

Franklin Park Coalition Records: A Guide and Inventory

Collection Title: Franklin Park Coalition records, 1945 – 2006, bulk 1977-1989

Collection Size: Approximately 4 cubic feet, 2 oversize folders, 7 sets of rolled maps

Collection Donor(s): Christine Poff, Executive Director of Franklin Park Coalition

Date of Accession: 10/10/2013

Accessioned by: Autumn Haag, Librarian Archivist, RCC.

Processed by: Katie Bliss, Library Assistant, RCC, and Tim Bowen, Archives Volunteer

Referral: Lanae Handy and Jose Alicea

Collection Description Abstract:

The Franklin Park Coalition (FPC) is a non-profit organization founded in 1971 by Richard Heath and Elma Lewis in order to support and advocate for Franklin Park in Boston. FPC, which is governed by a Board of Directors and managed by an Executive Director, seeks to engage the park's surrounding communities through programming, fundraising, and volunteer park maintenance. Once founded, FPC's primary goal was to improve the park's physical condition as well as its reputation. Since then the organization has worked with state and local government, the Parks and Recreation Department, the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA), local schools and colleges, and various groups within the community.

Franklin Park is a 527-acre park designed by Frederick Law Olmsted in the late 19th century as part of a chain of connected greenspaces throughout Boston and Brookline known as the Emerald Necklace. The park includes the Franklin Park Zoo, a golf course, and Schoolmaster Hill (one-time home of Ralph Waldo Emerson).

Scope and Content:

The collection consists of records related to Franklin Park Coalition, including correspondence, financial records, publications, meeting minutes and agendas, press clippings, plans, maps, negatives, film proofs, and records relating to long-range planning, general

operations, and membership. Series are Administrative Material, Board of Directors, Correspondence, Events, Fundraising, Plans/Maps, Press, Publications, and Strategy and Management.

Restrictions:

There are no restrictions on this collection.

Related Websites:

[Franklin Park Coalition](#)

[Emerald Necklace Conservancy](#)

[City of Boston Parks and Recreation: Emerald Necklace](#)

[Olmsted National Historic Site](#)

Related Archival Material:

Boston Public Library (Central)

[Boston Parks Department Reports \(1876-2000\)](#)

Dorchester Historical Society

Website: <http://www.dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org/>

Call (617) 293-3052 for questions regarding their holdings

Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

[Olmsted Archives](#)

Related Published Material:

Arrison, Julie. *Franklin Park*. Charleston: Arcadia Pub., 2009. Print.

[Heath, Richard. *A History of the Playstead in Franklin Park*. N.p., n.d. Print.](#)

Olmsted, Frederick Law. *The Papers of Frederick Law Olmstead: The Early Boston Years, 1882-1890*. Ed. Ethan Carr, Amanda Gagel, and Michael Shapiro. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2013. Print.

Sawyer, Samuel Elwell. *History of the West Roxbury park: how obtained. Disregard of private rights. Absolute injustice. Arbitrary laws. Right of eminent domain. 1873 to 1887*. Gloucester: Cape Anne Breeze Print, 1887. Print.

Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
1	Administrative Material		Assorted records including: meeting minutes, memos, reports, and invoices among other things	1975-1976, 1978-1979, 1984, 1986, 1990-1992, n.d.	
1		Financials	Franklin Park Coalition 1985 Annual Report; contract with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department; proof of non-profit status from the IRS; a Preliminary Five Year Financial Projection for Franklin Par and Walter D. Stone Memorial Zoos	1980, 1983, 1985, 1988	
1			Massachusetts Metropolitan District Commission Annual Budget Request; Franklin Park Coalition, Inc. Financial Statements and Auditor's Report	1983, 1985, 1987	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
1			Correspondence, notes and bills re: IRS levies	1989-1991	

1			Assorted Board of Directors reports and memos	1989-1992	
1		Membership	Correspondence from members; assorted records regarding membership campaigns	1978-1979, 1982-1984	
1			Assorted records regarding membership campaigns; Franklin Park Coalition Financial Statements	1982-1983, 1986-1987, n.d.	
1			Assorted records regarding membership campaigns	1982-1983, n.d.	
1	Board of Directors	Meeting Minutes and Agendas	Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	1978	
1			Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	1979	
1			Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	1980	
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1			Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	1986	
1			Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	1987	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
1			Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	1988	

1			Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	1989	
1			Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	Jan. – Apr 1990	
1			Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	May – Nov. 1990	
1			Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	1991	
1			Minutes and agendas from Franklin Park Coalition Board of Directors meetings	1998-1999	
1	Correspondence	City Council Letters	Correspondence between Franklin Park Coalition and Boston City Council members	1978-1986	
1		General Letters	Assorted letters to and from Franklin Park Coalition	1975-1979	
1			Assorted letters to and from Franklin Park Coalition	1980-1981	
1			Assorted letters to and from Franklin Park Coalition	1982	
1			Assorted letters to and from Franklin Park Coalition	1983	
1			Assorted letters to and from Franklin Park Coalition	1984	
1			Assorted letters to and from Franklin Park Coalition	1984	
1			Assorted letters to and from Franklin Park Coalition	1985	
2			Assorted letters to and from Franklin Park Coalition	1986	
2			Assorted letters to and from Franklin Park Coalition	1987	
2			Assorted letters to and from Franklin Park Coalition	1988-1992, n.d.	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
2		Letters to the Media	Correspondence between Franklin Park Coalition and various media outlets including: Boston Globe,	1978-1984	

			Boston Herald, Bay State Banner, Jamaica Plain Citizen, WCVB-TV, WBZ-TV, and WBUR among others		
2		Mayor's Letters	Correspondence between Franklin Park Coalition and the Boston Mayor's Office	1975, 1977-1986, 1988, 1990	
2		MBTA Letters	Correspondence between and regarding the MBTA and Franklin Park Coalition	1977, 1981-1986	
2			Correspondence between and regarding the Franklin Park Coalition and the MBTA; MBTA ridership and loading reports	1985-1986	
2		Parks Dept. Letters	Correspondence between and regarding Franklin Park Coalition and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department	1976-1983	
2			Correspondence between and regarding Franklin Park Coalition and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department; Boston Parks and Recreation Department Annual Report	1983-1985	
2			Correspondence between and regarding Franklin Park Coalition and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department; City of Boston Mayor's Management Review Committee Final Report; Boston Parks and Recreation Department 1982-1986 Transition Report	1986	
2			Correspondence between and regarding Franklin Park Coalition and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department	1987	
2		Police Dept. Letters	Correspondence between and regarding Franklin Park Coalition and the Boston Police Department	1975, 1977-1985	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
2			Correspondence between and regarding Franklin Park Coalition and the Boston Police Department;	1978, 1980-1981, 1984-	

			reports on crime statistics; Boston Police Department A Report to the People of Boston	1988	
2		Publications	Assorted letters regarding various Franklin Park Coalition publications	1979-1986	
2		School Dept. Letters	Correspondence between and regarding Franklin Park Coalition and the Boston Public Schools	1977-1987	
2	Events		Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding various events at Franklin Park	1985	
2			Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding various events at Franklin Park	1987	
2		Boston Kite Festival	Assorted records regarding the Boston Kite Festival at Franklin Park	1984, 1989	
2		Caribbean-American Carnival Day	Assorted records regarding the Caribbean-American Carnival day at Franklin Park	1981-1986	
2		Cross-Country Meets	Assorted records regarding cross-country meets at Franklin Park; Program for the Big East 1986 Cross Country Championships; draft of Cross Country at Franklin Park Rules and Regulations	1983-1989	
2		Franklin Park Centennial	Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding the Franklin Park Centennial	1982-1984	
2			Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding the Franklin Park Centennial	1985	
2		Latin-American Soccer Association of Mass.	Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding Latin-American Soccer Association of Mass.'s use of Franklin Park	1986	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
2		Misc. Events	Assorted records regarding various events at Franklin Park; project plan for Boston Neighborhoods Concert Productions	1978-1985	

2			Assorted records regarding various events at Franklin Park	1986-1990	
2		Planning and Permitting	Permit application; policies for using public parks and Franklin Park for events	1980-1981	
2		West Indian Carnival	Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding the West Indian Carnival at Franklin Park	1983-1986	
2		West Indian Jamboree	Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding the West Indian Jamboree at Franklin Park	1981-1987	
2	Fundraising	American Legion Highway Improvements	Correspondence regarding funding for American Legion Highway Improvements	1986	
2		Corporate Breakfast	Assorted records regarding the planning of the Corporate Breakfast fundraising event	1984-1986	
2		Corporate Cocktail Party	Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding the Corporate Cocktail Party fundraising event	1986-1988	
2		Forest Hills Entrance Restoration	Assorted records regarding the restoration of the Forest Hills Entrance to Franklin Park	1984-1988	
2		Grants and Contributions	Correspondence between Franklin Park Coalition and various companies, organizations, and individuals regarding grants and contributions	1981, 1983-1984, 1986-1988	
2			Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding grants and contributions from various companies, organizations, and individuals	1981-1991, n.d.	
3			Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding grants and contributions from various companies, organizations, and individuals; brochure for the Hyams Foundation	1982-1987, 1990	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
3			Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding grants and contributions from various companies, organizations, and individuals; brochure for the	1985-1986	

			Boston Foundation; brochure for the Godfrey M. Hyams Trust; brochure for the Philanthropy Program		
3		Humboldt Bus Loop Restoration	Assorted records regarding the restoration of the Humboldt Bus Loop at Franklin Park	1981, 1983-1987	
3		Park Rangers	Correspondence regarding the Park Rangers Program at Franklin Park	1982, 1984, 1986	
3		Peabody Circle Improvements	Assorted records regarding the Peabody Circle improvements at Franklin Park	1986-1987	
3		Schoolmaster Hill Restoration	Assorted records regarding the restoration of Schoolmaster Hill at Franklin Park	1983-1984, 1990	
3		Schoolmaster Hill Restoration Phase II	Assorted records regarding Phase II of the restoration of Schoolmaster Hill at Franklin Park	1981, 1984-1987	
3		Summer Work Crew	Correspondence regarding the Summer Work Crew Program at Franklin Park	1978, 1982-1984, 1986-1987	
3		Wilderness Renewal (GSD Harvard)	Correspondence and proposal regarding the Wilderness Renewal Project at Franklin Park in conjunction with Harvard University's Graduate School of Design	1983-1985	
3	Plans/Maps		Assorted plans and maps of Franklin Park	1972, 1980, 1982, n.d.	
		Boston Parks and Recreation Department General Map of Franklin Park	1 map	1985	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
		City of Boston Topographic and Planimetric	Set of 2 maps	n.d.	

		Survey, Franklin Park Golf Course			
		Franklin Park, Boston Topographic Maps	Set of 6 maps	n.d.	
		Improvements to Playstead Circulation and Entrances, Franklin Park, Roxbury, Massachusetts	Set of 8 maps	1996	
		Shade Tree Inventory Risk Assessment	Set of 2 maps	2005	
		Shaded Relief, Soils, and Base Map	Set of 3 maps	n.d.	
		Topographic Maps	Set of 7 maps	n.d.	
3	Press	Franklin Park Notes	Clippings of Richard Heath's Franklin Park Notes column in the Jamaica Plain Citizen	1981, n.d.	
3		News Stories	Assorted clippings from various newspapers and newsletters regarding Franklin Park, other parks or parks in general, and the Boston area; issue of Sanctuary: The Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society	1977-1983	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
3			Assorted clippings from various newspapers and newsletters and press releases regarding Franklin Park, other parks or parks in general, and the Boston	1984	

			area		
3			Assorted clippings from various newspapers and newsletters and press releases regarding Franklin Park, other parks or parks in general, and the Boston area; issue of Sanctuary: The Bulletin of the Massachusetts Audubon Society	1985	
3			Assorted clippings from various newspapers and newsletters regarding Franklin Park, other parks or parks in general, and the Boston area	1986	
3			Assorted clippings from various newspapers and newsletters and press releases regarding Franklin Park, other parks or parks in general, and the Boston area	1987	
3			Assorted clippings from various newspapers and newsletters regarding Franklin Park, other parks or parks in general, and the Boston area; two full issues of the Jamaica Plain Citizen	1988	
3			Assorted clippings from various newspapers and newsletters and regarding Franklin Park, other parks or parks in general, and the Boston area	1989-1991	
3			Assorted clippings from various newspapers and newsletters regarding Franklin Park, other parks or parks in general, and the Boston area; one full issue of the Jamaica Plain Gazette	1998-1999, 2006	
3			Assorted clippings from various newspapers and newsletters and press releases regarding Franklin Park, other parks or parks in general, and the Boston area	n.d.	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
3		Media Kit	A Franklin Park Coalition media kit for the press; assorted notes on records regarding the press	1981-1983	

3	Publications		Untitled draft of story or column seemingly intended for publication	1999	
3		Brochures	Assorted brochures for Franklin Park, Boston Parks, and Franklin Park Zoo	1975, 1984-1986, n.d.	
3		Bulletin	June and July 1978 issues; draft of November 1978 issue	1978	
3			February, May, July, September 1979 issues	1979	
3			May, July, October, December 1980 issues	1980	
3			January, May, July, September 1981 issues; draft of June 1981 issue	1981	
3			Two different November 1981 issues	1981	
3			January and May 1982 issues	1982	
3			Draft of January 1983 issue	1983	
3			January, May, September, December 1983 issues; draft of December 1983 issue	1983	
3			March and September 1984 issues	1984	
3			March 1985 issue	1985	
3			Draft of undated issue	n.d.	
3		Fliers	Fliers for various events at Franklin Park	1985, 1990, n.d.	
3		House & Garden	Draft and photocopy of article written for House & Garden	n.d.	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
3		Informational Materials	Fact sheets about Boston Parks and Franklin Park	1982, n.d.	

3		Newsletters	Issues of Zoo newsletters and Franklin Park Notes	1974, 1980-1981, 1983-1988, n.d.	
3		Outside Organizations	Brochures and information packets from other organizations including: Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, Roxbury Multi-Service Center, and Tufts University Graduate Program in Urban Social and Environmental Policy among others	1975, 1987-1988, 2000, n.d.	
3	Strategy & Management		Managing Vandalism: A Guide to Reducing Damage in Parks and Recreation Facilities	1978	
3			The Greening of Boston: An Action Agenda	1987	
3			Assorted documents including project proposals, correspondence, Franklin Park Coalition President's Report, and two issues of Executive Briefing newsletter	1989-1992, n.d.	
3		Boston Landmarks Commission	Assorted records regarding the Boston Landmarks Commission; Report of the Boston Landmarks Commission on the potential designation of Franklin Park	1980, 1985	
3		Boston: Save Our City	Save Our City: A Case for Boston	1992	
3		Community Development Coordinating Council	Contents of binder for the Community Development Coordinating Council that includes member lists, agendas, minutes, briefings, and notes	1983-1985, n.d.	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
4		D.E.M. Olmsted Preservation	Assorted records regarding the Department of Environmental Management (D.E.M.) Olmsted Historic Landscape Preservation Program; Olmsted	1985-1986, n.d.	

			Historic Landscape Preservation Program Request for Qualifications		
4			Assorted records regarding the D.E.M. Olmsted Historic Landscape Preservation Program	1985-1986	
4			Olmsted Historic Landscape Preservation Program Statement of Qualifications for Landscape Architecture/Master Planning; Franklin Park Master Plan Summary Report October 17, 1988 Draft	1985, 1988	
4			Assorted records regarding the D.E.M. Olmsted Historic Landscape Preservation Program	1985-1990, n.d.	
4			Grant Agreement for the Olmsted Historic Landscape Preservation Program	1986	
4			Franklin Park: Modified Historic Structures and Furnishings Report	1986	
4		Emerald Necklace Master Plan	Master Plan Proposals: Emerald Necklace Parks	1988	
4			Assorted records regarding the Emerald Necklace parks; Emerald Necklace Maintenance Operations Plan Draft	1988-1989	
4		Five Year Plan 1992-1996	Assorted records regarding the Franklin Park Coalition Five Year Plan; Franklin Park Coalition Five Year Plan 1992-1996	1989, 1991, n.d.	
4		Goldberg Seminars	Assorted records regarding the Goldberg Seminars	1986-1987, n.d.	
4			Assorted records regarding the Goldberg Seminars; The Future of Boston's Park's and Open Spaces: A Renaissance	1987	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
4		Golf Course	Assorted records regarding the Golf Course at Franklin Park; Proposal for Design Services, Improvements to the William F. Devine Golf Course	1977, 1982, 1984-1987, n.d.	

			at Franklin Park; Memorandum of Agreement by and between Franklin Park Golfers, Inc. and The City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department for the Operation and Maintenance of the Clubhouse and Adjacent Areas of the William J. Devine Golf Course Franklin Park		
4		Greenhouses Study	Franklin Park Greenhouses Rehabilitation Feasibility Study & Concept Plan	1984	
4		Jamaica Plain Community Planning Coalition	Assorted records regarding the Jamaica Plain Community Planning Coalition	1985	
4		Legislation	Assorted records relating to leadership and organization of Franklin Park Coalition and park-related legislation in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; By-Laws of Franklin Park Coalition	1984, 1987-1991, n.d.	
4		Management Plan	Correspondence regarding Franklin Park Management Plan; Franklin Park Management Plan	1989	
4		Master Plan	Correspondence regarding a master plan for Franklin Park; Two Master Plans for Boston's Park System Bringing Olmsted into the 20 th Century; A Proposal for a Master Plan for Franklin Park; Contract between the City of Boston and V. Michael Weinmayr Associates for Master Plan/Restoration Plan of Franklin Park	1976-1978, 1980	
4		N.E.H. Map Guide Program	Project proposals for and correspondence regarding a National Endowment of the Humanities (N.E.H.)-funded Map Guide Program	1982-1983	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
4		Parks & recreation Dept.	Assorted records regarding the Parks and Recreation Department; contract for "Beautification Project in Franklin Park"	1978-1979, 1981-1982, 1984-1985,	

				1987	
4			City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department Contract for Pruning-Trimming Trees in Franklin Park	1987	
4			Assorted records regarding the Parks and Recreation Department	1988-1990, 1992, n.d.	
4		Phase II Improvements	Assorted records regarding Franklin Park Phase II improvements	1979-1980	
4			Contract Documents for Construction of Improvements at Franklin Park	1980	
4			Assorted records regarding Franklin Park Phase II improvements	1982-1984, 1986	
4		Projects	Assorted records regarding various projects in Franklin Park; Proposal for Playground Improvement: Franklin Park Tot Lot; Application to Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Quality Engineering Division of Water Pollution Control Clean Lakes Program for Nazingdale Pond, Franklin Park	1983, 1986, 1988	
4		Safe Neighborhood Youth Fund	Assorted records regarding the Safe Neighborhood Youth Fund; Safe Neighborhoods Plan for the City of Boston	1990-1991	
4		Suffolk County Conservation District	Meeting minutes and agendas for the Suffolk County Conservation District	1981-1982	
4			Meeting minutes and agendas for the Suffolk County Conservation District	1983-1984	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
4			Meeting minutes and agendas for the Suffolk County Conservation District	1985	

4		Transportation	Assorted records regarding the MBTA	1982, 1988	
4		Zoo	Assorted records regarding the Boston Zoos	1969, 1971, 1974-1975, 1978-1981	
4			Assorted records (mostly correspondence) regarding the Boston Zoos	1981-1982	
4			Assorted records regarding the Boston Zoos; A Plan to Reorganize the Metropolitan Boston Zoos	1983, n.d.	
4			Assorted records regarding the Boston Zoos	1984	
4			Assorted records regarding the Boston Zoos; Metropolitan Zoos: A Request for Proposals for the Management, Development, and Use of the Franklin Park and Stone Memorial Zoos	1985	
4			Assorted records regarding the Boston Zoos	1985	
4			Assorted records regarding the Boston Zoos	1986, n.d.	
5			Assorted records regarding the Boston Zoos	1987, n.d.	
5			Assorted records regarding the Boston Zoos	1988-1990, n.d.	
5	Visual Material		Assorted photograph negatives and proof sheets; matted print View from Hyde Park (Hudson River)	1981-1982, n.d.	
5			Assorted photograph negatives and proof sheets	n.d.	
5			Four metal identification signs for trees	n.d.	
5		Press	Two photographs from the Media Kit	n.d.	
Box	Series	Subseries	Description	Date(s)	Notes
5		Publications	Photographs from various Bulletin issues; photographs from House & Garden article	1979-1982, n.d.	

	Oversize Material 1		Assorted maps, plans, fliers and renderings from the following series: Administrative Material, Correspondence, Events, and Fundraising	1980, 1984-1987, n.d.	
	Oversize Material 2		Assorted maps, plans, fliers and charts from the following series: Fundraising, Plans/Maps, Publications, and Strategy & Management	1945 (photocopy), 1962, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985-1987, 2000, n.d.	
	Oversize Material 3		Assorted maps and plans from the following series: Events, Fundraising, Plans/Maps, and Strategy & Management	1977, 1982, 1986, n.d.	