

SSE 13
Fairholt Collection

Dates

1895-2005

Extent

.25 cu.

Arrangement

Alphabetical

History/Scope

The Fairholt estate was built by publisher Henry Holt, a summer resident of Stowe Vermont. He purchased the land after a visit to Burlington in 1890. Early on, Holt employed renowned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted to assist in creating a Fairholt Park, although it is unclear the extent to which Olmsted oversaw the project. The building, designed by architect Staniford White, was finished in 1903. A portion of the original property was ceded to the Burlington Country Club in 1924. The Holt family owned the property until 1940, when it was sold to Willett and Lucille Foster. Mrs. Foster conveyed part of the Fairholt to Arnold Skelly and later another part to Willett Foster Junior. Skelly eventually sold the property to the Society of Saint Edmund in 1953. The Society owned the property until 1995, when they sold it to Richard and Amy Tarrant.

The Fairholt Collection is a collection created primarily by Mrs. Jacqueline McKenna, former secretary to the Superior General of the SSE. McKenna compiled most of the items in this collection while the Society was exploring the possible sale of Fairholt in the 1990s. McKenna organized historical and contemporary newspaper clippings, reports about the property and articles about both the property and Henry Holt family. The collection also includes some correspondence related to her research, mainly with former property owners. Other clippings and information about Fairholt have been added occasionally.

NOTE: This file does not contain information related to the SSE ownership of the property. Files related to the SSE ownership and use of Fairholt can be found in Superior General, Treasurer General and Local Administration record groups.

Container List

Collection of News Stories

General Information

Glimpses of Fairholt

Jacquie McKenna Correspondence and Research

Report: The View from Our House in Burlington VT
"An 'unpractical man' in Vermont Frederick Law Olmsted and Fairholt" by
James Moran, 1997