

Supporting Collections

In addition to documenting the official actions, events and activities of the University, the University Archives collects faculty, student and organizational papers. These materials significantly augment the official documentation to provide information on student and faculty interests, insights into the culture of UConn and activities and involvement with the University both on and off campus.

Creative use of these materials allows scholars to investigate the University's fraternities, sororities, honor and civic societies, faculty and student organizations, concerts, demonstrations, as well as research and class activities and assignments in a variety of disciplines throughout the University's history.

A select, annotated list of these supporting collections includes:

- American Association of University Women (Connecticut Division Records).
- Fred Cazel Papers focus mainly on the organizations, committees, programs and events with which he was involved and include files on AAUP, the Committee of Curricula and Courses, the Committee of Five to Investigate Charges of Communism and the New England Historical Association.
- Albert C. and Ralph D. Gilbert Papers include notes taken by the brothers on agriculture, dairy and veterinary classes between 1893 and 1896.



Archery Team, 1951.

- Faculty Club Records document the establishment of the social organization in 1915, which was open to "all male members of the several college staffs whose names appear in the catalog." It had ceased to exist by 1968 and it is presumed that some of its functions were incorporated into those of the University Club.
- Wilma Keyes Papers document her work to expand the five art courses (1938) to the establishment of the School of Fine Arts as a distinct department from the School of Home Economics.
- Alfred E. Moss Papers focus on his work, while a member of the faculty, to survey the transfer of land to and from the University of Connecticut.
- Arthur Joseph Pierpont Papers document his life from his 1895 graduation from Storrs Agricultural College, advanced coursework in Hartford and Cornell University, and his establishment of one of the first Holstein herds in the state.



The Beinery Dining Hall, now part of the William Benton Museum of Art, ca. 1937.



Homecoming Queen candidates, 1962.

Development Opportunities

The University of Connecticut Libraries welcomes private support for the acquisition, processing, and preservation of unique resources such as the University Archives.

Please contact the Director of the Dodd Research Center if you wish to support the Libraries in this way.

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Cover Photo:
Connecticut Agricultural College, 1901



Thomas J. Dodd Research Center
Archives & Special Collections
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University Archives



ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Archives & Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center, an area of the University of Connecticut Libraries, supports the University of Connecticut's mission of teaching, research and service by:

- Acquiring, preserving, organizing, and providing access to original resource materials for research, primarily in the humanities and social sciences;
- Maintaining archival records of the University;
- Promoting wider knowledge, appreciation, and use of the collections by students and scholars through outreach activities;
- Developing and promoting public programs, exhibitions, conferences, and similar events.

Archives & Special Collections preserves and makes accessible records of enduring value that require special handling, including manuscripts, organizational records, early printed books, broadsides, pamphlets, photographs, prints, and audio visual materials.

Materials in Archives & Special Collections are used in the John P. McDonald Reading Room. Access to collections is provided through a combination of sources including finding aids available in the reference room and online; HOMER, the Library's online public catalog; and the Dodd Research Center's web site.

Curators are available for individual consultation, class instruction, and presentations.



The University of Connecticut

In 1881, the Connecticut General Assembly accepted an offer of 170 acres of farm land and \$5,000 from Charles and Augustus Storrs to establish a school of agriculture to be known as the Storrs Agricultural School. The School officially opened its doors on September 28, 1881 with three faculty members and 12 students.

Women were officially allowed to enroll in 1893, the same year the newly renamed Storrs Agricultural College was designated Connecticut's Land Grant institution. Reflecting the growth and development taking place on campus over the years, the institution changed its name three more times before becoming the University of Connecticut in 1939.

Since its humble beginning in 1881, the University of Connecticut has grown to include 4,200 acres statewide, including 6 campuses and the UConn Health Center in Farmington; expanded to a total of 13 Schools and Colleges; and developed separate and highly recognized Schools of Law, Social Work and Medicine and Dentistry. Augmenting the University's status as the state's Land Grant institution, UConn is also a Sea Grant College and a Space Grant Consortium institution with more than 70 focused research centers where faculty, graduate students and undergraduates explore everything from improving human health, enhancing public education and protecting the country's natural resources.



Anti-Vietnam War rally, October, 1969.



View of agricultural barns from the water tower, 1915-1920.

The University Archives

The University Archives is responsible for the institutional memory of the University of Connecticut and is the largest and most comprehensive source of information on the history and cultural heritage of UConn. As the collective memory of the University, the repository contains official records and items having historical value such as records of governance, policy, operation of administrative offices, research, programs and publications. Materials range from the original Prospectus for Storrs Agriculture School (1881) to recent editions of the student newspaper, the *Connecticut Daily Campus* and its predecessors. The *Nutmeg* (yearbook), *Daily Campus* and *General Catalog* are frequently used for examining student activities, while such publications as the *UCONN Advance*, *News Digest*, *Connecticut Alumnus* and its successor, *Traditions*, document University life, developments and events.

The University Archives also actively collects the records of the numerous academic departments, schools and colleges, divisions, institutes, campuses and centers through a wide variety of documentation. Additionally, the Archives is the official repository for the minutes of both the Board of Trustees and University Senate. Unpublished materials in the Archives include photographs, films, memorabilia,

administrative records of major university offices, as well as the papers of presidents, administrative officers and members of the faculty. Special collections have also been established to document such important events as UCONN 2000 and the men's and women's national basketball championships.

Formally established in 1967 as a department in the University of Connecticut Libraries, the University Archives was maintained by the Special Collections Department until the appointment of the first University Archivist in 1979. In its first forty years the Archives has seen significant growth, development and use by a wide range of scholars both from within and outside the university. The University Archives currently houses over 3,000 linear feet of manuscript materials, in addition to thousands of University publications, periodicals, blueprints, images in a wide variety of formats and selected artifacts. An active participant in the University Libraries' exhibition program, the University Archives also maintains an inclusive and searchable Chronology of Events on the Dodd Research Center's web site at <http://doddcenter.uconn.edu/>



Aerial view of campus, July, 1997.