

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 71 M 49 Location Annex 13-a-2/6 (L) and mapcase
Title OUTDOOR CLEANLINESS ASSOCIATION. Records.
Approximate inclusive dates 1931-1969, bulk dates 1940-1966
Date of receipt February 1, 1971 Received from Mrs. Charles A. Gristede
Volume on arrival 2 4 drawer filing cabinets, 12 cartons
Number of boxes (after reboxing) 14 RC, 4 FB (oversize materials in Mapcase) 18 linear feet
Condition good
Restrictions none
Description see attached sheets

Special Formats ☒ Photographs ☐ Maps ☒ Audio Tapes ☐ Films ☒ Graphics
☒ Artifacts ☐ Machine-readable records
☒ Other (list) paintings

Temporary catalog card added entries

Air - Pollution

New York (city)

New York (city) - Street cleaning

Refuse and refuse disposal

Accessioned by CRK

Date 5-29-86

Outdoor Cleanliness Association of the City of New York

Institutional History

The Outdoor Cleanliness Association of the City of New York (OCA) was founded in 1930 by a group of wealthy Upper East Side residents as a "civic and voluntary association whose purpose was to promote a consciousness of the advantages resulting from a clean, well lighted, beautiful city." Primarily a gadfly organization, the OCA helped citizens to identify and locate the proper city authorities to correct specific local health and sanitation violations, as well as attempting^{to} increase awareness both in individual^{citizens} and govern^Nment offices of the benefits of urban cleanliness through poster campaigns, school programs and fund raising events, such as their annual flower mart on the steps of Saint Patrick's Cathedral. While the OCA did focus on such issues as dog waste and messy sidewalks, it was one of the first civic organizations to call attention to the growing problem of urban air pollution, and participated in lobbying for the Sharky Act of New York, which for the first time made air pollution a civil offense. The organization continued^{its} activities through 1971. Presidents of the OCA included Mrs. A.A. Claflin, Mrs. M.A. Alexander, Mrs. F. Wagstaff, Mrs. C. Reavis, Mrs. K. Morrow and Mrs. C.A. Gristede.

Outdoor Cleanliness Association

Contents

The records of the Outdoor Cleanliness Association (OCA) consists of 8 series; the first of these, Correspondence, comprises the bulk of the collection, and is comprised of a number of correspondence files containing letters, memoranda, and printed matter. Included are: general correspondence; and correspondence concerning: air pollution; with city agencies (including the departments of Building and Housing, Air Pollution Control, Health, Parks, Sanitation, Traffic, Transportation, and the Board of Education); special interest groups and other community organizations; education and public awareness projects and fund-raising events; the OCA annual "Flower Mart"; social events, such as balls and dances; membership; and board meetings. The other series are the Minutes and Reports of the Board of Directors; Financial Records, comprised for the most part of check and account books; the correspondence files of the OCA Junior Committee; Graphic Works -publicity posters of OCA events, as well as a few paintings; Photographs of OCA members and events; and finally Clipping Books containing newspaper clippings (largely from society pages) concerning OCA activities and members

Outdoor Cleanliness Association
Series Listing

Correspondence Files 1934-1969

Minutes and Reports, of Annual Meetings 1931-1968

Financial Records 1940-1969

Junior Committee Records 1963-1969

Directories/Memo Books 1947-1966

Photographs

Graphic Works

Clipping Books

Outdoor Cleanliness Association Records

Container Listing

Box

Contents

Correspondence

- 1 General correspondence 1940-1969
Correspondence- Air Pollution 1939-1967
- 2 Correspondence- City Agencies 1939-1968
" - Special Interest Groups 1945-1968
- 3 Correspondence- Special Interest Groups (cont.)
" - Projects and Benefit Functions 1936-1969
- 4-5 Correspondence- Annual Flower Mart 1934-1969
- 6 Correspondence- Social Events 1947-1967
- 7-8 Correspondence- Membership 1943-1968
" - Board Meetings, Officers, Elections
1944, 1956-1968

Minutes, Reports, Records- Board of Directors 1931-1960

8

Financial Records 1940-1969

9-11

Outdoor Cleanliness Association - Jr. Committee Records
1963-1969

12-14

Directories/Memo Books 1947-1966

15

Photographs

16 (and mapcase - drawer 2) - NOT FOUND 6/21/90 mls

Graphic Works

Mapcase - drawer 2

Clipping Books 1930-1958

17-18

(oversize- mapcase drawer 3)

Box 19

Paintings, plaque