

A Guide to the U.S. Forest Service, George Washington National Forest, Dry River District Records, 1917-1994 SC 0083

U.S. Forest Service, George Washington National Forest, Dry River District records
1917-1994



Title Statement

A Guide to the U.S. Forest Service, George Washington National Forest, Dry River District Records, 1917-1994 SC 0083

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Publication Statement

Publisher: James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

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URL: <https://www.lib.jmu.edu/special/>



March 1998

Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-04-14 07:02:04 -0400.

Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Revision Description

2017 Collection renumbered.
2020-04-01 Minor revisions to finding aid.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID
SC 0083

Unit ID
</repositories/4/resources/392>

Unit Date

1917-1994

Language

English

Abstract

This collection consists of photographs, memos, letters, pamphlets, maps, and other materials dating from 1917-1994 that relate to the George Washington National Forest, Dry River District. Most of the materials concern fire-fighting activities within the Forest, while others relate to the activities of the Civilian Conservation Corps and recreation within national forest lands.

Extent

3 cubic feet 2 boxes, 1 flat file, and 1 rolled storage container

Repository

James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open to 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 Collections Library. For more information, contact the Special Collections Library Reference Desk (library-special@jmu.edu).

Acquisition Information

Donated in February 1998 by District Ranger Stephen Parsons.

Processing Information

During initial processing, photographs were removed from box:folders 2:1-2:3 and grouped into the folder Miscellaneous Photographs. In order to streamline the process of applying collection numbers, Special Collections staff completed a large-scale renumbering campaign in the spring of 2017. **This collection was previously cataloged as SC 3014.**

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], [box #, folder #], U.S. Forest Service, George Washington National Forest, Dry River District Records, 1917-1994, SC 0083, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Administrative History

The George Washington National Forest was created after the enactment of the 1891 Forest Reserve Act, which was brought in front of Congress in response to the extensive damage done to the Shenandoah Valley by farming, timber, mining, hunting, and natural devastation. In 1911, the Weeks Act passed, which allowed the federal government to purchase land to be used for preservation. In 1917, three plots of purchased land in Virginia were combined to create the Shenandoah National Forest, later renamed the George Washington National Forest. The first ever Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp, Camp Roosevelt, was established in the George Washington National Forest, and began work on constructing the roads, campgrounds, fire towers and more. A total of 14 camps were eventually opened in the forest. The 1960 Multiple-use Sustained-Yield Act and the 1973 Threatened and Endangered Species helped the animal and plant population thrive in the forest, and help it to become the popular recreational hotspot it is today.

Scope and Content

The U.S. Forest Service, George Washington National Forest, Dry River District Records, 1917-1994, consist of two boxes, 1 flat file, and 1 rolled storage container. Most file materials concern the Dry River District, which currently incorporates 227,000 acres on both sides of Shenandoah Mountain from State Route 259 in the north to Lookout Mountain and State Route 728 in the south, although locations in some other districts are mentioned. Most materials concern the fire-fighting activities undertaken by employees of Shenandoah National Forest, the predecessor name for the George Washington National Forest. Fighting forest arson, prevalent during the first half of the twentieth century, was at that time one of the U.S. Forest Service's

foremost goals. The collection also includes some items relevant to recreational and historical topics.

Keywords

Fire lookout stations -- George Washington National Forest (Va. and W. Va.)

Forest fires -- George Washington National Forest (Va. and W. Va.)

Forest fires -- Shenandoah National Forest (Va. and W. Va.)

Forest fires -- Massanutten National Forest (Va.)

Forest fires -- Detection

Forest fires -- Prevention and control -- handbooks, manuals, etc

Forest fires -- Statistics

Arson

Forests and forestry -- Environmental aspects -- United States

Forest management -- George Washington National Forest (Va. and W. Va.)

Forest management -- Shenandoah National Forest (Va. and W. Va.)

Forest management -- Massanutten National Forest (Va.)

Conservation of natural resources -- History

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

Recreation areas -- George Washington National Forest (Va. and W. Va.)

Stribling Springs (Va.)

Appalachian Region, Southern -- History

Shenandoah Mountain (Va. and W. Va.)

Lookout Mountain (Va. and W. Va.)

Massanutten Mountain (Va.)

Shenandoah National Forest (Va. and W. Va.)

George Washington National Forest (Va. and W. Va.)

Massanutten National Forest (Va.)

High Knob Fire Tower -- Shenandoah Mountain (Va. and W. Va.)

Camp Todd (Augusta County, Va.)

Maps (documents)

Photographs

Memorandums

Letters (correspondence)

Administrative records

Civilian Conservation Corps (U.S.) -- History

Civilian Conservation Corps (U.S.) -- Camp Roosevelt (Va.)

Bibliography

USDA Forest Service, George Washington and Jefferson National Forest.

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/gwj/learning/history-culture>.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged topically in two boxes, one flat file, and one rolled storage container.

Description of Subordinate Components

Standard lookout structure plans

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2443

Unit Date 1938

Mixed Materials [1000885789] 9 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Recreation

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2444

Unit Date 1917-1934

Mixed Materials [1000886525] 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Camp Todd

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2445

Unit Date 1932-1968

Mixed Materials [1000886525] 2 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Fire reports

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2446

Unit Date 1917-1919

Mixed Materials [1000886525] 2 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

High Knob fire tower

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2447

Unit Date 1946-1994

Mixed Materials [1000886525] 2 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Fire warden system

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2448

Unit Date 1922-1957

Mixed Materials [1000886525] 2 (box)

Container 5 (folder)

Fire tower specifications

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2449

Unit Date 1917-1990

Mixed Materials [1000886525] 2 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Civilian Conservation Corp photographs

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2450

Mixed Materials [1000886525] 2 (box)

Container 7 (folder)

Miscellaneous photographs

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2451

Mixed Materials [1000886525] 2 (box)

Container 8 (folder)

Scope and Contents

Includes Stribling Springs.

Maps

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/26780

Unit Date 1917-1971

Map no. 1, Massanutten National Forest

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2452

Unit Date 1917

Mixed Materials [1000898291] 1 (Flat File)

Map no. 2, Shenandoah National Forest

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2453

Unit Date 1917

Mixed Materials [1000898291] 1 (Flat File)

Map no. 3, Shenandoah National Forest, oversize, with acquisition boundaries

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2454

Unit Date 1920

Mixed Materials [1000898022] RS 1 (box)

Map no. 4, Massanutten Division, Shenandoah National Forest

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2455

Unit Date 1925

Mixed Materials [1000898291] 1 (Flat File)

Map no. 5, Shenandoah National Forest, with text for general public

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2456

Unit Date 1927

Mixed Materials [1000898291] 1 (Flat File)

Map no. 6, Shenandoah National Forest, with typed and penned text updates appended

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2457

Unit Date 1927

Mixed Materials [1000898291] 1 (Flat File)

Map no. 7, Shenandoah National Forest, large

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2458

Unit Date 1927

Mixed Materials [1000898022] RS 1 (box)

Map no. 8, Shenandoah National Forest, with fire and ranger district boundaries drawn in and table of acreage

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2459

Unit Date 1927

Mixed Materials [1000898291] 1 (Flat File)

Map no. 9 Shenandoah National Forest, with approved and recommended change in boundaries drawn in and table

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2460

Unit Date 1927, 1932

Mixed Materials [1000898292] 2 (Flat File)

Map no. 10, George Washington National Forest, with text for general public

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2461

Unit Date 1932

Mixed Materials [1000898292] 2 (Flat File)

Map no. 11, George Washington National Forest, with fire and ranger district boundaries drawn in

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2462

Unit Date 1930s

Mixed Materials [1000898292] 2 (Flat File)

Map no. 12, George Washington National Forest charcoal-iron furnaces

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2463

Unit Date 1971

Mixed Materials [1000898292] 2 (Flat File)