Table of Contents

Collection Overview ........................................................................................................ 1
Administrative Information .............................................................................................. 1
Arrangement..................................................................................................................... 3
Scope and Contents.......................................................................................................... 2
Biographical / Historical .................................................................................................... 2
Names and Subjects ........................................................................................................ 4
Container Listing ............................................................................................................. 6
  Series 1: Bridgewater Family, 1880-2013, undated................................................. 6
  Series 2: Harrell Family, 1914-2005, undated........................................................ 16
  Series 3: Trahan Family, 1923-1995, undated....................................................... 25
  Series 4: Family Friends, 1912-1979, undated...................................................... 26
  Series 5: Photographs, 1907-1992, undated......................................................... 27
Collection Overview

Repository: Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title: Bridgewater Family Papers
Identifier: NMAH.AC.1385
Date: 1880-2017 undated
Extent: 21 Cubic feet (64 document boxes, one oversize folder)
Creator: Bridgewater, Herbert Ford, 1908-1970
Bridgewater, Leon Archibald, 1905-1968
Harrell, Charles Henry, 1878-1948
Harrell, Mary Bridgewater, 1893-1981
Harrell, Arthur Samuel, 1916-1963
Harrell, Charles Henry, Jr., 1914-1948
Harrell, Mary Trahan, 1927-2000
Harrell, Cornelius Eckart Bridgewater
Bridgewater, Octavia Marie, 1903-1985
Harrell, Richard Francis
Darby, Sophia Bridgewater, 1894-1990
Bridgewater, Samuel, 1862-1912
Campbell, Janet Harrell
Harrell, Jules
Bridgewater, Mamie Anderson, 1872-1950

Language: English

Collection is in English.

Summary: Papers and photographs documenting the lives and descendants of Samuel and Mamie Anderson Bridgewater of Helena, Montana.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Processing Information
Processed by Rachel Beale, intern; Nelse C. Greenway, volunteer; Anne Jones, volunteer; Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., archivist; Vanessa Broussard Simmons, archivist; Marion Tatum Webb, volunteer; Ramona Williamson, volunteer; 2016-2017; supervised by Vanessa Broussard Simmons and Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., archivists.
Biographical / Historical

The Bridgewater family is a multi-generation African American family descended from Samuel (1862-1912) and Mamie Anderson Bridgwater (1872-1950) (note: later family members spelled the name with an "e"). The son of slaves, Bridgwater was born in Dixon Springs, Smith County, Tennessee, on February 25, 1862. He later enlisted in the all-Black 24th Infantry Regiment, USCI (United States Colored Infantry), one of the famous "Buffalo Soldier" regiments. The 24th Infantry served in the Department of Texas from 1869-1889, Indian Territory from 1880-1888 and following 1888 in the Department of Arizona. In 1892 he married Mamie E. Anderson the daughter of Levi Anderson and Emma Lucy in Fort Huachuca, in what later became the state of Arizona.

Bridgwater fought in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War, where he was wounded. He retired from the United States Army at Fort Harrison, Montana, after twenty years of service on August 22, 1906. The family remained in Helena, Montana purchasing a home at 502 Peosta Avenue. The 1910 United States Census lists Samuel has having retired from the United States Army and lists Mamie as being a matron in the US Army hospital. They raised five children, three boys and two girls.

Samuel died on June 9, 1912. His widow and family remained in Montana becoming active in community affairs. Their descendants continued their parents' involvement in community and religious affairs as well as their fathers' tradition of military service. Their daughter Octavia served in an all-black unit of the Army Nurse Corps during World War II and then served her community as a nurse-midwife for the rest of her life. Members of the family continued to live in the home at 502 Peosta well into the twentieth century.

Scope and Contents

The collection documents the lives of the family and descendants of Samuel and Mamie Anderson Bridgewater. The papers primarily belonged to the family and descendants of their daughter Mary Emma (1893-1981), who married Charles H. Harrell (1878-1948), a Pullman porter. The collection includes materials from collateral relatives and from those who married into the Bridgewater and Harrell families. The women of these families were extensively involved in community, religious, and social organizations.
The collection contains materials about social and religious life in the relatively small African-American communities surrounding Helena, Montana. It also contains family papers including Samuel and Mamie's marriage certificate from 1892; educational memorabilia and school diplomas; scrapbooks and photographs documenting family members, vacations, life events and friends; baptismal records; handwritten birth and death entries; and correspondence between family members and friends living in other states.

The collection includes records of many of Montana's social and religious organizations from the 1890s to the 1950s, including the Colored Women's Clubs of America; the Pleasant Hour Club in Helena; the Helena Negro Chorus; the local chapter of the Society for the Relief of Worthy, Aged, Indigent Colored Persons, Pleasant House Club; and numerous Baptist and Roman Catholic congregations. Generations of women in the Bridgewater and Harrell families were members or officers of these organizations. The collection contains records and photographs relating to several African-American and integrated churches in Helena. Friends and community members, primarily other African-American Montanans, are represented in the collection as well.

Photographs and other documents record the lives of nearby neighbors and friends as well as lives of more distant family members and friends. Subjects covered in the collection are: the formerly enslaved parents of Samuel and Mamie Bridgewater; Samuel Bridgewater and his fellow Buffalo soldiers; Octavia Bridgewater's experiences at the Lincoln School of Nursing in New York City; Octavia Bridgewater's service with a segregated unit of the Army Nurse Corps in World War II while stationed at the Tuskegee Air Base, Alabama and her later life after returning to civilian life in Helena when she worked mostly as a midwife.

Some of the arrangement of the collection was done by family members prior to its donation to the Archives Center. The families had a vigorous and wide ranging network of family and friends in Montana and elsewhere in the United States, and materials related to all family members and friends may be found across multiple series.

**Arrangement**

The collection is arranged into five series.

**Series 1: Bridgewater Family, 1880-2013, undated**

Subseries 1.1: Bridgewater, Samuel, 1880-1908, undated

Subseries 1.2: Bridgewater, Mamie Anderson, 1888-1990, undated

Subseries 1.3: Darby, Sophia Bridgewater, 1911-2005, undated

Subseries 1.4: Bridgewater, Octavia Marie, 1922-2013, undated

Subseries 1.5: Bridgewater, Leon Archibald, 1912-1968, undated

Subseries 1.6, Bridgewater, Herbert Ford, 1925-1970, undated

Subseries 1.7: Photographs, 1920-1955, undated

Subseries 1.8: Family Memorabilia, 1903-2007, undated

Subseries 1.9: Family Friends, 1930-2001, undated

**Series 2, Harrell Family, 1914-2005, undated**
Subseries 2.1: Harrell, Mary Bridgewater, 1914-1981, undated
Subseries 2.2: Harrell, Charles Henry, 1914-1977, undated
Subseries 2.4: Harrell, Mary Trahan, 1925-2002, undated
Subseries 2.5: Harrell, Arthur Samuel, Jr., 1948-1981, undated
Subseries 2.6: Campbell, Janet Harrell, 1951-2005, undated
Subseries 2.7: Harrell, Jules Parker, 1950-1980, undated
Subseries 2.8: Harrell, Richard Francis, 1960-1996, undated
Subseries 2.9: Harrell, Cornelius Eckart, 1940-2001
Subseries 2.10: Harrell, Jr., Charles Henry, 1925-2005
Subseries 2.11: Family Memorabilia, 1960-1990, undated
Subseries 2.12: Photographs, 1929-1996, undated

Series 3, Trahan Family, 1923-1995, undated

Series 4, Family Friends, 1912-1979, undated

Series 5, Photographs, 1907-1992, undated

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:
- African American churches -- Montana
- African American families -- Montana
- African Americans -- History -- 20th century -- Montana
- Churches -- Montana
- Community activists
- Midwives
- Spanish-American War, 1898
- United States Army

Types of Materials:
- Baptismal certificates
- Diplomas
- Marriage certificates
- Photographs -- 20th century
- Scrapbooks

Names:
- Lincoln School for Nurses -- Geographic subdivision--New York (N.Y.);
Pleasant Hour Club (Helena, Mont.)
Society for the Relief of Worthy Aged Indigent Colored Persons
United States. Army. Army Nurse Corps
United States. Army. Cavalry, 9th

Geographic Names:
Louisiana
Montana
United States -- Race relations
Container Listing

Series 1: Bridgewater Family, 1880-2013, undated

This series contains papers, photographs, and ephemera created or collected by various members of the Bridgewater family. The papers are arranged by family member. The papers had been partially processed before being donated to the Archives Center, and that order has been maintained. The papers include correspondence, financial records, funeral memorabilia, photographs, clippings, scrapbooks, printed books, recipe books, and pamphlets. There is material related to religious organizations, predominately Baptist and Roman Catholic.

Subseries 1.1: Bridgewater, Samuel, 1880-1908, undated

Papers relating to Samuel Bridgewater (1862-1912) (sometimes appears as Bridgwater). This series includes his marriage certificate, photographs, and material relating to his service in the United States Army.

Box 1, Folder 1  
Correspondence, 1880

Box 1, Folder 2  
Marriage certificate, 1892

Box 1, Folder 3  
*Soldier's Handbook*, United States Army, 1884-1902

Box 1, Folder 4  
"My Experience of Twenty Year in Army," undated

Box 28, Folder 1  
Photographs, 1908

Subseries 1.2: Bridgewater, Mamie Anderson, 1888-1990, undated

This series contains papers relating to and created by Mamie Anderson Bridgewater (1872-1950), wife of Samuel Bridgewater. Included are photographs, material related to her spiritual and religious life, newsclippings, contents of a purse, funerary memorabilia, papers relating to the Ebenezer Baptist Church of Helena, Montana, the Wilder Avenue Baptist Church, and the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church. This series also includes a scrapbook and financial documents.

Box 1, Folder 5  
Photographs, 1888-1927

Box 1, Folder 6  
*Bible Readings for the Home Circle*, book, 1890

Box 1, Folder 7  
*Bible Readings for the Home Circle*, loose contents inside book, 1899-1947

Box 1, Folder 8  
Newspaper articles, 1899, undated

Box 38, Folder 1  
The *Freeman, A National Illustrated Colored Newspaper* (death of Booker T. Washington) (Indianapolis, Indiana), 1915-11-20

Box 1, Folder 9  
Contents of purse, 1900-1919

Box 1, Folder 10  
"Post Hospital Christmas Dinner," menu, 1910
Box 1, Folder 11  
"My trip to Meeker Okla in the Year of 1911," notebook, 1911

Box 1, Folder 12  
Personal correspondence, 1914-1929

Box 35, Folder 1;  
Box 1, Folder 13  
Pension, 1918-1933

Box 2, Folder 1  
Contents of purse, 1920-1929

Box 2, Folder 2  
Photographs, 1925, undated

Box 2, Folder 3  
Contents of purse, 1930-1939

Box 2, Folder 4  
Contents of purse, 1940

Box 2, Folder 5  
Personal receipts, 1942-1952

Box 2, Folder 6  
Estate and obituary, 1943-1950

Box 2, Folder 7  
Insurance papers, 502 Peosta Avenue, 1944-1948

Box 2, Folder 8  
Contents of purse, 1949-1962

Box 2, Folder 9  
"1909" 1956 History of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church," booklet, 1956

Box 2, Folder 10  
Contents of purse, undated

Box 2, Folder 11  
Photographs, undated

Box 2, Folder 12  
Songs for Service, book, undated

Box 2, Folder 13  
Holy Bible, book

Box 3, Folder 1  
Miscellaneous receipts (Ebenezer Baptist Church), 1914-1922, undated

Box 3, Folder 2  
Church donation checks and receipts (Ebenezer Baptist Church), 1914-1922, undated

Box 3, Folder 3  
Pamphlets (Ebenezer Baptist Church), 1915-1938, undated

Box 3, Folder 4  
Bank statements (Ebenezer Baptist Church), 1921-1922

Box 3, Folder 5  
Miscellaneous (Ebenezer Baptist Church), 1921-1962, undated

Box 3, Folder 6  
Sermons (Ebenezer Baptist Church), undated

Box 3, Folder 7  
Photographs (Afro-American Baptist Association of Montana; Braman, W.J.; Moore, A.A.; Bruin, John and family), undated

Box 28, Folder 4-5;  
Wilder Avenue Baptist Church, 1914-1990, undated
Subseries 1.3: Darby, Sophia Bridgewater, 1911-2005, undated
This series contains papers and photographs of Sophia Anna Bridgewater (1894-1990), daughter of Samuel and Mamie Bridgewater. She first married Claude H. Polk on October 12, 1914 in Helena, Montana. She later married Fred Darby. This series includes personal papers, photographs, and a funeral program.

Box 3, Folder 8 Family papers, 1911-2005, undated
Box 28, Folder 7; Box 3, Folder 9; Box 41, 44; Box 29, Folder 1
Box 42 Military, Camp George Jordan, Fort Lawton, family, friends, and unidentified, photographs, 1941-1952, undated
Box 43 Family, Polk family, friends, and unidentified, photographs, 1939-1987, undated
Box 45 "Polk Darby clan", and unidentified, photographs, 1935-1987, undated
Box 46 Family, friends, Polk and Ford families, "Mirrorlike Photo Service" prints, vacation, and unidentified, photographs, 1936-1990, undated
Box 47-48 Family, friends, vacation, and unidentified, 1965-1993, undated
Box 49 American Business Women's Association (ABWA) meeting, family, friends, vacation (Hawaii), and unidentified, photographs, 1928-1993, undated
Box 50 Family, friends, travel, and unidentified, photographs, 1969-1992, undated
Box 3, Folder 10 Funeral program, 1990-06-25

Subseries 1.4: Bridgewater, Octavia Marie, 1922-2013, undated
This series contains papers, photographs, and memorabilia created or collected by Octavia Marie Bridgewater (1903-1985), daughter of Samuel and Mamie Bridgewater. It includes volumes of meeting minutes, loose material, and photographs, from the Pleasant Hour Club. There are papers and photographs from the Montana Federation of Colored Women's Clubs (later known as Montana State Federation of Negro Women's Club, and then later as the Montana Federation of Women's Clubs). There is material from the Lincoln School of Nursing and the Tuskegee Army Flying School. Scrapbooks, recipe books, educational and nursing ephemera are also present. Octavia never married and lived in the family home at 502 Peosta Avenue when she resided in Helena, Montana.

Box 3, Folder 11  High school, 1922-1925, undated
Box 3, Folder 12  Personal papers, 1922-1984, undated
Box 25, Folder 7  Personal papers, 1940-1992, undated
Box 37, Folder 1  Public high school, diploma, 1925
Box 38, Folder 3  "One Hundred Graduate in the Helena High School Class of 1925," *The Helena Daily Independent* (Helena, Montana), 1925-06-07
Box 3, Folder 13; Box 5, Folder 4  *Our Best Recipes*, Woman's Club (Helena, Montana), 1923
Box 8, Folder 7  *Montana Federation of Negro Women's Clubs Cook Book*, 1925
Box 5, Folder 6; Box 5, Folder 6  Montana State Federation of Negro Women's Club, photographs, 1938-1971, undated
Box 25, Folder 6  Montana Federation of Colored Women's Club, 1938-1972, undated
Box 7, Folder 4  Montana Federation of Negro Women's Clubs, club president's biennial manuals, 1964-1971
Box 7, Folder 7  Montana State Federation of Colored Women's Club, savings account, Union Bank and Trust Company (Helena, Montana), 1970-1971, undated
Box 26, Folder 5  Montana Federation of Women's Clubs, 1967-1972, undated
Box 3, Folder 14  Booklets, 1927-1970, undated
Box 4, Folder 1  Photograph album and photographs, 1927, undated
Box 4, Folder 2  Photograph album, loose content, 1928-1939, undated
Box 4, Folder 3  Photograph album, 1928-1939, undated
Box 4, Folder 4  Photograph album and photographs, 1929, undated
Box 4, Folder 5  Montana Federation of Women's Clubs, 1930-1948, undated
Box 38, Folder 4;  Lincoln School of Nursing, Alumnae Association Luncheon, panoramic photographs, 1961-1966
Box 38, Folder 4
Box 5, Folder 1  Nursing, general, 1930-1979, undated
Box 5, Folder 2  Tax receipts, water bills, 1933-1947, undated
Box 8, Folder 10  Recipe books, 1934-1964, undated
Box 55  Photograph album, 1928-1994, undated
Box 5, Folder 5  Photograph album and loose contents, 1930-1998, undated
Box 5, Folder 3  Autographed photograph of Irvin E. Wells, 1934
Box 5, Folder 7  Photograph album and loose contents, 1940-1956, undated
Box 5, Folder 8  Military nurse, 1942-1947, undated
Box 5, Folder 9; Box 26, Folder 8  Military papers, 1942-1947, undated
Box 26, Folder 1  Military envelope, 1943
Box 9, Folder 1  2nd Lieutenant Octavia Bridgewater, photograph, 1943
Box 6, Folder 1  Tuskegee Army Flying School scrapbook, loose contents, 1944-1945, undated
Box 6, Folder 2  Newsclippings, 1946-1985, undated
Box 6, Folder 3  "Minutes and Records of the 1947 Biennial of the Northwest Regional of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc.," booklet and loose material, 1947-06
Box 9, Folder 4-5; Box 6, Folder 4  Recipe book, Robertshaw-Fulton Controls Company (Youngwood, Pennsylvania), 1947
Box 6, Folder 5  Church programs, eulogy, obituary, funeral memorabilia, 1948-1995, undated
Box 6, Folder 6  Insurance policies, 1950-1965
Box 6, Folder 7  Receipts, 1950-1970
Box 6, Folder 8  Papers relating to death and estate, 1951-2013, undated
Box 6, Folder 9  Taxes, 502 Poesta Avenue, 1952-1967
Box 6, Folder 10  Montana State Nurses' Association, 1953-1968, undated
Box 6, Folder 11; Box 35, Folder 4  Photographs, family and friends, 1950-1969, undated
Box 6, Folder 12  Scrapbook and loose contents, 1959-1970, undated
Box 7, Folder 1; Box 9, Folder 6  First Ladies Cookbook, Montana Territorial Centennial Edition, 1963
Box 7, Folder 2; Box 8, Folder 3  Holy Bible, 1964-1990, undated
Box 7, Folder 3  Correspondence, 1969
Box 7, Folder 5  Newsletters, various organizations, 1966-1976
Box 8, Folder 1; Box 8, Folder 4  The Living Bible, 1972-1981, undated
Box 8, Folder 2  Saint Peter's Hospital, newsletter, 1976
Box 8, Folder 5  Address book, undated
Box 8, Folder 6  Bible clippings, undated
Box 8, Folder 8  Nurses photographs, undated
Box 8, Folder 9; Box 30, Folder 1  Photograph albums, loose photographs, and ephemera, 1949-1967, undated
Box 9, Folder 2  Recipe book, undated
Box 9, Folder 3  Contents found in recipe book, undated
Box 9, Folder 7  Various Viddles from Granny's Kitchen Kettle, Foster Grandparents of Montana, cookbook, undated
Box 9, Folder 8  Game score pad, undated
Box 9, Folder 9  Guest book, undated
Box 9, Folder 10  Home Cooking Secrets of Helena, Helena Jayceens (Helena, Montana), undated
Box 9, Folder 11  "Munsey's Magazine," clippings, undated
Box 25, Folder 1-5; Box 24, Folder 11-12; Box 26, Folder 2-4; Box 33, Folder 1-2  Pleasant Hour Club, 1919-1971, undated
Box 25, Folder 8  Veteran's Administration, 1942-1945
Box 26, Folder 6  Homemade photograph album, 1957-1964, undated
Box 26, Folder 7  Recipe folder, undated
Box 29, Folder 2  "Ring School Bell," matted poem, 1925
Box 29, Folder 3  Tuskegee Army Flying School, scrapbook, 1943-1944, undated
Box 30, Folder 2  Sewing kit, 1971
Box 31, Folder 1  "Friends Like You," plaque, undated

Subseries 1.5: Bridgewater, Leon Archibald, 1912-1968, undated
This series contains papers relating to and created by Leon Archibald Bridgewater (1905-1968),
son of Samuel and Mamie Bridgewater. He eventually moved to Pueblo, Colorado. He died in Deer
Lodge, Montana in 1968. The series is made up of photographs, educational ephemera, and funeral
memorabilia.

Box 10, Folder 1-3  The Vigilante, high school yearbook, 1926-1928
Box 35, Folder 5-7; Box 31, Folder 2-3; Box 10, Folder 4
Box 35, Folder 5  Basketball team, 1924
Box 10, Folder 5  High school diploma, commencement memorabilia, 1912 June 20
Box 11, Folder 1  Friendship Memories of School Days, autograph and photograph album, 1928
Box 10, Folder 6  Funeral service, legal papers, 1930-1968
Box 10, Folder 7  An Inscribed Record of Dedicated Memories, funeral register, 1968 December

Subseries 1.6: Bridgewater, Herbert Ford, 1925-1970, undated
This series contains archival material related to and created by Herbert Ford Bridgewater (1908-1970),
son of Samuel and Mamie Bridgewater. He married Nellie Robinson, and they had two children Herbert
Eugene (1937-1947) and Margie E. (b. 1938) who married the Reverend Mr. Sanders S. Horton in 1957.
They lived at the family home located at 502 Peosta Avenue in Helena, Montana. The series contains
educational ephemera, photographs, legal documents, correspondence, fishing licenses, a United States
Army issue New Testament, military papers and memorabilia, funeral memorabilia, and estate papers.

Box 11, Folder 2  Report card, Helena Public Schools, 1925
Box 11, Folder 3  Photographs, 1927-1958, undated
Box 26, Folder 9  Legal documents, 1931-1958
Box 11, Folder 4  Correspondence, 1934-1955, undated
Box 11, Folder 5  Correspondence, 1937-1945, undated
Box 11, Folder 6  Financial, 1939-1963, undated
Box 11, Folder 7  *New Testament, Psalms* (United States Army issue), 1941
Box 26, Folder 8; Box 11, Folder 9  Military papers and memorabilia, 1943-1948, undated
Box 12, Folder 1  Fishing licenses, 1944-1966
Box 12, Folder 2  Medical, 1944-1969, undated
Box 12, Folder 3  Automobile, 1946-1960
Box 12, Folder 4  Taxes and employment, 1952-1970, undated
Box 12, Folder 5  Death notices of relatives and friends, 1958-1969, undated
Box 12, Folder 6  Insurance papers, 1959-1969, undated
Box 12, Folder 7  Death and estate papers, 1970
Box 12, Folder 8  *Abiding Memories*, funeral book, 1970
Box 12, Folder 9  Bridgewater, Marjorie Evelyn (daughter), 1938-1945
Box 12, Folder 10  Ephemera, 1951-1957, undated
Box 12, Folder 11  Photographs, undated
Box 12, Folder 12  Bridgewater, Herbert Eugene (son), 1937-1947, undated

Subseries 1.7: Photographs, 1920-1955, undated
This series contains photographs relating to and created or collected by the Bridgewater family, including studio portraits, group photographs, and candid photographs. In addition this series contains photograph of friends documenting the African-American community and activities during this time period. It is arranged chronologically.

Box 37, Folder 2  Unidentified boy, studio portrait, 1920-08-05
Box 12, Folder 14-15  Photographs, 1920-1955, undated
Box 31, Folder 5  Mae Belle, undated
Box 31, Folder 4  Matthews, Florence, undated
Box 31, Folder 6  Unidentified patriotic grouping, undated
Subseries 1.8: Family Memorabilia, 1903-2007, undated

This series contains papers and memorabilia relating to, owned, collected or created by the Bridgewaters and related families. There are postcard albums, World War II ration books, newspapers, and newsclippings, high school yearbooks, and financial materials. There are 40th anniversary ribbons from the Montana State Federation of Colored Women’s Clubs. The series also includes a recipe book, files of family and Montana history, and a plastic book cover featuring advertisers from Helena, Montana. The series is arranged chronologically.

Box 31, Folder 7-8 Unidentified group, undated
Box 31, Folder 9 Unidentified family, undated
Box 31, Folder 10-14 Unidentified studio portraits, undated
Map-folder 1 Unidentified group, panorama photograph, undated
Box 37, Folder 4 Unidentified female, studio portrait, undated

Box 31, Folder 7-8 Unidentified group, undated
Box 31, Folder 9 Unidentified family, undated
Box 31, Folder 10-14 Unidentified studio portraits, undated
Map-folder 1 Unidentified group, panorama photograph, undated
Box 37, Folder 4 Unidentified female, studio portrait, undated

Subseries 1.8: Family Memorabilia, 1903-2007, undated

This series contains papers and memorabilia relating to, owned, collected or created by the Bridgewaters and related families. There are postcard albums, World War II ration books, newspapers, and newsclippings, high school yearbooks, and financial materials. There are 40th anniversary ribbons from the Montana State Federation of Colored Women’s Clubs. The series also includes a recipe book, files of family and Montana history, and a plastic book cover featuring advertisers from Helena, Montana. The series is arranged chronologically.

Box 31, Folder 7-8 Unidentified group, undated
Box 31, Folder 9 Unidentified family, undated
Box 31, Folder 10-14 Unidentified studio portraits, undated
Map-folder 1 Unidentified group, panorama photograph, undated
Box 37, Folder 4 Unidentified female, studio portrait, undated

Subseries 1.8: Family Memorabilia, 1903-2007, undated

This series contains papers and memorabilia relating to, owned, collected or created by the Bridgewaters and related families. There are postcard albums, World War II ration books, newspapers, and newsclippings, high school yearbooks, and financial materials. There are 40th anniversary ribbons from the Montana State Federation of Colored Women’s Clubs. The series also includes a recipe book, files of family and Montana history, and a plastic book cover featuring advertisers from Helena, Montana. The series is arranged chronologically.

Box 56 Postcard album (national and international views), 1903-1965, undated
Box 13, Folder 1 *All About Home Baking*, General Foods Corporation, recipe book, 1933
Box 27, Folder 1 Montana history, 1938-1976
Box 13, Folder 2 "War Ration Book Four", 1943
Box 13, Folder 4 *Vigilante*, Helena High School yearbook (Helena, Montana), 1943
Box 13, Folder 5 Obituaries, 1958-2000, undated
Box 13, Folder 6 Check book stubs, 1960-1961, undated
Box 37, Folder 3 Newspapers, 1960-1970
Box 13, Folder 3 Montana State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, 40th anniversary ribbons, 1961-06
Box 35, Folder 8 *Montana Parade*, newspaper, 1967
Box 38, Folder 5 *The Independent Record*, Bicentennial issue (Helena, Montana), 1976 June 13
Box 23, Folder 23 Family calendar, 2017
Box 12, Folder 13 Family history, 1980-2007, undated
Box 37, Folder 5 Plastic book cover with advertising (Helena, Montana), undated
Box 63 Audio tapes (three), "Mother’s Day," "Sister Clare Marie", undated
Box 64 Audio tapes (six), "Duncan, Duncan, Fortune, and Fenter" (Butte, Montana), undated
Subseries 1.9: Family Friends, 1930-2001, undated

This series contains archival material and photographs from Bridgewater family friends. The series is arranged alphabetically by family surname.

Box 13, Folder 7        Anderson, Julian, 1943
Box 13, Folder 8        Banks, Bertrand, 1956, undated
Box 13, Folder 9        Calhoun, Leo, undated
Box 13, Folder 10       Dixon family, 1930-1999, undated
Box 13, Folder 11       Duncan, John C., 2001, undated
Box 13, Folder 12       Howard family, 1934-1979, undated
Box 13, Folder 13       Ramey, Margaret F., funeral papers, 1959
Box 13, Folder 14       Ramey, Margaret F., *An Inscribed Record of Dedicated Memories*, funeral book, 1959
Box 13, Folder 15       Riller, Linaire, undated
Box 13, Folder 16       Smith, Emma, 1967
Box 13, Folder 17       York family, photographs, undated

*Return to Table of Contents*
Series 2: Harrell Family, 1914-2005, undated

This series contains papers, photographs, and ephemera created or collected by various members of the Harrell family. The Harrell and Bridgewater families are connected through the marriage of Mary Emma Bridgewater (1893-1981) and Charles Henry Harrell (1878-1948) who were married on January 12, 1914 in St. Paul, Minnesota. The papers are arranged by family member. The papers had been partially processed before being donated to the Archives Center, and that order has been maintained. The papers include correspondence, financial records, funeral memorabilia, photographs, clippings, scrapbooks, printed books, and pamphlets.

Subseries 2.1: Harrell, Mary Bridgewater, 1914-1981, undated

This series contains papers and memorabilia created or collected by Mary Bridgewater Harrell, wife of Charles H. Harrell. The series contains newspaper clippings and a copy of her obituary.

Box 14, Folder 1  Newspaper clippings, 1914-1952, undated
Box 14, Folder 2  Obituary, 1981

Subseries 2.2: Harrell, Charles Henry, 1914-1977, undated

This subseries contains papers, photographs, and memorabilia pertaining to Charles Henry Harrell, husband of Mary Emma Bridgewater. The subseries contains photographs, legal documents, news clippings, and funeral memorabilia.

Box 14, Folder 3  Photographs, 1914-1977, undated
Box 27, Folder 4  Legal, 1951-1956
Box 14, Folder 4  Death certificate, 1956
Box 14, Folder 5  "Memorial Record," 1956
Box 14, Folder 6  News clippings, 1968, undated

Subseries 2.10: Harrell, Jr., Charles Henry, 1925-2005, undated

This subseries contains papers, photographs, and memorabilia pertaining to Charles Henry Harrell, Jr. (1914-1948), son of Charles H. Harrell and Mary Emma Bridgewater. He was born November 9, 1914. The subseries contains photographs, legal documents, news clippings, and funeral memorabilia. This subseries also contains material related to Harrell's athletic activities and high school life. Material on his service in the United States Army and his flying career is also found in this series. He died in a plane crash in 1948.

Box 14, Folder 7  High school report card, 1931 January 2
Box 14, Folder 8  Athletic teams, 1932-2005
Box 14, Folder 9-11  The Vigilante, Helena High School yearbook (Helena, Montana), 1932-1934
Box 14, Folder 12  Personal correspondence, 1934
Box 14, Folder 13  Personal memorabilia, 1936-1951, undated
Box 14, Folder 14  Medical notebook, anatomical drawings, physiology notes, 1939, undated
Box 15, Folder 1  Pioneer Parachute Company, 1943, undated
Box 15, Folder 2  Stationery, 1943, undated
Box 15, Folder 7  "Scenic Grandeur of the West," pictorial portfolio, 1944
Box 15, Folder 3  Family photographs, 1945-1955, undated
Box 15, Folder 4  Military photographs, 1946-1948, undated
Box 15, Folder 8  High School graduation portraits, 1964
Box 27, Folder 5  News clippings, 1965-1968, undated
Box 15, Folder 5  Athletic teams, undated
Box 15, Folder 6  Children, undated
Box 15, Folder 9  Ephemera, undated
Box 15, Folder 10  Studio portraits, mixed photographs, undated
Box 27, Folder 6  Photograph album, undated
Box 27, Folder 7  Friendship Memories of School Days, album, 1925-1934, undated


This subseries contains papers, photographs, and memorabilia pertaining to Arthur Samuel Harrell (1916-1963), son of Charles H. Harrell and Mary Emma Bridgewater. He was born August 8, 1916. He married Mary Alice Trahan, daughter of Renard and Mabel Parker Trahan on August 2, 1947 in Port Arthur, Texas. The subseries contains correspondence, photographs, financial and legal documents, news clippings, and funeral memorabilia. This subseries also contains material related to Harrell's athletic activities and high school life as well as his university career. Material on his service in the United States Army is also found in this series. He died in Helena, Montana in 1963.

Box 15, Folder 11  Photographs, 1930-1963, undated
Box 15, Folder 12  Sports and recreation, 1936-1963, undated
Box 15, Folder 13  "Faces and Places I Want to Remember," address and notebook, 1936-1943, undated
Box 15, Folder 14  Vigilante 1936, yearbook, 1937
Box 15, Folder 15  Social Security card, Veterans of Foreign Wars membership card, 1937-1947
Box 16, Folder 1  Private memorandum and loose content, 1939-1943, undated
Box 36, Folder 1  
*The Prospector*, newspaper, 1939-1941

Box 16, Folder 2  
Pilot certificate, 1940

Box 16, Folder 3  
Papers relating to hardship discharge from military, 1940-1950

Box 16, Folder 4  
Correspondence, 1942-1949

Box 16, Folder 5  
Military papers, 1942-1950, undated

Box 16, Folder 6  
Year Book, 1944

Box 16, Folder 7  
Xavier University, report card, 1946-1947

Box 16, Folder 8  
American Building and Loan Association, 1946-1952

Box 16, Folder 9  
School work and papers, 1946-1947, undated

Box 16, Folder 10  
Veterans of Foreign Wars, 1946

Box 27, Folder 8  
Xavier University, diploma, 1947

Box 27, Folder 11  
*Xavier University Development Digest* and *Alumni Voice*, 1960-1964

Box 16, Folder 11  
Receipts, 1949-1957, undated

Box 27, Folder 9  
Tax and financial papers, 1949-1963, undated

Box 16, Folder 12  
Correspondence, 1950-1957

Box 16, Folder 13  
"Ex-CBI Roundup," booklet, 1954 June

Box 16, Folder 14  
First National Bank and Trust Company, 1955-1963

Box 27, Folder 10  
Condolences, memorial and death records, 1958-1964, undated

Box 16, Folder 15  
Correspondence, 1960, undated

Box 16, Folder 16  
St. Mary of the Mount, program, 1960

Box 16, Folder 17  
United States Senate, 1963-1973

Box 16, Folder 18  
Medical, 1963

Box 16, Folder 19  
Obituary, 1963

Box 16, Folder 20  
*Abiding Memories*, memorial registry, 1963

Box 16, Folder 21  
Memorial photographs and negative, 1963

Box 16, Folder 22  
Funeral service papers, 1964
Box 16, Folder 23  Newspaper clippings, 1968, undated
Box 16, Folder 24  Car information, undated
Box 16, Folder 25  Note pads and nameplate, undated
Box 16, Folder 26  "Persian Gulf Command," booklet, undated
Box 16, Folder 27  Family photographs, undated
Box 32, Folder 1  Scrapbook, undated
Box 37, Folder 6  Photographs and hand drawn map, Hanging Gardens of Babylon, undated
Box 39  369th Infantry, Fort Huachuca, Arizona, panoramic photograph, 1942-06-18

Subseries 2.4: Harrell, Mary Trahan, 1925-2002, undated
This subseries contains papers, photographs, and memorabilia pertaining to Mary Trahan Harrell (1927-2000), daughter of Renard and Mabel Parker Trahan. She was born January 29, 1927. She married Arthur S. Harrell on August 2, 1947 in Port Arthur, Texas. The subseries contains correspondence, photographs, financial, and legal documents, news clippings, and funeral memorabilia. This subseries also contains material related to Harrell's athletic activities and high school life as well as her teaching career and materials from the National Educational Association. She died in Helena, Montana in 2000.

Box 57  Photographs, National Education Association, teaching and professional photographs, school portraits, class room photographs, family, 1925-1997, undated
Box 17, Folder 1  Birth certificate, 1927
Box 17, Folder 2  Graduation invitations, 1936-1974
Box 17, Folder 3  Sacred Heart High School, diploma (Port Arthur, Texas), 1944
Box 17, Folder 4  Correspondence, 1944-1949
Box 17, Folder 5  Newspaper clippings and magazine articles, 1947-1977, undated
Box 32, Folder 2  Photographs, 1947, undated
Box 17, Folder 6  Correspondence, 1950-1957
Box 17, Folder 7  Telephone directories (Helena, Montana), 1951-1965
Box 17, Folder 8  Sanders family, correspondence and photographs, 1953-1993
Box 17, Folder 9  The Lance, Sacred Heart High School yearbook (Port Arthur, Texas), 1956
Box 17, Folder 10  Memories, St. Mary's of the Mount, yearbooks (Helena, Montana), 1960-1962
Box 18, Folder 1  Financial papers, 1964-1999
Box 18, Folder 2  Correspondence, 1964-1968
Box 18, Folder 3  High school programs, 1967-1993, undated
Box 27, Folder 14  Insurance portfolio contents, 1969-1987, undated
Box 18, Folder 4  Delta Kappa Gamma Society certificate, 1971
Box 18, Folder 6  Correspondence, 1971-1979
Box 18, Folder 5  Football Hall of Fame, Carroll College, 1973-1974
Box 18, Folder 7  Newspaper clippings, 1982-1999, undated
Box 18, Folder 8  Montana Education Association, 1983-1987
Box 18, Folder 9  Correspondence, 1984-1989
Box 18, Folder 10  Property, 1989-1996
Box 18, Folder 11  Delta Kappa Gamma, 1990
Box 18, Folder 12  Correspondence, 1990-1999
Box 18, Folder 17  Correspondence, 1990-2000, undated
Box 18, Folder 13  Financial, 1992
Box 18, Folder 14  Women in Military Service For America Memorial Foundation, 1992
Box 18, Folder 15  Bank statements, 1998-2001
Box 18, Folder 16  Utility bills, 1999
Box 36, Folder 4  Scrapbook, newsclippings, 1999
Box 18, Folder 18  Hospital papers, 2001
Box 18, Folder 19  Papers relating to death, 2002
Box 18, Folder 20  Resume, undated
Box 18, Folder 21  Presidential certificate honoring Arthur S. Harrell, undated
Box 19, Folder 1-2  Greeting cards, undated
Box 19, Folder 3  "Beverly Hills California," souvenir booklet, undated
Box 19, Folder 4  Postcards, undated
Subseries 2.5: Harrell, Arthur Samuel, Jr., 1948-1981, undated

This subseries contains papers, photographs, and memorabilia pertaining to Arthur Samuel Harrell, Jr. (1948-1981), son of Arthur S. Harrell and Mary Alice Trahan. He was born April 26, 1948. The subseries contains correspondence, photographs, news clippings, and funeral memorabilia. This series also contains educational and wedding memorabilia. He died in Everett, Washington in 1981.

- Box 19, Folder 8: Birth registration, 1948
- Box 19, Folder 9; Box 32, Folder 3: Baby book and loose content, 1948-1966, undated
- Box 19, Folder 10: Photographs and personal notes, 1949-1972, undated
- Box 19, Folder 11: Report cards and promotion, 1954-1960
- Box 19, Folder 12: "Remembrance of First Holy Communion", 1955
- Box 19, Folder 13: School programs, 1960-1973
- Box 19, Folder 14: Newspaper clippings, 1965-1981
- Box 19, Folder 15: Wedding napkins and name cards, 1973
- Box 19, Folder 16: Condolences and correspondence, 1981, undated
- Box 20, Folder 1: Memorial book and pamphlet, 1981
- Box 20, Folder 2: Childhood cards, undated
- Box 20, Folder 3: Funeral photographs, undated
- Box 20, Folder 4: Resume, undated
- Box 20, Folder 5: Ephemera, undated

Subseries 2.6: Campbell, Janet Harrell, 1951-2005, undated

This subseries contains papers, photographs, and memorabilia pertaining to Janet Harrell Campbell, daughter of Arthur S. Harrell. The subseries contains correspondence, photographs, and news clippings. This subseries also contains material related to Campbell's educational life.

- Box 20, Folder 6: Birth information, 1951
- Box 20, Folder 7: St. Helena School (Helena, Montana), 1958-1960, undated
Box 20, Folder 8  Correspondence, 1964-2005, undated
Box 20, Folder 9  Check, 1967
Box 20, Folder 10  Newspaper clippings, 1968-1988
Box 20, Folder 11  Studio portrait, Helena Central Catholic High School, photograph, 1970
Box 20, Folder 12  "The Negro in Montana, 1800-1945", 1970
Box 20, Folder 13; Box 20, Folder 13  Photographs, 1970
Box 20, Folder 14  Outstanding Teenagers of America, award, 1970
Box 20, Folder 15  University of Colorado, graduation program, 1974
Box 20, Folder 16  Emmy Awards, program, 1985
Box 20, Folder 17  Campbell, Alfonso L., 1967-1968
Box 32, Folder 4  Scrapbook, 1969, undated

Subseries 2.7: Harrell, Jules Parker, 1950-1980, undated
This subseries contains papers, photographs, and memorabilia pertaining to Jules Parker Harrell, son of Arthur S. Harrell. The subseries contains correspondence, photographs, news clippings. This subseries also contains material related to Harrell's educational life.
Box 20, Folder 18  Photographs, 1950-1968
Box 20, Folder 19  St. Joseph Sunday Missal, book, 1962
Box 20, Folder 20  Cathedral High School, 1964
Box 20, Folder 21  Certificate of Educational Development, 1966
Box 20, Folder 22  St. Helena Elementary School, 1968
Box 20, Folder 23  Montana Federation of Colored Women's Club Scholarship, 1968
Box 20, Folder 24  Correspondence, 1956-1980, undated
Box 20, Folder 25  Name cards, undated
Box 20, Folder 26  Newspaper clippings, undated

Subseries 2.8: Harrell, Richard Francis, 1960-1996, undated
This subseries contains papers, photographs, and memorabilia pertaining to Richard F. Harrell, son of Arthur S. Harrell. The subseries contains correspondence, photographs, recreational material, and news clippings. This subseries also contains material related to Harrell's educational life.

Box 20, Folder 27  Certificate of birth, 1960
Box 20, Folder 28  Newspaper clippings, 1960-1976
Box 20, Folder 29  School papers, 1972-1973
Box 20, Folder 30  Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, 1972-1996, undated
Box 20, Folder 31  Notes, undated
Box 20, Folder 32  Photographs, undated

Subseries 2.9: Harrell, Cornelius Eckart, 1940-2001, undated

This subseries contains papers, photographs, and memorabilia pertaining to Cornelius Eckart Harrell (1919-2001), son of Charles H. Harrell and Mary Emma Bridgewater. He was born April 21, 1919. The subseries contains correspondence, photographs, financial and legal documents, news clippings, and funeral memorabilia. This subseries also contains material related to Harrell's athletic activities and educational life. Material on his service in the United States Army is also found in this series. He died in Bend, Oregon in 2001.

Box 21, Folder 1  *The Vigilante*, Helena High School (Helena, Montana) yearbook, 1940
Box 21, Folder 2  Registration certificate, 1940
Box 21, Folder 3  Newspaper clippings, 1942-1976
Box 21, Folder 4  Obituary, 2001
Box 21, Folder 5  Photographs, undated

Subseries 2.11: Family Memorabilia, 1960-1990, undated

This series contains papers and memorabilia relating to, owned, and created by the Harrell family. There is a postcard scrapbook, newsclippings, and a print of the U.S.S. Helena. The series is arranged chronologically.

Box 21, Folder 6-9  Harrell, Ellen Olivia, 1960-1990, undated
Box 21, Folder 10  Harrell, Bill, newspaper clipping, 1966
Box 21, Folder 11  Harrell, Charles, news clipping, 1989
Box 21, Folder 12  Harrell, Robbie, newspaper clipping, undated
Box 35, Folder 10  Scrapbook of postcards, undated
Subseries 2.12: Photographs, 1929-1996, undated
This series contains photographs relating to, owned or created by the Harrell and related families including studio portraits, group photographs, and candid photographs.

Box 27, Folder 15; Box 21, Folder 32-33  Harrell family, photographs, undated

Box 58  Photographs, "Baby Charles"; Charles Harrell, Jr.; Mary Alice Harrell; children, Mariann; Abbeville, Louisiana; "Grey House"; "Picture of house being moved to a new location", 1948-1994, undated

Box 59  Photographs, family; celebrations; travel, 1962-1993, undated

Box 60  Photographs, Janet Harrell; Harrell and Bridgewater families; military; celebrations; travel, 1935-1996, undated

Box 61  Photographs, Harrell and Bridgewater families; military; celebrations; funerary; travel; Renard Trahan; Helena, Montana, 1937-2005, undated

Box 62  Photographs, Harrell and Bridgewater families; celebrations; travel; Abbeville, Louisiana; Trahan family; Renard Trahan; 1929-1986, undated, 1929-1986, undated
Series 3: Trahan Family, 1923-1995, undated

This series contains material related to the Trahan and Parker family. The Trahan family is connected to the Harrell family through the marriage of Charles H. Harrell and Mary Alice Trahan. Mary Alice Trahan's parents were Renard Trahan and Mabel Parker. The series is arranged by family member.

Box 21, Folder 13-14  Trahan, Renard, 1981, undated
Box 21, Folder 15-19  Trahan, Mabel Parker, 1924-1992, undated
Box 27, Folder 12; Box 21, Folder 20-22  Trahan, John Wallace, 1974-1992, undated
Box 27, Folder 13; Box 21, Folder 23-28  Trahan, Ulysses James, 1923-1995, undated
Box 21, Folder 29-30  Parker, Jules, 1929-1933

Return to Table of Contents
Series 4: Family Friends, 1912-1979, undated
This series contains archival material and photographs from Bridgewater and Harrell family friends. The series is arranged alphabetically by family surname.

Box 27, Folder 2  Bickford family, photographs, 1912
Box 27, Folder 3; Box 34, Folder 1  Ford family, 1911-1956, undated
Box 21, Folder 31  Maney, Paul Julian, 1979

Return to Table of Contents
Series 5: Photographs, 1907-1992, undated

This series contains photographs relating to and created by the Bridgewater and Harrell families and their friends and acquaintances. This series contains studio portraits, group photographs, and candid photographs.

Box 22, Folder 24  Agnes, undated
Box 22, Folder 1-2  Joan, undated
Box 22, Folder 3  Nancy, 1949
Box 22, Folder 4  Madaline, undated
Box 22, Folder 5  Vincent, 1969
Box 22, Folder 6  Mathews, Mrs. C.C. (Tacoma, Washington), undated
Box 22, Folder 7  Brockway, John W., undated
Box 22, Folder 8  Carter, Arthur T., undated
Box 22, Folder 9  Carter, H.S. (Tacoma, Washington), undated
Box 22, Folder 10  Crawford, Emma (Salt Lake City, Utah), unidentified group, undated
Box 22, Folder 11  Evans, Lewis L., undated
Box 22, Folder 12  Johnson family, Albert, Nellie, Louis, undated
Box 22, Folder 13  Lee, Julian, undated
Box 22, Folder 14  Matthews, Nettie L., undated
Box 22, Folder 15  Matthews, C.C. (Tacoma, Washington), undated
Box 22, Folder 16  Yancy, William, graduation portraits, undated
Box 53  Corporal Yardely (Missoula, Montana), military portraits, military band and subjects, studio portraits, unidentified, undated
Box 51  Identified (first names, messages), 1928-1976, undated
Box 52  Identified and unidentified, 1907, undated
Box 54  Identified and unidentified, 1927-1972, unidentified
Box 22, Folder 17  Unidentified, graduation portrait, undated
Box 22, Folder 18-23  Unidentified, 1940, unidentified
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box and Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 23, Folder 1-22</td>
<td>Unidentified, 1936-1937, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 51</td>
<td>Unidentified, 1925-1992, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 35, Folder 9</td>
<td>Unidentified church group, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 36, Folder 2</td>
<td>Photographic scrapbook (Persia, Middle East), undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 40</td>
<td>Photographic negatives, 1982, undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>