
Finding Aid of the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park records 0320

Finding aid prepared by Jacqueline Morin

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USC Libraries Special Collections

Doheny Memorial Library 206

3550 Trousdale Parkway

Los Angeles, California, 90089-0189

213-740-5900

specol@usc.edu

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Title: Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park records

Collection number: 0320

Contributing Institution: USC Libraries Special Collections

Language of Material: English

Physical Description: 11.0 linear ft.11 boxes

Date: 1965-2008

Abstract: The Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park was founded in 1965 to organize public and official awareness and to raise support to preserve the park land as public open space, and to develop it for recreational activities. The mission and efforts of this vibrant "grass roots" organization are ongoing, and the Committee will continue to add materials which document its activities. The collection consists of nine boxes of records dating back to the Committee's early history in the 1960s. It was donated by the 2004 Board of Directors of the Committee.

creator: Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park (Los Angeles, Calif.).

creator: Simons, Grace E.

Biographical Note

This collection chronicles the life of Grace E. Simons almost as much as it does the Committee which she established--at least the last twenty years of her life. Without Simons' vision and foresight, Elysian Park might look very different today--much less "park-like."

Grace E. Simons was a journalist who worked for a French news agency in China where she met her husband, Frank Glass, who was an organizer for the Communist Party. They came to Los Angeles in 1939 where Grace worked as a reporter and editor for the California Eagle, an African-American newspaper that finally folded in the early 1960s. During an interview for the Eagle, Simons met Malcolm X who was impressed by Simons' sharp questioning of him concerning his attitude towards women's rights.

It was in the mid-1960s that Simons first became involved in protecting the historic park when the city threatened to take 63 acres for what has become the Convention Center on Figuereroa Street. Seeing what had happened with Dodger Stadium, Simons and a few neighbors banded together to become the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park (CCSEP). Serving as President of the Committee for many years, Simons led the fight in a series of battles that it won against proposals for an airport, oil drilling by Occidental Petroleum, an Asian Cultural Center, a child care facility, a restaurant and parking lot on Radio Hill, and several condominium projects.

The committee experienced its share of losses, among them a move to expand the Los Angeles Police Academy.

In 1979 the Sol Feinstein Environmental Award was conferred upon Simons--one of only five persons to receive the award nationally.

Grace Simons passed away in 1985 at Barlow Hospital, right next to Elysian Park. Her husband, Frank Glass, passed away in 1987. A memorial sculpture to Simons and Glass designed by ceramicist and sculptor Peter Shire was dedicated in 1994 and is located at Angel's Point in Elysian Park.

Historical Background

Elysian Park is Los Angeles's first and oldest park. It was part of the original 1781 land grant to the pueblo of Los Angeles from King Carlos III from Spain. The initial 550 acres of Elysian Park were, "...forever dedicated to the public..." in 1886, and by 1937 had grown to a little over 600 acres. The park is the site of the first Botanical Garden in Southern California. In the 1880s about 37,000 eucalyptus trees were planted on park land, and in the 1890s the Los Angeles Horticultural Society began planting many specimens of rare trees including the double row of wild date palms north of Stadium Way. About 67 species remain of the original plantings.

Elysian Park serves as an enormous backyard for the families who live in nearby neighborhoods such as Echo Park, Boyle Heights, Lincoln Heights, and Elysian Heights. Notable sites and buildings at or near Elysian Park include the Portola/Fremont Gate, Victory Memorial Grove, the Chavez Ravine Arboretum, the Avenue of the Palms, the rock garden at the Police Academy, the Recreation Center in the Solano Canyon section of the park, Barlow Hospital, tunnels on the Pasadena Freeway, Arroyo Seco Parkway, and the Buena Vista Reservoir. Trees are regularly purchased and planted in Elysian Park by CCSEP members and friends as loving memorials to the living and the dead.

Before the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park was formed in 1965, the Pasadena Freeway had already split the park and Dodger Stadium had been built on part of Chavez Ravine and Elysian Park. When a group of promoters presented a plan to take the Avenue of the Palms for the Los Angeles Convention Center, the committee organized itself with Grace E. Simons as its first president. They successfully stopped the development and continued to fight many more battles over the years in an effort to preserve Elysian Park as a public park and an oasis in the heart of Los Angeles. The CCSEP felt that

Elysian Park was essentially Los Angeles's Central Park or Golden Gate Park, but had historically not been given the same status or protection as its more famous parks. It was their opinion that the greatest danger to park survival was combined public indifference and special interest pressures to take park land for non-park purposes. All of the Citizens Committee's volunteer energies were aimed at arousing public and official awareness of the value of saving public park land and in preserving the section of the Los Angeles City Charter which reads, "All lands heretofore or hereafter set apart or dedicated as a public park shall forever remain to the use of the public inviolate..."

Preferred Citation

[Box/folder# or item name], Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park records, Collection no. 0320, Regional History Collection, Special Collections, USC Libraries, University of Southern California

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Scope and Content

The collection documents the activities of the Citizens' Committee to Save Elysian Park from the mid-1960s through the early 2000s. Throughout almost four decades the organization's history, the Committee preserved the records that were generated through its efforts to preserve Elysian Park. The nine boxes of materials include court transcripts, environmental impact reports, photographs, correspondence with political figures, media notices, articles, and ephemera related to the topics championed by the Committee. Subjects included in the records are court cases pertaining to the Police Academy, opposition to the widening of the Pasadena Freeway, the Department of Water and Power's proposal to take over part of the Buena Vista Reservoir for a pumping station, the battle to prevent a convention center from being built at the park, issues with Dodger Stadium, etc.

Processing Note

Processing of the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park records was generously funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and administered by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR). USC Libraries was awarded a Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives grant from 2010-2012, "Uncovering California's Environmental Collections," in collaboration with eight additional special collections and archival repositories throughout the state and the California Digital Library (CDL). Grant objectives included processing of over 33 hidden collections related to the state's environment and environmental history. The collections document an array of important sub-topics such as irrigation, mining, forestry, agriculture, industry, land use, activism, and research. Together they form a multifaceted picture of the natural world and the way it was probed, altered, exploited and protected in California over the twentieth century. Finding aids are made available through the Online Archive of California (OAC).

Subjects and Indexing Terms

California. Dept. of Transportation. -- Archives
Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park (Los Angeles, Calif.). -- Archives
Dodger Stadium (Los Angeles, Calif.). -- Archives
Los Angeles (Calif.). Dept. of Water and Power. -- Archives
Los Angeles Convention Center. -- Archives
Los Angeles Police Academy. -- Archives
Neubauer, Sallie -- Archives
Simons, Grace E. -- Archives
Yorty, Sam, 1909-1998 -- Archives
Chávez Ravine (Los Angeles, Calif.)--Archival resources
Clippings
Correspondence
Echo Park (Los Angeles, Calif.)--Archival resources
Elysian Park (Los Angeles, Calif.)--Archival resources
Ephemera
Maps

Parks--California--Los Angeles
Photographs
Reports
Roads--California--Los Angeles--Archival resources
Tule elk
Uncovering California's Environmental Collections Project

Police Academy

Scope and Content

The Los Angeles Police Department established a Police Academy in Elysian Park in the mid 1920s. What began as a private shooting range for officers evolved into the LAPD's main training campus. Since the late 1960s, the CCSEP has been involved in several battles to preserve the Park from the physical expansion of the Police Academy as well as related activities such as terminating the illegal use of Elysian Park for the training of police helicopter pilots, challenging in court the building of a police firing simulator range in the park, challenging the building of police classrooms adjacent to the park, etc. This series contains court transcripts, information on propositions and bonds, environmental impact reports, and ephemera related to the Committee's involvement with the Police Academy and the LAPD.

Propositions and Bonds

Box 1, Folder 1-2	General 1967-1974
Box 1, Folder 3	Proposition U, Proposition BB 1972, 1976
Box 1, Folder 4	No on Proposition U 1972
Box 1, Folder 5-6	Proposition U -Miscellaneous 1971-1972
Box 1, Folder 7	Proposition 2 1989
Box 1, Folder 8	Proposed Charter Amendment 1972

Court Cases

Box 1, Folder 9	C 38034 -Charter Amendment 1972
Box 1, Folder 10	Relocation of Police Academy 1972
Box 1, Folder 11	Firearms Training Simulator 1976
Box 1, Folder 12	Firearms Training Simulator -Appeal 1976
Box 1, Folder 13	Firearms Training Simulator Building (CPC 8404) 1975-1976
Box 1, Folder 14	Grand Jury Final Report 1992-1993
Box 1, Folder 15	C 44053 -Reporter's Transcript on Appeal 1975
Box 1, Folder 16	C 44053 -Clerk's Transcript, Vol. I 1976
Box 1, Folder 17	C 44053 (Nullify Proposition U) 1972-1976
Box 1, Folder 18	C 55571 1975
Box 1, Folder 19	C 55571, CPC 8404 -Appeals Against 1973
Box 1, Folder 20	C 136378 1975
Box 1, Folder 21-22	2nd Civil 48044 (C 44053) 1976
Box 1, Folder 23	2nd Civil 43747
Box 2, Folder 1	2nd Civil No. 49516
Box 2, Folder 2	2nd Civil C 217020 1978
Box 2, Folder 3	2nd Civil 55574 (C 217020) 1979
Box 2, Folder 4-5	CPC 8404 1977
Box 2, Folder 6	City Plan Case #8404 + C 55571
Box 2, Folder 7	CPC 8404 -C 1976

Box 2, Folder 8	CPC 8404 1976-1977
Box 2, Folder 9-11	CPC 24046 (Conditional Use Permit) 1972
Box 2, Folder 12	CPC 25626 (Conditional Use Permit) -Transcript 1977
Box 2, Folder 13	CPC 29725 (Explosives Stored Near Park) 1981
Box 2, Folder 14	Notes and Clippings 1972-1976

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Reports

Box 2, Folder 15	Police Training Facility 1972
Box 2, Folder 16	Gift for Relocatable Police Training Facility 1973

General

Box 2, Folder 17	Bond Program 1992
Box 2, Folder 18-19	Combined LAPD & LACSD Training Facility
Box 2, Folder 20-24	Expansion 1987-1991
Box 2, Folder 25	Miscellaneous Documents
Box 2, Folder 26	New Construction 1991-1994
Box 2, Folder 27	Police Brutality
Box 2, Folder 28	Police Facilities Study 1996
Box 3, Folder 1	Traffic and Parking Study -Draft 1992
Box 3, Folder 2-3	Training Academy Summary of Resources 1991
Box 3, Folder 4	Property Ownership
Box 3, Folder 5	Editorials and Articles

Environmental Impact Reports

Box 3, Folder 6	Revised Proposal 1991
Box 3, Folder 7	Notes and Ephemera 1992
Box 3, Folder 8	Police Bond Program - Draft 1992
Box 3, Folder 9-10	Police Bond Program - Police Training Academy - Draft 1992
Box 3, Folder 11-13	Police Bond Program - Police Training Academy - Final 1993
Box 3, Folder 14	Noise Impact Assessment 1992

Roads and Highways

Scope and Content

This series chiefly concerns CCSEP's objection to a proposal to take away parkland for the widening of the Pasadena Freeway between the Golden State Freeway and Hill Street. The plan would require demolition of natural landscape as well as an eight-foot wide walkway which runs parallel to the freeway with several stairways. The series contains petitions, court documents, correspondence, and ephemera regarding the freeway-widening proposal and tree-planting issues.

Box 3, Folder 15	Industrial Freeway 1966-1971
Box 3, Folder 16-21	Caltrans 110 Freeway Widening Project 1994-1999
Box 4, Folder 1-5	Caltrans 110 Freeway Widening Project 1999
Box 4, Folder 6	Route 2 (Beverly Hills Freeway) 1972
Box 4, Folder 7	Stadium Way Extension 1966 - 1978
Box 4, Folder 8	Stadium Way Extension 1966 -1978
Box 4, Folder 9	Stadium Way Extension 1966 - 1967
Box 4, Folder 10	Stadium Way Extension 1966 -1969
Box 4, Folder 11	Stadium Way Extension 1966 -1998

Dept. of Water and Power

Scope and Content

Beginning in the 1980s, the CCSEP began a decades-long battle with the Department of Water and Power (DWP) over several issues documented in this series. One was the DWP's proposal to cover up the 55-million gallon Elysian Reservoir with an aluminum roof as part of a water quality improvement project. The series consists of environmental impact reports, petitions, and court documents related to the reservoir roof project, as well as documents concerning the DWP's proposal to take over a portion of the former Buena Vista reservoir site for a pumping and chlorination station.

Buena Vista Pumping Station

Box 4, Folder 12
Box 4, Folder 13
Box 4, Folder 14
Box 4, Folder 15
Box 4,
Folder 16-18
Box 4, Folder 19
Box 4, Folder 20
Box 4, Folder 21
Box 4, Folder 22
Box 4, Folder 23
Box 4, Folder 24
Box 5, Folder 1-5

Project Background 1972-1984

Project Report 1981

Environmental Impact Report - Notice of preparation 1981 -1982

Environmental Impact Report - Draft 1983

Environmental Impact Report - Final 1983

Articles and Letters 1985

G.G. Baumen Law Offices 1984

Correspondence 1980-1984

Petitions 1984

Phase II 1989 -1991

Miscellaneous 1977-1981

Miscellaneous 1980-1984

Box 5, Folder 6-8

Reservoir Roof Project 1983-1990

Box 5, Folder 9

Solano Canyon Redevelopment 1985

Oil Lease

Scope and Content

While the CCSEP was challenging the building of a convention center in Elysian Park, they were also opposing the leasing of 77 acres of park land for oil exploration by Occidental Petroleum. In a 1965 petition to City Council (Box 5), Grace E. Simons (for CCSEP) compared the plight of Elysian Park to that of other parks which had suffered from recent development such as Hancock Park with the erection of L.A. County's art museum. A copy of the oil lease is also in this box along with the Superior Court document of the lawsuit between Grace E. Simons et al, and the City of Los Angeles, Occidental Petroleum, and a host of individuals and government entities. The result of the litigation process was that Occidental Petroleum cancelled its plans to drill for oil in the park. The four folders in this series consist of the court documents, correspondence, and ephemera related to this case.

Box 5, Folder 10
Box 5, Folder 11
Box 5, Folder 12
Box 5, Folder 13

Correspondence 1965 - 1966

Lawsuits 1965

Oil wells 1965

Documents 1965

Convention Center and Oil Lease

Scope and Content

In 1965 and 1966, the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park were fighting two battles simultaneously: the city's proposal to build a convention center on park land, and the plans by Occidental Petroleum to drill for oil. This series contains ephemera, newsletters, and signed petitions regarding both issues at the same time.

Box 5, Folder 14
Box 5, Folder 15

Petitions 1966
Proposal Material 1965
Convention Center

Scope and Content

This series documents the newly-formed CCSEP's efforts to block the City Council's proposal to build a new Los Angeles Convention Center in the heart of Elysian Park near the corner of Stadium Way and Scott Avenue. The plan, backed by then-Mayor Sam Yorty, would have cost \$10 million dollars and taken away 63 acres of the park-- in addition to contributing to the noise and congestion already supplied by nearby Dodger Stadium. The CCSEP rallied public support by mailing letters to City Hall, publicizing the plight of the park in the media, and receiving a visit from Supreme Court Justice William Douglas who urged his support for retaining the site for recreation. In August of 1966, the CCSEP claimed victory, and the City selected 31 acres at Pico and Figueroa as the convention center's new home. Contained in this series are sixteen folders of letters, legal documents, petitions, press clippings, and other papers related to the proposed building of the convention center in Elysian Park. There is some overlap of issues and types of materials with the preceding series which also deals with the oil lease battle.

Box 5, Folder 16
Box 5,
Folder 17-24
Box 5, Folder 25
Box 5, Folder 26
Box 5, Folder 27
Box 5, Folder 28
Box 5, Folder 29
Box 5, Folder 30

Diane Schroerwke's Letter to City Council Members 1965
Documents 1965

Editorials 1965 - 1966

Form Letters 1965 -1966

Legal Issues 1965

Letters Of Appeal 1965-1966

Speaker Statements and Resolutions 1965

Summary Report on Proposal 1965

Charter Amendment

Scope and Content

The five files in this series document the Committee's battle to defeat several amendments between 1969 and 1977 that would revise L.A.'s city charter and centralize power in the City Council. Beginning in 1969, the CCSEP opposed a ballot measure that would (1) place independent city departments under the control of the Council and the Mayor; and (2) reduce the commissions from policy-making to advisory bodies. The fear was that Elysian Park and other parks and recreation areas would no longer be protected by the charter and would be demoted to the status of "surplus land." The series contains correspondence, clippings, ephemera on various ballot measures ("no on 4," no on "U," "no on 1," etc.), and articles.

Box 6, Folder 1-5

Miscellaneous 1968-1970
Chavez Ravine

Scope and Content

The two folders in this series contain information on the Chavez Ravine Arboretum and the proposal for the Chavez Ravine Memorial project. The folder on the arboretum has information on the trees in Elysian Park as well as a short history of the arboretum. The folder on the proposed memorial has a color print-out of Stephen Farley's proposed memorial and a videotape sent to Sallie Neubauer (2000) from Sherilyn Menten regarding a similar memorial wall in Tucson.

Box 6, Folder 6
Box 6, Folder 7

Arboretum
Memorial Proposal

Day Care Center**Scope and Content**

The three folders that comprise this series contain information regarding the proposed plan to convert the Elysian Park Recreation Center into a child care center administered by the Board of Education. The CCSEP asked that the Board rescind its decision to make available the Center as a day care center for children of City employees, inasmuch as neighborhood children--many of whom having working mothers and are members of minority races-- would be excluded. The materials in this series consist of much correspondence between Grace E. Simons and city council members and other relevant entities, articles, and newsletters.

Box 6, Folder 8-10

Miscellaneous 1971 - 1972**Dodger Stadium****Scope and Content**

This series consists of agreements, payment schedules, and memorandums between the Los Angeles Dodgers and the city of Los Angeles regarding the transfer of 300 acres of park land for the stadium in 1959, and subsequent agreements related to a 40-acre parcel adjacent to Dodger Stadium which the Dodgers later turned into a parking lot.

Box 6, Folder 11

Payments 1970 - 1980**Irrigation****Scope and Content**

This series concerns the topic of an irrigation system in Elysian Park and the necessity of budgeting funds for it. Much of the material in this series consists of correspondence between Grace E. Simons and various local officials and councilmen, newsletters, articles, and newspaper clippings of fires in the area.

Box 6, Folder 12
Box 6,
Folder 13-14**Petitions 1984****Documents 1969-1970****Stolport 1969****Scope and Content**

This series documents the Committee's successful efforts to prevent a STOLport (Short-Takeoff-and-Landing) from being built at or near Elysian Park. Materials include correspondence among and between CCSEP and the organizations involved in the proposal of the STOLport including the Federal Aviation Administration, the 13th district Councilman, then-councilman Thomas Bradley, the Board of Recreation and Parks commissioners, the Los Angeles Police Department, and an acoustical engineer. This series also documents a related topic from around the same time period: the LAPD's plans for a heliport for the training of police helicopter pilots. In their research into both of these projects, the CCSEP kept a large file of correspondence and articles just on noise pollution, also part of this series.

Box 6,
Folder 15-17
Box 6, Folder 18**Miscellaneous 1969****Noise Pollution****Proposition A Funding 1988-1993****Scope and Content**

This small series concerns Proposition A, the Safe Neighborhood Park Acts of 1992 for the acquisition of various properties and grants to non-profit organizations throughout Los Angeles County. The CCSEP was in support of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy's efforts to apply for funding for several different projects including enhancing land along the Los Angeles River. Part of the funds would go towards developing a connecting trail between the historic Pueblo de Los Angeles, Elysian, and Griffith Parks-- a route that most likely was traced by explorers Portola and de Anza. Materials include correspondence, memorandums, articles, and a proposal coordinated by the National Park Service titled, *The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail*. Original letters of support include those of County Board of Supervisors Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Gloria Molina, and Michael D. Antonovich.

Box 6, Folder 19
Box 6, Folder 20

De Anza Trail 1988 - 1989
De Anza Trail 1988 - 1989
Tule Elk

Scope and Content

The two folders of this series contain newsletters, correspondence, and ephemera concerning the tule elk, including correspondence from the Committee for the Preservation of the Tule Elk. There is a good deal of information concerning a joint resolution to establish the Tule Elk National Wildlife Refuge. The goal was to raise the number of Tule Elk in the Owens Valley to 2000 (from around 300) and to "enhance the recreational opportunities of the area which are compatible with pure water and watershed protection." Materials consist of correspondence, articles, reports, and ephemera.

Box 6,
Folder 21-22

Miscellaneous 1967-1973
Elysian Park Centennial 1986

Scope and Content

The four files in this series document the activities surrounding Elysian Park's centennial celebration in 1986. A Centennial Committee was formed in 1984; its minutes, correspondence, and notes of proposed activities were saved and comprise the first folder. Other materials in this series consist of publicity materials, historical articles on Elysian Park, correspondence with the artist of the brochures, and samples of the brochure, and information on the 1986 Firecracker 10K Run through Chinatown.

Box 7, Folder 1
Box 7, Folder 2
Box 7, Folder 3
Box 7, Folder 4

Centennial Committee 1986
Publicity and Brochures 1986
Firecracker 10K Run (Chinatown) 1986
Miscellaneous 1986
Public Events

Scope and Content

This series consists of ephemera related to various CCSEP events, such as the annual Tree Dedication and Planting. Each fall, CCSEP members and friends, in cooperation with the Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department, purchase and plant trees as memorials to the living and dead. Photographs of the events are in the Photographs series.

Box 7, Folder 5
Box 7, Folder 6
Box 7, Folder 7

That Was the Park That Was 1966
Tree Plantings and Dedications
Various
Miscellaneous

Scope and Content

This series consists of specific topics for which CCSEP kept individual files such as the Firecracker 10K run through Chinatown (for Chinese New Year), the Soledad Canyon Sculpture Garden Project, a file on Elysian Park history, the Grace E. Simons Lodge, etc. Series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Box 7, Folder 8
Box 7, Folder 9
Box 7, Folder 10
Box 7, Folder 11
Box 7, Folder 12
Box 7, Folder 13
Box 7, Folder 14
Box 7, Folder 15
Box 7, Folder 16
Box 7, Folder 17
Box 7, Folder 18

Asian Cultural Center
Bishops Canyon
Community Planning Flow Chart
Elysian Park History and Maps
Firecracker 10K Run (Chinatown)
Frank Glass (Will) 1989
Grace E. Simons Lodge
Grace E. Simons Memorial Service and Eulogies
Peter Shire Memorial to Grace E. Simons and Frank Glass, Angel's Point
Housing Project
Los Angeles County Drainage Area Project 1993

Box 7, Folder 19
 Box 7, Folder 20
 Box 7, Folder 21
 Box 7, Folder 22
 Box 7, Folder 23

Los Angeles Public Library
Radio Hill
Soland Canyon Sculpture Garden Project 1999
Treasure Hunting History
Century City West
Publicity

Box 7, Folder 23
 Box 7,
 Folder 24-25

Sunset Lane Magazine Article 1965
Speeches 1965

Box 7, Folder 26
 Box 7, Folder 27
 Box 7, Folder 28
 Box 7, Folder 29
 Box 7, Folder 30
 Box 7,
 Folder 31-32
 Box 7, Folder 33

General Articles
KNX / KNXT Editorials 1965 - 1966
Newspaper Articles - Photocopies 1965 - 1972
Newsletters 1965-2002
Press Clippings - Mostly Convention Center
Press Clippings 1965

Press Releases 1965-1966

Scope and Content

The eleven folders in this series contain newspaper clippings, press releases, speeches, newsletters, and ephemera publicizing the concerns and activities of the CCSEP. Though the CCSEP Newsletter is represented all the way to 2002, the bulk of these materials date to the 1960s and 1970s. The CCSEP Newsletter is possibly the best overall instrument in the collection for studying the history of the CCSEP over time, as there is a fairly complete run of it from the mid-1960s to 2002 and it is all together in one folder, in chronological order. Another file of interest is that of the KNX and KNXT editorials-- copies of the broadcasts primarily from 1965 and 1966 when there was much public debate regarding the erection of a convention center in Elysian Park.

Clippings

Scope and Content

This series consists solely of newspaper clippings, primarily on two different topics. One folder--and the bulk of the series--contains dozens of newspaper clippings from the Los Angeles Times having to do with the 1965 Los Angeles riots in Watts. It is not clear why this particular file was saved with the CCSEP records, except that the topic evidently was of much interest to Grace Simons, who was the keeper of all the Committee's records until her death.

The other major topic represented in the clippings is the two fires that consumed approximately 300 acres of Elysian Park in the Buena Vista Reservoir area in 1981. There is only one newspaper story included in the file, along with a typed report of the fire prepared by Richard Ginevan, Chief Park Maintenance Supervisor, and a photostat of a "fire progress report" from September of that year. Because these items were kept together in their own folder, separate from other clippings, they were left that way in the processing of the collection.

The clippings file from the 1970s contains a few articles on issues very relevant to the concerns of the CCSEP: the Police Academy's presence in the Park, Mayor Sam Yorty vetoing a ban on oil drilling, etc.

The one clipping in the 1990s file is a "letter to the editor" (Los Angeles Times) from Sallie Neubauer, president of CCSEP at the time, concerning the issue of building an NFL stadium in Elysian Park.

Box 8, Folder 1
 Box 8, Folder 2
 Box 8, Folder 3-4

Fire 1981
Watts Riots 1965
Various September-October, 1965

Correspondence
Scope and Content

This series contains correspondence, chiefly from the 1960s, but also including up to 2000.

There is a folder of correspondence to and from Paul Bruce Dowling, executive director of the America the Beautiful Fund (1969).

The bulk of the series consists of correspondence between the CCSEP and other individuals, organizations, and government entities on a variety of issues including fund-raising, the convention center proposal, membership, etc.

Box 8, Folder 5
Box 8, Folder 6-8

Master Plan 1969**Miscellaneous 1965****Publications****Scope and Content**

This series consists of 23 folders of published materials-- magazines, serials, annual reports, booklets, and small flyers and leaflets. Several items are directly related to Elysian Park, such as the *Sunset* magazine from September 1965 with its article, *The Forgotten Forest Retreat Right in Central L.A.* or the *California History Magazine's* *Where the Brake Fern Grows-- L.A.'s Elysian Park*. Other publications are related to issues concerning the Park and the CCSEP such as *Quality on Tap*, a customer publication put out by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

Box 8, Folder 9
Box 8, Folder 10
Box 8, Folder 11
Box 8, Folder 12
Box 8, Folder 13
Box 8, Folder 14
Box 8, Folder 15
Box 8, Folder 16
Box 8, Folder 17
Box 8, Folder 18
Box 8, Folder 19
Box 8, Folder 20
Box 8, Folder 21
Box 8, Folder 22

Drafts**Annual Report - Board of Park Commissioners, City of Los Angeles 1931****Annual Report - Board of Park Commissioners, City of Los Angeles 1933****California History, The Magazine of the California Historical Society Fall 1983****Cornell, Bridgers, and Troller A.S.L.A****Cry California - The Journal of California Tomorrow Winter 1965 - 1966****Cry California - The Journal of California Tomorrow Winter 1965 -1966****Cry California - The Journal of California Tomorrow Summer 1967****Cry California - The Journal of California Tomorrow Spring 1970****Elysian Park Memorial Tree Plantings****Elysian Park Must Be Saved For the People****Geology of the Elysian Park - Repetto Hills Area, L.A. County, California 1970****The Park That Was Preserved 1967****Proposed Public Ownership Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area May 1979****Quality on Tap 1989****Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles, Annual Report 1963 - 1964****Recreation and Parks in Los Angeles March, 1966****Safeguarding a Vital Asset****Sunset Magazine September, 1965****Water for Los Angeles 1988****Water, Power, and the Growth of Los Angeles 1988****Flyers, Leaflets, and Pamphlets**

Box 8, Folder 23
Box 8, Folder 24
Box 8, Folder 25
Box 8, Folder 26
Box 8, Folder 27
Box 8, Folder 28
Box 8, Folder 29
Box 8,
Folder 30-31

Awards**Scope and Content**

This series is comprised of actual awards and certificates as well as press coverage and other papers regarding the awards. One of the awards conferred upon Grace E. Simons in 1979 was the Sol Feinstone Environmental Award, presented annually by the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Other awards which Simons received which are included in the collection are the Governor's Design Award of Exceptional Distinction (1966), a certificate of recognition from the Echo Park Community Coordinating Council (1983), a community leadership award from KABC-TV (undated), and an Honor Award from the California Conservation Council (1969).

Box 8, Folder 32
 Box 8, Folder 33
 Box 8, Folder 34

Feinstone 1979
Governor's Award 1966
Certificates 1966 - 1983
Administration of CCSEP

Scope and Content

This series is comprised of the files kept by the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park, including financial records, membership lists, meeting minutes, etc. See collection inventory for more comprehensive list of types of materials kept.

Box 8, Folder 35
 Box 8, Folder 36
 Box 8, Folder 37
 Box 8,
 Folder 38-41
 Box 8, Folder 42
 Box 9, Folder 1
 Box 9, Folder 2-3
 Box 9, Folder 4-5
 Box 9, Folder 6
 Box 9, Folder 7-8
 Box 9, Folder 9-10
 Box 9, Folder 11
 Box 9, Folder 12
 Box 9, Folder 13
 Box 9, Folder 14
 Box 9, Folder 15

Contributions
Sallie Neubauer
Correspondence 1965
Financial 1965 - 1970

Financial (Ledgers) 1965 - 1976
Meetings and Hearings, Telephone Lists 1965
Address Lists
Agendas 1965 - 1970
Committee Correspondence
Meeting Minutes 1973 - 1982
Steering Committee Minutes 1979 - 1998
Master Plan 1971, 1986
Park Plans
Sponsors
City Council Members
Prototype Stationery
Photographs

Scope and Content

The Photographs series consists of a few professional photographs, but chiefly candid snapshots of Elysian Park activities, events, and people. Most of the photographs are undated and unlabeled, though some attempt was made to group "like" photos together based on location or estimated age of photo. There are a few slides and negatives included at the end of the series.

Box 9, Folder 16
 Box 9,
 Folder 17-18
 Box 9, Folder 19
 Box 9,
 Folder 20-21
 Box 9,
 Folder 22-26
 Box 9, Folder 27
 Box 9, Folder 28
 Box 9, Folder 29
 Box 9, Folder 30
 Box 9,
 Folder 31-36
 Box 9, Folder 37
 Box 9, Folder 38
 Box 9, Folder 39
 Box 9, Folder 40
 Box 9, Folder 41
 Box 9, Folder 42
 Box 9, Folder 43
 Box 9, Folder 44
 Box 9, Folder 45

1965 Protest 1965
Buena Vista Pumping Station

Buena Vista Reservoir 1974
Caltrans 110 Freeway Expansion Lawsuit

Citizens Committee 1970s

Dedication of Grace E. Simons Lodge
DWP Illegal Slurry BV Meadows
Elysian Park Centennial 1986
Event 1965
Miscellaneous

Little League Field
Memorial Service 1985
Photo Journalism by Joe Stermer
Police Academy (Open House) 1973
Police Academy (Little League) 1974
Swim Lake
Tree Planting 1987
Slides
Negatives

Maps

- Box 10 **Elysian Park Lodge Drawings 1978**
 Scope and Content
 Four architectural drawings for the new Elysian Park lodge (later named Grace E. Simons Lodge), by Abrahamian & Pagliassotti.
- Box 10 **Project Description of Lodge 1978**
 Scope and Content
 One-page project description of the new lodge described on stationery of Abrahamian & Pagliassotti.
- Box 10 **Memorandum 1978**
 Scope and Content
 Memorandum to Grace [E. Simons] from Allen Habicht regarding schematic plans for the new lodge.
- Box 10 **Stone Quarry Hills Maps 1868**
 Scope and Content
 Photocopy of 1868 map of Stone Quarry Hills, stamped by the city clerk in 1918. Also, the photocopy from which this photocopy was made-- by taping together several 8 1/2 x 11 sheets of paper, as the map was copied in sections.
- Box 10 **Los Angeles Map 1887**
 Scope and Content
 Photocopy of a map of Los Angeles, showing Elysian Park.
- Box 10 **Ordinance**
 Scope and Content
 Photocopy of an 1886 ordinance dedicating Elysian Park as a public park.
- Box 10 **Park in Quarry Hills 1886**
 Scope and Content
 Photocopy of a recommendation by the Committee on Parks that the park in Quarry Hills be known as Elysian Park and that \$200 be spent on plowing and planting of trees.
- Box 11 **Season's Greetings Drawings 1973-1975**
 Scope and Content
 Two large drawings with the caption of "Season's Greetings"-- one for 1973-1974 and one for 1974-1975. One is a drawing of a church and canal in Leningrad; the other is described as "Impression Manaznillo, Mexico." Both say, "From A. Quincy Jones, FAIA, & Associates, Architects."
- Box 11 **Elysian Park Map 1917**
 Scope and Content
 Large photocopy of a map of Elysian Park, 1917.
- Box 11 **Elysian Park Map 1931**
 Scope and Content
 Photocopy of a map of Elysian Park, 1931.