



Guide to the Alejandro de la Cruz Papers, 1949-1985

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Alejandro de la Cruz Papers, 1949-1985

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society

30 Park Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-228-6688

<https://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

1986.022

Author of Finding Aid:

Unknown; reformatted by Korrena Cowing

Creator:

de la Cruz, Alejandro, 1924-1990

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 box ; 0.33 linear feet

Abstract:

The Alejandro de la Cruz Papers, 1949-1985, contain several printed journals, newspaper clippings, telegrams, and correspondence providing information about the cabinetmaker Alejandro de la Cruz.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Alejandro de la Cruz Papers were donated by Alejandro de la Cruz on July 30, 1986.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date. The finding aid was written by an unknown person at an unknown date and reformatted by Korrena Cowing in May 2020. This finding aid follows the standards set forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Alejandro de la Cruz Papers, 1986.022. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:

Cabinetmaker Alejandro de la Cruz was born in Madrid, Spain, in 1924. He apprenticed to a cabinetmaker at the age of 14. His father was killed during the Spanish Civil War, and de la Cruz was struck in the face by shrapnel when he was 12 during the Siege of Madrid. He later deserted the army and made his way through Portugal to Mexico and South America.

He came to the United States in 1945 for a series of operations on his face in New York and then on to New Hampshire to recover at the home of Walter Come in Canterbury. De la Cruz then established his cabinetmaking business at a building he leased, then purchased, from the Shakers.

De la Cruz became a United States citizen with the assistance of Senator Styles Bridges, who introduced a bill to Congress granting citizenship. He married Concepcion Dolores Navajos of Madrid in 1968. In 1986, he sold his home and workshop to David Lamb, a former apprentice

who continues a cabinet-making business. He retired to the southern coast of Spain with his wife. He died from a heart attack in Spain on May 26, 1990.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Alejandro de la Cruz Papers, 1949-1985, consist primarily of printed material about Alejandro de la Cruz, furniture maker, craftsman, and furniture restorer of Spain and Canterbury, NH. The correspondence in this collection largely has to do with his immigration record, reports, and the Congressional bill to grant him U.S. citizenship. Much of this is to or from Senator Styles Bridges. Other correspondence in this collection relates to his career, exhibits, and from his doctors regarding surgery to fix a facial injury.

Arrangement:

The materials in this collection are organized by type of material.

Contents List

Box 1

- Folder 1 N.H. Profiles, 1985 August
- Folder 2 The Unitarian Register, 1960 October
- Folder 3 N.H. Profiles, 1955 August
- Folder 4 Yankee, 1963 June
- Folder 5 Yankee Treasures and Craftsmanship in a Changing World, 1956
- Folder 6 Yankee, 1977 December
- Folder 7 N.H.'s Flea Market, [post-1972] April-May
- Folder 8 Furniture by Craftsmen, 1957
- Folder 9 New England Craft Exhibition, 1955
- Folder 10 Newspaper clippings, 1952-1986, undated
- Folder 11 Telegrams, 1949-1953
- Folder 12 Congressional bill and reports, 1953
- Folder 13 Correspondence, 1949-1950
- Folder 14 Correspondence, 1951-1953
- Folder 15 Correspondence, 1957-1980

Subject Terms

People:

- Bridges, Styles, 1898-1961
- de la Cruz, Alejandro, 1924-1990

Organizations:

- American Craftsmen's Council. Museum of Contemporary Crafts
- New Hampshire Profiles
- New Hampshire's Flea Market
- The Unitarian Register
- Unitarian Service Committee, Inc.
- United States. Congress. Senate
- United States. Immigration and Naturalization Service

Worcester Art Museum
Yankee magazine publication
Yankee Treasures

Subjects:

Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
Correspondence
Furniture making
Periodicals
Telegraph

Locations:

Canterbury, NH
Washington, DC

Occupations:

Cabinetmakers

Related Materials

Museum

Bookcase, Alejandro de la Cruz, circa 1950, 2001.509

Candlestand, Alejandro de la Cruz, 1950-1980, 2015.004.05

Chest of drawers, Levi Bartlett, refurbished by Alejandro de la Cruz, 1805-1808, 2010.015