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Mayor Arthur J. Holland Papers New Jersey State Anti-Discrimination & Civil Rights Legislation

Biography

Arthur John Holland (24 October 1918 – 9 November 1989) was born in Trenton, and was mayor of the city 1959-1966 and 1970-1989 (his death). He had studied to become a priest, but instead attended St. Francis College in New York and then Rutgers University. In 1951, he became deputy director of public affairs for Trenton, and was elected on the Democratic ticket to the city council in 1955. He became mayor in 1959.

In 1964, he moved into the Mill Hill section of Trenton, which at that time was a majority African-American neighborhood, in a public attempt to lead the way for racial integration in the city. The move received national attention, much of it negative.

Holland lost the Democratic primary to Carmen J. Armenti in 1966. After teaching at Rutgers University for four years, he ran for mayor again and was reelected in 1970, serving until his death in 1989. He was president of the United States Conference of Mayors from 1988 to 1989, and died at Trenton's St. Francis Medical Center.

Scope and Content Notes

The files are believed to have originated with the bulk of the collection that is now known simply as The Holland Papers. At some point, they were separated and placed together in a box and labeled as such. Some of the papers are in their original folders, while others have been refolded. Original order is unknown, and the box does not necessarily follow a pattern. The papers have not been fully processed. Students from the history department at The College of New Jersey created a basic inventory list.

The papers of Mayor Arthur J. Holland are significant in documenting the actions of a city politician during a significant period of civil, racial, and economic unrest in a large urban community and state capital. Subjects of interest to researchers include community and civic organizations in Trenton, civil rights activism in the 1960s, housing, and urban redevelopment and renewal.

Provenance

Holland's wife Betty, whom he married in the early 1960s, donated these papers.

Related Collections

Mayor Arthur J. Holland Papers

Mayor Arthur J. Holland Papers – Trenton Committee on Unity/ Trenton Council on Human Relations

Mayor Arthur J. Holland Papers – Advisory Committee on Human Rights, 1964-1965

Box List

- Loose papers – Title 29 Labor: Non-Discrimination in Apprenticeship and Training
- Law Against Discrimination – As set forth in Title 18, Chapter 25 of the New Jersey Statutes, 29 August 1963
- Biennial Reports, July 1949 to June 1951 – Division of Discrimination, State of New Jersey Department of Education
- Trenton Committee for Unity, Reaction to Assembly Bill no. 321, aka “Hill Bill”
- Print Pieces, New Jersey's Law Against Discrimination
- Anti-Discrimination Bills – Assembly no. 65 (Introduced 1/17/1949. Adopted 3/10/1949); Assembly No. 197 (introduced 2/12/1945); Assembly no. 476 (introduced 3/10/1952-withdrawn); Assembly no. 321 (introduced 3/12/1945); Chapter 11, P.L.1949 (approved 4/5/1949)
- Annual Report, 1946-1947 – John Bosshart, Commissioner; Division Against Discrimination, State of New Jersey Department of Education
- Annual Report, July 1958 to June 1959 – Division Against Discrimination, State of New Jersey Department of Education
- Untitled – Division Against Discrimination, State of New Jersey Department of Education
- Public Hearing on Assembly Bills Relating to Fair Employment Practices – State House, 27 March 1945
- Public Hearings on Assembly Bills Relating to Fair Employment Practices – State House, 20 March 1945
- Anti-Discrimination Groups – Council for Civic Unity of San Francisco
- Anti-Discrimination Groups – Chicago Council Against Racial & Religious Discrimination
- Monthly Report; Organizational History; Public Information Pieces, Division on Civil Rights, State of New Jersey Department of Law & Public Safety