

JOHN R. STILES AND MERRILL MUELLER FILES, 1974-75

Collection Type

Federal Records

Extent

7.0 linear feet (ca. 14,000 pages)

Record Type

Textual

Access

Advance consultation is required so that archivists may complete routine review of requested folders for restricted information.

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Processed by

William McNitt, May 1995

Scope and Content Note

John Stiles, a longtime friend of President Ford from Grand Rapids, served as Mr. Ford's campaign manager during the 1948 campaign for Congress and helped him

during the Warren Commission's investigation of the Kennedy assassination.

Soon after Gerald Ford became President, Stiles began working part-time in the White House. Working under the supervision of White House Counsellor John Marsh, Stiles started several projects relating to the upcoming Bicentennial celebration. When President Ford decided that the White House needed a swimming pool to replace the one that President Nixon had closed, Stiles also became the White House liaison with the private group formed to raise funds and construct the pool.

Stiles transferred to the President Ford Committee in September 1975 and worked on campaign-related matters until his death in an automobile accident in April 1976. The Federal Energy Agency detailed Merrill Mueller to the White House to finish the swimming pool project. He remained until October 1975.

The files accumulated by Stiles and Mueller mainly document planning and fundraising for the new White House swimming pool and its subsequent construction. Included is information on the formation and operation of the committee, detailed financial contribution records, and product literature from companies offering their services. In addition, the collection contains material on Stiles' work on the Bicentennial, especially the science and technology exposition at Cape Canaveral, and his interest in housing issues. The collection includes nothing on his 1976 campaign activities.

Related Materials (May 1995)

Major collections on the Bicentennial celebration include the files of Counsellor John Marsh and his aide Milt Mitler. Other materials on the White House swimming pool appear in the files of David Hoopes, Kenneth Lazarus, and category WH 2 (White House Building and Grounds) in the White House Central Files Subject File. Some additional Stiles materials appear in the records of the Delegate Office of the President Ford Committee. A small collection of Stiles papers, relating primarily to the Warren Commission, is among the holdings of the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library.

Last Modified Date

2024-04-09

General Subject File (Stiles), 1974-75.

(Boxes 1-3, 1.2 linear feet)

Correspondence, memoranda, charts, clippings, and publications. The materials primarily concern Stiles' work on planning for the Bicentennial celebration, although a small amount relates to his interest in housing issues. A major focus of the material on the Bicentennial is the science and technology exposition at Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box 1 - General Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
OPEN	American Revolution Bicentennial - Official Master Register (Publications), (1)-(2)
OPEN	American Revolution Bicentennial Administration
OPEN	Bicentennial Exposition (1)-(3)

Box 2 - General Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
OPEN	Bicentennial - Federal Departments (1)-(2)
OPEN	Bicentennial - General (1)-(3)
OPEN	Bicentennial - Grand Rapids, MI (1)-(2)
OPEN	Bicentennial - U.S. Capitol Historical Society (1)-(2)
OPEN	Campaign Reform (Newspaper Clippings)
OPEN	Cape Canaveral (1)

Box 3 - General Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
OPEN	Cape Canaveral (2)-(4)
CLOSED	Correspondence
CLOSED	Housing (1)-(2)
CLOSED	Kennedy Space Center - Master Plan
CLOSED	Koenig, John L. (Bicentennial)
CLOSED	News Clippings
CLOSED	News Summaries

White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles), 1974-75.

(Boxes 4-14, 4.2 linear feet)

Correspondence, memoranda, a card file, and lists. The materials primarily concern planning for a new White House swimming pool and the campaign to raise funds for its construction.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box 4 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Card File Index to Contributors

Box 5 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
OPEN	Committee Formation
CLOSED	Contribution Acknowledgements By President Ford (1)-(3)
CLOSED	Contribution Letters (1)-(7)

Box 6 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Contribution Letters (8)-(13)
CLOSED	Contribution Not Found Enclosed

Box 7 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Contributions To Be Acknowledged (1)-(4)
CLOSED	Contributors - Lists (1)-(6)

Box 8 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Contributors - Lists (7)-(8)
CLOSED	Contributors - Lists - Acknowledged By Dorothy Ford (1)-(5)

Box 9 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Contributors - Lists - Acknowledged By Sehorn (1)-(7)

Box 10 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
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CLOSED Contributors - Lists - Letters For Unsolicited Checks
Received By White House (1)-(6)

Box 11 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Correspondence - Individual Response Required
CLOSED	Correspondence - Markert, Bill
CLOSED	Correspondence - Mayer, Bob
CLOSED	Correspondence - Requisitions, Etc.
CLOSED	Correspondence - Schuiling, Bill
CLOSED	Correspondence - Sehorn, Al
CLOSED	Cost Estimates
CLOSED	Dawson, Buck - International Swimming Pool Hall of Fame
CLOSED	Fund Raising - General (1)-(2)
CLOSED	Fund Raising - Volunteers
CLOSED	Landscaping Plans
OPEN	Memos to the President From Stiles
CLOSED	Mueller, Merrill
CLOSED	Offers of Services (1)-(2)

Box 12 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Offers of Services (3)-(9)
OPEN	Photographs Of Pool Construction
OPEN	Press Relations (Including Nessen Briefings)

Box 13 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Public Letters Without Contributions - Negative
CLOSED	Public Letters Without Contributions - Positive (1)-(3)
CLOSED	Regional Contribution Solicitors
CLOSED	Rudd, Gordan
CLOSED	Solar Energy (1)-(2)
CLOSED	Special Thank You Letters

Box 14 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Stiles)

Status	Title
OPEN	Stiles Correspondence (1)-(4)
CLOSED	Volunteers for A White House Physical Fitness Center
CLOSED	Volunteers for A White House Physical Fitness Center - Bookkeeping

White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Mueller), 1974-75.

(Boxes 15-18, 1.6 linear feet)

Correspondence, memoranda, product literature, lists, and clippings. The materials primarily concern the construction of the pool, although some items concern its initial use - the "First Plunge" and regulations for use of the pool. Some documents date from the time when Stiles headed the project.

Arranged alphabetically by subject.

Box 15 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Mueller)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Bath House Construction, Statue, Etc.
CLOSED	Company Bids Withdrawn
CLOSED	Construction Correspondence
CLOSED	Contributors - Lists (1)-(2)
CLOSED	Funds (1)-(2)
OPEN	Inauguration and First Plunge
CLOSED	Newspaper Articles
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - American Consulting Engineering Council
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Anti-Wave
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Applied Science Institute
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Breul, Charles A.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Burke Rubber Co.

Box 16 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Mueller)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Catel Manufacturing, Inc.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Colorado State University

Status	Title
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Dearing, Leroy M.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Energy Systems, Inc.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Environmental Sani-Trol Systems
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Fafco, Inc. (1)-(2)
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Inter Technology Corp.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Largo Solar Systems
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Lof, George O.G.

Box 17 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Mueller)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - McIntyre Tile Co.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Meyco Product
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Moeller Pools, Inc.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Outdoor Living
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Pennco
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Power Lift Pool Cover Corp.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Sol R Tech
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Solar-Electric Laboratories
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Solar Energy Co.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Solar Energy Industries Association, Inc.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Solar Heat Of Pennsylvania
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Solar Heater Company / Florida
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Solar Kinetics Corp.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Solation Products, Inc.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Sun Fun
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Sunsav, Inc. - Itek
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Sunsource (Beverly Hills, CA)
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Sunsource Energy Systems (Burnsville, MN)

Box 18 - White House Swimming Pool Subject File (Mueller)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Sunwater Co.

Status	Title
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Whitten Corporation
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Wilcon Corp.
CLOSED	Offers Of Service - Zome Works
CLOSED	Pool Cover
OPEN	Preliminary Planning, 1974
OPEN	Preliminary Planning, 1975
CLOSED	Rudd's Swimming Pool Supply Co.
CLOSED	Solar Heating Criteria
CLOSED	Solar Heating (Proposal)
CLOSED	Solar Heating (Solarex Co.)
CLOSED	Temperature Readings Air and Water
CLOSED	Telephone Logs
CLOSED	Thank You
OPEN	Use of White House Swimming Pool (Rules and Regulations)
CLOSED	Volunteers For a White House Physical Fitness Center