

Stop the Olympic Prison (S.T.O.P.)

Collection #54

.50 linear feet

Historical Note

The Adirondack village of Lake Placid hosted the third winter Olympic Games in 1932. In 1974, the International Olympic Committee awarded the 13th Winter Games to Lake Placid. The Games would be held over 12 days in February of 1980. The federal government, through the United States Olympic Committee, agreed to provide 22 million dollars for construction of housing for the 1,800 athletes, provided a suitable use was found for the "Olympic Village" after the games were concluded. The U.S. Office of Management and Budget, Bureau of Prisons and the Congress agreed to a plan to build a 500 bed medium security prison in nearby Ray Brook for young offenders, age 18-25 and use it as athletes' housing during the Olympic Games.

Scope and Content

This collection documents the widespread effort over a two year period (1978-1979) to raise public awareness of and build opposition to the post-Olympic use of the athletes' housing as a federal prison. It consists primarily of photocopies of hundreds of newspaper and magazine stories, newsletters, editorials and other material documenting the opposition to the prison effort. Also included is internal and external correspondence among and between North Country clergy active in Stop The Olympic Prison (STOP), the New York Moratorium on Prison Construction, and state and federal politicians, as well as posters, brochures and fliers, and a transcript of a civil lawsuit filed by the USOC against STOP. The collection is organized chronologically by type of material.

Related Collections

For further information, see the Robert C. McEwen Papers Collection, MSS 25, and 1980 Winter Olympics Collection, MSS 90.

Provenance

The items in the collection were donated to St. Lawrence University in 1981 by the Rev. Graham Hodges of Watertown, a leader in the STOP organizing committee.

Contents

<u>Box/Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1 1	March 1978	"Repression Replaces Celebration" (overview of controversy by S.T.O.P.)
2	April 1978-Feb. 1982	Letters to newspaper editors by Rev. Graham Hodges
3	June 1978-July 1979	Correspondence to Rev. Graham Hodges
4	June 1978-June 1979	STOP correspondence and statements
5	June 1978-Nov. 1979	Correspondence & statements from area clergy & church groups
6	April 1978-Feb. 1979	Correspondence, meeting minutes, statements from NY/National Moratorium on Prison Construction
7	N/A	STOP posters, flyers, brochures, letterhead, info, resolutions
8	undated (1978)	transcript of civil suit, USOC v. STOP
9	undated	statement of support for prison project by Roman Catholic Bishop; Olympic Lottery brochure; Mail-order form "Official 1980 Olympic Winter Games Momentos of Appreciation"

<u>Box/Folder</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1 10	Oct. 1977-March '78	Newspaper, magazine, newsletter clippings
11	April-June 1978	Newspaper, magazine, newsletter clippings
12	July-Sept. 1978	Newspaper, magazine, newsletter clippings
13	Oct.-Dec. 1978	Newspaper, magazine, newsletter clippings
14	Jan.-March 1979	Newspaper, magazine, newsletter clippings
15	April-June 1979	Newspaper, magazine, newsletter clippings
16	July 1979-Sept. 1980	Newspaper, magazine, newsletter clippings