

Inventory of the

Robert McGaw
Rockford, Illinois

Papers

In the

Regional History Center

RC 150

INTRODUCTION

Robert McGaw donated his personal papers to the Northern Illinois Regional History Center on May 27, 1982.

Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional History Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. No materials in the collection may be published without consent of the donor, Robert McGaw.

Linear feet of shelf space: 1.50
Number of containers: 4
Northern Illinois Regional History Center
Collection 150

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Robert McGaw Papers document events in Rockford, Illinois from 1972-1981. Few of McGaw's personal papers, financial records, campaign material, speeches, or position papers are included in the collection. It is a small collection divided into two series: Correspondence and Subject Files, and News Clippings.

The Correspondence and Subject Files series consists of material dating 1972-1981. It is predominantly correspondence arranged by topic. Subjects covered include: Community Services and Development, Aldermanic Appointments, letters supporting state and national level legislation, and Correspondence with Rockford City Departments. The second series is a set reproduced News Clippings dating 1974-1977. This series topics are very diverse. Subjects covered include: Annexation, Bicentennial Celebrations, Cable Television, Liquor Licenses, McGaw's mayoral campaigns, Rockford City Departments, the Public Safety Building, and Unemployment.

Although small, the collection does provide the researcher with information on local events in Rockford during the mid-1970's. For other collections concerning Rockford, Winnebago County, and northern Illinois politicians researchers should consult the index to the Regional History Center's guide.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Robert McGaw was born in Rockford, Illinois on April 9, 1923. He attended Northern Illinois University (NIU) where he received his B.S. Ed. degree in political science in 1950 and his M.S. Ed. degree in educational administration in 1966. As a professional, McGaw taught at Harlem High School in Love's Park (near Rockford) for sixteen years, and became principal of Rock Cut Elementary School in 1968. During that time, McGaw served on the Rockford City Council as an alderman (1955), and chaired the Winnebago County Democratic Central Committee (1962). He was elected mayor of Rockford in 1973, an office he held until 1981. After serving as mayor, McGaw sat on the NIU Alumni Association Board as a director and held a position as instructor in NIU's political science department for the Fall 1981 semester. McGaw died on February 21, 1988 after a sudden illness.

SUBJECT TRACINGS

Democratic Party
 McGaw, Robert
 Politics
 Rockford

COLLECTION INVENTORY

| <u>BOX</u> | <u>FOLDER</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> |
|--|-----------------------------|--|
| Series I. Correspondence and Subject Files | | |
| 1 | 1 | Aldermanic Appointments - 2nd & 8th Wards, 1979 |
| | 2 | Annual Reports to City Council, 1975-1976, 1979 |
| | 3 | Cable and Public Television, 1979-1981 |
| | 4 | Campaign Material, 1973-1980, n.d. |
| | 5 | City/Council Planning Commission, 1976-1977, 1979, 1980 |
| | 6 | Civil League Problems, 1978 |
| | 7 | Community Services and Development, 1975-1976, 1979-1981 |
| | 8 | CETA, 1975-1976, July 1979-September 1980 |
| | 9 | Constituent Correspondence, 1979-1981 |
| | 10 | Correspondence, 1973-1980, n.d. |
| | 11 | Economic Development, 1974, n.d. |
| | 12 | Flood Control, 1976, 1979 |
| | 13 | Intergovernmental Workshop, Rockford, January 9 & 10, 1974 |
| | 14 | Housing & Urban Development (HUD), 1974-1975, June 1979-September 1980 |
| | 15 | Iran Hostages, November 1979-January 1981 |
| | 16 | Legislative Package Outline, 1975 |
| | 17 | Mayor's Job, Goals, & Duties, 1973-1978, n.d. |
| | 18 | Mid-term Reports, 1973, 1975 |
| 2 | 1 | Municipal Programs, 1976, n.d. |
| | 2 | News Releases & Press Conferences, 1971-1980 |
| | 3 | Parking & Transportation, 1976, 1979-1981 |
| | 4 | Personal Information and Interviews with McGaw, 1974, 1976, 1977, n.d. |
| | 5 | Personal Notes, 1973-1976, n.d. |
| | 6 | Photographs, n.d. (18) |
| | 7 | Politicians and Legislation, 1979-1981 |
| | | Rockford City Government: |
| | 8 | Budget & Comptroller Officers, 1973-1977, 1979-1980 |
| | 9 | Employees, 1979-1980 |
| 10 | General Zoning Office, 1976 | |
| 3 | 1 | Fire & Police Department, 1974-1976, 1978-1981 |

| <u>BOX</u> | <u>FOLDER</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> | 3 |
|------------|---------------|---|---|
| 3 | 2 | Human Resources Department, 1977, 1980 | |
| | 3 | Legal Department, 1979-1980 | |
| | 4 | Public Works Committee, 1972, 1974-1976, 1979, 1980 | |
| | 5 | Purchasing Division, October 1979-July 1980 | |
| | 6 | Rockford Historical Information, n.d. | |
| | 7 | Speeches, Mayor McGaw, 1973-1981, n.d. | |
| | 8 | State of the City Addresses, 1977-1979 | |

Series II. News Clippings

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|---|----|---|--|
| 4 | 1 | Airport, 1975-1977 | |
| | 2 | Animal Control, 1975-1977 | |
| | 3 | Annexation, 1974-1977 | |
| | 4 | Bicentennial Celebrations, 1974-1976 | |
| | 5 | Cable Television, 1974-1977 | |
| | 6 | CETA, 1974-1977 | |
| | 7 | Community/Downtown Development, 1974-1977 | |
| | 8 | Elderly, 1974-1977 | |
| | 9 | Flood Control, 1974-1977 | |
| | 10 | Garbage, Landfill, and Sewerage, 1975-1976 | |
| | 11 | Housing, 1975-1977 | |
| | 12 | Library, 1974-1977 | |
| | 13 | Liquor Licenses, 1974-1977 | |
| | 14 | McGaw - Campaigns, 1975-1977 | |
| | 15 | McGaw - Fund Raising, 1975 | |
| | 16 | Park District, 1974-1977 | |
| | 17 | Parking, Mass Transit, and Road Repair, 1975-1977 | |
| | 18 | Pornography, 1975-1977 | |
| | 19 | Public Safety Building, 1975-1977 | |
| | | Rockford City Government: | |
| | 20 | Alderman and City Employees, 1975-1977 | |
| | 21 | Budget, 1975-1977 | |
| | 22 | Ethics Law, 1974-1977 | |
| | 23 | Health Dept., 1975-1976 | |
| | 24 | Human Relations Council and Minority Employment, 1975 | |
| | 25 | Legal Department, 1975-1977 | |
| | 26 | Police and Fire Department, 1975-1977 | |
| | 27 | Revenue Sharing, 1975-1976 | |
| | 28 | Water Department, 1975-1976 | |
| | 29 | Schools, 1974-1977 | |
| | 30 | Schools - Salisbury Resignation, 1974 | |
| | 31 | Self - Service Gas Stations, 1977 | |
| | 32 | Strike, 1975 | |
| | 33 | Taxes, 1974-1977 | |
| | 34 | Redistricting, 1976-1977 | |
| | 35 | Unemployment, 1974-1977 | |
| | 36 | United Way, 1974-1975 | |
| | 37 | WESCO, 1974 | |