INTRODUCTION

This collection contains records pertaining to the class of 1951 from William Chrisman High School in Independence, Missouri. The bulk of the records come from the 1948-1951 time period and include such items as yearbooks, photographs, playbills, graduation announcements and commencement programs.

DONOR INFORMATION

The records of William Chrisman High School were donated by Barbara Binger, on behalf of the class of 1951, to the University of Missouri on 16 December 1996 (Accession No. 5713). Additions to the records were donated on 10 March 1998, 13 April 2001, 9 October 2001, and 16 November 2004.

CLASS INFORMATION

Barbara Binger, editor of the class of 1951 alumni newsletter, issued a request for class members to donate items for inclusion in this collection. Among those responding were Jerry Sherman, who provided the scrapbook, and Marie Chisam, who provided photographs of grade school and junior high in Independence, among other items.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection of the class of 1951 from William Chrisman High School documents the active life of teenagers in the late 1940s and early 1950s. The collection is arranged by subject. The materials reflect the activities of various student organizations: National Art Honor Society, Thespians, and the Dramatic Club. Also included are mementos from the Spanish Club's trips to Mexico and Cuba; one of particular note being an autograph by John Wayne.

Materials connected with student elections and graduation; copies of the Echo and Gleam Yearbooks, 1945-1951; and several photocopied issues of the Chrisman Envoy, the high school paper, are also included in the collection. One issue of the Envoy is misdated. 27 October 1950 appears on the front page while pages 2-4 are dated 3 November 1950.

A photocopy of a scrapbook compiled by Jerry Sherman is in the collection. The original scrapbook was dismantled for conservation purposes and the items were dispersed throughout the collection. The collection also records some of the activities of these students after graduation and includes newspaper clippings (now photocopied) and alumni newsletters.
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