

DeFazio Family Collection  
Wellesley Historical Society

**Repository Identifier**

mawelhs

**Local Identifier**

2017.14

**Name and Location of Repository**

The Wellesley Historical Society  
229 Washington Street  
Wellesley, MA 02481  
(781) 235-6690  
[www.wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org)

**Title**

DeFazio Family Collection

**Date**

c.1940-1995, bulk c.1970-1983

**Extent**

0.5 linear feet, 1 box

**Name of Creator**

DeFazio family  
DeFazio, Salvatore Jr. (1908-1981)  
DeFazio, Salvatore "Tory" III (b.1937)

**Biographical/Historical Note**

*Salvatore DeFazio, Jr.*

Salvatore DeFazio, Jr. was a lifelong Wellesley resident, born at 10A Rice Street in 1908; his parents were Salvatore and Marietta (Trani) DeFazio. The family moved to 416 Washington Street in 1914. From 1908, Salvatore and Marietta DeFazio owned a market in the Post Office Block in Wellesley Hills. In 1920, the family purchased the building; it then became known as the DeFazio Building.

Salvatore Jr. graduated from Wellesley High School in 1926, attended Boston University for a year, and then enrolled at Wentworth Institute, where he received his two-year Certificate in Advanced Printing in 1929. He married Elmena (Tobin) DeFazio in 1933, and they had two children, Salvatore III ("Tory") and Marietta Louise.

DeFazio served in many Wellesley civic organizations and town government. He was a Town Meeting member for 29 years (1946-1975); served with the Wellesley Parks and Recreation; did charitable work with St. John's Church Holy Name Society and the Knights of Columbus; was the director of the Chamber of Commerce; served as a Boy Scout leader; and was involved in

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many charitable works. DeFazio also served as president of Creative Printers of America. He died June 16, 1981.

*The Windsor Press, Inc.*

After receiving his certificate in Advanced Printing from Wentworth in 1929, DeFazio opened a printing press in the shed behind his family residence at 416 Washington Street, naming it The Windsor Press. In 1933, he moved the business to the DeFazio Building (currently 346-360 Washington Street) in Wellesley Hills, originally built in 1889.

The initial equipment and supplies for the press, including the 1898 Golding Printing Press, were purchased from a retired printer working out of Westwood. The Babson Institute was the first major customer for the business, and Roger Babson spent much time at the business; Babson and DeFazio shared an interest in technology and printing.

The Windsor Press expanded and renovated the DeFazio Building facilities in 1940, with the addition of space on the ground level for offices.

*Salvatore "Tory" DeFazio III*

Salvatore "Tory" DeFazio III is the son of Salvatore DeFazio Jr.; he is a lifelong Wellesley resident, born September 7, 1937. DeFazio took over as the president of the Windsor Press upon his father's retirement in 1975. He and his wife Sheila reside in Wellesley and are the current owners of the DeFazio Building. Tory is active in the Wellesley community and is a long-time member and past president of the Wellesley Historical Society (1987-1992).

**Scope and Content Note**

This collection contains two distinct sets of materials.

First, there are materials about the DeFazio family and the history and operation of the Windsor Press and the DeFazio building in which it resides. These materials contain promotional histories of the business. There is also a small collection of World War II era blotters advertising the Windsor Press featuring patriotic themes related to the war. There are also contractor correspondence and renovation plan notes pertaining to the 1940 renovations of the DeFazio Building.

Second, there are materials collected by Tory DeFazio about the planning and execution of Wellesley's centennial celebrations in 1981; DeFazio was a member of the Town of Wellesley Centennial Committee from 1977 to 1982. These materials contain planning notes, flyers, posters, buttons, bumper stickers, and other organizational and promotional materials for the year-long series of events. When the collection was donated, it contained a great number of newspaper clippings from the Wellesley *Townsmen* newspaper; these clippings, ranging in date from early 1981 to summer 1982, were all related to the Centennial celebrations. As the clippings were in poor condition, they were discarded; the Wellesley Historical Society holds a complete print collection of the *Townsmen*, and the newspaper is also easily accessible online through the Wellesley Free Library website at <https://www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org/research/researchwellesley-townsmen-newspaper>.

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**Library of Congress Index Terms**

Advertising—Massachusetts—Wellesley  
Branding (Marketing)  
Buildings—Massachusetts—Wellesley  
Printing  
Printing presses—Massachusetts—Wellesley  
Wellesley (Mass.)  
Wellesley (Mass.)—Buildings, structures, etc.  
Wellesley (Mass.)—Centennial celebrations, etc.  
Wellesley Hills (Mass.)

**System of Arrangement**

The collection is organized into four series, organized by subject.

- Series I. Printed Materials: Windsor Press collection
- Series II. Printed Materials: Wellesley Centennial Celebrations, 1981
- Series III. Printed Materials: DeFazio Building 1940 Renovations
- Series IV. Printed Materials: DeFazio family

**Conditions Governing Access**

The Collection is open for research purposes by appointment only. Please contact the Wellesley Historical Society for more information.

info@wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org  
(781) 235-6690

**Physical Access**

Some of the materials are fragile. The architectural plans are stored with the Maps and Plans Collection in the oversize flat files and will require two people to access.

**Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use**

Copyright restrictions may apply.

**Languages and Scripts of the Material**

English

**Immediate Source of Acquisition**

96.14 [blotters]

**Accruals**

The Historical Society may add materials to this collection in the future.

**Related Materials**

Wellesley Historical Society Map and Plans Collection: Walter H. Pratt plans for remodel of DeFazio Building/Post Office Block, 1940.

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Wellesley Historical Society Photograph Collection: Businesses: A-D: DeFazio Building.

**Description**

DACS-compliant Finding Aid created in June 2017 by Alden Ludlow. Processing of this collection was made possible through a grant from the Wellesley Community Preservation Committee.

**Conservation Note**

Series II contains a folder of Centennial posters; these posters have been left folded and filed as they were found.

**Bibliography**

Massachusetts Historical Commission. MACRIS listing: DeFazio Building, Wellesley, MA.

Listing reference is WEL.332. Retrieved from URL

<http://mhcmacris.net/Details.aspx?MhcId=WEL.332>

Moriarty, Sean Patrick. "Elmena DeFazio is a regular League of Nations." *The Townsman*, August 27, 1992.

*The Townsman*. Obituary: Salvatore DeFazio Jr. June 18, 1981.

Wood, Kricket. "Holiday greetings from a regal 90-year-old printing press." *The Townsman*, December 15, 1988.

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**Container List**

**Box 1**

***I.* Printed Materials: Windsor Press**

Folder 1: Windsor Press: History and marketing materials  
Folder 2: Windsor Press: Promotional blotters with World War II themes

***II.* Printed Materials: Wellesley Centennial Celebrations, 1981**

Folder 3: Centennial planning  
Folder 4: Centennial multimedia presentation planning  
Folder 5: Centennial event flyers  
Folder 6: Centennial posters  
Folder 7: Bumper stickers and pins related to centennial activities

***III.* Printed Materials: DeFazio Building 1940 Renovations**

Folder 8: Correspondence and planning relating to DeFazio Building renovations

***IV.* Printed Materials: DeFazio family**

Folder 9: DeFazio family materials