Inventory of the Kennebunk River Club Collection  
(Collection #65)  
The Brick Store Museum  
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by J. Butler, Manuscript Curator  
May 22, 1990

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Physical Description:  

The Kennebunk River Club of Kennebunkport was formally organized in 1889. In 1989, in recognition of the Club’s 100th anniversary, its records and the memories of members were culled for the writing of a history of the organization. This activity moved the Club’s directors to do something about the archives. To that end, they placed them in the care of the Brick Store Museum in Kennebunk.

This collection is therefore the archives of the Kennebunk River Club. The bulk of the papers date from the late 1920s to the early 1980s. A few records of the Arundel Casino, a sister organization, are included. These date from the 1880s to the mid-20th century.

A few printed materials, pertaining to the Kennebunk River Club, date to the turn of the 20th century.

The collection, which bears the accession number 89.44 and 90.37, is stored in a variety of different boxes and notebooks. For the current Commodore’s instructions concerning this collection, see his attached letter to the Museum’s Registrar, Kathryn Hussey.
October 2, 1989

Kathryn A. Hussey, Registrar
The Brick Store Museum
P.O. Box 177
Kennebunk, Maine 04043

Dear Kathryn Hussey:

I enclose the signed blue Gift Agreement making an unrestricted gift of the archival materials of the Kennebunk River Club to the Brick Store Museum, the gift subject to the conditions recorded below.

1. Members of the Club may have access to the archives at any time the Museum is open.

2. Materials in the archives may only leave the Brick Store Museum by written request of the Board of Directors of the Kennebunk River Club except that the person designated by the Board of the Kennebunk River Club as "Club Historian" may remove materials for use and/or study with the requirement that the materials so removed be returned to the Museum in a reasonable period of time not to exceed two months.

3. Scholars who are not members of the Club may have access to the archives for research and study in the Museum in the discretion of the Director of the Museum.

4. The ownership of the archives will revert to the Kennebunk River Club in the event the Brick Store Museum ceases to exist or is no longer a viable institution.

Sincerely yours,

Jack Graham
Commodore
May 29, 1990

Joyce Butler  
Curator of Manuscripts
The Brick Store Museum  
P. O. Box 177
Kennebunk, ME 04043

Dear Joyce:

Thank you for sending me a copy of the inventory of the Kennebunk River Club collection. I shall carry it to the next Board meeting and suggest that it be placed in the records of the Secretary which are the nearest entity we have to a "permanent" repository within the Club. I know the Directors will be most grateful to you for your good offices in compiling the inventory, and I, for my part, am especially grateful since it had been my hope for a number of years that the Brick Store might be willing to become the official repository for the Club.

Indeed, we are glad that the archives are at the Museum and have benefit of your careful and competent review and ordering of the materials. I now hope that the Club will set up a simple system of keeping documents and records which should be considered by the Museum for additions to the Club collection. I wonder, for example, if the Museum has a copy of the video tape of the Centennial Opening Exercises with Mrs. Bush among the speakers. The tape was done professionally and is quite good. Susan Edwards represented the Museum on that occasion.

The other day I called the Museum to leave a message for you of thanks and word that there are some more records at the Club which have "emerged" in the process of our enlarging and renovating the office. Our Office Manager, Al O'Donnell, is ready to show these records to you if you have any interest in seeing them. My quick assessment is that they are mostly "financial" documents, but there may be other materials of interest. The telephone number in 967-2090 if you wish to call in advance, but Al is there a great deal of the time.

With our thanks and best wishes,

[Signature]

cc: Jack Graham, Commodore

James I. Armstrong
Box and Folder Breakdown:

Box (Miscellaneous Box (0) A)

Folder 1: Mimeographed copies of Constitution and By-Laws, Kennebunk River Club


Folder 6: Deeds, Elizabeth Trotter property, Ocean Avenue.

Folder 7: Plans (sketches) pertaining to Kennebunk River Club properties

Folder 8: Will, Elon Dunbar Lockwood, 1895

Folder 9: Correspondence pertaining to deeds and leases, Kennebunk River Club, 1929 – 1972

Folder 10: Documents pertaining to sale of Picnic Rock property, 1960

Folder 11: Correspondence pertaining to sewer connection, 1973

Folder 12: Insurance policies, 1940s – 1973

Folder 13: Documents pertaining to dredging of Kennebunk River, 1960
Documents pertaining to rebuilding of Glen Creek Bridge, 1973

Folder 14: Miscellaneous documents pertaining to liquor licenses, 1940s – 1960

Folder 15: Miscellaneous Nominating Committee reports, 1954 – 1982

Folder 16: Miscellaneous Reports on Annual Art Show, 1960s and 1970s


Folder 18: Miscellaneous documents pertaining to tennis at the Kennebunk River Club including applications for Tennis Pro, 1960

Folder 19: Junior Tennis Members, 1959; Junior Members, 1977 – 1978

Folder 20: Tennis Court Repairs, 1972 – 1973

Folder 21: Miscellaneous documents, Kennebunk River Club Invitational Tennis Tournament, 1955 – 1960
Box 2:

Folder 1: Correspondence, 1943
Folder 2: Correspondence, 1944
Folder 3: Correspondence, 1945 – 1948
Folder 4: Correspondence, 1949
Folder 5: Correspondence, 1950
Folder 6: Notices about committees and events, 1950
Folder 7: Correspondence, 1951
Folder 8: Correspondence, 1953 – 1958
Folder 9: Correspondence, 1959
Folder 10: Correspondence, January-March 1960
Folder 11: Correspondence, April-September 1960
Folder 12: Correspondence, 1961 – 1964
Folder 13: Correspondence, 1965
Folder 14: Correspondence, 1966 – 1969
Folder 15: Correspondence, 1972 – 1989
Folder 16: Newsletters and mailings to members, 1949 – 1973

Box 3:

Folder 1: Correspondence pertaining to promissory note of Miss Edna Wood, 1972 – 1974
Folder 4: Stock certificate, Arundel Land and Improvement Co., 1931 – 1932, and miscellaneous stock coupons and receipts, 1932
Folder 6: Miscellaneous tax forms
Folder 7: Financial Report, 1949
Folder 8: Notes pertaining to financial matters, 1949 – 1951
Folder 9: Notes and lists pertaining to financial matters, 1960
Folder 10: As above, 1964
Folder 11: Bills, 1949
Folder 12: As above, 1950
Folder 13: As above, 1951
Folder 14: Miscellaneous banking papers, 1969 – 1974
Folder 15:  Casco Bank and Trust Company papers, 1972 – 1974
Folder 16:  Miscellaneous bills, receipts, and notes, 1960s
Folder 19:  Miscellaneous printed documents.  House rules, membership applications, book plates, etc. 1940s and 1970s.
Folder 20:  Copy from The Wave, 8/5/1905 “Hotel Arrivals”
Folder 21:  Specifications, Nantucket One Design Class, John G. Alden, Naval Architect, 1928
Folder 22:  Miscellaneous advertising flyers

Box 4:

Miscellaneous financial papers: Cancelled checks, 1959, Bar slips, 1951; Cash sheets (for snacks), 1946, 1949, 1950
Folder 1:  Bank statement with cancelled checks, August-December 1949
Folder 2:  Bank statements, 1956

Box 5:

Arundel Casino Records
Folder 1:  Miscellaneous director’s Reports and Notes and list of members from 1886
Also:  Record Book, Arundel Casino, 1886 – 1928
Accounts, Arundel Casino (?), 1886 – 1901
Arundel Casino Tennis Tournament Book, 1914 – c. 1957
Arundel Casino Book of Membership Certificates, 1890 – 1928

Pamphlet Box 1:

Constitution, By-Laws, and Members of the Kennebunk River Club, 1901.  Boston: Published by the Club Secretary.
By-Laws and Rules of the Arundel Casino, 1902
By-Laws and Rules of the Arundel Casino, 1903
The Kennebunk River Club, Kennebunkport, Maine, 1922.  Promotional booklet.
A Brief History of the Kennebunk River Club, no date.  12 copies.
Constitution and By-Laws of the Kennebunk River Club, 1927, 1931. Two copies each year.


Flat Box 1:
Receipts for purchases, services, taxes, etc. 1940s. Not sorted into chronological order.

Flat Box 2:
Materials gathered for 1989 history of the Kennebunk River Club including written accounts by members of their memories of Club activities and events. Also galleys of the publication.

Box 1:
Ledger, 1919 – 1920. Charges to Members (89.44.4.1.)
Treasurer’s Book, 1929 (89.44.4.2)
Members’ Accounts, 1930 (?) (89.44.4.3)
Cash Book, 1930 (89.44.4.4)
Cash Book, 1931 (89.44.4.5)
Cash Book, 1932 (89.44.4.6)
Ledger, 1931 (89.44.4.7)
Petty Cash, 1931 (89.44.4.8)
Cash Book, 1933 (89.44.4.9)
Receipt Book, 1933 – 1939
Receipt books (3), not used (89.44.4.11-13)
Guest Book, 1930 – 1956 (89.44.4.14)
Minutes of Meetings, 1965 – 1966 (Only a few pages in back of book used) (89.44.4.15)
“Event Register” (guest book) 1924 – 1961 (89.44.4.16)

Box B:
Check book, 1941 – 1945 (89.44.4.17)
Check book, 1945 – 1947 (89.44.4.18)
Check book, 1947 – 1950 (89.44.4.19)
Check book, 1956 – 1959 (89.44.4.20)
Check book, 1959 – 1960 (89.44.4.21)
Check book, 1960 – 1962 (89.44.4.22)
Financial records including dues and membership lists, 1951 – 1962 (89.44.4.23)
Cash Book, 1944 (89.44.4.24)
Ledger, 1948 – 1949 (89.44.4.25)
Accounts, 1953 – 1959 (89.44.4.26)
Treasurer’s Book, 1953 – 1962 (89.44.4.27)

Notebook 1:
Notices and reports of various meetings: Annual, Directors, etc. 1944 – 1959

Notebook 2:
As above, 1960 – 1979

Notebook 3:
Commodore’s files, 1977 – 1979

Notebook 4:
Miscellaneous financial reports, 1939 – 1977

The Collection also includes:
Event Register (guest book), 1924 – 1961

Photographs numbered as follows:
89.44.1.1-6
89.44.2.1-8
89.44.3.1-22
89.44.4.1

*Kennebunkport Items*, 6/30/1917 & 7/14/1917  Newspaper Box V/5

The following items are stored in Map Box (0) 1, Folder 11:
Poster.  Tour of Summer Homes on the Point at Kennebunkport, no date.
Poster.  House Tour.  Arundel Point, Kennebunkport, no date.

The following items stored in Folio Box 2/1:
Right of way maps (2) for the Glen Creek Bridge, Ocean Avenue, Kennebunkport.  Department of Transportation, 1973.

Additional materials given September 1990.  Accession number 90.37

Photographs (removed from scrapbook) numbered 90.37.1.1-90.37.1.153.1-11

Photographs are in numbered folders in the photograph file and with unidentified photos.  Photocopies of all photographs are in a blue binder labeled PHOTOGRAPHS which is on the shelf with the rest of the Kennebunk River Club Collection.

Box 6:

Folder 1:  Miscellaneous printed invitations having to do with River Club members (wedding invitations, etc.)
Folder 2: Proof page and other materials pertaining to the publication *High Tide*, which was published by Joy Dow, and photographs used in that publication.

Folder 3: Miscellaneous printed materials pertaining to the Kennebunk River Club (tickets, programs, brochures, and a promissory note dated October 1, 1974.

Folder 4: Miscellaneous items and newspaper clippings pertaining to Booth Tarkington

Folder 5: Photocopies of newspaper articles concerning Kennebunk River Club activities and members

Folder 6: Photocopied pages of a scrapbook kept by a Kennebunk River Club member from 1919 to 1981.

NOTE: Most of this material was removed from a scrapbook that had evidently been put together by Joy Dow, Jr., a former River Club member and publisher of *High Tide*, a summer newspaper that publicized River Club events and the doings of people in Kennebunkport and at Kennebunk Beach.

Plans, River Club Boat House, Stickney and Austin, Boston, no date [1890]. Six views.

Metal case #2, Drawer 1, Folder 3

Additions to the collection, 1992

Box A:

Ledger, Minutes of Club Meetings, 1923 – 1950

Box 6:

Folder 7: Miscellaneous items removed from above ledger

Folder 8: Typed script of production “100 Years of ‘Bunk’” a musical comedy revue presented at the Casino 1989. And a program.

Folder 9: Notebook kept by the Agnew family of various printed items sent out by the River Club – tickets, schedules, programs, etc., c. 1890s to 1920s

Folder 10: Papers of Race Committee, 1974 – 1979

Folder 11: Casino Committee papers, 1980s

Folder 12: 1960 insurance policy and 1990 correspondence and inventory of archives from the Brick Store Museum

Pamphlet Box 2:

By-Laws and Rules of the Arundel Casino, 1909

Constitution and By-Laws, Kennebunk River Club, 1927
Additions:

Box 6:

Folder 13: Correspondence from John Heilman pertaining to question of whether or not there was tennis at the River Club as early as 1890, and his conclusions.

Reference Resources:


Subject Tracings:

Alden, John G.
Arundel Casino
Arundel Land and Improvement Co.
Dow, Joy Jr.
Glen Creek Bridge (Ocean Avenue, Kennebunkport)
*High Tide*
Kennebunk River (Dredging, 1960)
Lockwood, Elon Dunbar
Picnic Rock
Pioneer Services (Kennebunk)
Tarkington, Booth
Trotter, Elizabeth
Wood, Edna

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