

Bridgewater State University

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**Mary Jo Moriarty Collection,
1915 – 1998 (Bulk 1929 – 1970)
(MSS-013)**

*Finding Aid Compiled by
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Volume: 4.5 linear feet (7 document boxes, 1 album, 1 audio reel)

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Moriarty Collection Biographical Sketch

Mary Jo Moriarty was born in Boston and graduated from Newton High School in 1929. She received her bachelor's degree in history from Villa Maria College and her master's and doctoral degrees from the Boston University School of Education. Moriarty worked as a health and physical education teacher at Hyannis State Teachers College from 1937 until the school's closing in 1944. She moved with the college's health and physical education program to Bridgewater State Teachers College when the two merged. She taught as a professor in the Physical Education Department, and later served as chairwoman of the Physical Education Major and the Department of Health and Physical Education. Moriarty retired in 1970 and was made a professor emerita. An annual lecture at Bridgewater State College was created in her name, as well as an annual Dr. Mary Jo Moriarty Award that is presented to a member of the BSU graduating class by the Hyannis-Bridgewater Physical Education Alumni Association. The pool at Bridgewater State College's Kelly Gymnasium was renamed the Dr. Mary Jo Moriarty Pool after her retirement. She was a member and past state president of the Massachusetts Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Scope and Content Note

The Moriarty Collection contains important information on the merger between the Hyannis State Teachers College and the Bridgewater State Teachers College Health and Physical Education Programs. Information on the 25th and 50th anniversaries of the Hyannis-Bridgewater Physical Education Major are included in this collection as well. Photographs include subject matter such as the Hyannis State Teachers College and Camp Howes in scrapbooks dating from the 1930s and 1940s, photos of Mary Jo Moriarty throughout her life, and photos from the 50th anniversary celebration of the Physical Education Major. This collection contains a flag from the Bridgewater State College Health and Physical Education Department with the Hyannis school motto, "We Learn By Doing." Newspaper articles, bulletins, announcements, letters, cards, and other paperwork make up other material in this collection.

Related collections include the [MAHPERD \(Massachusetts Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance\) Collection](#) and the [Hyannis State Normal School Records](#).

Moriarty Collection Box and Folder List

Box 1 Folder

1. Massachusetts State Teachers College Association, 1939
 - Faculty listing for Bridgewater State Teachers College
 - Faculty listing for Hyannis State Teachers College
2. Scrapbook of Hyannis State Teachers College, 1939-1946
 - Pictures of physical education activities
 - Pictures from Camp Howes
3. Newsletters and Bulletins, 1939-1953
4. Newspaper articles on Camp Howes, 1940-1946
5. Newspaper articles on the expansion of Hyannis State Teachers College, 1946, undated
6. Course listings and Faculty of Hyannis State Teachers College, 1944
 - Moriarty classes "Nutrition and Health" and "Problems in Health Education"
7. History of the merger between Hyannis State Teachers College and Bridgewater State Teachers College, 1949 & undated
 - Timeline of merger
 - Memo on twenty-fifth anniversary of merger in health and physical education programs
8. History of the Athletic Training Program at Bridgewater State College, undated
9. Bridgewater State Teachers College Inventories, 1944-1948
 - Inventory of equipment being moved from Hyannis State Teachers College to Bridgewater State Teachers College
 - Inventory of equipment being moved from Camp Howes to Bridgewater State Teachers College
10. Camp Howes Inventory, 1944-1947
11. Physical Education Inventory, undated
12. Hyannis College Club, undated
 - Program from student exhibition under direction by Moriarty
13. Hyannis School Songs, undated
 - Song testimonial on Moriarty
14. Moriarty's Awards and Diplomas, 1941, 1964
15. Hyannis-Bridgewater Physical Education Alumni Association Constitution, 1959
 - Two copies included
16. List of presidents of the Hyannis-Bridgewater Physical Education Alumni Association, undated
17. Hyannis student lists and student information, 1940-1947, 1957
18. Hyannis course information, 1941, 1944, 1963
19. "Proposed Improvements for Camp Howes," June 1945
20. Comparison between Camp Howes, Hyannis and YMCA Camp in Middleboro, c. 1947

21. Legislative issues over the lack of support for Hyannis, including a letter from Moriarty to BSU President Kelly, 1946, 1948-1949
22. Hyannis Commencement program and summer session programs, 1948, 1950
23. Message from President Kelly to Physical Education Majors indicating that the September 1948 term has been cancelled, August 1948
24. BSU Physical Education Major Club booklet (1st one), undated
25. "Dr. Moriarty—what you mean to us," poem written by students in honor of Moriarty, undated
26. Moriarty's doctoral thesis: "A study of the relationship to certain physical and emotional factors to habitual poor posture among school children," micro card form, 1950
27. Boston University, Sargent School handbooks, 1928, 1930, 1964
28. Newton High School 50th reunion material, 1979
29. 25th anniversary of PEM letters, cards, and newsletters, 1963, undated
30. Retirement and thank you cards for Moriarty, 1970

Box 2

Folder

1. RSVPs for Moriarty's retirement dinner, 1970
-One letter from Adrian Rondileau, BSU president
2. Program and postcard of Kelly Pool (before renamed to Moriarty Pool), 1970
3. Athletic Fee Committee meeting minutes, 1982-1983
4. Moriarty Lecture information, 1990-1998, undated
5. "Celebration of Life" service for Mary Jo Moriarty at BSU, includes copy of her obituary, 1992
6. Family and school photos that include Moriarty as a child, c. 1915-1923
7. Photographs of Mary Jo Moriarty, c. 1940-1990
8. Photograph of WRA Conference at Camp Howes, 1941
9. Photograph of Hyannis group of teachers, 1946
10. Photographs removed from a scrapbook, 1947, undated
11. Photographs of students (PEMs) from the BSU yearbook, 1947
12. Photographs from 50th Physical Education Major Program anniversary, 1987
13. Photographs with Hyannis-Bridgewater Physical Education Alumni Association at BSU's 150th anniversary, 1990
14. Photographs of unknown people, undated
15. Photographs of friends of Moriarty, undated
16. Boston University-Sargent College Quarterly; mentions award won by MJM, summer 1964
17. Tributes and letters to MJM from past students, 1963
18. Patch of Sargent College belonging to MJM (class of 1933), c. 1933
19. Parts of a scrapbook, c. 1950s-1960s
20. Scrapbook belonging to MJM, 1970
21. Miscellaneous material on MJM from alumni association events, 1987, 1997
22. Photograph of MJM painting; painting on board of birds done by MJM, undated
23. Appreciation award, signed by BSC president Rondileau, 1970

Box 3

- Large scrapbook put together by Moriarty on her Hyannis years from late 1930s to 1948. Includes many photographs of students doing physical activities, Camp Howes buildings and grounds, and ephemera from the Hyannis program.

Box 4

- Scrapbook created by Moriarty covering the years 1929 when she was a student at Villa Maria Academy through 1933 during her years at Sargent College (part of Boston University). Includes photographs, news clippings, programs pertaining to education, and ephemera material. Material on Sargent College includes items on curriculum as well as photographs and ephemera.
- Scrapbook created by Moriarty covering the years 1941-1963, and 1970. Other than a few letters and ephemera, the entire scrapbook is made up of photographs of Moriarty and her female physical education major students at both Hyannis and Bridgewater.

Box 5

- Large flag from Bridgewater State College Health and Physical Education Department with Hyannis State Teachers College motto “We Learn by Doing.” A photograph of this flag can be found in Moriarty’s scrapbook.

Box 6

- Tap shoes owned and used by Moriarty.

Box 7

- Large afghan/blanket created for Moriarty in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Physical Education Program at Bridgewater in 1987. Includes the Hyannis motto “We Learn by Doing,” dates of the program, and a shoe with wings.

Oversized Album

- Album is from the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Physical Education Program at Bridgewater State College. Memorabilia from the evening such as buttons, balloons, invitations, and programs are included. Speeches, songbooks, and performance scripts are incorporated. Many photographs depicting organization and set-up of the event, performances and speakers, and guests eating are included also.

Media

-1 five inch audio reel of Dr. Mary Jo Moriarty, Chairman of the Women’s Physical Education Department, talking with Rosamond Prince about the physical education program. Stored with archives media.