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Arnold Hirsch Collection of Ernest N. 'Dutch' Morial Oral History Interviews, 1987: A Finding Aid

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Arnold Hirsch Collection of Ernest N. 'Dutch' Morial Oral History Interviews, 1987:
A Finding Aid

A Thesis

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the
University of New Orleans
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

Master of Arts
in
History

by

Jenidza Rivera

B.S. University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 2017

May, 2019

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Abstract

This finding aid of interviews is drawn from the Arnold R. Hirsch Collection at the Amistad Research Center. Between 1987 and 1994, historian Arnold Hirsch interviewed New Orleans' first black mayor, Ernest Morial, and others related to that crucial era in New Orleans political history. This collection consists of 37 audiocassettes tapes that contain oral history interviews conducted by Arnold Hirsch with various New Orleanians who were active in city government and political activism. This project-based thesis covers the research and construction of the finding aid completed for this collection during an internship at the Amistad Research Center, as well as the metadata collected and created for the collection. This collection and finding aid are being housed at the Amistad Research Center.

Keywords: Ernest N. Morial, Finding Aid, New Orleans politics, Interview, Oral History, Arnold R. Hirsch, black mayors, African American politics, The Algiers incident, Sybil Morial, Dr. Henry Braden III, Maurice "Moon" Landrieu

Internship

This finding aid/thesis began during a graduate-level paid internship at the Amistad Research Center, where I worked twice a week for five hours each day from June of 2018 to September of 2018. The internship was a requirement made by the History Department of the University of New Orleans as a part of the Public History concentration. Before my internship began, I had been to Amistad before in order to complete class research on Ernest “Dutch” Morial, the city’s first African American mayor, and was familiar with the archive staff. Once I began my internship the staff received me well and was very helpful in ensuring that I understood the logistics of working in an archival repository. While under the supervision of Amistad’s Audio/Visual Archivist, Brenda Flora, I was assigned to work on the Arnold R. Hirsch Collection. Amistad had received this collection posthumously from a member of the Hirsch family. I was familiar with Ernest Morial, but not with Arnold Hirsch or many of the interviewees in the collection. I saw this internship as an opportunity to learn more about these individuals as a topic for a thesis.

The Amistad Research Center is an independent archive that collects materials that reflect the American ethnic history and the history of the Africa Diaspora. Their staff is quite small compared to larger archives, with a staff of ten members at the physical repository. At Amistad, all oral history digital collections are available to the public on computers that are housed at the repository. The interviews are not available online at this time. All collections can be accessed at the Amistad Research Center by researchers.

During my internship, I digitized and wrote detailed descriptions for 22 of 37 total interview tapes. Interviewees include Ernest “Dutch” Morial, Maurice “Moon” Landrieu, Raphael Cassimere, Henry Braden III, Sybil Morial, and Allan Katz. I learned how to digitize audiocassette tapes into mp3 files and then transfer them to CDs. Digitizing certain tapes proved

difficult. The first interview tape that Arnold Hirsch conducted with Ernest Morial on April 22 1987, could not be digitized because of its label as a “bad tape”. When a cassette tape is not properly taken care of, many issues can occur such as the internal tape becoming dislodged or stuck together. Because of this, it will not be made available to researchers at Amistad, but it is included in the metadata of this collection. Some tapes contained correctable distortions.

Amistad’s archivist Brenda Flora manually digitized these tapes to the correct speed and pitch in order to make them audible.

During my time at the Amistad Research Center, I listened to oral history interviews between Arnold R. Hirsch and Ernest “Dutch” Morial that took place in 1987. The interviews were on mp3 files that were created when the tapes were digitized. While listening to the interviews, I collected metadata and wrote detailed descriptions for each side of the audiocassette tapes. The descriptions were written as I listened to each tape, and include what Arnold Hirsch and his interviewees discussed in detail. I kept track of the times on the tapes in accordance with the topics being discussed [see Appendix]. These detailed descriptions, along with other metadata, are being used in the finding aid for the Arnold Hirsch Collection of Ernest N. “Dutch” Morial Oral History Interviews, 1987. Other metadata includes the subjects being discussed in compliance with the Library of Congress’s Authorities webpage, the names of the creator and contributor, the date of each interview, the duration of each side of the tapes, a summary of what was discussed in each interview, the catalog date, and who cataloged the tape.¹ While completing the detailed descriptions for each interview, I researched the organizations, political figures, and city government policies mentioned in the conversations.

From my internship experience, I gained knowledge of New Orleans politics and race relations in the 1980s. I have become familiar with many of the policies and changes to city

¹ <https://authorities.loc.gov/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB=local&PAGE=First>

government that Ernest Morial pushed through while mayor and while a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives. Through working with this collection, I also found information concerning the relationship between the New Orleans Police Department and African American residents in the city. After a violent incident that took place in Algiers in 1980 between the NOPD and the Fischer Housing Project community, the relationship between the New Orleans Police Department and particularly African Americans in the city reached a crisis. One result of the incident was while under Ernest Morial's administration, the Chief Superintendent of police created a branch of the police force to handle reports of police brutality against NOPD officers and appointed an African American officer to be its head. The "Algiers Incident," as both Hirsch and Morial refer to it, was discussed explicitly in the first tapes of this collection. This is the topic that ignited my research into what was being discussed between Hirsch and Morial pertaining to his years as mayor of New Orleans and is an example of the wealth of information contained in these interviews.

Methodology

The largest challenge working with the Arnold Hirsch Collection at the Amistad Research Center was not being familiar with the names of individuals discussed between Hirsch and Morial. Understanding who and what was being discussed was essential to completing the long descriptions and metadata for this collection. Ideally, it would benefit an archive to enlist a community partner who is familiar with the people and topics covered in the interviews in order to complete the long descriptions and subsequent transcriptions of the tapes. To understand the conversations between Hirsch and Morial, I used Arnold R. Hirsch's credited work *Creole New Orleans: Race and Americanization*.² In order to search for the individuals being mentioned in the interviews, I used Arnold R. Hirsch's chapter in *Creole New Orleans*. With the use of this book, I was able to better understand the names of individuals, companies, and policies. *Creole New Orleans* is a collection of essays that discuss the racial composition of eighteenth and nineteenth-century New Orleans while focusing on the French and African American cultures in the city and the arrival of other immigrants. In Arnold R. Hirsch's essay titled "Simply a Matter of Black and White: The Transformation of Race and Politics in Twentieth-Century New Orleans," Hirsch discusses Jim Crow era New Orleans while looking at black political figures such as A.P. Tureaud and A.L. Davis, while discussing different former mayors of New Orleans such as deLesseps "Chep" Morrison and Victor Schiro.³ The essay moves through the Civil Rights Movement years and into the Morial years. Information that Morial discussed during his interviews is the basis for Hirsch's essay. He describes the relationships and connections

² Arnold R. Hirsch and Joseph Logsdon, *Creole New Orleans: Race and Americanization* (Louisiana State University: Baton Rouge, 1992).

³ Arnold R. Hirsch, "Simply a Matter of Black and White: The Transformation of Race and Politics in Twentieth-Century New Orleans", *Creole New Orleans: Race and Americanization* (Louisiana State University: Baton Rouge, 1992).

between Morial and the black political organizations in the city, as well as their connections to other former mayors of New Orleans. Hirsch's essay focuses on the race relations involved in New Orleans politics while the course of history was changing over the last two centuries.

Another source used was a University of New Orleans Master's thesis written in 2010 by Gordon F. Chadwick.⁴ In his thesis Chadwick discusses the 1979 New Orleans Police Strike that took place during Ernest Morial's first term as mayor of the city, as well as the other political figures that were also discussed in the Hirsch interviews. In his essay, Chadwick covers the 1977 mayoral Election, won by Morial. During this time there were waves of compliance and alliances that had much to do with race and class in New Orleans. In certain cases, such as the 1979 police strike, Morial fought on the same side as the wealthy white elite in order to ensure an end to the strikes, while receiving criticism from black political organizations and his own constituents. Chadwick expands upon much of what is discussed in the Hirsch and Morial interviews, such as government reports being discussed between the two and the relationships between Morial and organizations such as the Community Organization for Urban Politics (COUP). These resources were helpful when listening to the interviews between Hirsch and Morial in order to contextualize their conversation.

During previous research at the Amistad Research Center, I found a document located in one of its collections, the "Rosa Freeman Keller papers, 1931-1998." I found an item titled "The *States-Items*'s 'Black Politics in New Orleans' series, 1973," which was featured as a weekend series for the New Orleans newspaper the *States-Item*.⁵ This series lists and gives detailed

⁴ Gordon F. Chadwick, "Holding Mardi Gras Hostage: Mayor Ernest N. Morial and the 1979 New Orleans Police Strike", (Master's thesis, University of New Orleans, 2013).
<https://scholarworks.uno.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2742&context=td>

⁵ "The *States-Items*'s 'Black Politics in New Orleans' series, 1973", (box 8, folder 1), Rosa Freeman Keller papers, 1931-1998, Amistad Research Center at Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.

descriptions about each of the black political organizations in the city, their affiliations with certain political figures, and their locations in the city. This series was helpful when understanding the context of interviews between Hirsch and Morial, and others being discussed.

The history of the New Orleans police force was also key to understanding these interviews was Leonard Moore's *Black Rage in New Orleans: Police Brutality and African American Activism from World War II to Hurricane Katrina*. Moore chronicles the long history of police corruption in New Orleans and the activism efforts of African Americans in the city over the course of six decades.⁶ Moore includes a chapter that discusses Ernest Morial during his years as the mayor of New Orleans in the 1980s and Morial's involvement with black political organizations such as the Community Organization for Urban Politics (COUP), the Orleans Parish Progressive Voters' League (OPPVL), and the Southern Organization for United Leadership (SOUL). It chronicles Morial's time in office and more specifically how he worked with the New Orleans Police Department in creating a branch of the department to handle accusations of police brutality from the community. In multiple interviews, Morial discusses the New Orleans Police Department and his search for a new Chief Superintendent. Ernest Morial chose to appoint James Parsons as the chief superintendent of the police department, and this appointment sparked yet another conflict between Morial and the city. Moore delves into the relationship between Parsons and Morial, as well as how the city received Parsons while combating its long fight with police brutality.

The research that Arnold R. Hirsch accumulated during his interviews with Ernest Morial was also used in Hirsch's working paper "Dutch Morial: Old Creole in the New South" written in October of 1990 for the Division of Urban Research and Policy Studies at the University of

⁶ Leonard N. Moore, *Black Rage in New Orleans: Police Brutality and African American Activism from World War II to Hurricane Katrina* (Louisiana State University Press: Baton Rouge, 2010).

New Orleans.⁷ In this paper, Hirsch chronicles Morial's ascent to the New Orleans mayor's office and his relationships with other political figures in the city during his time in office. Also discussed are policies and proposed legislation that was involved in city government.

When creating the finding aid for the Arnold R. Hirsch Collection of Ernest N. "Dutch" Morial Oral History Interviews, 1987, I also used models that are currently housed at the Amistad Research Center for audiovisual collections as a template.⁸ I chose to use the Tom Dent papers and the Kim Lacy Rogers collection because they are both oral history collections that are made up of interviews. The Bob Zellner oral history collection was another model that I used for the finding aid that I was creating by the recommendation of Amistad's Audiovisual Archivist.

The other source for the creation and completion of my finding aid is *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.⁹ With the use of *Describing Archives*, I was able to understand and implement the proper way of formatting an archival finding aid according to the Society of American Archivists. *Describing Archives* offers standardized formatting for finding aids that will be recognized by the Society of American Archivists. The standards cover specific formatting and descriptions of what should be included and what would be considered added value to a finding aid. *Describing Archives* provides descriptions of each required and added value element to be included in an official finding aid, as well as examples of each element.

⁷ Arnold R. Hirsch, "Dutch Morial: Old Creole in the New South", Division of Urban Research and Policy Studies (October 1990).

⁸ Tom Dent papers, 1861-1998, Amistad Research Center at Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana. <http://amistadresearchcenter.tulane.edu/archon/?p=collections/controlcard&id=40>

Bob Zellner oral history collection, 1994, Amistad Research Center at Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana. <http://amistadresearchcenter.tulane.edu/archon/index.php?p=collections/controlcard&id=390>

Kim Lacy Rogers collection, 1959-1996, Amistad Research Center at Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana. <http://amistadresearchcenter.tulane.edu/archon/index.php?p=collections/controlcard&id=91&q=kim+lacy+rogers>

⁹ Society of American Archivists, *Describing Archives: A Content Standard, Second Edition* (Society of American Archivists: the United States of America, 2013).

These descriptions were of help when creating the finding aid by giving me a better understanding of what should be included when referencing a model finding aid from Amistad.

I used the Library of Congress' Authority's webpage in order to have the correct subject keywords included in the finding aid for this collection. The LoC's authority's page allows researchers to search the library's catalog by using subject headings, names, titles, and name/title combinations.¹⁰ With the use of various websites provided to me by my internship supervisor, I was able to understand how to best work with Audiovisual archiving.¹¹

¹⁰ <https://id.loc.gov>

¹¹ International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives (IASA), <https://www.iasa-web.org/>
Association of Moving Image Archivists (AMIA), <https://amianet.org/>
Association of Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC), <http://www.arsc-audio.org/index.php>

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Hirsch, Arnold R. and Joseph Logsdon. *Creole New Orleans: Race and Americanization*. Louisiana State University: Baton Rouge, 1992.

Hirsch, Arnold R. "Dutch Morial: An Old Creole in the New South". *Division of Urban Research and Policy Studies* (1990).

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Moore, Leonard N. *Black Rage in New Orleans: Police Brutality and African American Activism from World War II to Hurricane Katrina*. Louisiana State University Press: Baton Rouge, 2010.

Society of American Archivists. *Describing Archives: A Content Standard, Second Edition*. Society of American Archivists: the United States of America, 2013.

Finding Aid

Submitted By: Brenda Flora

Repository: Amistad Research Center

Repository Identifier: Collection #796

Title: Arnold Hirsch Collection of Ernest N. "Dutch" Morial Oral History Interviews

Project Management Collection Administrator Name: Brenda Flora

Email: bflora@tulane.edu

Phone: 504-862-3222

Extent: 37 items (36 audiocassettes, 1 microcassette)

Content: 3 boxes

Scanner Technician: Brenda Flora

Metadata Catalogers: Jenidza Rivera

Date Range: 4/3/87 – 9/18/94

Contributors: Hirsch, Arnold R. (1949-2018)

Creators: Morial, Ernest "Dutch" N. (1929-1989); Morial, Sybil (1932-); Landrieu, Moon (1930-); Cassimere, Raphael (1942-); Braden, Henry E. III (1919-1994); Katz, Allan

Subjects: Political Organizations; Mayoral Elections; Civil Rights Movement; Voter Registration; Race; New Orleans Politics and Government; Voting Rights Act of 1965; City Council Members; Campaigns; NAACP; Corruption; Community-based Organizations.

Biographical Notes:

- Arnold R. Hirsch
 - Arnold R. Hirsch (1949-2018) was born in Chicago, Illinois. He served as a professor at the University of New Orleans between 1979 and 2010. He is best known for his book *Making the Second Ghetto: Race and Housing in Chicago 1940-1960* (1983), where he discusses the housing segregation and racial struggles in Chicago following two decades after World War II. His work covers the second Great Migration of African-Americans from the South to the North and the segregation that they experienced, which he argues was not a natural process. During his time at the University of New Orleans, Hirsch also served as the Ethel & Herman L. Midlo Endowed Chair and the director of the Midlo Center for New Orleans Studies.

- Ernest N. Morial
 - Ernest N. Morial (1929-1989) was born in New Orleans in 1929 and is best known for being the 57th mayor of New Orleans, serving from 1978 to 1986, and being the first African American to hold this position. Morial began his career as a civil rights lawyer in New Orleans who fought alongside A.P. Tureaud and others alike. Before serving as mayor of New Orleans, Morial was a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives from 1967 to 1970. Morial's long career

in New Orleans politics made him a well-known figure in the city, even 40 years after his service as mayor.

- Sybil Morial
 - Sybil Morial (1932-) was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, to Eudora Arnaud and Clarence C. Haydel. The wife of the first African American mayor of the City of New Orleans, Ernest N. “Dutch” Morial, Sybil Morial spent her career in the education field, first as a public school teacher and then later, as a dean at Xavier University in New Orleans. A community activist, Morial has served on numerous boards and committees that focus on women’s professional advocacy through her memberships with the International Women’s Forum Leadership Foundation and the affiliated Louisiana Women’s Forum. Other organizations that she has served over the years include The Links, Inc.; Advocates for Science and Mathematics Foundation; the Youth and the Arts National Committee; HMO Louisiana, Inc. and Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Louisiana; The Public Law Center; PICO National Network; the Southern Institute for Education and Research; among other. Morial served as president and chair of the I’ve Known Rivers Afro-American Pavilion Louisiana World Exposition (1982-1985).
- Maurice “Moon” Landrieu
 - Maurice Landrieu is a former politician, judge, and mayor of New Orleans, and was born in New Orleans in 1930. Landrieu attended Loyola University for his undergraduate and law degrees and joined the United States Army upon graduating, leaving after three years. He began his political career in the 1950s when he opened his own law practice and taught accounting classes at Loyola University. Landrieu was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives in

1960 and was elected Councilman-at-Large in 1966. Landrieu was elected mayor of New Orleans in the 1970 election and reelected in 1974, preceding Ernest Morial. During his time in politics, Landrieu oversaw desegregation of city government, obtained federal funds for the revitalization of low-income neighborhoods, and was involved in the planning and construction of the Superdome in New Orleans. Landrieu also served as the president of the United States Conference of Mayors in 1975-1976. After leaving the mayoral office, Landrieu served as Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), was a judge of the Louisiana 4th Circuit Court of Appeals from 1992 until his retirement in 2000, and was inducted into the Louisiana Political Museum and Hall of Fame in 2004. His son Mitch Landrieu became mayor of New Orleans in 2010 and his daughter Mary Landrieu is a former U.S. Senator for Louisiana.

- Raphael Cassimere
 - Raphael Cassimere Jr. was born in New Orleans in 1942. In the 1960s Cassimere was heavily involved in the fight for equal rights during the Civil Rights Movement in New Orleans. He led and was a part of the NAACP Youth Council, and in 1971 became the first black instructor at the University of New Orleans, then called Louisiana State University in New Orleans. He was a professor of History at the University of New Orleans for 37 years before his retirement.
- Dr. Henry Braden
 - Henry E. Braden, III was born in 1919 in New Orleans, Louisiana. He attended Gilbert Academy and Xavier University, both in New Orleans, before receiving his medical degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, in

1944. He served in the military as part of the medical corps and later became President of the Louisiana State Medical Association and Chair of the Tulane Medical Center Board of Governors. Among his accomplishments, Dr. Braden served as the first African American member of the Orleans Parish Medical Society, Chief of Staff at Flint-Goodridge Hospital, a board member for both New Orleans Charity Hospital and Tulane University, and member of several Carnival organizations, including Rex and the Knights of Babylon. He was also active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the New Orleans Opera Association, and a board member of the Amistad Research Center. In 1974, the Institute for Human Understanding named Dr. Braden one of their “Ten Outstanding Men” and in 1976 he served as a Presidential Elector for the State of Louisiana. He died in 1994.

- Allan Katz
 - Allan Katz spent 25 years working as a political reporter at the *Times Picayune/States-Item* newspaper, beginning in 1962. He later became the editor at the *Kenner Star* and hosted several television shows including the Louisiana Newsmaker. Katz also worked for the Orleans Parish School Board. Katz’s career involved covering the 1963 Civil Rights Movement in New Orleans and black politics, particularly the career of Ernest “Dutch” Morial, the first black mayor of the city of New Orleans.

Scope & Contents:

The Arnold R. Hirsch collection consists of two boxes of 22 double-sided cassette tapes of oral history interviews conducted by Hirsch between 1987 and 1994. Hirsch and his interviewees discuss the political climate of New Orleans as well as their own individual works

in the city during and following the Civil Rights movement. These interviews were used as oral histories on New Orleans racial politics from the 1950s to the 1980s for his essay that was included in *Creole New Orleans: Race and Americanization* (1992).

Long Description:

This collection consists of sound recordings of oral history interviews conducted by Arnold R. Hirsch from April to November of 1987 and again in May 1994 with persons involved in politics and government on a local and state level, as well as civil rights issues in New Orleans. This collection explores the racial politics of New Orleans before and after the Civil Rights Movement, and how the interviewees were able to navigate through the constant changes and challenges of the time. The interviews helped to form Hirsch's essay that was included in *Creole New Orleans: Race and Americanization* (1992) – a collection of essays edited by Hirsch and Joseph Logsdon that explore the ethnic composition of New Orleans. Those interviewed include former mayors of New Orleans Moon Landrieu (1970-1978) and Ernest “Dutch” Morial, the first African-American mayor of New Orleans (1978 to 1986). Hirsch also interviewed Sybil Morial, the former First Lady of New Orleans and Civil Rights activist who helped found the Louisiana League of Good Government (LLOGG) in 1962, and Dr. Raphael Cassimere Jr., the first black instructor to be hired at the University of New Orleans and NAACP member since 1960.

Arnold Hirsch was a historian whose best-known work was *Making the Second Ghetto: Race and Housing in Chicago, 1940-1960* (1983), which studied the urban history of Chicago, specifically focusing on the time following World War II in which the Second Great Migration of African Americans took place. Hirsch earned his bachelor's degree and doctorate from the

University of Illinois and was a professor at the University of New Orleans from 1979 until his retirement in 2010.

System of Arrangement:

The contents of this collection are arranged in three boxes kept in the original order of donation.

Prospective Audience:

Amistad has received inquiries from New Orleans-area K-12 educators and university professors alike about the digital status of these interviews, but access is currently restricted to those who can visit ARC in person to listen to these recordings in person. Thus, the potential for inclusion of interviews segments from this collection into K-12 and university curricula is quite high and can be facilitated by the online hosting of these sound recordings. Additionally, increased researcher-use of these interviews – which will undoubtedly include undergraduates, graduate students, academic faculty, K-12 educators, and laypeople with a more casual interest in New Orleans and Civil Rights Movement history – is expected to increase dramatically.

Significance (Research Value):

The Arnold R. Hirsch collection contains information that chronicles how people in different positions of power were able to create large changes in history such as the Voting Rights and Civil Rights Acts and having the first African-American mayor of New Orleans in 1979, which led to more opportunities for African Americans in city and state government. The valor and triumphs of the Civil Rights Movement activists of those interviewed in this collection will be made accessible to students and scholars throughout the world.

Summary of Materials:

This digital collection consists of 22 audiotapes that have been digitized. Sides 1 and 2 will be separate audio files, for a total of 35 files. (The final number may change slightly. Some

of the tapes have condition issues. Any of the files that have been found to be inaudible or deemed too distorted to post online have been removed, but it is possible that more will be removed before final submission.)

Copyright and/or Donor Restrictions:

Physical rights are retained by the Amistad Research Center. Amistad holds the intellectual copyright to the materials, including without limitation to the right to reproduce, adapt, publish, perform, or publicly display said materials. The materials in this digital collection are being made available for personal and scholarly research use only. Copyright is retained in accordance with U.S. copyright laws. If you are the rightful copyright holder of an item represented in this collection and you wish to have it removed, please submit a request, including proof of ownership and clear identification of the work, to reference@amistadresearchcenter.org

Public Access: This collection is open to the public for research use.

Is this a Grant Funded Project? No

Has this collection been previously digitized? No

Languages of Materials: English

Administrative Info:

- Acquisition: Boxes 1 and 2 were donated by direct donation to the Amistad Research Center; Box 3 was donated to the Amistad Research Center posthumously by Arnold Hirsch's son, Jordan Hirsch.
- Restrictions: Access not restricted, items are available digitally on site; Pending approval by the Morial family to be available online.
- Technical Notes: Audio recordings on audiocassettes have been digitized, first to wave file, and then saved as MP3 files for access.

- Preferred Citation: [Name of interviewee] Interview, Date of Interview, Collection Title, Amistad Research Center at Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Material Type Collective: Sound recordings and audiocassettes
- Addendum Note: Addendum received 9/6/18. The interviews in the addendum (Box 3) were all conducted at the same time or shortly after the interviews from the original donation, and they all appear to be part of the same project. Additional interviewees Dr. Henry Braden and Allan Katz are also represented here. It is recommended that the addendum be formally accessioned and digitized as soon as possible due to their age and the condition issues of the previous donation.

Special Handling Requirements? None

Completion Deadline Date: 10/31/2018

Description Control: Finding aid written by Jenidza Rivera, 2019.

Marketing Plan: Amistad will promote the Arnold R. Hirsch digital collection online through its website, social media accounts, and newsletter.

Collection Topics: Community and Culture, People and Cultures, Race and Ethnicity

Collection Type(s): Audio recording

Collection Keywords: African-American, Civil Rights, Voter Registration, Mayoral campaigns, City Government, Oral History, Audio-Visual, Sound

Collection Temporal: 1987, 1994

Geographic Location Type: U.S. States

Coverage Spatial: New Orleans, LA

Parish: Orleans

Detailed Descriptions:

- Box 1

- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 4/3/1987
 - Side 1: Tape marked “bad tape”
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 4/22/1987 parts 1 & 2 (duplicate available)
 - Side 1: Morial discusses ex-New Orleans Police chief James Parsons and his time in that position, the Algiers 7 case, and the New Orleans police strike of 1979. (47:42 Minutes)
 - Side 2: Hirsch and Morial continue to discuss the aftermath of the Algiers 7 case in reference to the press, the police department’s history of political ties, the CETA raids and subsequent investigation, internal affairs within the public office and the police department, and other public officials. (48:43 Minutes)
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 4/22/1987 part 3 (duplicate available)
 - Side 1: Hirsch and Morial discuss the 1977 mayoral election in New Orleans and all of the major candidates involved. (24:35 Minutes)
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 4/24/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: Hirsch and Morial discuss the numerous black political organizations that were prevalent in New Orleans before and after the Voting Rights Act of 1965. They discuss the black community in New Orleans in regard to race, colorism, ethnic identity, and language. They also discuss Morial and other black political organization leaders’ involvement in the NAACP. (48:46 Minutes)
 - Side 2: Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial continue to discuss the Civil Rights Movement and the black political organizations in New Orleans, the Landrieu, Barthelemy, and Schiro administrations. They also discuss

Morial's connections with other politicians in the city and briefly discuss the press again. (47:18 Minutes)

- Maurice "Moon" Landrieu Interview 5/4/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: Arnold Hirsch interviews Moon Landrieu and they discuss the beginning of Landrieu's political career, his time in the Louisiana House of Representatives, and the first case that he worked with while being a representative. (47:48 Minutes)
 - Side 2: Hirsch and Landrieu continue to discuss Landrieu's time in the Louisiana House of Representatives, mayors deLesseps Morrison and Victor Schiro and their relationships with black political organizations in New Orleans, and Landrieu's elections in the 1960s. (47:39 Minutes)
- Maurice "Moon" Landrieu 5/8/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: Arnold Hirsch and Moon Landrieu discuss the reforms that Landrieu helped implement during his time in office, and how things in New Orleans changed after the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. (47:21 Minutes)
 - Side 2: Hirsch and Landrieu continue to discuss changes made in New Orleans after the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as well as Landrieu's attempt to change and simplify the voter registration forms that were used to disenfranchise African Americans. (28:32 Minutes)
- Ernest "Dutch" Morial Interview 5/17/1987
 - Side 1: Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss bids and tourism related to Audubon Park and Zoo, relations between the white community and

black leadership in New Orleans, and business deals between New Orleans and corporations. (27:02 Minutes)

- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 6/7/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss the way that Morial was supported by certain newspapers and black political organizations, and not supported by others, as well as how other candidates received support. They also compare and contrast the black communities in Chicago and New Orleans in reference to the way that they rally around black candidates, and how they received patronage from political organizations. (48:16 Minutes)
 - Side 2: Hirsch and Morial continue to discuss his political relationships with his mayoral predecessor and successor, his reformative actions during his administration, and continued discussion of organizations that supported him during his reelection. (47:16 Minutes)
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 6/7/1987 part 3
 - Side 1: Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss political machines, taxes, and budgeting while comparing Morial’s mayoral term to Moon Landrieu’s. (27:58 Minutes)
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 6/21/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss district attorney Harry Connick Sr., his political apparatus during his campaigns, and his charter change efforts in New Orleans while he was in office. They also continue to discuss the black political organizations and their efforts during his campaign. (48:10 Minutes)

- Side 2: Hirsch and Morial discuss Morial’s charter change effort, the black political organizations, and other members of the state and local government. (38:52 Minutes)
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 7/12/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss Alexander Pierre “A.P.” Tureaud, their work with the NAACP of New Orleans and his law firm, and Morial’s time as NAACP president and Assistant U.S. Attorney. (47:33 Minutes)
 - Side 2: Ernest Morial continues to discuss his relationship with A.P. Tureaud, he goes into more detail about some of the projects handles by his administration, and the sensitivity surrounding Morial being the first black mayor of New Orleans. (47:34 Minutes)
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 7/19/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: In this interview, Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss Morial’s time as mayor of New Orleans, the different black political leaders in the city and their connections to white incumbents, and Hirsch’s research findings. (45:50 Minutes)
 - Side 2: Hirsch and Morial discuss the color lines within the African American community of New Orleans and his time as mayor while referencing articles and pictures. (47:44 Minutes)
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 7/19/1987 part 3
 - Side 1: Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss some of Morial’s financial decisions and visions while he was mayor of New Orleans,

connections between political figures, and other miscellaneous topics related to the news media of the time. (36:19 Minutes)

- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 8/2/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: In this interview, Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss campaigns in regard to funding that he received and gave to other candidates. (46:28 Minutes)
 - Side 2: In this interview, Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss financial processes, campaign funding, and issues Morial faced all while being mayor of New Orleans and after leaving office. (46:32 Minutes)
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 8/16/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: In this interview, Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss the government contract for the Superdome Services Inc. (SSI), the connection of other city government officials to this contract, and Morial’s 1977 reelection campaign efforts. (48:00 Minutes)
 - Side 2: In this interview, Arnold Hirsch and Ernest Morial discuss financial connections during his campaigning times, his relationships with political organizations, the difference in voter support between his first and second campaigns for mayor of New Orleans, and the black political presence in New Orleans around the Civil Rights Era. (28:32 Minutes)
- Box 2
 - Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 9/6/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: Morial discusses the acceptance speech he gave during election of 1977, the lack of support he received from African American political organizations, his status as a political outsider, the relationship between

the mayor's office and the City Council, the influence of patronage in city politics, and the power of the social elite in city boards and commissions. He also compares his tenure as mayor to the previous administration of Moon Landrieu, deLesseps “Chep” Morrison, and Victor Schiro, as well as the current administrations of Sidney Barthelemy. He comments on Landrieu's record on appointing African Americans to positions in city government. (47:39 Minutes)

- Side 2: Morial completes his discussion of the boards and commissions in New Orleans government under his administration and under mayor Moon Landrieu. Morial briefly discusses the mayor's salary and the Battle of Liberty Place monument. (47:39 Minutes)
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 9/6/1987 part 3
 - Side 1: Morial continues his discussion of the 1982 mayoral race, and the unsuccessful campaigns by state senator Bill Jefferson and state representative Ron Faucheux to unseat him. Morial also discusses white support for state representative Sherman Copelin and then mayor Sidney Barthelemy. (32:13 Minutes)
- Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 9/20/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: Morial discusses the press coverage of the 1982 mayoral election, press coverage of race in New Orleans politics, and the lack of African American journalists in the mainstream media at the time. Morial also discusses several major real estate development projects in the Greater New Orleans Area that began during his tenure, including the New Orleans Centre next to the Superdome and Riverwalk. (47:52 Minutes)

including the picketing of the stores and restaurants on Dryades Street, and the picketing of department stores on Canal Street. Cassimere discusses the leadership of the NAACP, the participation of student protestors in the organization, as well the relationship between the NAACP and CORE.
(34:24 Minutes)

- Sybil Morial Interview 5/22/1994 parts 1 & 2
 - Side 1: Sybil Morial, wife of Ernest Morial, discusses living in the affluent segregated Pontchartrain Park neighborhood after their marriage. She describes the education of her children in the integrated Catholic school system. She discusses the impact of the Civil Rights movement on the 1962 mayoral race in New Orleans. She also discusses her husband's successful campaign for the Louisiana State Legislature in 1967. (47:11 Minutes)
 - Side 2: Sybil Morial discusses her own attempt to organize voter registration drives for the African American community before the Voting Rights Act of 1965. She discusses both voluntary and reluctant support for desegregation in the White community. (31:02 Minutes)
- Box 3 (addendum)
 - Allan Katz Interview 2/4/1987
 - Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 4/15/1987
 - Maurice “Moon” Landrieu Interview 5/13/1987
 - Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 5/17/1987
 - Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 6/20/1987 parts 1 & 2
 - Ernest “Dutch” Morial Interview 6/20/1987 parts 3 & 4

- Dr. Henry Braden Interview 6/29/1987
- Sybil Morial Interview 7/16/1990 (microcassette)
- Sybil Morial Interview 1/23/1994
- Sybil Morial Interview 3/27/1994
- Sybil Morial Interview 5/22/1994
- Sybil Morial Interview 9/18/1994
- Dutch Morial Papers, undated

Appendix

Tape Hir1-2-01 Detailed Description

00:03 Arnold R. Hirsch states his name and that he is interviewing Ernest “Dutch” Morial in his law office at 400 Poydras St. in New Orleans on April 22nd, 1987

00:50 Morial mentions a report from Phelps about Morial’s personality and that he advises Hirsch to read it “at his leisure time.”

02:30 Morial shows Hirsch letters that were written by people complaining. He mentions complaints dealing with Iris Kelso who frequently wrote columns on him.

03:14 Hirsch begins to discuss an editorial that discusses politics and freedom. Hirsch discusses the varying personalities in the newsroom and the administration from when Morial was mayor of New Orleans. Because there wasn’t much competition amongst newspapers in the city, Morial adds that there was a lack of political freedom.

05:05 Morial mentions going through a chronology of documents from his campaigning and asks Hirsch how much he had gone through. Morial suggests that Hirsch goes through the *Vieux Carre Courier* for its articles on his campaigning.

07:13 Hirsch and Morial pick up on a topic previously discussed, pertaining to ex-New Orleans police chief James Parsons who served from 1978-1980, the police department, and the Algiers 7 case. Morial mentions having 4 volumes on the New Orleans police. They discuss what they didn’t mention during their last conversation such as the 1979 New Orleans police strike that began days before that year’s Mardi Gras and ended with parades being canceled in Orleans Parish and others moving to the surrounding suburbs and parishes.

08:00 They talk about selecting Parsons as the police chief out of a selection of 4 people. Morial mentions that he knew nothing of him besides what was mentioned of him in the media and the recommendations that he received from his committee. The committee believed that having Parsons would be a move in the right direction that would create better opportunities for African Americans in the police department, improving the management of the police department, and handling the crime issues in the city.

10:30 Hirsch asks Morial what he was looking for in a police chief. Morial mentions looking for someone who had the ability to manage or operate an agency, strong administrative abilities, leadership qualities, and someone who would have the same commitment to his administration's philosophies.

12:20 There was push-back against Parsons because he was an outsider in the city, especially amongst the African American community of New Orleans. Parsons believed that police officers should know their communities to better understand how to patrol there.

14:25 Hirsch asks about police strike that occurred during Morial's first term as Mayor of New Orleans. The factors surrounding the police strike included the fact that Morial was the city's first black mayor, the chief of police was an outsider, and the resentment surrounding that along with the labor issues involved. Morial was convinced that the strike had something to do with the resentment for the fact that Morial was the first black mayor. He states that the strike occurred after the police officers had already received a pay increase from Morial's passing of new revenue measures.

16:20 Morial states that he believed people involved with the media were out to get Parsons.

17:00 There were many questions about Parsons's conduct outside of the job, especially pertaining to his marriage. Morial explains that Parsons's wife and children remained in Birmingham, Alabama, while Parsons was in New Orleans.

19:40 Morial concludes that the police strike was a way to get recognition and crush the mayor and his police chief.

21:23 Morial mentions that during the police strikes he was visiting different district police stations in order to speak with the police officers that remained there. He witnessed the bad working conditions of the police stations and the low maintenance of their resources, but that those issues were never a part of the strike.

22:40 Hirsch recalls that one of the big turning points in the second police strike was when the Mardi Gras krewe captains canceled their parades.

24:40 Morial recalls that people believed that he and his administration would wilt on their stance during the strike because of the effects of the cancellation of parades during Mardi Gras on the city, but ultimately they did not.

27:10 Reporter Iris Kelso wrote a column at the time of the first strike stating that Morial wanted them to strike.

29:05 Hirsch asks how solid the support for the police strike was in the department. Morial thinks that there were mixed feelings throughout the department.

31:15 Hirsch and Morial discuss what the legacy was like after the strike. He claims that there were varying types of resentment amongst the police force after the strike. He also mentions that he did not realize how popular and important it was to be a police officer amongst the people of the community until Morial went into the community and spoke with the youth.

34:15 Hirsch mentions Ronald Cannatella, the Police Union President at the time, who shows up publicly in the 1982 election. Morial said that his committee wanted him to make political deals with Cannatella for recognition, and Morial decided that he would not do it.

38:40 Hirsch and Morial discuss Parsons post-strike and the Algiers incident of 1980 with Morial stating that Parsons was gradually attempting to put the people who were loyal to him in

the department into higher district levels of power. Morial also states that Parsons did not approve of the Algiers incident, but that he was designed to get the people in the department to be loyal to him and to be seen as an insider.

40:10 Morial says that the Algiers and Fischer incidents did not happen spontaneously and that he is not satisfied with what he knows to have occurred during the incident. He does believe that there was some impropriety in regard to the Algiers incident and how it was handled on the part of the police.

42:50 Morial and Hirsch continue to discuss Parsons's role in the Algiers incident.

44:50 They discuss the aftermath of the Algiers incident in the community. Morial also discusses that he was viewed well by the many people of Algiers.

47:42 End of tape 2 side 1

Vita

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