

Charles M. Fleischner Papers, 1937-1988

Collection Summary

Reference Code:	MRQ, US.
Repository:	Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
Call Number:	MSS 6
Creator:	Fleischner, Charles M., 1901-1988
Title:	Charles M. Fleischner Papers, 1937-1988
Dates:	1937-1988
Size:	.417 linear feet (1 box)
Language(s):	Collection materials are in English.
Abstract:	Charles M. Fleischner served as the director of the Haverhill (Mass.) Public Library from 1955-1966. He helped to establish the Friends of the Haverhill Public Library and helped to develop the modern library.

Biographical Sketch

Charles M. Fleischner was born in Massachusetts on 12 June 1901. A graduate of the Yale University class of 1923, Fleischner spent the following year teaching French at the Lawrenceville School. From 1924 to 1931, he worked in Boston for Raymond & Whitcomb, an American tour company. He then returned to his alma mater to work for the *Yale University Press* and *The Yale Review*. During this time Fleischner studied for his Master's degree and graduated with a degree in Art History and Classical Chinese in 1940. He was at the Academy of Political Science at Columbia University for the following two years while waiting for his Navy commission.

In 1942, Fleischner began his military career as a lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He was promoted to lieutenant commander and named Officer in Charge of the Naval School of Military Government in New York. In 1945, he was sent abroad and served in Manila, however in May 1946, a lingering illness forced his departure from the Navy.

In the summer of 1946, the Roberts Commission asked Fleischner to travel to Germany, where he was named Deputy Chief of the Monuments, Fine Arts, & Archives (MFAA) Section in Berlin. There he was involved in the restitution of stolen artwork and restoring German cultural institutions. (Fleischner's personal papers detailing his work as Deputy Chief of the MFAA reside at Yale University.)

In 1948, Fleischner moved to San Francisco, California, where he lectured on art history at the Deep Springs School and reviewed Asian art books for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. After only one year, Fleischner returned to New England due to illness.

In 1955, he became director of the Haverhill Public Library in Haverhill, Massachusetts. He was largely responsible for raising funds for the new library building and overseeing the project. After retiring in 1966, he eventually settled in Plymouth. Fleischner was an avid traveler and reader, and maintained an interest in art history, conservation, and historical preservation.

He never married or had children of his own, but was very close with his godson, "Sandy" Samson Lane Faison III, son of his Yale colleague and fellow Monuments Man, S. Lane Faison, Jr. He died on 31 May 1988, in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Scope and Content Note

This collection provides information about Charles M. Fleischner, who served as the librarian of the Haverhill Public Library from 1955-1966. Series one and two contain materials that relate to Fleischner's time as a student at Yale. There is only one item that relates to his time as librarian at Haverhill; that can be found in series 3. Series 4 contains his autobiography, and in chapter 19 he writes about his time as librarian.

Arrangement

Series 1: Early Essays and Papers, 1936-1947, undated
 Series 2: Notes and Unsorted Papers, 1937, undated
 Series 3: Haverhill Public Library Papers, 1966
 Series 4: "By Memory Along" Autobiography, 1976
 Series 5: Other Materials, 1924, 1988

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation: [Item Identification], Charles M. Fleischner Papers, 1937-1988, *Reference Code*, Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.

Custodial History: Found in collection.

Acquisition Information: Found in collection.

Processing Information: Processed by Erik R. Bauer, 2020. Updated by Tamara Gaydos, 2020.

Access Rights: Collection is open for research.

Phys. Access Restrictions: None.

Tech. Access Restrictions: None.

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Related Material: None.

Separated Material: None.

Conservation Notes: Newspaper clippings were photocopied onto archival quality paper.

Subjects: Clippings (Books, newspapers, etc.)
Fleischner, Charles M., 1901-1988
Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill (Mass.)
Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill (Mass.)—Librarian

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Early Essays and Papers, 1936-1947, undated

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
"Chinese Painting," 1936	1	1
"The Animal Style in an Irish Miniature", 1937	1	2
"Art Under the T'Ang," 1937	1	3
"The Empress Dowager Iz'U HIS," 1938	1	4
"Chinese Architecture," 1938	1	5
"Combined Report to Dean George K. Koyl," 1940	1	6
Lecture by Tibor Horvath, 1947	1	7
"Early Art of the East," undated	1	8
"The Schnabelkanne of Bouzonville," undated	1	9
"Syntax," undated	1	10
Thesis Paper, 1940	Volume 1	

Series 2: Notes and Unsorted Papers, 1937, undated

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Notes, 1937	1	11
Notes, undated	1	12
Unsorted Papers, undated	1	13

Series 3: Haverhill Public Library Papers, 1966

Thank You Book, 1966	1	14
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Series 4: "By Memory Along" Autobiography, 1976

"By My Memory," 1976	1	15
"By My Memory," 1976	1	16

Series 5: Other Materials, 1988

Newspaper Clipping, 1988	1	17
Lawrence School, 1924	Volume 2	