

# **A Guide to the Paul E. Proske Papers, 1992-1998**

Collection #: SIM-16  
Title: Paul E. Proske Papers  
Creator: Paul E. Proske  
Dates: 1992-1998  
Extent: Approximately 1.5 Linear Feet  
Abstract: The material in this collection documents the Staten Island secession movement. Paul E. Proske was a member of the Charter Commission, which headed the movement.

## **Administrative Information**

### Preferred Citation

Paul E. Proske Papers, Archives & Special Collections, Department of the Library, College of Staten Island, CUNY, Staten Island, New York.

### Acquisition

This material was donated to the CSI Archives & Special Collections on July 14, 2006 by Janet Alexander.

### Processing Information

Collection inventory by Katie Fernandez. Collection processing and finding aid by Rachel Jirka.

## **Restrictions**

### Access

Access to this record group is unrestricted.

### Copyright Notice

The researcher assumes full responsibility for compliance with laws of copyright. Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with the Coordinator of Archives & Special Collections.

## **Historical Sketch**

The State Charter Commission on Staten Island Secession was created in November 1990 after 81% of Staten Island voters approved a referendum to explore the possibility of a secession from New York City. Chaired by State Senator John Marchi, the Commission undertook an intensive 2-year study and public discussion of Staten Island secession, culminating in a favorable report to the governor and state legislature and a draft charter for an independent City of Staten Island. Further information can be found at: <http://www.library.csi.cuny.edu/archives/charter.htm>

Paul E. Proske had served as chairman of the Staten Island Chamber of Commerce from 1978-1980, and served on the Staten Island Charter Commission. In the late 1980s, Proske undertook a detailed review of Staten Island's finances, and found that the borough would be able to sustain the transition from borough to independent city.

### **Scope and Content Note**

This collection contains materials was amassed by Paul E. Proske in his capacity as a member of the Staten Island Secession Commission. The collection includes memos, meeting minutes, legislative documents, financial records, and the official proposed charter from 1993.

**Memos and Meeting Minutes** contain minutes and agendas documenting the Commission's meetings, as well as memos concerning finances, logistics, the writing of the charter, and public outreach.

**Financial Records** include reports by the Tax and Finance Committee, budgets concerning the operation of the Commission, and a report compiled by Moody's Investors Service.

**Legislative Documents** contains the bills written outlining the planned City of Staten Island. This series also contains information on the Home Rule, which allowed New York City certain legislative powers and was used to challenge the secession movement.

**Logistical Reports** contains reports written on the public services such as public transportation and the management of Staten Island.

### **Arrangement**

The Paul E. Proske Papers are divided into 4 series:

**Memos and Meeting Minutes**

**Financial Records**

**Legislative Documents**

**Logistical Reports**

### **Index Terms**

*This collection is indexed under the following terms. Manuscript collections are not included in the College of Staten Island's library catalog at this time.*

### **Subject Names**

Marchi, John J.

## **Subject Topics**

Staten Island (N.Y.) -- Secession.

Legislation -- New York

### **Series Descriptions and Container Listing**

[The following box/folder inventory is in the form of a table. If you are visually impaired and using a pdf reader you may need assistance and should contact the Archives at 718-982-4128.]

#### **Series I. Memos and Meeting Minutes. 1 archival box, .5 linear feet**

This series is arranged by document type, and then chronologically.

##### **Box 1**

Folder 1	Minutes and Agendas, 1992-1995
Folder 2	Memos, 1993
Folder 3	Memos, 1993
Folder 4	Memos, 1993
Folder 5	Memos, 1994
Folder 6	Memos, 1994
Folder 7	Memos, 1994
Folder 8	Memos, 1995
Folder 9	Memos, December 1995

#### **Series 2. Financial Records. 1 archival box, .5 linear feet**

This series is arranged by document type, and then chronologically.

##### **Box 2**

Folder 1	Report on the Advisory Committee on Tax and Finance (part 1), 1992
Folder 2	Report on the Advisory Committee on Tax and Finance (part 2), 1992
Folder 3	Budget, 1993-1994
Folder 4	Budget, 1994- 1995
Folder 5	Budget, 1995- 1996
Folder 6	Budget, 1996-1997
Folder 7	Budget, 1997-1998
Folder 8	Finance Briefing, 1992-1996
Folder 9	Finance Report, 1993
Folder 10	Newsletter Financial Independence, 1992
Folder 11	Capital Projects and Budget, nd
Folder 12	Report from Moody's Investors Service, 1993

Folder 13 Start-Up Costs, 1993

**Series 3. Legislative Documents. 7 folders.**

This series is arranged by document type, and then chronologically.

Box 3

Folder 1 New York State Charter Commission Proposed Charter for Staten Island, 1993  
Folder 2 Legislation, January 1994  
Folder 3 Legislation, January 1994  
Folder 4 Legislation, January 1994  
Folder 5 Legislation Drafts  
Folder 6 Home Rule, 1996  
Folder 7 Home Rule

**Series 4. Logistical Reports. 28 folders**

Box 3

Folder 8 *Staten Island Secession: The Impact on Public Transportation Services*, 1993  
Folder 9 Options for Service Organization and Management for Staten Island, [1990s]  
Folder 10 Transition, January 1994  
Folder 11 Bill providing for Secession referendum, 1990  
Folder 12 Assembly bill for Secession referendum, 1989

Box 4

Folder 1 Department of Aging  
Folder 2 Department of Buildings  
Folder 3 Department of Business Services  
Folder 4 Department of City Planning  
Folder 5 Department of Consumer Affairs  
Folder 6 Department of Cultural Affairs  
Folder 7 Community Development Agency  
Folder 8 Economic Development Corporation  
Folder 9 Board of Education  
Folder 10 Department of Employment  
Folder 11 Department of Environmental Protection  
Folder 12 Fire Department  
Folder 13 Health and Hospitals Corporation  
Folder 14 Department of Housing Preservation and Development  
Folder 15 Human Resources Administration  
Folder 16 Department of Juvenile Justice  
Folder 17 Landmarks Preservation Commission  
Folder 18 Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Services  
Folder 19 Department of Parks and Recreation  
Folder 20 Police Department  
Folder 21 Department of Probation

- Folder 22 Department of Sanitation
- Folder 23 Taxi and Limousine Commission
- Folder 24 Department of Transportation
- Folder 25 Department of Youth Services
- Folder 26 Appendix A (1994 form used to gauge the services provided to Staten Island by city agencies)
- Folder 27 1993 report by Roger Furman and Ronald A. Jackson on whether legal judgments imposed on the City of New York would be binding on an independent Staten Island
- Folder 28 Statement of the Working Group on Budget