

Barre History Collection

**Ben Collins (1928-1982)
Papers, 1971-1979
BHC 40-41**

Volume: 1 linear foot
Inclusive dates: 1971-1979
Record types: Manuscript material, correspondence, minutes, printed material, and audio tapes

Biographical Note

Ben Collins (1928-1982), a former newspaper reporter, was a founding member of the Vermont Labor History Society. Collins spent three years (1966-1969) as Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs under Governor Hoff, then moved on to direct the New York – Vermont Youth Project from 1969 to 1971. Collins then worked for Goddard College (1971-1975) where he became Director of Information and Development. In 1976 he became Director of the Central Vermont Community Action Committee where he continued until his death in 1982.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of research notes, publications, and correspondence amassed by Ben. Collins while at Goddard College. The material focuses on the labor history of the Granite industry and the Italian Colony of Barre, Vermont. Of particular interest is his correspondence with Peter Pironi, former bookkeeper at the Union Cooperative Store in the Socialist Labor Party Building in Barre.

Inventory

- BHC 40:01 Research project, Goddard College, 1974
- 02 Correspondence, Peter Pironi, 1975
- 03 Research notes, n.d., 1975
- 04 Bibliographical material
- 05 *Labor and the Social Relations of the Granite Industry in Barre* by Paul Demers, 1974
- 06 Bibliographical material (index cards)
- 07 Research notes, Barre, miscellaneous
- 08 _____, Socialist Hall, Lawrence (MA) children
- 09 _____, Lawrence (MA) strike, 1912
- 10 _____, Barre history, newspapers, etc.
- 11 _____, Barre history, “things to do”
- 12 _____, Barre history
- 13 _____, Calcagni, Charles P., *A Sociological Study of the Religious Change Involving the Northern Italians in Barre, VT*
- 14 _____, Barre, VT, granite cutters’ strike of 1915
- 15 _____, Demers and Liveright

- 16 _____, Barre, VT, population
 - 17 _____, _____, lockout, 1909
 - 18 Correspondence, 1974-1975
 - 19 Audio cassette tape, VPR, Barre Labor Hall, NPR, 1979
 - 20 _____, *Granite City Journal*, Socialist Labor Hall
- BHC 41:01 Italian history
- 02 Barre Historical Society, news clippings, correspondence, notes
 - 03 Carnes Mill (East Barre, VT)
 - 04 Charles Poletti
 - 05 Goldman, Debs, et al.
 - 06 *Barre in Retrospect, 1776-1976*
 - 07 *Collector's Exchange, 1971-1975*
 - 08 Vermont Labor History Society, printed matter
 - 09 Vermont Labor Historical Society
 - 10 Research notes, Twingville
 - 11 Vermont labor
 - 12 Miscellaneous
 - 13 Center for Vermont Studies
 - 14 Barre project
 - 15 Sartwell's thesis
 - 16 Vermont history
 - 17 Old Labor Hall
 - 18 Barre Ethnic Heritage Association.