

A Guide to the Christine Hoepfner Collection on the Shenandoah National Park, 1911 - 2000 SC 0170

Christine Hoepfner Collection on the Shenandoah National Park
1911-2000



Title Statement

A Guide to the Christine Hoepfner Collection on the Shenandoah National Park, 1911 - 2000 SC 0170

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 0170

Unit ID

/repositories/4/resources/310

Unit Date

1911-2000

Language

English

Abstract

Contains photocopies of letters, reports, and news stories, mostly from the National Archives and the Shenandoah National Park Archives, which deal with the formation and early administration of Shenandoah National Park in Virginia.

Creator

Hoepfner, Christine, -2018

Extent

0.6 cubic feet 2 boxes

Repository

James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection. Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the James Madison University Special Collections Library to use this collection.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have been transferred to the James Madison University Special Collection Library. For more information, contact the Special Collections Library Reference Desk (library-special@jmu.edu).

Acquisition Information

Donated by Christine Hoepfner in 2002

Processing Information

In order to streamline the process of applying collection numbers, Special Collections staff completed a large-scale renumbering campaign in 2017-2018. **This collection was previously cataloged as SC 4042.**

Preferred Citation

[identification of item], [box #, folder#], Christine Hoepfner Collection on the Shenandoah National Park, 1911-2000, SC 0170, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Bio/Historical Note

Christine Hoepfner began working for Shenandoah National Park as a historian and archaeologist in 1992. While out in the field one day she met an elderly man who told her for the first time about the removal of mountain families. At the time, Hoepfner was also working on a Ph.D. dissertation about the creation of Shenandoah National Park for the University of Pennsylvania. Later, she served as president of The Children of Shenandoah, a group of descendants of the families removed, formed in 1994 by Lisa Custalow to lobby for more complete and accurate historical displays and videos in Park visitor centers. Hoepfner moved away from the area in 2002.

Scope and Content

This collection contains photocopies of letters, reports, memos, land records and other documents from the National Archives and Shenandoah National Park archives concerning the formation and early administration of Shenandoah National Park. The condemnation of private land and removal of approximately 500 families from the Park in the 1930s, the attempts of those families to deal with the government, and the response of the public and of governmental agencies to the removal, form the focus of the collection. Also included are newspaper articles about the removal, and programs and newsletters documenting the later establishment of a group of descendants of the removed families, The Children of Shenandoah.

Series 1, Letters/Correspondence, 1925-1999, consists of 9 folders, which contain letters and correspondence between government officials/members of the Department of the Interior and residents of the area of the proposed Shenandoah National Park and other private citizens. Also contains job applications

and work requests for the Department of the Interior, along with letters to President Franklin D. Roosevelt, messages from John D. Rockefeller Jr. and various reports and legal documents pertaining to permits, land ownership and resettlement efforts.

Series 2, Publications, 1911-1990, consists of 4 folders which contain press releases and letters concerning news stories from the Department of the Interior, various newspaper articles, and dissertations and publications.

Series 3, Children of Shenandoah, 1981-2000, consists of 1 folder containing letters, program announcements, and other items pertinent to the establishment and work of the group, Children of Shenandoah.

Keywords

Shenandoah National Park (Va.) -- History

Shenandoah National Park (Va.)

Mountain people -- Virginia -- Shenandoah National Park -- Social life and customs

Mountain life -- Virginia -- Shenandoah National Park -- History

Mountain people -- Blue Ridge Mountains -- Social life and customs

National parks and reserves -- Appalachian Region, Southern -- History

Recreation areas -- Virginia -- Shenandoah National Park -- History

Shenandoah River Valley (Va. and W. Va.) -- History

Letters (correspondence)

Publications (documents)

Photocopies

Children of Shenandoah

Arrangement

The collection is arranged topically into three series:

- Letters/Correspondence, 1925-1999
- Publications, 1911-1990
- Children of Shenandoah, 1981-2000

Description of Subordinate Components

Letters/Correspondence

Unit ID 1

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1595

Unit Date 1925-1999, undated

Department of Interior with Residents (A-M)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1598

Unit Date 1930-1938

Mixed Materials [1000885907] 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Scope and Content

Correspondence between residents within the proposed boundaries of Shenandoah National Park and officials of the Department of the Interior. Arranged alphabetically by name of resident.

Depart of Interior with Residents (M-Z)

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/9228

Unit Date 1930-1938

Mixed Materials [1000885907] 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Scope and Content

Correspondence between residents within the proposed boundaries of Shenandoah National Park and officials of the Department of the Interior. Arranged alphabetically by name of resident.

Private citizens with government agencies

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1599

Unit Date 1925-1939

Mixed Materials [1000885907] 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Scope and Content

Correspondence between private citizens and various governmental agencies concerning artifacts for a museum. Includes a 1925 "Donor's Certificate." Arranged chronologically.

Memos, Letters from John D. Rockefeller

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1600

Unit Date 1926-1934

Mixed Materials [1000885907] 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Scope and Content

Memos and letters mostly among state and federal officials on administrative aspects of Shenandoah National Park, but also includes letters on funding from John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Memos, Letters from John D., Rockefeller

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/9229

Unit Date 1935-1948, undated

Mixed Materials [1000885907] 1 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Scope and Content

Memos and letters mostly among state and federal officials on administrative aspects of Shenandoah National Park, but also includes letters on funding from John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Job Applications/Work Requests

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1601

Unit Date 1933-1941

Mixed Materials [1000885907] 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Scope and Content

Job applications and work requests to the Department of the Interior.

Letters to Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1602

Unit Date 1933-1937, undated

Mixed Materials [1000885907] 1 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Scope and Content

Letters to President Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning removal of mountain people.

Land Records

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1603

Unit Date 1927-1952, undated

Mixed Materials [1000885907] 1 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Scope and Content

Contains letters, reports, and legal documents concerning ownership of land, permits, and resettlement

contains letters, reports, and legal documents concerning ownership of land, permits, and resettlement efforts.

Land plats

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1604

Unit Date 1927-1999, undated

Mixed Materials [1000885907] 1 (box)

Container 9 (folder)

Scope and Content

Contains ownership plats for some tracts within the Park including Cave Cemetery, and lists of map sources.

Publications

Unit ID 2

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1596

Unit Date 1911-2000, undated

Department of Interior Press Releases/Letters

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1605

Unit Date 1928-1996

Mixed Materials [1000885908] 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Scope and Content

Press releases and letters concerning news stories from the Department of the Interior.

Newspaper Articles

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1606

Unit Date 1911-1949

Mixed Materials [1000885908] 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Newspaper Articles

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1607

Unit Date 1971-1999

Mixed Materials [1000885908] 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Dissertations and Publications

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1608

Unit Date 1991, undated

Mixed Materials [1000885908] 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Scope and Content

Includes excerpts from or citations to six dissertations.

Children of Shenandoah

Unit ID 3

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1597

Unit Date 1981-2000

Letters, program announcements, etc.

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1609

Unit Date 1981-2000

Mixed Materials [1000885908] 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Scope and Content

Letters, program announcements, and other items pertinent to the establishment and work of the group, Children of Shenandoah.