

**Olive Romerio Franzi (1920- )**  
**Papers, 1919-2012**  
**MSA 635**

**Introduction**

This collection contains several school notebooks, concert programs, and family wedding pictures from the life of Olive Romerio Franzi of Montpelier, Vermont, during the period 1927 to 1950. The collection was given to the Vermont Historical Society by Olive Franzi in March 2005. It is housed in one archival flip-top box and consumes .5 linear feet of shelf space.

**Biographical Notes**

Olive Romerio Franzi was born on September 18, 1920, in Montpelier, Vermont. She was the daughter of Carlo and Elisa Fornarelli Romerio. As a youth, she lived on Barre Street in Montpelier and attended Montpelier public schools, graduating from Montpelier High School in 1938. Her mother, Elisa was first married to Antonio Nicolini on September 27, 1913 in Barre. She married Carlo Romerio on June 14, 1919. Olive also had a brother, Libero Nicolino.

Olive Romerio worked at Green Mountain Power Corporation for many years. She married Gino Charles Franzi on May 21, 1949. Gino was the son of John and Mary Molina Franzi. Gino died in 1961.

**Scope and Content**

This collection consists primarily of items collected by Olive Romerio from her childhood, along with concert programs, mostly related to the Community Concert Association, accumulated in the period after she was married. Also included are three copy photographs from her parent's wedding day on June 14, 1919.

School-related items consist of one school text book and five school workbooks/scrapbooks completed by Olive Romerio. The "Clothing Study" workbook includes many samples of cloth. Another scrapbook created for Home Economics classes includes labels from consumer products, especially food, and essays written on the history of dwellings, materials used in house construction, types of houses (Georgian, Cumberland, Winslow), proper childcare, decorating, types of fabrics, laundering, running a household, points in buying clothing, how to wallpaper, etc. There are different magazine clippings that accompany each essay. "My Life's Work-Book" contains a description of nursing occupation and essay. Typing and shorthand certificates are included as well as a pamphlet on student guidance. School plays by Montpelier High School classes of 1935 and 1936 include cast members.

Community Concert Association programs in the collection all relate to concerts performed in Burlington, Vermont, in the late 1940s and 1950s as part of a national

movement to bring classical music to towns across the nation. Programs in the collection include a recital performed by Adolf Busch and Rudolph Serkin, by that time residents of Vermont, concerts by large orchestras such as the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra and concerts by opera singers such as Helen Jepson and Robert Weede.

### Related Collections

A scrapbook from Olive and Gino Franzi's wedding is in the VHS manuscript collection (MSA 443:05), as is a box of records collected by Olive Franzi related to her high school class history and reunions (MSA 636).

A collection of material from Green Mountain Power assembled by Olive's husband, Gino Franzi, is in MSA 758. (His certificate for completion of a course for electrical utility training is included in this collection.) His Spaulding High School diploma is in the small broadside collection under "Biography."

The library collection also includes a collection of photographs from the life of Olive's long-time friend, Cora Calderari (FB-132) and a scrapbook XMSC-138 kept by Olive's friend Louisa Albertini.

The VHS museum collection includes several family items donated by Olive Franzi (acc. no. 2005.14).

### Inventory

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| MSA 635:01 | 3 wedding day family copy photographs that include Elisa, Carlo, and Libero, 1919   |
| 02         | Schoolbooks, booklet with short biographies of famous composers, written by Olive in the 8 <sup>th</sup> grade; school notebook with some math & writings by Olive in 1927              |
| 03         | _____, "Biography of Abraham Lincoln," "Our Flags," "History of Laundering" with color postcards from around the world, "My Life's Work-Book" with description of nursing as occupation |
| 04         | _____, Drawing of cattails in color pastels or crayons, a spelling worksheet, book reports with syllabi and newspaper clippings   |
| 05         | _____, <i>Working Together in Home and School</i> , 1931 and <i>Fourth Grade Seat Work of Silent Reading</i> , 1928   |
| 06         | _____, <i>Clothing Study: A Workbook for High School Girls</i> by Trilling & Nichols  |
| 07         | _____, scrapbook for Home Economics classes   |
| 08         | Woodstock Typing and Gregg Shorthand certificates of completion, 1936 and undated   |
| 09         | Montpelier High School play programs by the classes of 1935-1936 during 1934: "Captain Applejack," "When the Whirlwind Blows," "Wild Hobby Horses," and "Gloria Mundi"                  |

- 10 *Why Guidance?* booklet about student guidance published by the Montpelier Public Schools, Bulletin No. 23, 1940
- 11 25 programs, The Community Concert Association, performing in Burlington, Vt., 1947-1950s
- 12 Gino C. Franzi, "Certificate for Electric Utility Operation" from Green Mountain Power Corporation (see also collection of Green Mountain Power Corporation newsletters, MSA 758)
- 13 Lola Pierotti Aiken, widow of former Vermont Governor and then Senator George Aiken, clippings of interviews from local newspapers, 1975-2012

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Franzi.doc