

Albany Institute of History & Art

Nicolas John Polydouris Papers

Collection Summary

Collection Title: Nicolas John Polydouris Papers

Call Number: MG 226

Creator:

Inclusive Dates: 1952-1961

Bulk Dates: 1953-1954

Abstract: The collection contains letters and postcards from Christine Polydouris to her husband Nicolas Polydouris that spans their courtship, engagement, and first years of marriage from years 1953-1954. It also contains business cards, telephone directory forms, and other information in relation to the Albany Linen Service as well as other pamphlets and forms.

Quantity: 1 box 7 folders

Administrative Information

Custodial History: John Polydouris, son of Nicolas Polydouris & Christine Thomas (Thomopolous) Polydouris

Preferred Citation: Nicolas John Polydouris Papers, MG 226. Albany Institute of History & Art Library, New York.

Acquisition Information:

Accession #: LIB.2011.020

Accession Date:

Processing Information:

Processed by Linnea Moosmann

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: None

Restrictions on Use:

Index Term

Persons:

Leftes, Tina
Macheras, Helen
Polydouris, John
Polydouris, Nicolas J.
Polydouris, Christine (maiden name: Thomas, Christine S.)
Thomas, Maria
Thomas, Theodore

Organizations

Albany Linen Service Co. – 217 Hudson Avenue/ 199 Hudson Ave – Albany – New York
Amesbury High School – Amesbury - Massachusetts
Associated Hospital Service of Capital District, Northeastern New York Medical Service, Inc. –
112 State Street – Albany – New York
Blue Cross- Blue Shield
Eastman Kodak Co. – Rochester – New York
Morgan Linen Co., Inc.- Albany – New York
New York Telephone Company

Subjects

Places

New Castle – Delaware
Athens - Greece
Boston – Massachusetts
Lowell – Massachusetts
Salem – Massachusetts
Edgewood – Maryland
Albany – New York

Document Types

Letters
Photographs
Postcards
Brochures
Business Cards
Forms
Receipt
List

Titles

How to use the Kodak Vigilant Six-20

Hospital Service and Medical-Surgical Care

Biography of Nicolas and Christine Polydouris

Nicolas Polydouris was born in Kalmata, Greece in 1913. In 1939, he moved to Albany. He was the owner of Albany Linen Service for about twenty years after which he also owned Tri-City Liquors in Menands. He was an active member of the Greek Orthodox Church and a member of the Albany chapter 140 Ahepa, a Greek-American association. He died in December 2003 at the age of 90.

Christine Thomas (Thomopoulous) Polydouris was born in Salem, Massachusetts in 1920. She attended Salem Teachers College a received a bachelor's of science in business education. In 1952, she received a Master's degree from Boston University School of Education. She meet Nicolas Polydouris at private house party in Salem and married him in November 1953. Christine and Nicolas had one, John in 1954. From 1955-1980 Christine taught at Albany High School. She died September 25, 2005 of Alzheimer's and lung congestion.

Scope and Contents of the Records

The collection mostly contains letters and postcards written by Christine Polydouris for her husband Nicolas Polydouris during the years of the courtship, engagement, and marriage (1953-1954). It also contains family photographs, business cards, pamphlets, and forms, a pay stub, and letter written in Greek in 1961.

Organization of the Records

The collection has been organized into seven folders. Folders one through five contain the 1953-1954 letters from Christine Polydouris to Nicolas Polydouris. Folder six contains other materials relating to the Albany Linen Service from 1952-1953. Folder seven contains a letter from 1961, a pay stub from 1960, and several undated pamphlets and forms.

Related Material

Ledgers from Albany Linen Service Co.

Source: John Polydouris

Accession date: June 1, 2005

LIB.2005.090

Poster Advertising the 199 Grecian Festival, May 17-19 at the St. Sophia Greek Orthodox Church.

Source: John Polydouris

Accession date: May 1996

Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Call # [MG 226]

Collection Title [Nicolas John Polydouris Papers]

Box #	Folder #	Item #.	Title / Description
1	1	1-7	Letters from Christine Thomas to Nicolas Polydouris April 1953 – May 12, 1953 <i>note: The couple is courting at the time. In these letters Christine mentions her brother Ted is getting engaged</i>
1	1	1	Letter from Christine Thomas to Nicolas Polydouris <i>note: This is the earliest letter in the collection, in which Christine expresses her need to shorten Nicolas's last name to Polyd on subsequent envelopes</i>
1	2	1-8	Letters from Christine Thomas to Nicolas Polydouris May 14 – June 11, 1953
1	2	9	Postcard from Christine Thomas to Nicolas Polydouris June 12, 1953
1	3	1-5	Letters from Christine Thomas to Nicolas Polydouris June 15 –July 22, 1953
1	3	6-8	Postcards from Christine Thomas to Nicolas Polydouris July 23 – 27, 1953
1	4	1-9	Letters from Christine Thomas to Nicolas Polydouris

July 26 – September 14, 1953

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|---|---|--------|--|
| 1 | 4 | 1 | Letter from Christine Thomas to Nicolas Polydouris
July 26, 1953
<i>note: This letter is the first to mention Christine's
engagement to Nicolas</i> |
| 1 | 4 | 3E & F | Letter from Tina Leftes to Christine Thomas
July 28, 1953
<i>note: Christine sends this letter along with one of her
own to Nicolas so that he may read Tina's letter. Tina
was a friend of Christine's. They both took the train on
weekends to attend classes at Boston University</i> |
| 1 | 4 | 5B | Envelope addressed to Mrs. Polydouris & Son
<i>note: for Nicolas's mother, only envelope in the
collection addressed to someone other than Nicolas</i> |
| 1 | 4 | 5C | "Thank You" note written by Christina Thomas for
Nicolas's mother and sister |
| 1 | 4 | 5D-K | Dated family photographs |
| 1 | 5 | 1-3 | Letters from Christine Thomas to Nicolas Polydouris
September – October 1953 |
| 1 | 5 | 4-10 | Letters from Christine Polydours to Nicolas Polydouris
January – April 1954
<i>note: in these letters Christine changes her name as she
is now married to Nicolas. They married in November
1953.</i> |
| 1 | 6 | 1-5 | Contains dated materials from 1952-1952 |
| 1 | 6 | 1 | Your Listing in the Telephone Directory
February 27, 1952
<i>note: shows the new/changed listing for Albany Linen
Service by the New York Telephone Company</i> |
| 1 | 6 | 2 | Postcard from New York Telephone Company to
Albany Linen Service Co.
August 1952
<i>note: shows monthly rate</i> |

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|---|---|-----|---|
| 1 | 6 | 3 | Application for Telephone Directory Representation
August 8, 1952
<i>note: form for the New York Telephone Company,
"attn: Mrs, Hilton" inscribed on form</i> |
| 1 | 6 | 4 | Postcard to Nicolas Polydouris from Irving Tuttle
September, 22 1952
<i>note: front of card is a picture of Albany Linen Service</i> |
| 1 | 6 | 5 | Photograph, Catherine Vovaris
September 1952
<i>note: list of Doctors and addresses written on the back</i> |
| 1 | 6 | 6 | Photograph
May 1953 |
| 1 | 7 | 1-5 | Miscellaneous Documents
no dates give except for item 4 & 5 |
| 1 | 7 | 1 | Business cards for Albany Linen Service Co. |
| 1 | 7 | 2 | List written on Albany Linen Service Co. stationary
<i>note: list contains many restaurants and their addresses
most likely a list of linen service clients</i> |
| 1 | 7 | 3A | Hospital Service and Medical-Surgical Care
Brochure for Blue Cross Blue Shield Capital Region |
| 1 | 7 | 3B | Blue Cross Blue Shield Application |
| 1 | 7 | 4 | Pay Stub for Morgan Linen Co., Inc, Albany, N.Y.
July 1960 |
| 1 | 7 | 5 | Letter addressed to Nicolas Polydouris from unknown
August 15, 1961
<i>note: letter seems to be written in Greek</i> |
| 1 | 7 | 6 | How to use the Kodak Vigilant Six-20
Pamphlet |