

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

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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.

Administrative Material contain minutes and agendas documenting the Commission's meetings, as well as memos concerning finances, logistics, the writing of the charter, and public outreach. Some correspondence, personnel documents and miscellaneous administrative material is also included.

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 and Legal 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:

Administrative Material
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

Administrative Material

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

Box 1

Folder 1	Minutes and Agendas, 1991-1998
Folder 2	Memos, 1991
Folder 3	Memos, 1992
Folder 4	Memos, 1993 (Jan-Mar)
Folder 5	Memos, 1993 (Apr-Sept)
Folder 6	Memos, 1993 (Oct-Nov)

Box 2

Folder 1	Memos, 1994 (Jan-May)
Folder 2	Memos, 1994 (Jun-Dec)
Folder 3	Memos, 1995
Folder 4	Memos 1996
Folder 5	Memos 1997
Folder 6	Correspondence 1991-1996
Folder 7	Personnel/Appointments
Folder 8	Clippings

Series 2. Financial Records.

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

Box 3

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
- Folder 14 Commission Meeting/Hearings voucher, 1991-1992

Series 3. Legislative Documents.

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

Box 4

- Folder 1 Assembly bill for Secession referendum, 1989
- Folder 2 Bill providing for Secession referendum, 1990
- Folder 3 Legislation to Amend the NY Constitution re: Referendum & Initiative, 1991
- Folder 4 Charter working document, September 21, 1992
- Folder 5 Charter working document, November 5, 1992
- Folder 6 Charter working document, December 1992
- Folder 7 New York State Charter Commission Proposed Charter for Staten Island, 1993
- Folder 8 Draft Preamble to Charter, June 17, 1993
- Folder 9 Proposed secession legislation, 1994
- Folder 10 Proposed legislation incorporating the city of Staten Island, 1994
- Folder 11 Drafts of legislation, 1994
- Folder 12 Affidavit of Karen Kaufmann, 1994
- Folder 13 Home Rule lawsuit, May 24, 1995
- Folder 14 Home Rule lawsuit, August 13, 1996

Series 4. Logistical Reports.

Box 5

- 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

Box 6

- Folder 1 S.I. Secession: The Impact on Public Transportation Services, (Mayor's Task Force on Secession), October 1993
- Folder 2 S.I. Secession: The Price of Independence, (Mayor's Task Force on Secession), ca. 1993
- Folder 3 Draft report of the Education Committee, December 11, 1992
- Folder 4 An Analysis of the New York State Health Provisions, April 18, 1997
- Folder 5 Options for Service Organization and Management for Staten Island, March 21, 1995
- Folder 6 NY State Administrative Code Summarization of Dept. of Health, June 30, 1996
- Folder 7 Report on NY State Building Codes, April 1997
- Folder 8 Transition Project: Service Delivery, October 19, 1994
- Folder 9 Mayor's Task Force on Service Delivery (Preliminary Report), February 1, 1993
- Folder 10 Cross Reference Document (S.I. Health Code) n.d.
- Folder 11 Recodification of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, April 3, 1985
- Folder 12 Home Rule and the Secession of Staten Island, (Touro Law Review), ca. 1991
- Folder 13 Report of the Secession Taskforce of the S.I. Chamber of Commerce, June 1993
- Folder 14 Report on Certain Matters with Respect to Indebtedness in the Context of an Independent Staten Island, (Orrick, Herrington and Sutcliffe), ca. 1992
- Folder 15 Recommendations for a Separate S.I. School System, January 4, 1993
- Folder 16 Report of the Working Group on Education, n.d.
- Folder 17 Draft proposal to amend law regarding family court, judiciary law and uniform city court act in relation to city of Staten Island, 1994
- Folder 18 Transition models, n.d.
- Folder 19 Questions and Issues related to Education Provisions for Staten Island, n.d.
- Folder 20 A Sorry Record of Leadership, Past & Present, n.d
- Folder 21 Staten Island Secession: The Impact on City Workers, April 1993