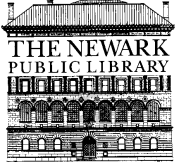


Julius J. Spohn Collection 1941-2017



Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center
The Newark Public Library
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URL: <http://www.npl.org/Pages/Collections/njic.html>

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Title: Julius J. Spohn Collection

Dates: 1941-2017 [bulk 1955-2009]

Location: Main

Extent: 4.1 linear feet (17 scrapbooks and 1 half Hollinger box)

Processed: Thomas Ankner, September 2017

Formats: Photographs, Publications

Abstract: This collection consists of 17 scrapbooks and a half Hollinger box. The scrapbooks house mostly photos. The vast majority of the photos were taken by Newark resident Julius J. Spohn between the 1950s and the first decade of the 21st century. The Hollinger box holds two photocopied publications, and a guide to videos Spohn took in the 1950s and 1960s.

Provenance: Gift of Julius J. Spohn, 2017.

Restrictions on Access

Access Restrictions

There are no access restrictions on this collection.

Photocopying of materials is limited and no materials may be photocopied without permission from library staff.

Use Restrictions

Researchers wishing to publish reproduce, or reprint materials from this collection must obtain permission.

Preferred Citation

Julius J. Spohn Collection, Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center,
Newark Public Library.

Scope and Content

Julius J. Spohn was born in Newark in 1941. Some of the photos in this collection are black and white images he took during his childhood in the West Ward. After graduating from St. James High School in Newark in 1960, he lived outside of Newark for many years.

After returning to live in Newark in 2002, he began taking photos across the city. Most of the color photos in the collection were images taken by Spohn between 2002 and 2009.

The two photocopied publications in the half Hollinger box are *Memories of St. Antoninus* [n.d.], and *Monastery of St. Dominic* (2004?). Spohn has added personal material to both publications.

Removed from the collection were two DVDs also donated by Spohn. "Growing Up in Newark—1950s" is a 40-minute compilation of video taken by Spohn that documents his childhood in Newark and New Jersey. "St. James High School—Newark, NJ—1956-1960" is a 20-minute compilation of video taken by Louis Angelone at St. James High School during the years Spohn was a student.

Processing Note

This collection has received minimal processing. The scrapbooks were left the way they were received, and placed on the shelf with Spohn's labeling intact. The two publications he donated were placed in archival folders and put into a document box. The printed guide to videos were also placed in a folder in the document box.

Biographical Note

Julius John Francis Spohn was born at St. Michael's Hospital in Newark in November 1941. He is the only child of Julius Herman Spohn and Helen Irene Tighe Spohn, both of whom were also born in Newark. His great grandfather, Owen Carlin, an Irish immigrant, became one of Newark's first police officers in 1850. His grandfather, John T. Tighe, and his uncle, John C. Tighe, also served as city police officers. His mother and two of his aunts worked for the Prudential Insurance Company in Newark from the 1920s to the 1960s.

He was raised in the West Ward, on South Orange Avenue and South 12th Street. He attended St. Antoninus Parochial Grammar School from 1948 to 1956, and St. James High School in the East Ward from 1956 to 1960. He was the president of the senior class at St. James, and established the school's camera club. He graduated from Rutgers University-Newark in 1977 with a BA in Economics.

Spohn developed an interest in photography as a child. He had a darkroom in the basement of his house, and took pictures of his family and friends. He was the yearbook photographer during his senior year at St. James High School. Many of the photos he took of the neighborhood where he grew up are in the scrapbooks that focus on the West Ward.

After high school, Spohn joined the U.S. Marine Corps. He was a bodyguard for President John F. Kennedy during his trip to Mexico City in 1962. He served as a Marine Security Guard at the American Embassy in Seoul, Korea from 1962 to 1965.

When he returned home to Newark after discharge from the Marine Corps in 1967, he worked for National Newark & Essex Bank at 744 Broad Street as a securities trader from 1967 to 1970. He worked as a securities trader in Manhattan for Merrill Lynch and several other brokerage firms from 1970 to 1990. For several years in the mid 1980's, he published a monthly financial newsletter geared toward the LGBTQ community.

In 1990, after losing several friends to AIDS, Spohn left Wall Street and put himself through nursing school. He worked at veterans hospitals in Manhattan, East Orange, and Richmond, Virginia. He retired from nursing in 2015.

After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, he returned home to Newark, and settled in the North Ward. Since then, he has taken photos across all wards of Newark, many of which are included in the scrapbooks in this collection.

He took photos and wrote articles for the Old Newark website. In 2007, he contributed material to an exhibit on the Irish in Newark and New Jersey that was organized by The Newark Public Library. Over the years, he has worked with the Newark Preservation and Landmarks Committee to have several of Newark's monuments restored, including the "Founders Monument" in Fairmount Cemetery and the "Indian Trails" monument, due to be installed near the Essex County Court House soon.

Spohn is retired today, but remains active. He still takes photos, and contributes articles to various publications. He regularly attends events of the Newark History Society and other organizations in the city.

Access Points

Subject Names:

Spohn, Julius J.
 Spohn, Julius H.
 Spohn, Helen I.

Subject Topics:

Newark, N.J.
 Newark, N.J. – History
 Catholics – New Jersey – Newark – History
 St. Antoninus Church (Newark, N.J.) – History
 Monastery of St. Dominic (Newark, N.J.) – History

Document Types:

Photographs
 Fliers (Printed matter)
 Programs
 Advertisements
 Business cards
 Digital prints
 Photocopies

Separated Material

Four yearbooks from St. James High School, Newark, N.J., for the years 1957, 1958, 1959, and 1960. The yearbooks were catalogued, and added to the book collection of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center at The Newark Public Library.

St. James High School—Newark, N.J.—1956-1960. (DVD). Compilation of video taken by Louis Angelone during the years Julius J. Spohn was a student at St. James High School. Cataloged, and added to the collection of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center at the Newark Public Library.

Growing Up in Newark—1950s. (DVD). Compilation of video taken by Julius J. Spohn during his childhood in Newark and New Jersey. Cataloged, and added to the collection of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center at the Newark Public Library.

Container List

Scrapbooks	
SB 1	Vol. I – Part A “DOWNTOWN” Broad Street, Market Street, Branford Place, Clinton Street, Mulberry Street
SB 2	Vol. I – Part B “DOWNTOWN” Broad Street, City Hall, Lincoln Park and area, Pennsylvania Avenue
SB 3	Vol. I – Part C “DOWNTOWN” Military Park, Park Place, Halsey Street, NJPAC
SB 4	Vol. I – Part D “DOWNTOWN” Washington Street, Washington Park and area, Library, Broad St.-north area, Mounted Police
SB 5	Vol. II – Part A “West Ward” My Neighborhood in the 1940’s thru 1970’s
SB 6	Vol. II – Part B “West Ward” Springfield Ave, Vailsburg, Irvington
SB 7	Vol. III – Part A “North Ward” Bloomfield Ave, Broadway (general shots)
SB 8	Vol. III – Part B “North Ward” Forest Hill Area, Cathedral
SB 9	Vol. III – Part C “North Ward” Branch Brook Park, Elwood Park
SB 10	Vol. IV “East Newark” Down Neck General Shots, Krug’s Tavern lunches
SB 11	Vol. V “Central & South Wards” High Street, Clinton Hill Area, Weequahic Park and area
SB 12	Vol. VI “Roseville Section” Orange Street, Central Ave.
SB 13	Vol. VII Penn Station and area, City Subway, Court House, Newark Academy, Newark

	Airport, Lunch Trucks
SB 14	Vol. VIII Newark "Group" Events
SB 15	Vol. IX – Part A "Newark's Irish"
SB 16	Vol. IX – Part B "Newark's Irish"
SB 17	Vol. X Newark Cemeteries
Hollinger Box	
Box #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spohn, Julius John Francis. <i>Memories of St. Antoninus, Newark, New Jersey</i>. [n.d.] • <i>Monastery of Saint Dominic, Newark, N.J., 1880-2004</i>. [2004?] • Guide to two DVDs of footage from the 1950s and 1960s. DVDs separated from archive, and added collection of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center at the Newark Public Library.