

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY  
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION  
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # \*84 M 87

Location Annex 19-c-3/6 (L)

Title VICTORY HALL ASSOCIATION. RECORDS.

Approximate inclusive dates 1920-21

Date of receipt 1925

Received from Victory Hall Association

Volume on arrival

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 24 AB; 7 FB

Condition Fair. Most of the correspondence shows little signs of deterioration, however, most of the photographs are in very poor condition. Index cards somewhat brittle.  
Restrictions n.a.

Description The Victory Hall Association, Inc. was founded in 1919 to collect subscriptions for the erection of a combined war memorial and convention center, Victory Hall, in New York City. The memorial would contain bronze plaques inscribed with the names of the war dead, vaults holding copies of their military record, as well as an auditorium, exhibit halls, meeting rooms, and sports facilities. The site selected for the building was an empty lot stretching the entire block bounded by Lexington and Park Avenues in the east and west, and by 42nd and 48th Streets to the north and south. The organization's president, George W. Wingate, led the fight to have the city donate the land for this purpose. The plan was hotly debated during 1920, with the strongest opposition coming from Acting President of the Board of Aldermen, Fiorello LaGuardia, who denounced the idea as a real estate speculation scheme. He refused to let the city give away what was probably the most valuable piece of property in the world. The city eventually sold the property and Victory Hall was never built.

The records of the Victory Hall Association consist of dossier files and index cards containing basic information on over 8,000 men and women from New York City who died in military or civilian service during World War I. The Dossier Files, which are arranged alphabetically, consist of an index card listing the name of the deceased, rank, military or naval unit, name and address of a relative, a portrait photograph, the Victory Hall Association's correspondence with the family, and in some files, a typed military record prepared by the Association. The correspondence consists primarily of the Association's standard request for a photograph and biographical information about the deceased and the family's reply. The dossier photographs are copy prints prepared from those loaned by the relatives. Many of them had deteriorated to the point where it was necessary to remove them from the collection and replace them with photocopies where possible. The extensive Card Files contain over 8,000 index cards similar to those in the

Special Formats ☒ Photographs ☐ Maps ☐ Audio Tapes ☐ Films ☐ Graphics  
☐ Artifacts ☐ Machine-readable records  
☐ Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_

Temporary catalog card added entries

European War, 1914-1918--Casualties  
--Registers of Dead

War Memorials  
Death  
Photographs  
New York City--

Accessioned by MY / WF

Date December 1985

Supersedes accession of  
December 1984

Dossier Files arranged in two series, Branch of Service and Location. The Branch of Service card file is divided into eleven subseries: Army, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, Customs Intelligence Service, War Workers, Nurses, Allied Forces, French Military, Italian Military, and Miscellaneous. In each subseries the cards are arranged alphabetically by the name of the deceased. The Location card file is divided into six subseries, the five boroughs of New York and an "out of town" file of families residing outside the Greater New York area. The index cards are arranged alphabetically within each of the subseries.

VICTORY HALL ASSOCIATION. RECORDS.

Container List

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Contents</u>
	<u>Dossier File</u>
1	A - Bal
2	Bam - Bird
3	Birn - Bran
4	Bras - By
5	C - Cohen, Joseph L.
6	Cohen, Louis - Cu
7	D - Dor
8	Dori - Fem
9	Fen - Gask
10	Gast - Gra
11	Gre - Herm
12	Hero - Kar
13	Kass - Lau
14	Law - McCou
15	McCor - Martin, Conrad
16	Martin, Edward - Mose
17	Mosh - Pal
18	Par - Ref
19	Rei - Saml
20	Samm - Sherb
21	Sheri - Stum
22	Stur - Vol
23	Von - Wito
24	Wits - Z & (unidentified)
	<u>Card Files, Branch of Service</u>
25	Army A - Go
26	Gro - O
27	P - Z
28	Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, Customs Intelligenc <sup>ee</sup> Service, War Workers, Nurses, Allied Forces, French Military, Italian Military & Misc.
	<u>Card Files, Location</u>
29	Manhattan
30	Brooklyn
31	Bronx, Queens, Richmond & Out of Town

VICTORY HALL

Reel 1	Boxes 1 - 2
Reel 2	Boxes 3 - 5
Reel 3	Boxes 5 - 6
Reel 4	Boxes 7 - 8
Reel 5	Boxes 8 - 10
Reel 6	Boxes 10 - 11
Reel 7	Boxes 12 - 13
Reel 8	Boxes 13 - 14
Reel 9	Boxes 15 - 16
Reel 10	Boxes 16 - 17
Reel 11	Boxes 18 - 19
Reel 12	Boxes 19 - 21
Reel 13	Boxes 21 - 22
Reel 14	Boxes 23 - 24
Reel 15	Boxes 25 - 27
Reel 16	Boxes 28 - 30
Reel 17	Box 31