

**Brandon Di Rayata Italian American  
Evangelical Protestantism Collection**

**CMS.116**

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**Finding aid prepared by Finding aid prepared by Frances Fynan**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

September 22, 2017

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Center for Migration Studies  
22 September 2017  
307 E. 60th Street  
New York, New York 10022

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Center for Migration Studies
<b>Title</b>	Brandon Di Rayata Italian American Evangelical Protestantism Collection
<b>Date</b>	1765-2000
<b>Extent</b>	1.5 Linear feet
<b>General Physical Description note</b>	in one banker's box
<b>Location note</b>	CMS.116 is housed at the Center for Migration Studies, 307 E. 60th Street, New York, NY 10022.
<b>Language</b>	Italian
<b>Abstract</b>	CMS.116 consists of research materials sent to the Center for Migration Studies, from Brandon Di Rayata. Brandon Di Rayata was conducting research on Italian and Italian American Protestants, including his own family members. Materials in this collection contain information from 1765 to 2000. The collection is divided into three series: research photocopies, newspaper clippings, and books. The research photocopies series contains correspondence and requested material from archives and churches, all related to Italian Evangelicals. This collection also contains books authored by Brandon Di Rayata's relatives. This collection provides a history of Italian American Protestants through the perspective of a researcher.

**Preferred Citation note**

Center for Migration Studies of New York; Brandon Di Rayata Italian American Evangelical Protestantism Collection (CMS.116); Box; Folder.

## Scope and Contents note

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CMS.116 consists of research materials sent to the Center for Migration Studies, from Brandon Di Rayata. Brandon Di Rayata was conducting research on Italian and Italian American Protestants, including his own family members. Materials in this collection contain information from 1765 to 2000.

The collection is divided into three series: research photocopies, newspaper clippings, and books.

The research photocopies series consists of nineteen folders. The research topic was Italian and Italian-American members of many different Protestant denominations, mostly in the United States but with some reference to Italy, in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The folders contain photocopies of periodicals, book chapters, handwritten notes, and biographical material of Italian-Americans that may be difficult to relocate or that contain edits by Di Rayata. Many of the folders also contain correspondence between Di Rayata and archives where he obtained his research, or between Di Rayata and Diana J. Zimmerman, Director of the CMS Library and Archives at the time. Brandon Di Rayata conducted his research from the 1980's until 2000.

There is one folder in the newspaper clippings series. It contains an article from the January 1991 Lifestyle section of the "Staten Island Advance" titled "Little-known Protestant movement is chronicled among Italian-Americans."

There are seven folders in the books series. Four are bound books, two are complete photocopies, and one is a boxed and unpublished photocopy of a typescript. Six folders contain the work of Brandon Di Rayata's family. His father, born Umberto Marchesi, worked as a journalist and was active in the opposition to the Nazis in Italy in World War II before coming to the United States in 1946 and adopting the name William Robert di Rayata. After coming to the United States, William R. di Rayata wrote a half-dozen books, four under his new name and two as Brando di Rajata. One book written under the name Brando di Rajata is in English, the rest are in Italian. The topics include Sicilian history, the family's own history, Italy immediately after World War II, and the native peoples of North America. One folder contains a bound book by Rev. Louis De Caro, titled OUR HERITAGE: THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA.

This collection provides a history of Italian American Protestants through the perspective of a researcher, Brandon Di Rayata.

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## Arrangement note

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CMS.116 is organized in three series:

I. Research Photocopies

II. Newspaper Clippings

III. Books

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Information

Center for Migration Studies 22 September 2017

### Conditions Governing Access note

Open to researchers by appointment.

### Conditions Governing Use note

CMS does not have the copyright to all the items in CMS.116. It is incumbent upon the researchers to clear copyrights prior to publication.

### Immediate Source of Acquisition note

CMS.116 came in the form of a series of mailings from Brandon Di Rayata of Brooklyn, New York.

### Processing Information note

CMS.116 was processed, sorted, put into folders, and boxed in September 2017 by Frances Fynan. Material was originally organized in folders in the order it was received from Brandon Di Rayata. The original collection contains photocopies of materials that can be found elsewhere and those photocopies were removed. Citations for discarded materials can be found in the bibliography. Frances Fynan wrote the finding aid.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Archival Materials note

See Folder 15 for correspondence between Brandon Di Rayata and relevant archives, including Protestant churches and universities, for locating items in his bibliography.

## Controlled Access Headings

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### Function(s)

- Protestantism, Evangelical

### Personal Name(s)

- Di Rayata, William Robert, 1914-1976

### Subject(s)

- Bibliography.
- Books.
- Correspondence.
- Italian Americans |x Religion.

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## Bibliography

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American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 1 (Jan. 1850): 10-19, 30-1.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 2 (Feb. 1850): 4, 50-1, 84-7.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 3 (March 1850): 98-105, 114-19, 132-5.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 4 (April 1850): 10, 146-151, 172-7.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 5 (May 1850): 13, 194-7, 204-5, 234-5.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 6 (June 1850): 242-5, 270-1, 278-81.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 7 (July 1850): 18, 290-1, 304-7, 310-11, 322-5.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 8 (Aug. 1850): 340-7, 374-7.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 9 (Sept. 1850): 394-7.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 11 (Nov. 1850): 484-7.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 1, no. 12 (Dec. 1850): 34, 530-1.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 1 (Jan. 1851): 14-17, 26-7.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 2 (Feb. 1851): 58-61.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 3 (March 1851): 68-9, 90-1.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 4 (April 1851): 7, 98-9, 122-3.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 5 (May 1851): 130-41, 152-3.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no.6 (June 1851): 182-3, 192-5, 202-5.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 7 (July 1851): 210-13, 234-7

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 8 (Aug. 1851): 246-9, 266-7.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 9 (Sept. 1851): 276-9, 284-7.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 10 (Oct. 1851): 310-17.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 11 (Nov. 1851): 360-5.



American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 2, no. 12 (Dec. 1851): 382-5.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 3, no. 1 (Jan. 1852): 20-5.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 3, no. 4 (April 1852): 118-21.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 3, no. 5 (May 1852): 146-7.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 3, no. 7 (July 1852): 212-13, 220-3.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 3, no. 8 (Aug. 1852): 260-1.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 3, no. 10 (Oct. 1852): 306-11, 328-31.

American and Foreign Christian Union. AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION 3, no. 12 (Dec. 1852): 378-9.

American and Foreign Christian Union. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION, no. 1 (1850): 39-41, 48-9.

American and Foreign Christian Union. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION, no. 4 (1853): 36-40.

American and Foreign Christian Union. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION, no. 5 (1854): 48-9.

American and Foreign Christian Union. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION, no. 7 (1856): 70-3.

American and Foreign Christian Union. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN CHRISTIAN UNION, no. 8 (1857): 88-93.

THE AMERICAN PROTESTANT MAGAZINE, No. 1-4 (1845-1849).

American Protestant Society. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN PROTESTANT SOCIETY, no. 3 (1846): 16-23, 26-7.

American Protestant Society. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN PROTESTANT SOCIETY, no. 4 (1847): 6-9, 16-17.

American Protestant Society. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN PROTESTANT SOCIETY, no. 5 (1848): 16-23, 26-7.

American Protestant Society. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN PROTESTANT SOCIETY, no. 6 (1849): 16-25.

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- "Editorial Comment." THE CONQUEROR, December 1897.
- "Editorial Page." CHURCH NEWS, 24 October 1981, 16.
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- E.M.C. "The Stranger Within our Gates." HARBOR LIGHTS, September 1899.
- Halswick, Louis Martin. MISSION FIELDS AT HOME. Brookfield, IL: Pacific Press Publishing Association, 1950.
- ITALIAN-AMERICAN WHO'S WHO: A BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY ITALIAN AMERICAN LEADERS, Edited by Giovanni Schiavo. the Vigo Press, 1964-65.
- "Italy in New York: A Notable Italian Convert." THE WAR CRY, 1 November 1902.
- Kupfer, Ensign. "A Visit to the Italian Corps." THE CONQUEROR, September 1896.
- "Little Italy, And The Salvation Army's Work Therein." THE WAR CRY, March 1906.
- Martellone, Anna Maria. UNA LITTLE ITALY NELL'ATENE D'AMERICA LA COMUNITA ITALIANA DI BOSTON DAL 1880 AL 1920. Napoli: Guida, 1973.
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- Palmieri, F. Aurelio. "Italian Protestantism in the United States." THE CATHOLIC WORLD 107, no. 638 (1918): 177-89.
- Schiavo, Giovanni. FOUR CENTURIES OF ITALIAN-AMERICAN HISTORY. New York: The Vigo Press, 1958.
- Simboli, Cesidio Ruel. "Disease-Spirits and Divine Cures Among the Greeks and Romans. Ph.D. (Anthropology), Columbia University, 1921. Accessed via UMI ProQuest Digital Dissertations. 17 December 2001.

Soule, Captain Percy. "Our Home Mission Work: A Talk with Lieut.-Col. Holz." THE CONQUEROR, 1897.

"A Tale of Three Italian Immigrants." THE WAR CRY, 29 February 1964.

Torizzo, Luciano T. and Salvatore Mondello. "The Italian-Americans" in THE IMMIGRANT HERITAGE OF AMERICA SERIES, edited by Cecyle S. Neidle, 184-92. New York: Twayne Publishers, 1971.

Urgos, Franceso. THRILLING INCIDENTS IN THE POLITICAL LIFE OF AN ITALIAN; INCLUDING TRAVELS IN AFRICA AND SYRIA. Battle Creek, MI: Steam Press, 1877.

Wisbey, Herert A. "Personalities and Progress." In SOLDIERS WITHOUT SWORDS, 82-3. New York: Macmillan, 1956.

## Research Photocopies

## Collection Inventory

Research Photocopies	Box	Folder
	1	1
<p data-bbox="152 564 654 596">American and Foreign Christian Union</p> <p data-bbox="141 659 480 690"><b>Scope and Contents note</b></p> <p data-bbox="152 728 1094 905">Contains photocopies of an Annual Report and Annual Meeting (year and issue unknown) and "An Address to the Christian Public from the Board of Directors of the American and Foreign Christian Union" (source and publication unknown).</p> <p data-bbox="152 942 1086 1020">See bibliography for additional materials from the American and Foreign Christian Union.</p>	1	1
An Italian Unitarian 1833-1999	1	2
Baptismal, Birth and Death Certificates of Italian-American Protestant Laymen, Ministers and Scholars 1869-1997	1	3
Carlevale, Joseph William. LEADING AMERICANS OF ITALIAN DESCENT IN MASSACHUSETTS. Plymouth, MA: Memorial Press, 1946. 245, 285, 295, 370, 381, 383, 411, 577, 626, 670, 718, 798, 834. 1946	1	4
Center for Migration Studies Correspondence 1987-1995	1	5

## Research Photocopies

Christian Church of North America 1996-1997	1	6
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**Scope and Contents note**

Two folders of magazines and flyers from the denomination.

Handwritten bibliography and notes 1909-1966	1	7
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Italian and Italian-American Ministers and Pastors 1872-1987	1	8
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**Scope and Contents note**

Research and photocopies of archival material collected by Brandon Di Rayata. Contains information on Reverend Doctor Arthur Caliandro, Reverend Theodore De Luca, Doctor Alfonso De Salvio, Reverend Pasquale Di Carlo, Reverend Angelo Di Domenica, and Reverend Orlando Giuffreda.

Marchest Di Rajata 1953	1	9
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**Scope and Contents note**

Photocopy of italian-language typescript of the history of the Di Rayata family from the perspective of Umberto Brando Marchese, who took the American name William Robert Di Rayata.

The Methodist Episcopal Church (Now The United Methodist Church) 1889-1985	1	10
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The Northern Baptist Convention 1888-1987	1	11
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Research Photocopies

**Scope and Contents note**

Photocopies of archival material on Baptist missions to Italians and Italian Americans and related correspondence.

Photocopies containing New York church history and information. 1765-1938 1 12

Pirazzini, Agide. "Vita." THE INFLUENCE OF ITALY ON THE LITERARY CAREER OF ALPHONSE DE LAMARTINE. Columbia University Studies in Romance Philology and Literature. New York: AMS Press, 1966. Originally published 1917. No page. 1917-2000 1 13

**Scope and Contents note**

This file includes correspondence about the subject written in the year 2000.

The Protestant Episcopal Church 1873-1986 1 14

Research Related Correspondence and Requested Materials 1861-1992 1 15

**Scope and Contents note**

Correspondence between Brandon Di Rayata and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Moravian Church, the Old Roman Catholic Church, the Presbyterian Church, the Reformed Church in America, the Southern Baptist Convention, the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, the United Church of Christ (Congregational), the Waldensian Church, and Jehovah's Witnesses.

Salvation Army 1850-1987 1 16

Newspaper Clippings

The Toronto Family Organization. JOSEPH TORONTO: ITALIAN PIONEER AND PATRIARCH. Toronto: The Toronto Family Organization, 1983. 1983	1	17
Typed list of Italian individuals and education backgrounds, handwritten notes by Brandon Di Rayata. 1884-1949	1	18
Urgos, Franceso. THRILLING INCIDENTS IN THE POLITICAL LIFE OF AN ITALIAN; INCLUDING TRAVELS IN AFRICA AND SYRIA. Battle Creek, MI: Steam Press, 1877. 1876-1986	1	19
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
Contains photocopy of newspaper book review and correspondence between Brandon Di Rayata and the Review and Herald Publishing Association. Book information can be found in bibliography.		
<b>Newspaper Clippings 1882-1991</b>	<b>Box</b> 1	<b>Folder</b> 20
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
<b>Books</b>		<b>Box</b> 1
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
De Caro, (Rev.) Louis. OUR HERITAGE: THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA. Sharon, Pennsylvania: General Council, Christian Church of North America, 1977. 1977	1	21
di Rajata, Brando. TRAMONTO DELLA PIU GRANDE ILLUSIONE D'EUROPA. Rome: Fides, 1944. 1944	1	22

## Books

di Rajata, Brando. HUMANITY FACE TO FACE. New York: Italian Press Agency, 1948. 1948	1	23
di Rayata, William R. DI PALO IN FRASCA. New York: International Press Service, 1961. 1961	1	24
di Rayata, William R. DALL' IMPERO A PIAZZALE LORETO. New York: International Press Service, 1962. 1962	1	25
di Rayata, William R. DAI SICANI AI BORONI. New York: International Press Service of America, 1970. 1970	1	26
di Rayata, William R. "Storia degli aborigeni del Nord America." Unpublished, 1970. 1970	1	27
<b>Scope and Contents note</b>		
Unpublished manuscript sent to the Center for Migration Studies on 12 March 1988 from Brandon di Rayata.		