

1-1-2009

Guide to the Alice LaFond Altieri Collection, 1914-1976

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Guide to the Alice LaFond Altieri Collection 1914-1976

Phillips Memorial Library, Special and Archival Collections
549 River Avenue
Providence, RI 02918-0001
<http://www.providence.edu/Academics/Phillips+Memorial+Library/>

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Table of Contents

| | |
|--|---|
| Collection Overview | 1 |
| Biographical Information | 1 |
| Scope and Content Note | 3 |
| Arrangement | 3 |
| Index Terms | 4 |
| Administrative Information | 4 |
| Inventory | 6 |
| Correspondence 1918-1975 | 6 |
| Clippings 1934-1975 | 7 |
| Subject files 1918-1975 | 8 |

Collection Overview

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Creator: | Alteiri, Alice LaFond 1894-1976 |
| Title: | Alice LaFond Altieri Collection |
| Dates: | 1914-1976 |
| Quantity: | 3 box(es) (1.5 linear feet) |
| Abstract: | The papers of Alice LaFond Altieri, state legislator and public official, of North Smithfield, R.I., consists of her political and personal correspondence, scrapbooks and clippings, speeches, reports, and memorabilia. |
| Identification: | Ms. altieri |
| Language: | The records are in English. |
| Repository: | Phillips Memorial Library, Special and Archival Collections 549 River Avenue Providence, RI 02918-0001 http://www.providence.edu/Academics/Phillips+Memorial+Library/ |

Biographical Information

From the 1930's through the 1970's Mrs. Altieri played an active role in Rhode Island's civic and political history. Elected to the Rhode Island House of Representatives from North Smithfield in 1934, she was one of the first women to hold such a noteworthy position in the State. She began serving in the State House during that period of momentous change now known as the "Bloodless Revolution." Material in the Collection reflects her participation in the Democratic coup.

Born May 1, 1895, in North Smithfield, a daughter of Ernest P. and Maria (McCarthy) LaFond, she was a lifelong resident of North Smithfield with a notable career in public service. Prior to 1927, she was a secretary for the U.S. Surgeon General and for six years was a Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue of the Treasury Department in Providence, R.I..

From 1930 to 1936 she was a member of the North Smith-field School Committee, the first woman to be elected to that committee.

From 1931 to 1933 she was an active volunteer for the Woonsocket Chapter of the American Red Cross. When elected to the Rhode Island House of Representatives, she became the first woman of North Smithfield to be elected to a major office.

During her tenure of office she sponsored the Aid to Dependent Children and the Aid to the Blind law and introduced the Civil Service Act in the legislature in 1936. She was active on many committees and later helped to organize the first Old Age program in the state.

She served on the North Smithfield town budget committee from 1943 to 1944, and was a member of the R.I. State Federation of Women's Clubs Legislative Department, R.I. Conference of Social Work, R.I. League of Women Voters, R.I. Association of Public School Officials, American Public Welfare Association, and was director from 1931 to 1936 of the North Smithfield Public Health Nursing Association. For six years she was treasurer and for two years second vice president of the Woonsocket Fortnightly Club.

Mrs. Altieri was the North Smithfield Public Welfare director in 1961 and 1962 and again resumed the post in 1965. She also served as a member of the governor's advisory committee of the R.I. Social Service Index.

During her term as a Rhode Island state representative, she was chairman of the joint legislative committee on public health and vice chairman of both the House Education and Public Welfare Committees.

In addition, she was a member of the board of the Woonsocket Visiting Nurse Association, a member of the board and executive committee of the Woonsocket Chapter Red Cross and a board member and secretary of the North Smithfield Ambulance and Rescue Association.

She was also an auxiliary member of the Woonsocket Hospital Aid Association and corporate member of Butler Hospital and Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital, Providence, R.I..

Mrs. Altieri served as chairman of the North Smithfield Citizens Civic Affairs Committee and headed several drives for the Community Chest and for the North Smithfield Ambulance Association.

Her involvement in politics and career in public service was motivated by a keen and wide-ranging interest in and involvement with others. In spite of personal obligations and health problems, she belonged to many civic and charitable organizations through the years; but these enduring relationships exemplified her concern for the health, education and welfare of her fellow citizens.

Biographical Timeline

| | |
|------------|--|
| 1895 May 1 | Born in North Smithfield, Rhode Island, to Maria Theresa (McCarthy) Lafond and Ernest Lafond. |
| 1914 | Graduates from Woonsocket High School; later attends Boston University and works in photographer's studio. |
| 1918 | Clerks at the United States War Department Surgeon General's Office, Washington, D.C. |
| 1919 | Clerks at the U.S. War Department Medical Department at Large, Northeastern Department, Boston, Massachusetts and for the U.S. War Department Quartermaster Corps, Fort Williams, Portland, Maine. |
| 1920 | Becomes the United States Treasury Department, Internal Revenue Service, District of Rhode Island Deputy Collector. |
| 1925 | Admitted to a Sharon, Massachusetts sanitarium for treatment of tuberculosis. |
| 1930 | Named to North Smithfield Democratic Town Committee. Elected to North Smithfield School Committee and joins the Woonsocket Relief Committee. |
| 1931 | Named to North Smithfield Public Health Nursing Association Board of Directors and to the North Smithfield Public Health Association Board of Directors. |
| 1931 | Joins American Red Cross Woonsocket Chapter and the Rhode Island Women's Democratic Club. |
| 1933 | Joins Woonsocket Fortnightly Club and the Garden Club of North Smithfield. |
| 1934 | Seconds the nomination of Theodore F. Green for Governor of Rhode Island at Democratic State Convention and joins the Franco-American Citizen's League. |
| 1934 | Elected to Rhode Island House (Democrat--North Smithfield) of Representatives. |
| 1935 | Appointed to Rhode Island House of Representatives Education, Public Welfare, and Agriculture, the Mechanic Arts Committees, and chairs the Rhode Island Joint Committee on Public Health. |
| 1935 | Appointed to Rhode Island House of Representatives Special Committee on Development and Improvement of the State Mental Health Institute and to the Rhode Island Department of Public Welfare Division of Old Age Security Deputy Chief. |

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 1940 | Appointed to Rhode Island Children's Court Association. |
| 1941 May 3 | Marries Hercules A. Altieri (Rhode Island Department of Social Welfare Fiscal Agent). |
| 1941 | Resigns position as Old Age Security Division Deputy Chief. |
| 1942 | Appointed Council to Rhode Island Social Service Index Advisory. |
| 1943 | Named to North Smithfield Budget Committee. |
| 1948 | Partial retirement to take care of her husband, Hercules, who had suffered from a stroke. |
| 1951 | Chairs North Smithfield Community Chest Drive. |
| 1952 | Named as Woonsocket Girl Scout Council Board Member. |
| 1953 | Becomes a member of the Rhode Island Heart Fund Woonsocket Chapter Drive and a North Smithfield Ambulance Drive Member. |
| 1954 | Becomes North Smithfield Ambulance Association Secretary. |
| 1955 | Becomes Woonsocket Hospital Aid Association Member and is elected as a Rhode Island Constitutional Convention Member. |
| 1956 | Becomes a Member of St. Anne Sodality of St. John's Church, chairs North Smithfield Citizens Civic Affairs Committee and the North Smithfield United Fund Drive. |
| 1956 | Runs unsuccessfully for the Rhode Island Senate |
| 1957 | Renamed to North Smithfield Democratic Town Committee. |
| 1959 | Becomes a member of the Butler Health Center Corporation and chairs the Northern Rhode Island United Fund Drive. |
| 1960 | Becomes a member of Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital Corporation. |
| 1961 | Appointed North Smithfield Public Welfare Director. |
| 1962 | Joins North Smithfield Cerebral Palsy Association. |
| 1965 | Named to Visiting Nurse Service of Greater Woonsocket Board of Directors and reappointed as North Smithfield Public Welfare Director. |
| 1968 | Fired from position as North Smithfield Public Welfare Director. |
| 1970 | Named as North Smithfield Centennial Committee Member. |
| 1974 May 6 | Husband Hercules A. Altieri dies. |
| 1976 July 14 | Alice LaFond Altieri dies at age 80. |

Scope and Content Note

Correspondence, scrapbooks, clippings, speeches, reports, memorabilia, and other papers, reflecting Altieri's political, civic, and charitable activities, including her term (1935-1936) in the Rhode Island House of Representatives, duties as deputy chief of Rhode Island Dept. of Public Welfare, Division of Old Age Security, and activities as public welfare director of North Smithfield are represented in the collection.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into three series.

Series list

Correspondence

Clippings

Subject files

Index Terms

These records are indexed under the following headings in the HELIN catalog. Researchers wishing to find related materials should search the catalog under these index terms.

Names

Altieri, Alice LaFond, 1894-1976
Farley, James A. (James Aloysius), 1888-1976
Fogarty, John Edward, 1913-1967
Forand, Aime´ Joseph, 1895-1972
Ford, Gerald R., 1913-2006
Gelineau, Louis E.
Green, Theodore Francis, 1867-1966
Humphrey, Hubert H. (Hubert Horatio), 1911-1978
Kennedy, Edward Moore, 1932-
Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald), 1917-1963
McGrath, J. Howard (James Howard), 1903-1966
Pell, Claiborne, 1918-
Roberts, Dennis Joseph, 1903-1994

Subjects

Altieri, Alice LaFond, 1894-1976
North Smithfield (R.I. : Town) -- Politics and government
Older people -- Services for -- Rhode Island -- North Smithfield (Town)
Public welfare administration -- Rhode Island
Public welfare -- Rhode Island -- North Smithfield (Town)
Public welfare -- Rhode Island -- Officials and employees
Rhode Island. Dept. of Public Welfare
Rhode Island. Division of Old Age Security
Rhode Island. General Assembly. House of Representatives
Rhode Island -- Politics and government -- 1865-1950
Rhode Island -- Politics and government -- 1951-
Women in charitable work -- Rhode Island -- North Smithfield (Town)
Women in politics -- Rhode Island

Administrative Information

Custodial History

The collection resided with members of the Alteiri/Livermore family prior to its donation to the College.

Preferred Citation

Alice LaFond Altieri Collection, Providence College, Phillips Memorial Library, Special and Archival Collections

Acquisitions Information

In May of 1977, Mrs. Laura LaFond Livermore donated the papers of her sister, Mrs. Alice LaFond Altieri to Providence College.

Processing Information

The collection was originally processed in 1982.

Restrictions

Open for research.

Terms governing use and reproduction: Photocopying and scanning of materials is a fee based service available in the repository and is allowed at the discretion of the Librarian of Special and Archival Collections when in compliance to the College's policy on copyright and publication.

Related Material

For more detail on the life and career of Alice LaFond Altieri, see:

Healy, Margaret Adele. *Alice LaFond Altieri : pioneer woman politician and public servant in Rhode Island*. Providence College, 1980.

No materials were separated from this collection.

Inventory

Series: Correspondence

Dates: 1918-1975

Extent: 27 folders

Material types:

letters (correspondence)

Scope and Content Note

This series contains correspondence from a wide range of individuals covering as many topics. While there is some correspondence with the Social Security Administration and the Rhode Island Department of Social Welfare relating to her husband, Hercules A. Altieri, the majority of the correspondence is concerned with various government and community organizations Alice LaFond Altieri came into contact with during her long public career.

Arrangement

This series is arranged chronologically.

| | | | |
|-------|-----------|---|---------------------|
| Box 1 | Folder 1 | United States War Department | Jan 1919 - Dec 1919 |
| Box 1 | Folder 2 | United States Treasury Department | 1920 - 1924 |
| Box 1 | Folder 3 | Rhode Island State Sanatorium | 1929 |
| Box 1 | Folder 4 | Congratulatory letters | 1932 |
| Box 1 | Folder 5 | Congratulatory letters | 1934 |
| Box 1 | Folder 6 | As Rhode Island Representative Elect | 1934 |
| Box 1 | Folder 7 | As Rhode Island State Representative | 1935 - 1936 |
| Box 1 | Folder 8 | Congratulatory letters | 1936 - 1954 |
| Box 1 | Folder 9 | United States Civil Service Commission | 1940, 1950 |
| Box 1 | Folder 10 | Ray Cotton Company | 1943 |
| Box 1 | Folder 11 | Rhode Island State Department of Social Welfare | 1948 |
| Box 1 | Folder 12 | Pembroke College | 1950 |
| Box 1 | Folder 13 | Woonsocket Trust Company | 1951 |
| Box 1 | Folder 14 | Rhode Island Treasury Department | 1952 |
| Box 1 | Folder 15 | Woonsocket Institution for Savings | 1954 |
| Box 1 | Folder 16 | Woonsocket Girl Scout Council | 1955 - 1956 |
| Box 1 | Folder 17 | United Fund Volunteer | 1956 |
| Box 1 | Folder 18 | Democratic State Committee | 1956 |
| Box 1 | Folder 19 | United Fund 4th & 5th Annual Campaign | 1958 - 1959 |
| Box 1 | Folder 20 | Butler Health Center | 1959, 1968 |
| Box 1 | Folder 21 | Democratic National Party | 1960 |
| Box 1 | Folder 22 | Rhode Island Department of Social Welfare | 1961 |
| Box 1 | Folder 23 | The White House | 1962 |
| Box 1 | Folder 24 | Social Security Administration | 1963 |
| Box 1 | Folder 25 | North Smithfield Study Commission | 1965 |
| Box 1 | Folder 26 | Thank you notes | 1975 |
| Box 1 | Folder 27 | Harry S. Truman Library Institute | undated |

Series: Clippings

Dates: 1934-1975

Extent: 28 folders

Material types:

clippings

Scope and Content Note

The clippings in this series represent a wide range of topics Alice LaFond Altieri had interested in. Among the clippings are articles relating news stories about herself and family members, Rhode Island political events, and national and local Rhode Island political figures such as John E. Fogarty and J. Howard McGrath. In addition, news stories reporting on local organizations and government, such as the Red Cross and the Town of North Smithfield, can be found in the collection.

Arrangement

This series is arranged alphabetical by publication.

| | | | |
|-------|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| Box 1 | Folder 28 | The Evening Bulletin | 1934 Nov 8 |
| Box 1 | Folder 29 | The Evening Bulletin | 1935 Jan 2 |
| Box 1 | Folder 30 | The Lewiston Daily Sun | 1937 Apr 13, 1940 Aug |
| Box 1 | Folder 31 | The News-Tribune | 1935 Jan 2 |
| Box 1 | Folder 32 | New York Law Journal | 1976 Mar 4 |
| Box 1 | Folder 33 | New York Law Journal | 1976 Mar 5 |
| Box 1 | Folder 34 | New York Times | 1966 |
| Box 1 | Folder 35 | Pembroke Alumna | 1958 Oct |
| Box 1 | Folder 36 | Providence Evening Bulletin | 1958 Jun 20 |
| Box 1 | Folder 37 | The Providence Journal | 1956 Aug 1 |
| Box 1 | Folder 38 | The Providence Journal | 1960 |
| Box 1 | Folder 39 | The Providence Journal | 1975 |
| Box 1 | Folder 40 | Today | 1934 Feb 23 |
| Box 1 | Folder 41 | Various articles re: Family members | 1967-74 |
| Box 1 | Folder 42 | Various articles re: North Smithfield Schools | 1954-1956 |
| Box 1 | Folder 43 | Washington D.C. newspaper | 1960 May 12 |
| Box 1 | Folder 44 | The Woonsocket Call | 1942 |
| Box 1 | Folder 45 | The Woonsocket Call | 1954 Nov 3 |
| Box 1 | Folder 46 | The Woonsocket Call | 1959 |
| Box 1 | Folder 47 | The Woonsocket Call | 1956 Aug 13 |
| Box 1 | Folder 48 | The Woonsocket Call | 1958 |
| Box 1 | Folder 49 | The Woonsocket Call | 1961 |
| Box 1 | Folder 50 | The Woonsocket Call | 1962 Oct 31 |
| Box 1 | Folder 51 | The Woonsocket Call | 1963 Jun 3 |
| Box 1 | Folder 52 | The Woonsocket Call | 1964 |
| Box 1 | Folder 53 | The Woonsocket Call | 1965 Jan 26 |
| Box 1 | Folder 54 | The Woonsocket Call | 1976 Jul 15 |
| Box 1 | Folder 55 | The Woonsocket Call | undated |

Series: Subject files

Dates: 1918-1975

Extent: 52 folders

Material types:

- annual reports
- brochures
- bylaws (administrative records)
- certificates
- clippings
- letters (correspondence)
- manuscripts
- maps
- newsletters
- personal papers
- photographs
- scrapbooks

Scope and Content Note

This series contains materials directly relating to various activities and organizations Alice LaFond Altieri was involved with during her long public career, as well as some materials relating to her personal life. Of particular note is the LaFond family scrapbook, which contains clippings of news stories reporting on various LaFond family members. The scrapbook spans more than half a century, from 1903 to 1958.

Arrangement

This series is arranged alphabetically.

| | | | |
|-------|-----------|---|-------------|
| Box 1 | Folder 56 | The American Red Cross - Woonsocket Chapter, Woonsocket, R.I. | 1934 - 1971 |
| Box 1 | Folder 57 | Certificate of Election Delegate | 1928, 1936 |
| Box 1 | Folder 58 | Citizens Civic Affairs Committee of North Smithfield | undated |
| Box 1 | Folder 59 | Constitutional Convention | 1955 |
| Box 1 | Folder 60 | Democratic National Convention - Office of Women's Activities | 1960 |
| Box 1 | Folder 61 | Democratic Party Flyers - Town of North Smithfield | undated |
| Box 1 | Folder 62 | Democratic State Committee - annual dinners | 1934 - 1936 |
| Box 1 | Folder 63 | Democratic State Committee - annual dinners | 1958 - 1960 |
| Box 1 | Folder 64 | Democratic Study Group | 1976 |
| Box 1 | Folder 65 | Election Ballots | 1934 - 1936 |
| Box 1 | Folder 66 | Election Ballots | 1956 |
| Box 1 | Folder 67 | Election Ballots | 1958 |
| Box 1 | Folder 68 | Election Correspondence | 1958 |
| Box 1 | Folder 69 | Election Correspondence | 1959 - 1960 |
| Box 1 | Folder 70 | Legal Aid Society | 1948, 1973 |
| Box 2 | Folder 71 | Manuscript - Thoughts about the life of Alice La Fond Altieri by Laura LaFond Livermore | undated |
| Box 2 | Folder 72 | National Republican Senatorial Committee | 1974 |
| Box 2 | Folder 73 | North Smithfield Ambulance Assn. - Ambulance Drive | 1968 |
| Box 2 | Folder 74 | North Smithfield Ambulance Assn. - annual reports | 1958, 1967 |
| Box 2 | Folder 75 | North Smithfield Ambulance Assn. - Bethesada-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad | 1954 |
| Box 2 | Folder 76 | North Smithfield Ambulance Assn. - by-laws | 1958 |
| Box 2 | Folder 77 | North Smithfield Ambulance Assn. - newsclippings | 1960 - 1968 |

| | | | |
|-------|------------|---|---------------------|
| Box 2 | Folder 78 | North Smithfield Ambulance Assn. - newsclippings | undated |
| Box 2 | Folder 79 | North Smithfield Ambulance Assn. - history of | 1955 |
| Box 2 | Folder 80 | North Smithfield Civilian Defense Council | 1943 - 1944 |
| Box 2 | Folder 81 | North Smithfield Democratic Town Committee | 1932 - 1957 |
| Box 2 | Folder 82 | North Smithfield Heritage Assn. | 1971 Feb - 1973 Dec |
| Box 2 | Folder 83 | North Smithfield Heritage Assn. - Constitution and By-laws | 1970 |
| Box 2 | Folder 84 | North Smithfield Heritage Assn. - newsletters | 1974 Feb - 1976 Feb |
| Box 2 | Folder 85 | North Smithfield - manuscript notes | undated |
| Box 2 | Folder 86 | North Smithfield - maps | 1943 |
| Box 2 | Folder 87 | North Smithfield Public Welfare Department | 1967 - 1969 |
| Box 2 | Folder 88 | North Smithfield Public Welfare Department - correspondence | 1961 - 1962 |
| Box 2 | Folder 89 | North Smithfield Public Welfare Department - correspondence | 1965 - 1966 |
| Box 2 | Folder 90 | North Smithfield Public Welfare Department - financial reports | 1952 - 1967 |
| Box 2 | Folder 91 | North Smithfield Public Welfare Department - monthly assistance reports | 1967 - 1968 |
| Box 2 | Folder 92 | North Smithfield Public Welfare Department - newsclipping | 1961 - 1964 |
| Box 2 | Folder 93 | Notary Public Commission certificate | 1935 Jul 15 |
| Box 2 | Folder 94 | Notary Public stamp - see Box 3 oversized | 1935 Jul 15 |
| Box 2 | Folder 95 | Photographs | undated |
| Box 2 | Folder 96 | Proposed Public Assistance Organization report | 1939 May 24 |
| Box 2 | Folder 97 | Rhode Island Public Welfare Department - employee evaluations | 1940 |
| Box 2 | Folder 98 | Rhode Island Public Welfare Department - financial provisions and disbursement procedures | 1939 |
| Box 2 | Folder 99 | Rhode Island Public Welfare Department - bronze medallion | undated |
| Box 2 | Folder 100 | Registration Day certificate | 1941 Jun 19 |
| Box 2 | Folder 101 | Resolutions & Legislative Acts | 1936, 1938 |
| Box 2 | Folder 102 | Scrapbook, LaFond Family - see Box 3 oversized | 1903-1958 |
| Box 2 | Folder 103 | Slatersville School Graduation Exercise programs | 1934 - 1935 |
| Box 2 | Folder 104 | Speeches | 1934 |
| Box 2 | Folder 105 | Speech by John J. Cooney | 1934 Aug 7 |
| Box 2 | Folder 106 | State & Federal Civil Service | 1918, 1941 - 1942 |
| Box 2 | Folder 107 | Woonsocket High School Diploma | 1914 Jun 19 |