Richardson Dilworth

-Elected city treasurer in 1949 when Joseph S. Clark, Jr. won for mayor
-Mayor of Philadelphia from 1956-1962
-Denounced municipal corruption, supported civil rights, fought segregation in private schools, rallied for public housing, and restored much of the city’s history as part of an urban renewal program
-Later became partner in the Philadelphia-based law firm of Dilworth Paxson LLP, and, in 1967, became president of the Philadelphia Board of Education

Primary Sources

Richardson Dilworth papers, 1881-2002
This collection documents the career of Richardson Dilworth, primarily in the form of office records generated in the years before and after he served as mayor of Philadelphia. These papers consist of correspondence, reports, political campaign materials, brochures, pamphlets, and scrapbooks. Additionally the collection contains Dilworth’s office files related to his law work, Board of Education activities, city planning, housing, civic organizations and projects, the Reading Railroad receivership, and the Pennsylvania Governor’s Committee on Transportation. There is also a sizeable amount of Dilworth’s personal correspondence, as well as clippings he collected on various politicians, campaigns, and political, cultural, and social issues related to Philadelphia. Other material includes photographs, check stubs, typescripts of speeches, and papers related to the naming and dedication of the Richardson Dilworth International Terminal at Philadelphia International Airport. The collection also features personal documents from Dilworth’s numerous trips abroad, including files related to his trip on the ill-fated SS Andrea Doria.
Collection #3112
http://www2.hsp.org/collections/manuscripts/d/Dilworth3112.html

Newspaper obituaries of Richardson Dilworth (1898-1974)
Photocopies of newspaper clippings.
compiled by Anthony A. Roth, 1974
Call number: Gd .4345 R74
Natalie Saxe Randall papers
The papers of Natalie Saxe Randall span from 1923 to 1998 and give an account of her involvement in Democratic Party politics in general, and her trajectory as a behind-the-scenes mover and shaker in the Philadelphia political environment in particular. The collection contains correspondence, handwritten notes, typewritten reports, memoranda, newspaper clippings, address books, daily journals and agendas, photographs, travel diaries, and printed ephemera. The documents reflect both her personal life and her work as political campaign and convention coordinator (at the local, state, and national level), her long working relationship with Richardson Dilworth, and the work she did as consultant and lobbyist for several organizations including Lincoln University, Franklin Institute, and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.
Collection #3466
http://www2.hsp.org/collections/manuscripts/s/SaxeRandall3466.html

Joseph Sill Clark papers, 1904-1990
This collection is a partial record of Clark career. It consists primarily of material gathered by staff, reports, memoranda, clippings, news releases, articles, with some correspondence, all on issues and events with which Clark was involved.
Collection #1958

Joseph F. Lockard papers
The Joseph F. Lockard papers are devoted to his work with the Democratic City Committee of Philadelphia. The bulk of these papers were produced while Lockard worked as administrative assistant to U.S. Representative William J. Greene Jr. Intriguing groups of correspondence, memos, reports, and clippings shed light on the city’s Democratic Party’s political processes, policy creation, and election efforts. Although many documents describe political matters at the national and state levels, most of the papers in the collection highlight the local reform movement, its development, main figures, proponents and opponents. There are also papers on city ward realignment and files on Lockard’s participation in Democratic national conventions from 1956 to 1964, in addition to a significant grouping of voting records arranged by ward. There are numerous subject and name files that contain a wealth of information on city issues, politicians, and businessmen during the 1960s. To a lesser extent, the papers also document Lockard’s political consulting firm’s work in the 1970s and 1980s, as well as his personal life.
Collection #3673
http://www2.hsp.org/collections/manuscripts/l/Lockard3673.html

Michael von Moschzisker papers 1954-1973
The papers of Michael von Moschzisker, Philadelphia lawyer, on Richardson Dilworth, include: general correspondence, 1954-1973, mainly between Moschzisker and Dilworth; and correspondence and miscellaneous items on Moschzisker’s activities on behalf of Dilworth during the campaigns to elect Dilworth mayor of Philadelphia, 1955 and 1959, and the campaign to elect him governor of Pennsylvania, 1962.
Collection #2042
Inaugural address: Richardson Dilworth, Mayor of Philadelphia: Tuesday, January 3, 1956, the Academy of Music
Call number: Wz* .999 v.2

Secondary Sources

The Richardson Dilworth story: candidate for greatness
The life of Richardson Dilworth...marine, lawyer and statesman. He entered politics in Philadelphia in the hey-day of the “corrupt and contented” city and led the fight to emerge as the mayor of an awakened and informed metropolis.
by Joe Alex Morris, published 1962
Call number: HT 334 .D55 1962
Call number: Biog. D581m 1962

Preserving the Legacy of Richardson Dilworth
This exhibit explores and celebrates his life, his service, and his legacy to Philadelphia. The images featured in this exhibit are from the collections of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.
http://hsp.org/history-online/exhibits/preserving-the-legacy-of-richardson-dilworth

Campaign literature
by Pennsylvania Democratic News, published 1962
Call number: Vb* .91982 1961-1970