

**Cutler Academy
Records, 1956-1993
Doc 663 & 664**

Introduction

This collection contains some of the records of the Craftsbury School and Cutler Academy which operated in Craftsbury, Vermont, during the period 1956-1975. The collection was given to the Vermont Historical Society by Bill Canfield of Reading, Massachusetts, a 1963 graduate of Cutler Academy, in 2011. The collection is stored in two archival document storage boxes and consumes two linear feet of shelf space.

Institutional History

In the summer of 1956, Charles Early and Norman Rioux established a summer school in Craftsbury Common, Vermont, called the Craftsbury School. In the fall of 1959, the Craftsbury School opened as a year-round institution for college preparation of high school and junior high school boys. On January 4, 1961, the school's main building was burned down by a student, and the institution moved to Winooski for the remainder of the school year. In September 1961, a new building was finished in a rural setting in Craftsbury. The school changed its name to Cutler Academy in June 1962 to avoid confusion with another local school. The school was named after Nathan Cutler, a revolutionary war hero from the area. In addition to providing academic instruction, Cutler Academy catalogs, photographs and yearbooks also reflect an emphasis on physical education in the form of outdoor activities, particularly skiing, soccer, hiking, and other seasonal sports.

In 1975, the school closed due to declining enrollment. There were approximately 550 people connected with Cutler Academy during its lifetime. The school's campus was purchased in 1976 by Russell Spring and his family who started the Craftsbury Outdoor Center there, an institution that is still there 35 years later.

Scope and Content

This collection contains some of the records of the Craftsbury School (1956-1962) and its successor institution, Cutler Academy (1962-1975), located in Craftsbury, Vermont. The collection is organized in three series.

The first series contains records from the operation of the school. These records include several catalogs of Craftsbury School and Cutler Academy, one issue of a newsletter (March 9, 1967), mimeographed copies of student rosters, 1960-1975, and federal and state tax information for the period 1956 to 1976. The series includes a financial report for the ten month period ending April 30, 1975, that showed that the institution spent over \$7,000 more than it took in that period and had only \$4,300 cash on hand. The series also include four folders of photographs.

The second series is a nearly complete set of yearbooks from the two schools. The earliest yearbooks, 1960-1962, date from the Craftsbury School, while the remainder were produced under the Cutler Academy name, 1963-1975.

The final series is composed of records created by an alumni group which was trying to organize an institutional reunion in 1993. The effort was ultimately unsuccessful, but it generated data sheets for each known alumni of the school and for staff members. Some of the alumni files include photocopies of sections of the school's student records for the students. The school's complete student records are not included in this collection. Some of the alumni files include correspondence from alumni. Although the collection came with individual files for each former student and faculty member, they have been consolidated to save space.

The collection suffered some water damage while in the home of the donor in Walden, Vermont. Some of the pieces of paper are cockled and some of the pages of publications are sealed shut.

Inventory

I. Institutional Records

- Doc 663:1 Catalogs, Craftsbury School, 1956-1959
- 2 _____, Cutler Academy, 1962-1968
- 3 Newsletter, Issue 9, March 9, 1967
- 4 Student Rosters and Addresses, 1960-1975
- 5 Financial Reports, 1975
- 6 Federal & State Tax Information, 1956-1958
- 7 _____, 1960
- 8 _____, 1961
- 9 _____, 1962
- 10 _____, 1963
- 11 _____, 1964
- 12 _____, 1965
- 13 _____, 1967
- 14 _____, 1975-1976
- 15 Deed, 1966
- 16 Annual Awards (Graduation)
- 17 Photographs (Structures)
- 18 _____ (Groups & staff)
- 19 _____ (Ski Team)
- 20 _____ (Sports)

II. Yearbooks

- 21 Craftsbury School Yearbook, 1960
- 22 _____, 1961
- 23 _____, 1962
- 24 Cutler Academy Yearbook, 1963

- 25 _____, 1964
- 26 _____, 1965
- 27 _____, 1966
- 28 _____, 1967 (photocopy only)
- 29 _____, 1968 (2)
- 30 _____, 1969 (2)
- Doc.664:1 _____, 1970
- 2 _____, 1974 (2)
- 3 _____, 1975

III. Alumni Lists

- 4 Cutler Academy Alumni List
- 5 _____, Report, 1975
- 6 _____, Reunion Planning, 1993
- 7 _____, Reunion Planners
- 8 _____, Receipts & Expenses
- 9 Cutler Academy Students, A-B
- 10 _____, C-E
- 11 _____, FG
- 12 _____, H-K
- 13 _____, L-M
- 14 _____, N-R
- 15 _____, S-T
- 16 _____, V-Z
- 17 _____, Miscellaneous
- 18 _____, Staff

Judy Stafford
December 2011
CutlerAcademy.doc