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Summary Information

Repository: M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives
Creator: Mulligan, Thomas E., 1918-1985
Title: Thomas E. Mulligan Papers
ID: apap090
Date [inclusive]: 1941-1973
Physical Description: 1 cubic ft.
Physical Location: The materials are located onsite in the department.
Language of the Material: English
Abstract: The Thomas E. Mulligan Papers document Mulligan's life from 1941 to 1973 including his two unsuccessful political campaigns, one for Mayor of Albany and the other for assemblyman.

Preferred Citation

Preferred citation for this material is as follows:

Identification of specific item, series, box, folder, Thomas E. Mulligan Papers, 1941-1973. M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University at Albany, State University of New York (hereafter referred to as [shortened name]).

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Biographical History

Thomas "Ed" Mulligan, Jr. (1818-1985) was an Albany Republican who made two unsuccessful attempts to become elected to political office. He hoped to eventually overthrow the reigning O'Connell/Corning Democratic Political Machine. In his first race, in 1953, he ran for Mayor of Albany against the long-standing Democratic favorite Erastus Corning and surprised the city with a powerful campaign that drew more votes than any previous Republican candidate running for that position against Corning.
Born on March 6, 1918, in Albany, New York, Mulligan attended St. Theresa's Parochial School, Christian Brothers Academy and Siena College where he received the Sigma Omega Achievement Award and was elected night college President as well as night editor of the Siena News. Prior to entering the United States Air Force in 1940, Mulligan worked for radio stations WOKO and WABY and as a staff reporter for the Knickerbocker News. During World War II, he served as a B-17 bomber pilot until he was shot down and taken prisoner by the Germans in 1943. In 1951, Mulligan served as Chairman of the Publicity Committee for the Salvation Army Drive. In 1952, he founded the Albany County Eisenhower Committee and was appointed to the New York State Merit Award Board and the New York State Personnel Relations Board by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey. When nominated by the Republican Party to run for Mayor in 1953, Mulligan was employed as a publicity agent for the New York Department of State. He resigned from this position in order to campaign on July 30, 1953, the day his nomination was announced. The 1953 campaign was filled with accusations of corruption against the Democratic city government in areas such as fire safety in the public schools, traffic and highway department neglect, and understaffing of the city police and fire departments.

He lost the race to Mayor Corning by over thirty-four thousand votes. Mulligan returned to his state publicity job until he was fired by Edward S. Conway, the Republican GOP Chairman, in 1964, at the start of his second political campaign after challenging Conway's leadership of the party. Mulligan lost the 1965 election for assemblyman to Edward Rook, although this campaign was, as was his first, a heated struggle.

Upon his death, on April 22, 1985, the ownership of Thomas Mulligan's personal papers transferred to author William Kennedy pursuant to provisions in Mulligan's will. Mr. Kennedy then donated the collection to the University Libraries, State University of New York at Albany.

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Scope and Contents

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on the Republican Committee, grievances against city agencies, Pine Bush Land Grab Story, sales tax delinquency, snow removal contract deals, Albany Housing Authority, and Andrew M. Pickney Resignation, 1972-1973. Some of these files also contain black and white photographs.

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## Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is organized into the following series:

All series are arranged chronologically.

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## Administrative Information

### Publication Statement

M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections & Archives

### Revision Description

Encoded in EAD by Helen Strother 2012

### Processing Information

Processed in 2012 by Rosann Santos.

### Access

Access to this record group is unrestricted.

### Copyright

The researcher assumes full responsibility for conforming with the laws of copyright. Whenever possible, the M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives will provide information about copyright owners and other restrictions, but the legal determination ultimately rests with the researcher. Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with the Head of Special Collections and Archives.
Acquisition Information

All items in this manuscript group were donated to the University Libraries, M.E. Grenander Department of Special Collections and Archives, by William Kennedy in 1985.

Controlled Access Headings

- Public Servants
- Albany, New York
- Albany (N.Y.)--History
- Albany (N.Y.) Office of the Mayor
- Albany (N.Y.) Politics and government--20th century
- Albany (N.Y.)
- Scripts, Television
- Correspondence
- Clippings
- Promotional Materials
- Notes
- Minutes
- Political Campaigns
- Financial Records
- Photographs
- Mulligan, Thomas E., 1918-1985

Collection Inventory

Correspondence, 1946-1971

Date [inclusive]: 1946-1971

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically where possible.

Scope and Contents

Series one is made up of correspondence dating from 1946-1971. The series is divided into direct correspondence (November 1946 to May 1973) and third-party correspondence (August 1953 to June 1971). Some of the correspondence is undated.
Direct Correspondence, November 1946 to September 1953  
\textbf{Box 1 (1-Correspondence)}  
\textbf{Folder 1}

Direct Correspondence, October 1953 to May 1973 and undated  
\textbf{Box 1 (1-Correspondence)}  
\textbf{Folder 2}

Third-party Correspondence, August 1953 to June 1971 and undated  
\textbf{Box 1 (1-Correspondence)}  
\textbf{Folder 3}

---

**Campaign Materials, 1953 and undated, 1953Undated**

\textbf{Date [inclusive]}: 1953  
\textbf{Date [inclusive]}: Undated

**Arrangement**  
Arranged chronologically where possible.

**Scope and Contents**

Series two includes campaign materials (undated). The file contains promotional materials about Mulligan and TV and radio address made by Mulligan in 1953.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Drafts of Television Addresses, 1953 | Box 1 (2-Campaign Materials, 1953 and undated)  
\textbf{Folder 4}  
\textbf{Date [inclusive]}: 1953 |
| Final Scripts of Television Addresses, 1953 | Box 1 (2-Campaign Materials, 1953 and undated)  
\textbf{Folder 5}  
\textbf{Date [inclusive]}: 1953 |
| Handwritten Notes and Telephone Messages | Box 1 (2-Campaign Materials, 1953 and undated)  
\textbf{Folder 6}  
\textbf{Date [inclusive]}: Undated |
| Promotional Materials About Mulligan | Box 1 (2-Campaign Materials,  
\textbf{Folder 7}  
\textbf{Date [inclusive]}: Undated |
### Promotional Materials About the Republican Party

**Date [inclusive]:** Undated

**Box:** 1 (2-Campaign Materials, 1953 and undated)

**Folder:** 8

### Proposed Advertising Schedules, Price Lists and Bills, 1953

**Date [inclusive]:** 1953

**Box:** 1 (2-Campaign Materials, 1953 and undated)

**Folder:** 9


**Date [inclusive]:** 1952-1967

#### Arrangement

Arranged chronologically.

#### Scope and Contents

Series three is a collection of newspaper clippings spanning from 1952-1967.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title/Description</th>
<th>Instances</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>June 1952 to December 1953</td>
<td>Box 1 (3-Newspaper Clippings, 1952-1967)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> June 1952-December 1953</td>
<td>Folder 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> January 1954-November 1967</td>
<td>Folder 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Subject Files, 1941-1973, 1941-1973

**Date [inclusive]:** 1941-1973

#### Arrangement

Folders are arranged alphabetically. Material within folders is arranged chronologically.

#### Scope and Contents

Series four is made up of subject files (1941-1973). The folders contain personal memorabilia, candidate lists, Albany Public School Citizens Committee information, Salvation Army promotional materials, information on the
Republican Committee, grievances against city agencies, Pine Bush Land Grab Story, sales tax delinquency, snow removal contract deals, Albany Housing Authority, and Andrew M. Pickney Resignation, 1972-1973. Some of these files also contain black and white photographs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Albany Housing Authority, 1970</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1970</td>
<td>Folder 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Albany Public School Citizens, Committee, 1949-1954</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1949-1954</td>
<td>Folder 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaints Against City Agencies, 1953</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1953</td>
<td>Folder 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lists of Candidates, Labor Committee, Members and Albany County Canvass of Voters, 1946-1953</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
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<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1946-1953</td>
<td>Folder 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Memorabilia, 1941-1956</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1941-1956</td>
<td>Folder 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pickney, Andrew M. Resignation, 1972-1973</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1972-1973</td>
<td>Folder 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pine Bush Land Grab Story, 1955-1971</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1955-1971</td>
<td>Folder 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican Committee Materials, 1952-1967</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1952-1967</td>
<td>Folder 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salvation Army Promotion Materials, 1951-1952</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1951-1952</td>
<td>Folder 20</td>
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<td>Sales Tax Delinquency, 1960-1972</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
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<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1960-1972</td>
<td>Folder 21</td>
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<td>Snow Removal Contract Deals, 1969-1970</td>
<td>Box 1 (4- Subject Files, 1941-1973)</td>
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<td><strong>Date [inclusive]:</strong> 1969-1970</td>
<td>Folder 22</td>
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