

Finding Aid to the Blair Rixon Collection

Title: Blair Rixon Collection

Date Range: 1892-2000

Collection number: [Accession #01-19, 01-42, 01-61](#)

Extent: Nine boxes and one rolled-up diploma

Repository: County History Center, Contra Costa County Historical Society, 724 Escobar Street, Martinez, CA 94553, 925-229-1042

Legal status: public

Information for Researchers

Access: Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights: [Contact the Contra Costa County Historical Society for publication permission.](#)

Preferred Citation: Suggested citation of these records is: [Identification of item], Blair Rixon Collection, Contra Costa County Historical Society.

Scope and Content: The Blair Rixon Collection consists of personal papers, photo albums, newspaper clippings, plaques and ephemera of William Blair Rixon. Born in San Francisco in 1908, Rixon was a deputy district attorney for Contra Costa County in the 1940s, and then became a municipal court judge in Brentwood and Pittsburg in eastern Contra Costa County. He retired in 1974 and died in 1998. He was a long-time supporter of the Contra Costa County Historical Society. Among Rixon's letters in Box #6 is correspondence from the 1950s between Rixon and his high-school classmate Morey Amsterdam, who later gained fame for his role on the Dick Van Dyke television show. Box #6 also contains a folder on famed Hearst Castle architect Julia Morgan, who designed the Rixon family home in San Mateo which was built in 1913. The collection also includes Rixon's father's diploma from the San Francisco Commercial School in 1892 (the Commercial School later became Commerce High School).

Arrangement of Materials: Seven boxes of file folders, one box of calendars and memo books, one box of plaques, and one rolled-up diploma stored between Boxes 2 and 3. The material is boxed as follows.

Box 1

Photo album

Photos, Ephemera

Photos, Ephemera

Poetry by friend given to Rixons

Blair Rixon undated (photo)

Two certificates of recognition & handwritten speech

Box 2

One ledger book

Seven Notarial Record books (listing Rixon's Notary transactions, 1946-58)

Box 3

Plaques (for personal and professional recognition, photographs, small mementos)

Courtroom gavel

Box 4

Abrams (folder of correspondence from the Abrams family)

Agreements

Albert Rixon (Blair Rixon's father)

Info career

Brentwood Business

Brentwood Chamber of Commerce

Brentwood City Court Action Reports

Brentwood History

Box 5

Brentwood Improvement Association

Brentwood Press

Cal Club – East Contra Costa

Chamber of Commerce – General

Church

Church – Grace Episcopal Martinez

Clubs

Box 6

Contra Costa Board of Education

Correspondence

Court Cases*

Donaldson, Annie (folder contains papers from the 1930s regarding the will of Annie Donaldson and her title to shares in Nevada Quicksilver Mines Inc.)

Julia Morgan

Judges, Marshalls & Constables Assn.

Judges Press

Lions Club – Brentwood

List of Americans at Santo Tomas Internment Camp, Manila 1942 (typewritten list of Americans held by the Japanese army at an internment camp in the Philippines, prepared by or for the U.S. State Department)

Miscellaneous – General

Miscellaneous – Personal

Morey Amsterdam

Box 7

People news
Personal History (info)
Marriage – 1 item
Politics
Attorney – Business
Rixon Press 1
Rixon Press #2
Retirement (two folders)

Box 8

Loose envelopes and documents
Rixon – Court Cases *
Rixon – Court Matters General
Deeds -- #1

Box 9

Loose items – Rixon's personal calendar books from 1935-2000 and a few small memo books

* -- The court cases in the asterisked file folders above are listed in the CCCHS electronic file: *Doc Share/Historical materials/Finding_Aid/ Blair Rixon Court Case List.xls*. Researchers should contact CCCHS staff for assistance if interested in this file.

Indexing Terms: Correspondence, Court artifacts, Day Books, San Tomas Internment Camp, John Marsh home, Newspaper clippings.

Personal names: Morey Amsterdam, Julia Morgan, John Marsh.