

The Michael J. Shilhan Collection 2013.18

Abstract

This collection contains one box (3 cu. ft.) of photos, interview notes, draft manuscripts and correspondence collected by the author of the 2002 Hingham history book, *When I Think of Hingham, Second Edition*, Michael J. Shilhan. The book was first published in 1976 as part of the town's celebration of America's bicentennial. The 2002 edition contains 34 pages of additional photographs to those found in 144 pages from the first edition. The book's photographs document life in Hingham from 1870 to 1949, with the bulk covering the period between 1890 and 1910. These photographs were derived from the glass negative collection at the Hingham Public library, as well as contributions from town citizens. The text was gathered from accounts in the Hingham Journal and anecdotes collected from interviews of long-time citizens by the author and others. The collection was donated by the author in 2012.

Descriptive Summary

Repository: Hingham Historical Society, Old Derby Archives.
Location: Photo Shelf: Top Right: Box 'SC1'
Creators: Michael J. Shilhan
Title: Michael J. Shilhan Collection
Language of Material: English
Extent: 3 cu. ft.

Collection Overview

Michael Shilhan, a long-time Hingham citizen and member of the town's Bicentennial Commission in 1973, suggested putting together a modest gathering of photographs of the town taken at the turn of the century for the town's observance of the country's 200th birthday celebration. The author soon realized this undertaking required much more time and resources than he thought. He then worked with the Hingham Historical Society over the next few years to gather the resources necessary to research and publish a comprehensive and accurate photographic history of Hingham, something that did not previously exist. The result was *When I Think of Hingham* published in 1976. The first edition photographs covered the period from the 1860's to 1920's. The author was approached many times in the years after to publish a new edition with photographs from the 1930's to 1950's. This resulted in the second edition of the book in 2002 with 24 additional pages of photos. Both books are available in the Archives' book collection.

The collection consists of 1 cardboard box of 3-ring binders, boxes, and folders containing photographs, interview notes, book manuscripts, and correspondence gathered

for publishing the first and second edition of *When I Think of Hingham*. The collection was donated to the Historical Society in 2012 by the author.

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions: This collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions: None.

Contents of the Collection

This collection consists of the following series:

- I. **Photographs**-Two 3-ring binders and one box. The two binders contain photographic prints taken from original glass negatives, or original photographs. In addition some of the photos are accompanied by plastic negatives of the prints. The photos are in plastic sleeves and in the order of their appearance in the text, and may contain duplicate prints. The box contains prints of the photographs appearing in the second edition, including mock-ups of the cover and front book flap photos.
- II. **Interview Notes**-One 3-ring binder consisting of hand-written notes and typed interview transcripts with long-time citizens, whose anecdotes were included in the text and photo captions of both editions of *When I Think of Hingham*. The interviewers were the author, Michael Shilhan, his wife, Ann, along with Jim Wheaton for the first edition and Tuck Wadleigh for the second edition. The notes are in chronological order.
- III. **Draft Manuscripts**-Two folders containing page proofs and a first draft of the final print edited by the author prior to publication of *When I Think of Hingham, Second Edition*.
- IV. **Correspondence**-One folder which contains correspondence to the author regarding progress in publishing the second edition of the *When I Think of Hingham, Second Edition* between 2001 and 2003. The letters are in chronological order. The folder also includes note cards and letters from readers of the book along with letters documenting publication expenses.

For a detailed description, see attached list.

Provenance

The Michael J. Shilhan Collection was donated to the Hingham Historical Society as an unrestricted gift by Michael J. Shilhan in October 2012.

Processing Information

Processed by Robert H. Malme, May – July 2013
Entered into PastPerfect database: August 2013
Accession described in this finding aid: 2013.18
Permanent Location Added: November 12, 2013

Notes

The locations for the materials described in this finding aid may be temporary. For current location, ask the archives staff.

Michael J. Shilhan Collection: Collection List

OBJECTID	OBJECT	OBJECT TITLE	DESCRIPTION	ACCUM DATE	HIST DATE	LOCATION
2013.18.1	Binder, Ring	Photos from First Edition of When I Think of Hingham (1976)	Blue binder contains prints of photos used for first edition of When I Think of Hingham, written by Michael Shilhan and published by the Hingham Historical Society in 1976. Most of the prints were taken from the glass negative collection at the Hingham Public Library. The prints have number and letter annotations, but these do not appear to match pages in the book. Although the photos range from the 1880's to 1930s, most of the photos were taken between 1890 and 1910.	1973-1976	1885-1935	Archives:Photo Shelf:Box SC1
2013.18.2	Binder, Ring	Photos from Second Edition of When I Think of Hingham (2002)	Black binder contains prints of photographs used for pp. 119-142 of the second edition of When I Think of Hingham written by Michael Shilhan and published by the Hingham Historical Society in 2002. Each plastic sleeve contains photos from one page and duplicate prints, if any. Binder also originally contained anecdotes collected for use with the new photographs but these were moved to 2013.18.3. Some of the plastic sleeves also contain plastic negatives of the original photos.	2000-2002	1900-1949	Archives:Photo Shelf:Box SC1
2013.18.3	Binder, Ring	Anecdotes for text of When I Think of Hingham, 2nd edition (2002)	Purple binder contains typed transcripts and hand-written notes from printed sources and interviews of long-time Hingham residents for use as text and photo captions for the first and second editions of When I Think of Hingham written by Michael Shilhan and published by the Hingham Historical Society in 1975 and 2002. Most of the interview anecdotes cover the years after 1890 while events earlier were taken from stories in the Hingham Journal. The interviewees included the author, Michael Shilhan, his wife, Ann, Jim Wheaton for the first edition and Tuck Wadleigh for the second edition. The interviews were recorded on tapes not included in this collection.	1973-1976, 2000-2002	1870-1949	Archives:Photo Shelf:Box SC 1

2013.18.4	Box, Document	Prints of photos in When I Think of Hingham, 2nd edition (2002), pp. 119-142	Yellow box contains prints of photos used in the second edition of When I Think of Hingham written by Michael Shilhan and published by the Hingham Historical Society in 2002. Most of the photos are reprints of photos in the black binder (2013.18.2). The photos are to be checked against the photo database to ensure they are already catalogued.	2002	1900-1949	Archives:Photo Shelf:Box SC 1
2013.18.5	Manuscript	Page proofs of When I Think of Hingham, 2nd edition (2002), pp. 119-142	Folder contains the edited page proofs of text to accompany photos used in the second edition of When I Think of Hingham written by Michael Shilhan and published by the Hingham Historical Society in 2002. The pages also include a new preface to accompany this edition.	2002	2002	Archives:Photo Shelf:Box SC 1
2013.18.6	Manuscript	Mock Up Draft of When I Think of Hingham, 2nd edition (2002), pp. 119-142	Folder contains the 3 bound sections of draft printing of second edition of When I Think of Hingham written by Michael Shilhan and published by the Hingham Historical Society in 2002. Pages include pasted photo images and cut-outs of caption pages. The folder also has a reprint of a photo of the Mill Pond from 1947, shortly before it was filled in.	2002	2002	Archives:Photo Shelf:Box SC 1
2013/18.7	Correspondence	Correspondence Related to Publishing When I Think of Hingham, 2nd edition (2002)	Folder contains correspondence to the author regarding the publishing of When I Think of Hingham, 2nd edition (2002). Correspondence includes letters from publisher regarding book drafts and to misc. firms regarding book expenses. Folder also contains hand-written notes regarding the book after it was published. Also included is list of glass negatives housed in Hingham Public Library and author notations on each.		2001-2003	Archives:Photo Shelf:Box SC 1