

Historic Trappe

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Borough of Trappe Collection 1895 – 1992 [bulk 1969-1989]

Object ID #2020.002.0048

Finding Aid

Prepared by Sheila Joy
September 2022

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SUMMARY INFORMATION

Repository: Historic Trappe

Creator: Borough of Trappe

Title: Borough of Trappe Collection, 1897-1992

Object ID: #2020.002.0048

Date: 1897-1992, bulk 1969-1989

Extent: The total extent of the collection is 3.46 linear feet (6 document cases plus 1 flat file box.)

Processors: Sheila Joy

Language: English

Accruals: No further accruals are expected.

Custodial History: This collection was received by Historic Trappe as a gift of Trappe Borough on May 6, 1997.

Restrictions: This collection is open for research.

Reproduction: Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured by Historic Trappe. Contact the archivist for more information.

Abstract: The Borough of Trappe is located in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. It was settled in 1717 and formally incorporated in 1896. The collection contains administrative and municipal planning records.

PROVENANCE & ACQUISITION

This collection was donated to Historic Trappe by Patricia Katona, Borough Secretary on behalf of the Borough of Trappe in May 1997 and received by Rev. John Shetler, former President of Historic Trappe (formally the Historical Society of Trappe). The majority of the gift was comprised of financial records including: receipt books; check stubs, canceled checks, and bank check records; bank deposits; treasurer's reports; mortgage lists; payroll records; bills and invoices from contractors; bonds and interest coupons, 1903-1931; and a box of Borough of Trappe Water Department payment stubs, circa 1975-1990. Outdated records including tax records, canceled checks, utility bills, bank records, payroll records, invoices, etc. were reviewed by Trappe Borough Manager, Marcus V. Dolny on June 17, 2022 who approved them to be discarded. The ordinance books were received on May 6, 1997 and were approved by the Borough Council to be transferred for permanent preservation.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

"According to the 2010 census, 3,381 people call Trappe Borough home. The Borough is located in central Montgomery County, about a one-hour drive from Center City, Philadelphia. While primarily a bedroom community, the Borough possesses modest agricultural, industrial, and commercial uses. The Borough's main thoroughfare, West Main Street, boasts many retail and specialty shops... reminiscent of the quaint country villages that once dotted the Pennsylvania landscape.

"The Borough was settled in 1717 and formally incorporated in 1896. The Augustus Lutheran Church, the oldest unchanged Lutheran Church building in continuous use in the United States, is located in the Borough, as is the homestead of Frederick Muhlenberg, signer of the Bill of Rights and first Speaker of the United States House of Representatives."

Sources Consulted:

Quoted text from: Borough of Trappe Pennsylvania. "Borough Info." Accessed March 30, 2012. <http://www.trappeborough.com/info.php>

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTES

This collection contains administrative and municipal records from the Borough of Trappe, Pennsylvania. Most of the records date from 1962 to 1994, although there are some dating back to 1896. The administration/city planning records include: correspondence with Borough of Collegeville, circa 1965-1980; studies and reports on city planning and infrastructure; census records, 1982-1991; property liens; Building Inspector/Zoning Officer Reports; Collegeville-Trappe Municipal Authority meeting minutes, 1981-1983; zoning maps; maintenance manuals;

utilities and improvements documents, 1899-1933; and ordinances, 1897-1935. Of special interest are Trappe Borough Council minutes, 1896-1925.

PROCESSING NOTE

Outdated records approved by Trappe Borough Manager to be discarded were removed from the collection.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Financial Records

Box 1: Bonds, Interest Coupons, Insurance Policies, Miscellaneous, and Triennial Enumeration and Assessment Ledgers (1897-1980s)

Box Folder

1	1	Bonds and Interest Coupons, July 1903-July 1908
1	2	Bonds and Interest Coupons, January 1909-January 1916
1	3	Bonds and Interest Coupons, 1931
1	4	Insurance Policies for Automobile and Workmen’s Compensation, 1920s-1930s
1	5	Insurance Policies for Automobile and Workmen’s Compensation, 1930s
1	6	Insurance Policies for Automobile and Workmen’s Compensation, 1980s
1	7	Miscellaneous Bills, Accounts, and Loans, 1897-1935 a) Estate Document re: William Schleder Debt to J.D. Scheler, 1897 b) Tax Accounts c) Letter Concerning New Treasurer, 1909 d) Report of Treasurer, 1913 e) Maintenance Loan, 1924, 1926 f) Bills and Accounts, 1935
1	8	Triennial Enumeration and Assessment Ledgers: 1912, 1915
1	9	Triennial Enumeration and Assessment Ledgers: 1918, 1921
1	10	Triennial Enumeration and Assessment Ledger: 1924

Box 2: Triennial Enumeration and Assessment Ledgers: 1927, 1930, 1948

Series 1 continued.

Box Folder

2	1	Triennial Enumeration and Assessment Ledgers: 1927, 1930
2	2	Triennial Enumeration and Assessment Ledger: 1948

Series 2: Utilities and Improvements

Box 2: Utilities and Improvements (1899-1933)

Box	Folder	
2	3	Roads: Accidents, Indentures, Grading and Opening of Roads, Paving, Blueprints 1933, Civil Works Projects, County Aid Application 1932, etc. (Also see Ordinances)
2	4	Street Railways: Agreements with Trappe, Limerick, and Royersford, 1909
2	5	Street Lighting: 1911, 1918
2	6	Electricity a) Collegeville Electric, 1910 b) Trappe Electric, 1911
2	7	Sewers: Blank Specification Forms, 1905
2	8	Telephones: Contracts and Pole Lights, 1905-1933
2	9	Street Curbing, Bills, Petitions: 1899

Series 3: Ordinances**Box 2: Ordinances: 1897-1969**

Box	Folder	
2	10	Various Ordinances, 1897-1910
2	11	Various Ordinances, 1910-1935
2	12	Land Subdivision Regulations, 1967
2	13	Subdivision of the Borough of Trappe, 1969

Series 4: Council Documents**Box 3: By-Laws, Incorporation, Boundary Line (1908-1909), Voter Registry Lists (1919-1935), Zoning**

Box	Folder	
3	1	By-Laws, Rules of Order, Petition for a Borough, 1893
3	2	Decree of Incorporation, 1896 and Bonds for Paving of Main Street
3	3	Office Holders Oath of Office: 1924, 1930, 1935
3	4	Legal Proceedings Concerning Founding and Boundary Line with Collegeville, 1908-1909
3	5	Voter Registry Lists: 1919-1923 (Separate Men and Women Lists)
3	6	Voter Registry Lists: 1924-1925, 1927, 1929
3	7	Voter Registry Lists: 1931-1932
3	8	Voter Registry Lists: 1933-1935
3	9	Deed – Dexter and Rita Rambo, Seventh Ave, 1934
3	10	Subdivision Plan Map for Jackson Property, 1973

3	11	Robert and Mary Jackson Plans for Requested Zoning Change from R2 to R1
3	12	Monthly Reports – Building Inspector/Zoning Officer December 1982 – 1983
3	13	Memorandum in Support of Application of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jackson
3	14	Certificate – Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs “Providence Indemnity Voting Award” for Second Highest Percentage of Voter Participation in 1974 General Election, 1975

Box 4: Correspondence (1987-1988), Council Minutes (1989), C-T Municipal Authority Minutes (1978-1983) Comprehensive Plans (1971)

Box Folder

4	1	Borough Correspondence, 1987
4	2	Borough Correspondence, 1988
4	3	Borough Council Meeting Minutes, 1989
4	4	Attendance Record of Councilmen, 1970 – 1982
4	5	Board of Assessment Appeals
4	6	Borough of Collegeville
4	7	C-T Municipal Authority Minutes: April 1978, 1980 – June 1982
4	8	C-T Municipal Authority Minutes: July 1982 – April 1983
4	9	Annual Audit and Financial Report, 1981-1982
4	10	Facing Page for History and Regional Setting Chapter of Municipality’s Comprehensive Plan, 1971
4	11	Comprehensive Plan - Reviewed, 1971
4	12	Community Facilities Plan Section 4; The Perkiomen Creek Plan, 1971
4	13	Trappe Comprehensive Plan Part 5, 1971

Box 5: Comprehensive Plans, 1969-1970

Box Folder

5	1	Comprehensive Plan Part 6, 1971
5	2	Comprehensive Plan Part 7, Implementation
5	3	Community Extract - Trappe - Comprehensive Plan, 1969
5	4	Lower Perkiomen Valley Comprehensive Plan Volume 1, 1969
5	5	Lower Perkiomen Valley Comprehensive Plan Volumes 2 and 3, 1969
5	6	Lower Perkiomen Valley Comprehensive Plan Volume 4, 1969
5	7	Lower Perkiomen Valley Comprehensive Plan Volume 5, 1969
5	8	Montgomery County Planning Commission Study of Population and Economy, 1969

Box 6: Zoning and Property Planning Records, 1960-1992

Box Folder

6	1	Future Land Use Plan, 1970
6	2	Population Study, 1970
6	3	Existing Land Use Draft, 1970
6	4	Lower Perkiomen Valley Area Residential Questionnaire Analysis, 1969
6	5	Examination and Recommendation on Subdivision Regulations, 1968
6	6	Zoning Ordinance Analysis, 1971
6	7	Borough Zoning Map: 1971, 1973
6	8	Map: Present and Future Expressways, January 1963
6	9	Zoning Ordinance #183, 1960
6	10	Zoning Ordinance #183, 1973
6	11	Zoning Ordinance #183, 1979
6	12	Zoning Appeals, 1980s
6	13	Zoning Records, 1968-1980s
6	14	Traffic Circulation Plan, 1971
6	15	Final Report to Borough of Trappe - Traffic Impact Study, 1973
6	16	Impact Study Proposal for Apartments and Town Houses, 1974
6	17	Montgomery County Planning Commission - Conditions for Hankin and Robinson Project Approval, 1974
6	18	Floodplain Zoning Citation, 1976
6	19	Critical Bridge Program, 1979
6	20	Building Code Ordinance Proposal, 1969
6	21	Property Proposal Plans/Blueprints
6	22	Proposed Subdivision Plan for Collegeville Acres, undated
6	23	1970 Census Income and Employment Data, 1972
6	24	Community/Borough Information Guide, 1991
6	25	Election Notices, 1935
6	26	275th Anniversary Program and Map, 1992
6	27	Veteran Memorial Dedication, 1992
6	28	Miscellaneous

Box 7: Council Minute Ledger (1897-1925)

Box Folder

7	1	Council Minute Ledger, 1896-1925
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FEEDBACK

If you would like to submit feedback, corrections, or additional information to improve this finding aid, please contact us at info@historictrappe.org