

**The New York Public Library  
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Manuscripts and Archives Division**

Guide to the

## **Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area records**

1969-2001 (bulk 1974-1995)

MssCol 17935

Compiled by Leslie Reyman, September 2010

### **Summary**

**Creator:** Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area

**Title:** Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area records, 1969-2001 (bulk 1974-1995)

**Size:** 1.3 linear feet (3 boxes)

**Source:** Donated by the Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation, 2008

**Abstract:** The Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area is a nonprofit community organization responsible for the maintenance and development of the Jefferson Market Garden in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of New York City. The records of the Committee, including correspondence, meeting minutes, fundraising files, financial records, planting maps, photographs, and press releases document the efforts of community activists to have the site of the former Women's House of Detention used for a community garden, to raise funds for the support of the garden, and to attract volunteers to maintain and develop it.

**Access:** Advance notice required. Apply at <http://www.nypl.org/mssref>

**Preferred citation:** Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area records, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

### **Custodial history**

Donated to the Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation by Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area.

### **Related collections**

Association of Village Homeowners records. Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Village Neighborhood Committee records. Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

## Creator history

The Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area is a nonprofit community organization responsible for the maintenance and development of the Jefferson Market Garden in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of New York City. The Committee, incorporated in 1974, grew out of the Ad-Hoc Committee for the Demolition of the Women's House of Detention. Once the House of Detention was removed, the Committee was successful its efforts to have the city government devote the site to a community garden. The Committee raises funds from foundations and private citizens and solicits volunteers to support and maintain the garden.

## Scope and content note

The records of the Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area, 1969-2001, consist of the files of Geraldine Mindell, founder and chairman of the Committee and, to a lesser extent, of her successor, Annelene Spira documenting the efforts of community activists to create, maintain, and improve the Jefferson Market Garden. Included are correspondence with Committee officers, other community organizations, funders, elected officials, and the general public as well as meeting minutes, fundraising files, financial records, planting maps and photographs of the garden, and press releases.

## Key terms

### Subjects

Community gardens -- New York (State) -- New York  
Urban beautification -- New York (State) -- New York  
Urban renewal -- Citizen participation

### Places

Greenwich Village (New York, N.Y.)

### Names

Ad-Hoc Committee for the Demolition of the Women's House of Detention  
Mindell, Geraldine  
Spira, Annelene  
Village Committee for the Jefferson Market Area

### Special formats

Landscaping plans  
Photographs

## Container list

- b.1 f.1-8 Correspondence, 1973-2000
  - b.1 f.9 Brochure
  - b.1 f.10 Demolition of Women's House of Detention, 1969, 1973-1974
- b.2 f.1 Fence project, 1984-1997
- b.2 f.2 Financial papers, 1974-1980
  - Fundraising files
    - b.2 f.3 Astor Foundation, 1974-1992
    - b.2 f.4 Citigrants, 1979-1990
    - b.2 f.5 General, 1982-2000 (Chiefly Chase Manhattan Bank)
    - b.2 f.6 Herb Schwartz, 1995
    - b.2 f.7 J. M. Kaplan Fund, 1980-1982 (See also: Box 1 Correspondence)
    - b.2 f.8 Parks Council, The, 1976-1996
      - Thank you letters, 1978-1997
- b.3 f.1-2 Meeting minutes, 1973-1996
- b.3 f.3-5 Photographs, 1976-1996
  - b.3 f.6 Planting maps
  - b.3 f.7 Press releases, 1974-1978