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Summary Information

Repository: M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives
Title: Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters Records
ID: apap049
Date [inclusive]: 1887-1989
Physical Description: 19.17 cubic ft.
Physical Location: The materials are located onsite in the department.
Language of the Material: English.

Mixed Materials [Collection]: X

Abstract: On November 14, 1946 the Carpenters' District Council of Ulster County and Vicinity was chartered. This council had local chapters in Kingston and Ellenville, New York. During the late 1940's local unions in the area began affiliating with the district council and eventually the district council, on May 4, 1949, was rechartered as the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters, the change of name more closely describing its jurisdiction. New local unions continued to be created, and independent local unions continued to affiliate with the district council. By the early 1950's the district council represented carpenters in Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Greene, Sullivan, and Ulster counties.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows: Identification of specific item, series, box, folder, Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters Records, 1887-1989. M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany, State University of New York (hereafter referred to as the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters Records).
Biographical / Historical

Throughout the late 19th and early 20th century local carpenter unions began to form in the Hudson Valley of New York State. The unions were split into six different district councils. The Kingston District Council of Carpenters was originally founded in 1908. Since it only had two local unions, it dissolved in 1909 after the merger of the two locals. The Carpenters' District Council of Ulster County and Vicinity was formed on November 14, 1946. When this council changed its name to the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters on May 4, 1949, some local unions decided to create a separate Ulster County District Council. The Ulster County District Council was chartered on May 4, 1949 and its jurisdiction also included previous locals administered by the original Ulster County Council. The Susquehanna Valley District Council of Carpenters remained independent until May 1, 1955 when it surrendered charter to the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters. The Lower Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters also surrendered its charter to the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters on April 1, 1957.

The Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters continued to grow in the mid-20th century. By 1974, the district had fourteen locals under its jurisdiction. The Council decided to consolidate the fourteen locals into three: Local 255 of Bloomingburg, Local 258 of Oneonta, and Local 265 of Saugerties. On June 13, 1983 the Council also established Local 245 of Oneonta for residential work.

Scope and Contents

The records of the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters contain minutes, contracts, dues ledgers, membership ledgers and other records that document the activity of union carpenters in the lower Hudson Valley of New York State from 1887 until 1989.

Arrangement

This collection is made up of five series. The first series includes records relating to the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters. The second series contains the documents of Local 255 of Bloomingburg. The third series includes the records of Local 258 of Oneonta. The fourth series contains records relating to the Local Council 265 of Saugerties, and the fifth series contains the records of Local 245 of Oneonta.
Administrative Information

Publication Statement
M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

Revision Description
Encoded into EAD and additional arrangement and description by Sheri Sarnoff in 2020.

Processing Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition
All items in this manuscript group were donated to the University Libraries, M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, by the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters and its affiliated locals. The minutes of the District Council's meetings and some of the contracts were preservation photocopied as a part of the Harry Van Arsdale, Jr., Labor History Project, and these originals have been returned to the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters. The Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters donated the records of Locals 255, 301, 574, 729, 1662, and 2967, and the records of the district council itself. The records of Locals 251, 306, 1075, 1175, 1560, 2161, and 2328, and the records of the Kingston District Council of Carpenters were put on deposit at the University at Albany by Carpenters Local 265. The records of Locals 245, 258, and 310 were loaned to the University by Carpenters Local 258, preservation photocopied, and the originals were returned to the local.

Conditions Governing Access
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Controlled Access Headings

- Labor unions--New York (State)
- Carpenters
- Labor unions--History--20th century
- Labor unions--History--19th century
- Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters

Collection Inventory

Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters, 1948-1981

Physical Description: .85 cubic ft.
Language of the Material: English.

Arrangement

This series is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

This series contains the records of the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters which was chartered on May 4, 1949 when the Ulster and Vicinity Council as well as some other Locals combined. New locals and independent locals continued to affiliate with the district council, and by the early 1950's the district council represented carpenters in Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Greene, Sullivan, and Ulster counties. The records include minutes of meetings of the district council, contracts, and bylaws. This series also contains printed matter and material related...
to jurisdictional disputes with other carpenters' district councils. Minutes, a few contracts, and some other material in this series have been photocopied, and the originals have been returned to the Council.

Local Council 255 of Bloomingburg, 1900-1940

Physical Description: 12.8 cubic ft.
Language of the Material: English.

Arrangement
This series is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents
This series contains the records of Local 255 of Bloomingburg. Local 255 was created in 1974 when the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters merged 14 locals into three. Local 255 combined six of the 14 locals. These locals were; Local 301, Newburgh (organized July 1, 1887, chartered November 25, 1888), Local 574, Middletown (organized May 3, 1900, chartered 1900), Local 729, Liberty (chartered April 12, 1949), Local 1038, Ellenville, Local 2373, Monticello, and Local 2967, Port Jervis (merged into Local 574).

Prior to the creation of the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters, some of these locals belonged to other district councils. Locals 301, 574, and 2967 were originally part of the Lower Hudson Valley District Council. Local 301 was chartered on November 5, 1988, Local 574 was chartered in 1900 and Local 2967's charter date is unknown. These locals were part of the Lower Hudson Valley District Council until it surrendered its charter on April 1, 1957.

Locals 729, 1038, and 2372 were originally part of the Ulster and Vicinity Council. Local 729 had jurisdiction over building and construction work in northern part of Sullivan County and was chartered on April 12, 1949. Local 1038 originally had jurisdiction in Ellenville. Local 2372 was chartered on October 24, 1950 and had jurisdiction in Monticello.

This series contains records relating to the locals that make up Local 255. These records include meeting minutes, membership ledgers, daybooks, and contracts. While Local 1038 and Local 2372 are part of Local 255, there are no records on those specific locals in this collection. This series also contains a single ledger book of dues records remains to document the history of Local 1662. Although the local is located in Goshen, which is near all the other unions that eventually merged into Local 255, Local 1662 is not listed in any of the tables as being a part of the predecessors. The local might have been independent, but it is likely that it was affiliated with some predecessor to the current district council.

Local Council 258 of Oneonta, 1900-1940

Physical Description: 0.2 cubic ft.
Language of the Material: English.

Arrangement
This series is arranged alphabetically.
Scope and Contents

This series contains the records of Local Council 258 of Oneonta. Local 258 was chartered in 1974 and combined four of the locals that made up the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters. These locals included Local 310, Norwich, Local 1600, Cannonsville, Local 1656, Oneonta, and Local 2448, Fleishmans.

Originally, Locals 310, 1600, and 1656 were part of the Susquehanna Valley District Council of Carpenters. There charter dates are unknown. Local 2448 was originally part of the Ulster County and Vicinity and held jurisdiction over building and construction work in Ulster County, Greene County, and half of Delaware County. This Local was chartered on March 12, 1949.

While multiple locals made up Local 258, only records of the original Local 310 exist in this collection. These records include membership ledgers and meeting minutes.

Local Council 265 of Saugerties, 1900-1940

Physical Description: 5.12 cubic ft.
Language of the Material: English.

Arrangement

This series is arranged alphabetically.

Scope and Contents

This series contains the records of Local 265 of Saugerties. Local 265 was chartered in 1974 under the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters, and was made up of five of the fourteen original locals. These locals included: Local 251, Kingston, Local 1075, Hudson, Local 1175, Kingston, Local 2161, Catskill, and Local 2328. This series also contains records of Local 306. The dues ledger of local 306 is the only surviving record of Associated Shipyard Workers Unions, Carpenters Local 306, of Kingston, N.Y. Local 306 might have been affiliated with the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters, but whether or not this is true is unknown. All members in this ledger are listed as being initiated in the period 1940-42, so this was likely a young local at the time. This series also contains records of Local 1560. The record is of the complete history of Local 1560 from its first meeting on April 14, 1903, until its last in 1909. When Local 1560 was organized there was already one other carpenters’ Local (number 251) in Kingston, N.Y. In 1908, these two Locals formed the Kingston District Council of Carpenters, but both this council and Local 1560 dissolved in 1909 upon the merger of Local 1560 into Local 251. Local 1175 was also originally a part of the Kingston council. Locals 1075, 2161, and 2328 were originally chartered in 1955 as part of the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters. This series contains membership ledgers, meeting minutes, daybooks, correspondence and registers.
**Arrangement**

This series is arranged alphabetically.

**Scope and Contents**

This series contains the records of Local 245 of Oneonta which was chartered as part of the Hudson Valley District Council of Carpenters on June 13, 1983 for residential work. This local does not have any predecessors. This series contains meeting minutes of the local.

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