New York State Department of Transportation Facilities
Design Division Design Bureau Highway Design Project
Correspondence, Plans, and Reports 13376

New York State Archives
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Overview of the Records

Repository: New York State Archives
Summary: Long-range highway planning originates at the Department of Transportation (DOT) headquarters in Albany. Records include correspondence and plans pertaining to design of highways by outside consulting firms that contracted with DOT to do projects prior to and after construction. Most project files are for highways, or plans for bridges, parking facilities, or other associated projects. Files may span ten years from the initial design contract to final project acceptance.
Creator: New York (State). Department of Transportation. Facilities Design Division. Design Bureau
Title: Highway design project correspondence, plans, and reports
Quantity: 922 cubic feet
Inclusive Date: 1962-2004, undated
Bulk Date: 1981-2004
Series: 13376

Arrangement

Arranged by project identification number (PIN). Preliminary project files are arranged by DOT region, date, and county.

13376-96: Arranged roughly by project number or type of project/proposal.


Administrative History

Long-range highway planning originates at the Department of Transportation (DOT) headquarters in Albany (specifically, the Planning Division). Highway projects designed prior to
1973 were directed from the DOT regional offices; after 1973 the work was handled in Albany. In consideration of the workload, regional directors can recommend that outside consultants prepare plans, and, upon approval of the head of the Facility and Design Division, a contract results through the Consultant Management Section (established in 1973).

Scope and Content Note

The series consists of correspondence and plans pertaining to design of highways by outside consulting firms that contracted with DOT to do projects prior to and after construction. Most project files are for highways, or plans for bridges, parking facilities, or other associated projects. Files may span ten years from the initial design contract to final project acceptance.

Records in the series are variously labeled as "preliminary project files," "highway project files," or "red files." Preliminary project files are arranged according to DOT region, date and county. Other files have a project identification number (or PIN).

13376-93: This accretion contains records relating to the design of interchanges and small sections of several highways in the state, particularly the Eastern Expressway in Monroe County, the Sunrise Highway in Suffolk County, and the Taconic State Parkway in Westchester County. Records pertain to the planning and design of improvements of the highways and include correspondence, project proposals and reports, maps, and environmental assessments. The majority of the records were produced by the DOT or by the department’s various engineering consultants.

13376-94: This accretion consists of materials submitted by consultants and planning contractors to the Design Quality Assurance Bureau about a project involving the Eastern Expressway (I-490) - Outer Loop (NY/I-590) interchange area in Monroe County, New York. Records apparently span many years of project development. Included are project proposals, traffic studies, blueprints, design reports, and environmental assessments.

13376-99: This accretion includes a very large amount of preliminary project files, "red files," and standard project files. The "red files" include project correspondence with the consulting firm, public officials, and interested citizens about technical aspects of the project. They may contain considerable information about public response to the location of a proposed highway. A copy of the environmental impact statement (EIS) is included with the "red file."

Project files (or "PIN folders") also contain correspondence. Other types of information present include public meeting proceedings and hearing transcripts; aesthetic assessments; engineering computations and estimates; survey data; noise reports and barrier designs; drainage reports; air analysis; design reports; environmental assessment statements; and final project evaluations.
13376-19A: This accretion consists of highway design project-related records including draft and final project reports; environmental impact statements; cultural resource studies; revitalization studies; maps; project drawings in pencil or pen (original and some copies); field sketches; completed historical architectural survey forms; historical background information relating to construction or revitalization projects; mounted and unmounted project photographs and slides; project notes; technical advisory documents; NYSDOT, USDOT, and other publications, many of which pertain to industrial design standards and procedures; training and policies and procedure manuals; memorandums; correspondence; and a small quantity of project-related news clippings.

Unboxed project-related materials include NYSDOT and USDOT reference maps; marked-up copies of design blueprints; a partial set of 40 to 60 topographical drawings relating to an Adirondack Northway project in the Keeseville, Essex County area (Lewis to Poke-O-Moonshine Section, 1961-1965); design mock-ups and project photos mounted on foam core board; a shrink-wrapped (new/unopened) DOT design standards manual; and other items.
Use of Records

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding access to or use of this material.

Administrative Information

Custodial History

13376-96: After inactive storage at the State Records Center, custody of these records was transferred to the State Archives from 6/94 through 11/95. Records appearing on multiple transfer lists remain at the RC until space is available at the Archives.

13376-99: After inactive storage at the State Records Center, custody of these records was transferred to the State Archives from 1996-1999. Records appearing on multiple transfer lists remain at the RC until space is available at the Archives. Boxes 42, 99, 100, 101, 107, 291 and 406 were missing at time of accession and presumed lost.

13376-19A: These records were donated by Kathy Schnurr, daughter of James Byron, following Mr. Byron's death in August 2014. Personal papers were transferred to the New York State Library's Manuscripts and Special Collections. Publications were transferred to the New York State Library.

Acquistion Information

13376-96: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 85058A, 850006, 850043, 850065, 850007, and 84066A.

13376-99: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 870020, 890041, 920029, 880047, 880059, 880071, 890009, 890048, 890040, 900061, 920052, 940028, 850047, 830071, 840019, 850007, 830025, 860006, 860029, 860056, 820058, 840024, 850028, 860002, 860005, 860014, 880004, 900055, 930045, 860067, 900017, 920050, 930104, 810010, 810033, 830003, 830055, 840048, 840069.

13376-13: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 890054, 900027, 930070, 940030, 940041, 940053, 960001, 960006, 960025, 960043, 960064, 970023, 970037, 970074, 980003, 980058, 980077, 990032, 990070, 000028, 000052, 020039, 020068, 030057, 030058, 030061, 03061A, 030081, 03081A, 030126, 03126A, 040034, 040079, 040143, 04143A, and 040145.

13376-14: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 040147, 020039, 020065, 020068, 030058, 040034, 040079, and 040143.
13376-14A: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 000052 and 040147.

13376-15: This accretion includes records from transfer list 87003A.

13376-15A: This accretion includes records from transfer list 040143.

13376-15B: This accretion includes records from transfer list 020068.

13376-16: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 03126A and 040143.

13376-17: This accretion includes records from transfer list 040143.

13376-17A: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 920050, 020068, 040034, 060007, and 070025.

13376-18: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 030061, 030081, and 040143.

13376-19: This accretion was transferred under RDA 13376 and includes records from transfer list 040143.

13376-20: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 020068, 030126, 040079, 040143, and 000052.

13376-21: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 000052, 040034, and 040079.

13376-22: This accretion includes records from transfer lists 03126 and 040143.

13376-22A: This accretion includes records from transfer list 040143.

Access Terms

- Resorts
- Correspondence
- New York (State)
- Transportation
- Highway planning