

Guide to the Save the Wetlands Committee, Inc. of Connecticut Records

MS 1434



compiled by Diane E. Kaplan and William E. Brown, Jr.

November 1986

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 1434

CREATOR: Save the Wetlands Committee

TITLE: Save the Wetlands Committee, Inc. of Connecticut records

DATES: 1956-1977

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 6 linear feet (12 boxes, 1 roll)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The records consist of correspondence, minutes, reports, topical files, maps, and other materials documenting the activities of Save the Wetlands, Inc. The records include files kept by committee president Freeborn G. Jewett and treasurer Frederick Pope, Jr. and highlight the committee's educational, public relations, lobbying, and monitoring activities.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1434>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1434>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gifts of Freeborn G. Jewett, 1985; Martin Wright, 1986; and Frederick Pope, Jr., 1986.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Save the Wetlands Committee, Inc. of Connecticut Records (MS 1434). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

The Save the Wetlands Committee was formed in 1966, at the instigation of Allan F. Kitchel, Jr., and was incorporated in 1967. Its stated purpose was to establish a program for the preservation and protection of Connecticut's coastal and inland wetlands. Through its educational program of publications and meetings it worked to garner public support for legislation protecting Connecticut's marshes from dredging, land fill, and commercial development.

The Committee was advised and supported by the National Areas Council and the National Audobon Society and received major grants from the Avalon Foundation, the Old Dominion Foundation, and the American Conservation Association to finance its program. The citizens' committee was led by Freeborn Jewett as its president and Frederick Pope, Jr. as its treasurer and employed Walter S. Boardman as a consultant; Peter H. Borgemeister as executive secretary; and Martin Wright and Associates to perform public relations work. The Committee had its office at 103 Bingham Laboratory on the Yale campus.

From 1967 to 1969 the committee was engaged in intense activity to educate the public to the need for wetlands protection and to prepare the way for passage of a Connecticut "Save the Wetlands" act. The committee sponsored a large Save the Wetlands Conference at Yale in December 1968 and circulated copies of a report to the committee by Russell L. Brenneman on public regulation of coastal wetlands in Connecticut. Committee members worked with state officials, such as Senator Joseph B. Buckley, Senator J. W. Jackson, Senator George Gunther, Representative Mary B. Griswold, and Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Commissioner Joseph Gil, to draft adequate legislation.

The "Save the Wetlands" act became effective on October 1, 1969, as Public Act 695. Following the successful campaign for its passage the committee turned its attention to monitoring the act's implementation and followed various law suits stemming from changes brought by the new law. By 1976 committee members felt that their goals had been achieved and that the law was being suitably enforced. They, therefore, voted to dissolve the Save the Wetlands Committee, Inc. of Connecticut.

Scope and Contents

The Save the Wetlands Committee, Inc. of Connecticut Records consist of correspondence, minutes, reports, topical files, maps, and other materials which document the committee's activities to assist in the

preservation of tidal marshes in the state. The records include files kept by committee president Freeborn G. Jewett and treasurer Frederick Pope, Jr. which highlight the committee's educational, public relations, lobbying, and monitoring activities.

The records, which were donated to the Yale Library by Freeborn Jewett in 1985 and by Martin Wright and Frederick Pope, Jr. in 1986, are arranged in thirteen boxes. The records are arranged by donor and reflect the donors' arrangement of their papers. Boxes 1-8 and Common Folio, folder 87 include records received from Freeborn Jewett; box 9 was donated by Martin Wright and contains a scrapbook of clippings documenting the activities of the committee; and boxes 10-12 are composed of records donated by Frederick Pope, Jr. Both the Jewett and Pope files are arranged by topic and contain similar or duplicate material. The Jewett files contain a wider range of subjects, while the Pope files are more focused on financial and legislative matters. The correspondence in the Pope files (folders 75-84) also helps document the activities of the committee prior to 1966 Aug and to Freeborn Jewett's involvement with the work of the committee.

The records include organizational papers of the committee such as minutes, incorporation documents, by-laws, and membership lists (folders 40, 71-74, and 93-95). There is correspondence in nearly all the files, but chronological files of general correspondence in folders 17 to 23 and 75 to 84 detail the overall history and development of the committee's policies and programs. Major correspondents include Richard H. Pough of the National Areas Council and consultant Walter S. Boardman. Copies of the committee's publications and press releases also detail the progress of the committee in organizing its educational campaign and in garnering public support. Committee newsletters are in folders 3-4; press releases are in folders 43-51 and 94-95; copies of the Brenneman report are in folders 59 and 93; and other publications are in folder 53. Files concerning the 1968 Save the Wetlands Conference are in folders 5-16. Transcripts of the conference and copies of the papers delivered at the conference are in folders 10-12 and folder 99. Drafts of proposed legislation along with the transcripts of committee members' testimony at hearings are in folders 28-35, 52, and 91-92. The files also contain a large quantity of background reference material in the form of maps; newsletters and bulletins from other organizations; copies of wetlands protective legislation adopted by other states; printed articles and reports; and clippings. Included in folders 41 and 42 are color aerial photographs of Connecticut's coastal marshes.

Collection Contents

Original accession

b. 1, f. 1	Acquisitions	1967-1970
b. 1, f. 2	Boardman, Walter S.	1967-1968, undated
b. 1, f. 3-4	Bulletins and newsletters	1968-1972, undated
Connecticut Wetlands Conference		
b. 1, f. 5-6	Participants	1968-1969, undated
b. 1, f. 7	Photographs	undated
b. 1, f. 8-9	Preparations	1964-1969, undated
b. 1, f. 10-12	Printed material	1967-1968
b. 1, f. 13	Public relations	1967-1972, undated
b. 2, f. 14-16	Miscellaneous	1967-1970, undated
b. 2, f. 17-23	Correspondence	1967-1977, undated
b. 2, f. 24	Films	1968
b. 2, f. 25-27	Laws	1963-1968, undated
b. 3, f. 28-35	Legislation	1967-1975, undated
Marshes		
b. 3, f. 36	Essex	1965-1966, undated
b. 3, f. 37	Guilford, Old Lyme, others	1967-1969, undated
b. 3, f. 38-39	National Audubon Society and Connecticut Audubon Council	1967-1968, undated
b. 3, f. 40	Organizational papers	1967-1968
b. 4, f. 41-42	Photographs	undated
b. 4, f. 43-51	Press releases	1967-1971, undated

b. 4, f. 52	Protests and hearings	1967-1968, undated
b. 5, f. 53	Publications	1968
b. 5, f. 54-61	Reference material	1959-1970
b. 6, f. 62-66	Reference material	1970-1977, undated
b. 6, f. 67-68	Town representatives	1968
b. 6, f. 69	"A Vanishing Resource..." English	1967-1968, undated
b. 7, f. 70	Foundation	1967-1968
b. 7, f. 71	Incorporation	1968
b. 7, f. 72-4	Minutes	1967-1977
b. 8	Maps	undated
b. 9	Scrapbook: clippings	1967-1972
b. 9	Scrapbooks	
b. 13	Oversize	

Accession 1987-M-017: Additional Material

b. 10, f. 75-84	Correspondence	1965-1970
b. 11, f. 85-89	Financial records	1967-1969, undated
b. 11, f. 90	Goodwin, George	1968-1969
b. 11, f. 91-92	Legislation: House and Senate	1956-1969
b. 11, f. 93-95	Minutes and press releases	1965-1970
b. 12, f. 96-98	Printed material	1960-1969
b. 12, f. 99-100	Reports	1962, 1968
b. 12, f. 101	Water resources problems	1968-1970
b. 12, f. 102-103	Miscellanea	1967-1970, undated

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Conservation of natural resources -- Law and legislation -- Connecticut
Environmental protection
Marshes -- Connecticut
Salt marshes -- Connecticut
Wetland conservation -- Connecticut

Geographic Names

Connecticut -- Politics and government

Genres / Formats

Maps
Photoprints

Names

Boardman, Walter S.
Borgemeister, Peter H.
Brenneman, Russell L., 1928-2016
Jewett, F. G. (Freeborn G.)
Pope, Frederick
Pough, Richard H. (Richard Hooper), 1904-2003

Corporate Bodies

Connecticut Audubon Society
Martin Wright and Associates, Inc. (Guilford, Conn.)
National Areas Council
National Audubon Society
Save the Wetlands Committee