

Charles Hobart Tracy (1902-1983)
CCC Photo Albums, 1933-1942
FB-147

Introduction

The collection consists of five photograph albums of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) projects in the New England and the northeast created by forester Charles Hobart Tracy (1902-1983) of South Hero, Vermont, as well as supporting CCC material. The collection was donated to the Vermont Historical Society in October 2019 by his granddaughter, Anne Tracy, and is stored in 2 archival flip top boxes (.75 linear feet).

Biographical Note

Charles Hobart Tracy was born August 6, 1902, in Randolph, Vermont, the son of William and Alice (Hobart) Tracy. He graduated from the University of Vermont in 1923 and Yale University School of Forestry in 1925. He worked as Project Forester for the U.S. Forest Service for many years and was in charge of the CCC forestry division for the entire Northeast region. During World War II, he continued to work for the U.S. Forest Service as Project Forester for the Timber Production War Project as the government ramped up production of lumber for the war. In 1929, he married Marian D. Coffin, who predeceased him in 1979. Mr. Tracy died at his home in South Hero, Vermont, on July 11, 1983.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of five photograph albums belonging to forester Charles Hobart Tracy of South Hero, Vermont. The albums are chronological, dating between 1933 and 1942. The collection focuses primarily on the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) areas of firefighting, forestry, and transportation in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, New York, and New Jersey. The first album, #14 (FB-147:1), dating from 1933 to 1934, substantially documents Camp Jenkins in East Hampton, Connecticut, while the other albums are more geographically dispersed. The photographs also document damage from the 1936 flood and 1938 hurricane. The albums also include some personal photographs, including photographs of travels in the northeast and beyond, as well as photographs of the University of Vermont campus and South Hero, Vermont, including photographs of the Tracy family home.

All of the photographs were taken by Mr. Tracy; most of the album pages include his written identifications of the photographs. The albums were numbered #14-#18 by Mr. Tracy or a family member. Some album pages are marked "C.C.C" and/or "E.C.W." The Emergency Conservation War Act (ECW) was the authorizing legislation which created the CCC; the initials "ECW" were used to identify early CCC-type projects.

The collection also includes handwritten pages from two small notebooks and printed material from the U.S. Forest Service and the CCC on fighting forest fires and driver training.

Related Collections

The Vermont Historical Society's library and museum collection includes many books and items about the CCC in Vermont and other states, as well as photographs, articles, and related papers. These can be located in the library's photograph files and the online catalog.

Inventory

FB-147.1:01 Photo album, #14, "CCC – Conn. & NE," 1933-34

Subjects: Logging, transportation, road and other construction, landscaping, snow removal, fire lines, fire towers, creosote plant

Includes:

Connecticut: Camp Jenkins, Meshomasic State Forest, Portland; Camp Lonergan, Pachaug State Forest, Voluntown; Camp 56, "Fernow"; Camp 54, "Paugnut"; Camp White; Camp 55, "Graves"; Museum at People's Forest

Massachusetts: Building of the Sagamore and Bourne bridges at Cape Cod Canal

Vermont: Vermont State Park buildings at Grafton, Vermont

General scenes of Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Vermont

FB-147.1:02 _____, #15, "CCC – Northeast," 1935-36

Subjects: Logging, flood control, road drainage and construction, fish hatchery work, pulp and paper companies, CCC buildings

Includes:

Connecticut: Connecticut River Valley, Hartford, Cromwell

New Jersey: CCC work in New Jersey swamps and at Hackettstown Fish Hatchery

Maine: Camp 55, Camp 57, CCC Side Camps at Togue Pond, Deer Lake, and Lewiston

Vermont: CCC work at Groton State Forest, Shrewsbury, Aitken State Forest, Little River, East Barre Dam, Wrightsville Dam

New York State: Cherryplain Dam, Emporium Forestry company, International Paper Company, soil erosion research station

Massachusetts: Camp S-64, CCC rehabilitation following March 1936 floods

General scenes of New Hampshire, New Jersey, Maine, Massachusetts, New York, Maryland, Washington, D.C.

FB-147.1:03 _____, #16, "CCC – NE," 1935-38

Subjects: CCC buildings, road and trail construction, mosquito control, dam construction, bridge relocation, logging, timber reforestation, 1938 hurricane and floods

Includes:

Massachusetts: Camp S-92, Mohawk Trail Forest; Dingley Dell Dam, Brimfield State Forest; Farmington River bridge; Camp S-76 and Camp 64, Chester State Forest; Quabbin Dam; Sugar Loaf Truck Trail, Myles Standish Forest; Camp S-62, Wendell State Forest; Camp S-66, Beartown; Camp SA 70, Bog Pond Dam, Savoy State Forest; Camp S-82, Beeman Pond Dam and Damon Pond Dam; Camp S-64, Middlefield Dam; Harvest Dam; Howe Pond Dam; Spencer State Forest; 1938 hurricane and floods

New Jersey: Camp 54, Butler; Pequest River and Jenney Jump Forest

FB-147.1:04 _____, #17, "CCC & Timber Salvage & So. Hero, Vt.," 1938-41

Subjects: September 1938 hurricane with subsequent flooding and rebuilding, timber salvage, dam construction, quarry work, forest fire training, search and rescue of missing girl in Massachusetts

Includes:

Maine: Camp P-58, Alfred

Massachusetts: Camp S-60, Brimfield; Camp S-89, Athol; Camp AF-1; Camp Edwards, Cape Cod; Camp S-94, Savoy

New Hampshire: Camp S-59, North Woodstock; Camp P-61, North Haverhill

Connecticut: Camp S-58, Voluntown

General scenes and personal photos in Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire

FB-147.2:01 _____, #18, "NEFE-NETSA & Wash., D.C.," 1941-42

Subjects: Timber salvage, dams, state forest building construction, railroad bed construction

Includes:

New Hampshire: Camp P-61, North Haverhill; Camp S-56, Warner; Camp P-58

Vermont: Camp S-60, Underhill; Mt. Mansfield CCC

General scenes and personal photos in Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Pennsylvania

FB-147.2:02 Notebook Pages

Pages from two small notebooks containing handwritten CCC fire, truck maintenance, and accident plans, 1934 and 1936

FB 147.2:03 Forest Fire Fighting

Technical Service and Educational Department of 120th Company C.C.C., *Manual for C.C.C. Forest Fire Fighters*, circa 1930s

Technical Service, 1139th Co. CCC, *Forest Fire Guide: 1139th C. CCC-Camp S-82, W. Townsend, Mass.*, circa 1938

C.H. Tracy U. S. Forest Service business card, circa 1940s

U.S. government fire prevention pamphlet, 1931

FB-147.2:04 Driver Training

United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, *Driving Training Conference Record and Training Plan for Truck Drivers*, 1933

United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, *Driver Testing, Region-9*, circa 1938.

Miscellaneous CCC correspondence, truck driver training and testing, 1939

Patricia Wiley
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