

Pennsylvania State Archives  
Sampling of Record Groups and Manuscript Groups

**Please note: Listed below are records that may be useful to search in regards to postwar development during the 1940s to 1960s. There may be more information located at the [Pennsylvania State Archives](#) in other [Record](#) or [Manuscript](#) groups that are not cited on this list.**

**RG – 10          Records of the Office of the Governor – Office of Policy and Planning**

**State Planning Board  
Minutes and Agendas 1934-1978 (10 cartons)**

For example from the 1954 minutes:

“Study of Local Government Costs and Planning Standards, Southeastern PA Regional Planning Commission.”

“Proposed Board Action on Housing & Redevelopment Program”

**Secretary of Administration**

Joint State Government Commission Records 1940-41

Buildings Department, General Plan, Highways Department, Utilities Department

State Government Survey committee Records 1951-1953

Agriculture, Education, Highways, Public Utilities, Recreation

**RG – 11          Records of the Department of Health**

**Bureau of Sanitary Engineering**

Sanitary Project Plans and Profiles

ca. 1905-1968

**Water Supply and Sewage Report and Permit Books, 1905-1959**

“A record of water supply and sewage reports and permits issued by the Sanitary Water Board to municipalities and private companies. Most reports and permits are for sewerage and waterworks and the reports provide information on effluents from local industries, regional population growth, river systems and comprehensive sewage treatment plans.”

## **Secretary of Health**

General Correspondence 1930-1976 (18 cartons)

County Departments of Health, Deputy Secretary for Environmental Protection

Legal Opinions, 1920-1965

Bureau of Sanitation 1920-1956

Housing 1938-1939

Vital Statistics 1927-1965

## **Deputy Secretary for Environmental Protection**

Meeting File 1963, 1966-1970

Testimonies and speeches. Spoke before the Highway Safety Committee of PA House, National Sanitation Foundation, PA Home Builders' Association.

## **RG – 12      Records of the Department of Highways**

### **Executive Office**

Annual and Biennial Report Books, 1905-1942

"These reports are liberally illustrated with photographs depicting bridge construction and road construction and reconstruction projects and also with tables revealing such types of information as the number of miles of public roads, number of miles of toll roads, area in square miles, mileage per square mile, and population density for each county."

Correspondence and Miscellaneous Records Relating Primarily to Toll Bridges 1925-1959

Minutes, Reports, and General Correspondence of the State Planning Board, 1957-1965

"The State Planning Board had the power to conduct research and compile and analyze data bearing on all industrial, commercial, social and physical factors that may influence the future welfare of the state, prepare or perfect plans to enhance economic development of the state, and advise various state departments and bureaus as well as local authorities and individuals with the view of coordinating all physical and economic development plans. Topics addressed included population growth, income distribution, migration patterns, capital budgeting procedures, public recreation needs, and the Delaware River Basin study of future water needs."

PA State Highway Commission records do not start until 1965

## **RG-13          Records of the PA Historical and Museum Commission**

Reports, Correspondence, and Research File Relating to the War History Program, 1938-1947

Research files, reports, surveys, photographs of the WHP – (divided into subcategories including Economic Aspects, Social Aspects, and Industrial Contributions to War Production)

## **RG – 14          Records of the Department of Internal Affairs**

### **Bureau of Statistics**

Case in point:

Annual Reports of Passenger and Street Railway Companies, 1861-1955 (the number of trips per day, the number of miles run each day; monthly statement of the number of passengers carried)

Annual Reports of Manufactured Gas Companies, 1939-1954 (estimated population in area served)

Annual Reports of Motor Vehicles, 1935-1938; 1954-1955 (motor vehicles employed in bus and taxicab service)

Annual Reports of Municipal Water Systems, 1939-1954 (estimated population of territory served)

Annual Reports of Sewer Systems, 1952-1954 (breakdown of billed revenue – residential, commercial, industrial and public)

Annual Census Reports of Motor Bus and Electric Transportation Carriers, 1957-

## **RG – 16          Records of the Department of Labor and Industry**

### **Bureau of Employment Security**

Area Labor Market and Manpower Reports and Newsletters, 1954-1967

“Narrative descriptions summarize changing unemployment rates, anticipated labor needs, past changes in the unemployment rate, the anticipated labor supply, and the composition and adequacy of the current unemployed labor force. Also present is information on training programs, labor turnover rates for various manufacturing firms, hours and earnings, housing and other community facilities, the effects of federal programs in aiding distressed areas, and economic redevelopment program activities.”

### **Industrial Board**

PA Job Mobilization Program 1940

Special Bulletin Books, 1924-1963

**RG-22 Department of Education**

**Bureau of Budget and Management**

School District Reorganization Plans, 1938, 1946-1972 series 22.3

"included are appeals to the State Board of Education challenging reorganization plans. The plans consist of area maps, attendance and financial data, and related correspondence, roughly grouped into the periods 1948-1963, and 1964-on. In addition, sub-series include: Transcripts of public hearings on school district reorganization plans, 1964-1965, 1968-1969, five cartons, arranged alphabetically by county; Union or merged school district certification records, 1938, 1946-1965, two cartons, arranged chronologically by year of union or merger"

**RG-23 Public Welfare**

**Bureau of Social Research and Statistics**

Misc. Manuals, Reports and Related Printed Materials 1934-1967

Unemployment rates and poverty rates in PA

**RG-29 PA Turnpike Commission**

**History and Heritage**

**The entire file holdings (if you feel that it had an impact on growth of suburbs)**

Sample: Pittsburgh Area transportation Study, Volume 2 Forecasts and Plans (no date)

**RG-31 Records of the Department of Commerce**

**State Planning Board**

Aerial Survey of Pennsylvania 1937-1942

Project Application File of the Post-War Planning Commission 1945-1951

**RG-34 Department of Community Affairs (would be great resource except most records date after the 1970s)**

**Community Plans and Studies 1963-1968**

"Comprehensive plans for various improvement projects for communities, cities, boroughs, and counties throughout the state. Plans address population analysis, economic structures, existing land use, highway systems, and community facilities. Topics of plans and proposals include general development, proposed zoning ordinances, comprehensive studies, capital improvements, and regional evaluations."

## **RG-37           Records of the Public Utility Commission**

Created in 1937 (1913-1936 was Public Service Commission) to regulate the intrastate rates and services of public utilities. Jurisdiction extends to common carries of passengers or property; gas and oil line transmission; and gas, water, telephone, telegraph, electric, steam and sewage companies.

### **Secretary's Bureau**

Minutes of the PUC 1919-1958 (143 volumes)

Examples of the minutes (March 1945 and May 1950):

(4886?) Argument was held in the Borough of Aliquippa for the Beaver Valley Motor Coach Co. to transport employees of the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation (through service only) one-half mile from said route to churches, schools, athletic fields, parks, etc.

(48664) Reading Transportation Co. proposes to operate additional service between Shamokin, Ashland and Pottsville to provide convenient access to railroad facilities of Reading Company to Pottsville.

### **Bureau of Rates and Research**

"The Bureau of Rates and Research was organized in 1945 and was responsible for the investigation and regulation of rates, tariffs, accounting systems, mergers and consolidations for all non-transportation utilities."

Annual Reports of Non-Transportation Utilities, 1922-1995 (107 cartons)

### **Bureau of Transportation**

Annual Reports of Transportation Utilities for Large and Small Carriers, 1939

**RG 47 County Records** (property assessment, regional planning, can establish housing and redevelopment authorities)

**RG 48 Municipal Records** (maintenance of local roads and streets, water supply, sewage collection, parking and traffic control, local planning and zoning, parks and recreation, garbage collection, libraries, licensing of businesses). **Unfortunately majority of records are from 1800s, not 1900s.**

Sampling of types of records:

Wilkins Twp –	LR 136 Township Commissioner Minutes 1901-1975
New Cumberland –	LR 207 Borough Council Minutes 1930-1960
Derry Township –	Derry Township Tax Assessment Records 1901-1952 1939 Annual Freeholders-1942 Annual Tenants
Fayette County –	Clerk of Courts (Road Docket Files) to 1954
Adams County -	Board of County Commissioners Tax Records

### Minute Books

Temple Borough - Water Systems Annual Reports 1948-1954  
Ashley Borough - Ordinance Books 1885-1972

#### **RG-54 Records of the Local Government Commission**

Updating and distributing the county and municipal codes

#### **RG-55 Records of the School Districts**

Boards of school directors provide for school buildings, levy taxes and issue bonds for school purposes (not all counties, and most records prior to 1920)

School Attendance Registers 1936-1957 (13 volumes) only for Eastern Lancaster School District

School Directories of Adams County Public Schools 1881-1971 (1 carton)

### MICROFILM

#### **RG-1 Records of the Department of Agriculture**

Roll 6642 Press Office Scrapbooks 1918-1940

#### **RG-13 Records of PHMC**

PA Historical Record Survey 1937-1942

Roll 6250 Vital Statistics, Adams to York Counties

#### **RG-22 Records of the Department of Education 1925-1982**

Rolls 6187-6235 Minute Books of the State Board of Education

#### **RG-52 Records of the Department of Transportation 1949-1994**

"Responsibilities of the DOT include coordinating and developing transportation policy; assisting in the development and operation of transportation facilities and services such as highways, rail mass transit systems, and airports; formulation and revision of a long-range master plan for the development of commuter and general transportation facilities, both public and private; appearing or intervening as a party before the Public Utility Commission when

transportation problems are being considered"

Rolls 4963-4994 Records of the State Highway and Bridge Authority, State Highway Commission, State Transportation Commission, and Transportation Advisory Commission

## Manuscript Records

\*Governors' records are in Manuscript Records prior to Casey

### **MG-11 Map Collection**

Counties/Townships/Cities and boroughs/Transportation

### **M-156 Edward Martin Papers\***

PA Governor 1943-1947

### **MG-159 John S. Fisher Papers\***

PA Governor 1927-1931

One of the leaders in organizing the "good roads movement" in PA

### **MG-160 Arthur H. James Papers\***

PA Governor from 1939-1943

Includes 34 volumes of reports in regards to Department of Highway, PUC, relief and welfare, WPA, and PA Turnpike

### **MG-186 Francis A. Pitkin Papers**

Executive director of the State Planning Board from 1936-1964 (except 1955-1959 when he served as director of the Bureau of Community Development, Department of Commerce

### **MG-190 James H. Duff Papers\***

PA Governor from 1947-1951

### **MG-194 John C. Bell, Jr. Papers\***

PA Governor January 2-21, 1947

### **MG-206 John S. Fine Papers\***

Governor of PA 1951-1955

### **MG-207 George M. Leader Papers\***

Governor of PA 1954

### **MG-303 R. Brognard Okie Architectural Papers**

Okie designed many new colonial style residences along the Main Line and other Philadelphia suburbs. Correspondence, 1900-1948, 1959. (48 boxes)/ Specifications and Photographs, [undated]. / Accounts, ca. 1924-1941 /Miscellaneous Items, 1793, 1928-1978

### **MG-396 Milford H. Patterson Architectural Designs (1940-1980)**

Record sources do not appear to be applicable due to time period or subject

RG-1 Department of Agriculture (other than microfilm)  
RG-2 Department of the Auditor General  
RG-3 Civil Service Commission  
RG-4 Office of the Comptroller General  
RG-5 Constitutional Conventions and the Council of Censors  
RG-6 Department of Forests and Waters  
RG-7 General Assembly  
RG-8 General Loan Office and State Treasurer  
RG-9 General State Authority  
RG-15 Department of Justice  
RG-17 Land Office  
RG-18 Loan and Transfer Agent  
RG-19 Military and Veteran's Affairs  
RG-20 Records of the Department of General Service  
RG-21 Propriety Government  
RG-24 Office of the Register General  
RG-25 Special Commissions  
RG-26 Department of State  
RG-27 PA Revolutionary Governments  
RG-28 Treasury Department  
RG-30 PA State Police  
RG-32 PA Liquor Control Board  
RG-33 Supreme Court  
RG-35 Milk Marketing Board  
RG-36 Legislative Reference Bureau  
RG-38 Superior Court  
RG-39 Game Commission  
RG-40 Department of Insurance  
RG-41 Navigation Commission for Delaware River  
RG-42 Department of Revenue  
RG-43 Department of Environmental Resources (records start at late 1960s-1970s)  
RG-44 Securities Commission  
RG-45 Mines and Mineral Industries  
RG-46 Valley Forge Park Commission  
RG-49 Commonwealth Compensation  
RG-50 Public School Employees' Retirement System  
RG-51 Legislative Reapportionment Commissions  
RG-53 Department of Banking – all records are restricted  
RG-56 State Ethics Commission  
RG-57 State System of Higher Education  
RG-58 Department of Corrections  
RG-59 State Employees' Retirement System



RG-60 PA Public Television Network Commission  
RG-61 State Inspector General  
RG-62 Unified Judicial System  
RG-63 Energy Office  
RG-64 Office of the Lieutenant Governor  
RG-65 Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (1995)  
RG-66 Department of Environmental Protection (1995)  
RG-67 Environmental Hearing Board  
RG-68 PA Heritage Affairs Commission  
RG-69 PA Emergency Management Agency  
RG-70 Office of the Attorney General  
RG-71 Department of Community and Economic Development (1996)  
RG-72 Fish and Boat Commission  
RG-73 Public Employee Retirement Commission  
RG-74 Independent Regulatory Review Commission (1982)  
RG-75 PA Infrastructure Investment Authority (1988)  
RG-76 Department of Aging  
RG-77 State Tax Equalization Board (1982)  
RG-78 State Public School Building Authority (no records listed on website)  
RG-79 PA Housing and Finance Agency