

Godinho Family Photograph Collection

Cambridge Historical Commission
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Provenance: This collection was donated to the Historical Commission by Just A Start, which purchased the property at 54-56 Berkshire Street where these photos were found. The collection was given to the Commission with the permission of Attorney Victor Taglioferro, Evelyn Godinho's guardian.

Collection ID: P013

Dates: ca. 1880-1955

Extent: 1 flat box

Processing and original finding aid by: Katelin I. Mason, 15 February 2000. Image digitization by Meta Partenheimer, September 2017. Finding aid update by Meta Partenheimer, June 2018.

Access: Collection is available for research under the CHC rules of use

A selection of images from this collection have been digitized on CHC's Flickr:
<http://bit.ly/2wDza57>

Collection Description:

This collection contains photographs of Evelyn Godinho, Gribal Godinho, Joseph Godinho, Avo and Jessuina Godinho, Jose, Francisco, and Manuel Coelto (Sabastiao), some unidentified family members, as well as more recent photos and a photo album. Memorabilia include a program for a High Military Mass from Saint Anthony's (WWII), a reunion bulletin from Saint Anthony's, and a General Electric Hour of Charm program. Many of the photos are undated and unidentified. Most of the photos were taken in the US, with some are from the Azores or Portugal.

Processing Information:

This collection was given to the Historical Commission with very little information and so the names attributed to some of the photographs are speculative. The families that have been grouped together were done so based mainly on appearance, not on fact, and should be viewed as such. This collection has been organized based on names appearing on the backs of photographs, on the appearance of those in the photographs, and on the Cambridge Directories. Some information may be incorrect and where it is questionable, the file folders have been marked with question marks next to the person or family in question. Further research might include inquiries at St. Anthony's church; further directory research; and a search of vital records for Joseph and Mary Godinho's origins.

Historical Note:

The collection contains photos of the Azores, a region in Portugal, indicating that this may be where the family originated. When whaling and fishing declined towards the end of the nineteenth century, many Portuguese immigrants, who had been whalers and fishermen in New Bedford, Massachusetts, moved to industrial towns near Boston, including Cambridge. The Portuguese Catholic population became large enough that in 1902 St. Anthony's Church was opened in East Cambridge.

Joseph F. Godinho, an immigrant from Portugal (born ca. 1869, emigrated ca. 1892), was the first Godinho to own the 54-56 Berkshire St. property. In the Cambridge Directory for 1914 he is listed as a barber. Mary F. Godinho (Born ca. 1878, emigrated ca. 1900) first appears in the Cambridge Directory with Joseph in 1917. Evelyn Godinho was born ca. 1914 and she first appears with Joseph and Mary's names in the 1937 Directory. She worked as a clerk at Filene's department store and as a secretary in Boston, and at Boston Woven Hose in Cambridge. She appears to have lived all of her life at 56 1/2 Berkshire St. The archive box contains some of her memorabilia. Other Godinho's appear in the 1931 city directory: Jose Godinho is listed as a laborer living at 241r Hurley St. and Joseph S. (born ca. 1901, emigrated ca. 1914) and Mary Godinho are listed as fish dealers at 1260 Cambridge St., but living in Somerville.

A few other Godinhos also appear in the directories. In the 1931 Directory Jose Godinho is listed as a laborer living at 241 r Hurley Street. Also in 1931 Joseph S. and Mary are listed as fish dealers at 1260 Cambridge Street, living in Somerville.

Box list:

1. Evelyn Godinho, 44 photos in file folder and 2 photos in Oversized Storage
2. Gribal Godinho, 12 photographs in file folder
3. Gribal Godinho's family, 22 photographs in file folder
4. Joseph Godinho, 9 photos: 6 of Joseph and [3 of his sister?] in file folder
5. Avô [Grandma] and Jesuina Godinho, 2 different sizes of the same image in file folder
6. Jose, Fransisco, and Manuel Coelto (Sabastiao), 6 photos in file folder
7. One unidentified family portrait and one photograph of a woman in the portrait in file folder
8. 3 photos of an unidentified family in file folder
9. 10 photos of an unidentified family
10. 3 file folders containing 67 miscellaneous photographs
11. 1 file folder of modern pictures and memorabilia: 24 photographs with two photo-shop envelopes accompanying them, 7 photos, 1 photo from Steuben's Restaurant, 1 Saint Anthony's

Solemn High Military Mass [WWII] program and a loose page that likely belongs inside, one Reunion Bulletin from Saint Anthony's that was inside the program for the Solemn High Military Mass, one photo of [the pastor of Saint Anthony's?], one General Electric Hour of Charm programs

12. A file folder containing a Xeroxed copy of a photo album that was unbound; the photos that were inside it were distributed where it seemed appropriate. The backing of the cover that also served as the first page of the album has been saved because it had an advertisement under it

13. 1 photo album

Oversize photographs stored with Oversize Photographs and Documents Collection (CHC015):

14. Portrait: Evelyn Godinho as a young girl in a white dress, nd

15. Portrait: Evelyn Godinho, nd