1961, 1961	box 03	folder 15	
Scope and Contents			
Approximately 24 newspaper clippings regarding various subjects.			
"Brightening the Gray Areas", The New York Times, 1961	box 03	folder 16	
Scope and Contents			
2 copies of the New York Times Magazine, October 22, 1961.			
Various Articles, 1962, 1962	box 03	folder 17	
Scope and Contents			
Approximately 13 newspaper clippings regarding various subjects.			
Various Articles, 1963, 1963	box 03	folder 18	
Scope and Contents			
Approximately 46 newspaper clippings regarding various subjects.			
Various Articles, 1964, 1964	box 03	folder 19	
Scope and Contents			
Approximately 52 newspaper clippings regarding various subjects.			
Various Articles, 1965, 1965	box 03	folder 20	

14 newspaper clippings regarding various subjects.

Various Articles, 1966, 1966 box 03 folder 21

Scope and Contents

17 newspaper clippings regarding various subjects.

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