



Robert S. Bryan Slide Collection

COLLECTION, MS B74

DATE

1951 – 1992

CONTRIBUTOR

Fairfield Museum

ADMINISTRATIVE/BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY ELEMENT

Robert Bryan, a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a Master's degree in City Planning, was a long-time resident of Fairfield. He worked as a planning consultant for several Connecticut and Westchester County, New York, towns. From 1951-1957, he served as Planning Director for the Fairfield Town Plan and Zoning Commission. Between 1962-1972 he developed a comprehensive municipal plan for Fairfield as a partner in Bryan & Panico. These slides are a result of his activities as a city planner. Bryan died in 1996. See collection folder for complete vita.

SCOPE & CONTENT

The collection of color 35 mm slides documents roadside landscape and architecture in Fairfield from 1951 to 1992. Robert Bryan photographed streetscapes, signs, gas stations, the shoreline, the 1955 "hurricane," and the construction of the Connecticut Turnpike in 1956. He focused specifically on the commercial center of town and on Black Rock Turnpike.

The slides are arranged in the order in which they were given to the Society, although they have been placed in polyethylene slide pages for protection. Mrs. Bryan attempted to keep the slides in the order in which she found them, whether in carousels, boxes or packages. She also provided the bulk of the identification.

The most notable aspect of the collection is that Bryan took photographs of the same location 20 years apart. He also took contrasting day and night time pictures.

Collection Contents

Robert S. Bryan Slide Collection

Page 43-44: Assorted Scenes and TPZC maps, 1957

Page 42: Post Road, Old Post Road and proposed center Business Road

Page 41: Black Rock Turnpike, 1956

Page 38-40: Planning for Civic Center, 1956-1957. Includes slides of Town Hall, Burr Mansion and grounds, Sun Tavern, Old Academy, and maps

Page 37: Hurricane Carol, August 1954

Page 35-36: Stratfield, 1953-54; foliage and plantings, 1955

Page 32-34: Assorted scenes, 1951-1956

Page 31: Signs, 1975

Folder 8

Folder 7

Folder 6

Folder 5

Folder 4 (2 records)

Post Road (looking west)

Post Road

Folder 3: Pine Creek Marsh, Mill River, parks, Greenfield Hill, King's Highway, Southport Harbor, town green, Connecticut Turnpike, 1955, Hurricane, 1954-5, 1977 (2 records)

Post Road near Mercurio's

Mercurio's on Post Road

Folder 2: Fairfield center along Post Road, 1955, 1976. Includes Brick Walk, Fairfield diner, Post Office (from carousel 2) (1 record)



Fairfield center along Post Road, 1955, 1976. Includes Brick Walk, Fairfield diner, Post Office (from carousel 2)

Blinn's - Cindy's - Baskin Robbins

Folder 1: Black Rock Turnpike, 1955-56, 1976; Post road, Fairfield Shopping Center and Beach Road, 1954-55, 1976; Unquowa Place, 1976 (from carousel 1) (2 records)

Black Rock Turnpike, 1955-56, 1976; Post road, Fairfield Shopping Center and Beach Road, 1954-55, 1976; Unquowa Place, 1976 (from carousel 1)

Bonney Electric - No Date

Black Rock Turnpike.- Diner- Oil City -1976