

Title: Dretzka, Jerome Papers

Reference Code: Mss-2302

Inclusive Dates: 1909-1963

Quantity: 10 cu. ft.

Location: NE, Sh. 048-051
OS LG "D"

Abstract: Jerome C Dretzka (1881-1963) served on the Milwaukee County Parks Commission from 1920-1963. During that tenure, from 1926-1952, he served as the Executive Secretary of the Commission and expanded the area of Milwaukee parks considerably. He also served as an officer for the American Institute of Park Executives. He retired in 1952.

He was born on December 5, 1881 in Pozen, Poland. His family moved to America when he was five years old and they settled on the south side of Milwaukee. In 1893, his family moved to Cudahy where he continued to reside until his death. He served as the city of Cudahy's city clerk from 1912-1916. He left this position to manage the real estate holdings of Patrick Cudahy. This knowledge served him well during his time on the Commission and during his tenure the Commission went from owning 680 acres to over 7,000 acres of parks. He also served on the boards of the Milwaukee County Historical Society, New Zoo Conference Committee, Wisconsin Park and Recreation Society, as well as many others.

Scope and Content: The bulk of the collection consists of material pertaining to Milwaukee County Park Commission and some of the material pertains to his participation in the American Institute of Park Executives (AIPE) in the form of correspondence, newspaper clippings, meeting minutes and official papers from the Commission. This collection also includes information about various projects that he was involved with including the zoo, Mitchell Conservatory, the Braves, and the Milwaukee County Stadium. Photographs are included but stored separately. Photo collection includes photos of Charles Whitnall, as well as parks from all over the U.S.

Access and Use: No restrictions

Language: Primarily English. Some items are in Polish.

Notes: Photos located in Mezzanine Vault, M-189

Arrangement: The first six boxes of the collection primarily deal with the Milwaukee County parks Commission and the American Institute of Park Executives material. While boxes seven through ten are concerned with his involvement in various project, clubs and committees.

Administrative Note: The collection was donated by Kenneth Dretzka (1995 and 2013) Processed by: Janet Geronime (Nov. 14, 1995). Revised by Kevin Abing (Mar. 12, 2002), Sarah Hopley (July 2013) and Greg Comly (Jan. 2014)

Contents	Box	File
Acquisitions - Greenfield Trailer Camp Newspaper articles, correspondence, county board proceedings, agreement (1947-1957)	1	1
Acquisitions - Honey Creek Parkway Correspondence, county board proceedings, notes (1934-1945)	1	2
Acquisitions - Kinnickinnic Parkway Correspondence (1937-1945)	1	3
Acquisitions - Lincoln Creek Parkway Newspaper article, correspondence, synopsis of minutes, county board proceedings, plats (1936-1944)	1	4
Acquisitions - Menomonee River - Koeffler Correspondence, minutes, plats (1939-1946)	1	5
Acquisitions - Menomonee River Parkway - Mills Property Memorandum of record title (1935)	1	6
Acquisitions - Menomonee River Parkway – Weber Correspondence, county board proceedings, deed, agreement, title policy (1946-1947)	1	7
Acquisitions - Mrs. Lottie Smith Notes, correspondence, county board proceedings, title policy, agreement (1946-1951)	1	8
Appraisals (1958-1961)	1	9
Appraisals (1962-1963)	1	10
Boerner Botanical Gardens Calendar of floral attractions, history and description, hiking trail guide (1958)	1	11
Correspondence- To and from Jerome Dretzka (1919-1961)	1	12
Easement - Bucyrus-Erie -Correspondence, county board proceedings, minutes, agreement(1942-1949)	1	13
Easement - City of Milwaukee -Correspondence, county board proceedings, plat (1947) RE: Request for sewer easement (N. 100th from W. Concordia to N. Menomonee Pkwy)	1	14
Easement - W. Concordia Ave. Extension -Correspondence, county board proceedings, agreement (1947)	1	15
Easement - Flanagan-Kenney Co. -Correspondence, county board proceedings, plat (1948)	1	17
Easement - Grantosa Drive -Correspondence, agreement (1947-1949)	1	18
Easement - KK Ball Field -Correspondence, county board proceedings, agreement (1949)	1	19
Easement - W. North Ave. -Correspondence, minutes, county board proceedings, agreement (1948)	1	20
Easement - Red Star Yeast - Correspondence, license, county board proceedings, agreement (1946-1948)	1	21
Easement - City of Wauwatosa - Honey Creek District County board proceedings, agreement (1946)	1	22
Easement - Town of Wauwatosa – 1 - Correspondence, county board proceedings,	1	23

agreement (1947-1949) RE: Sanitary sewer from W. Burleigh to main sewer in Menomonee River Pkwy.		
Easement - Town of Wauwatosa – 2 - Correspondence, county board proceedings, agreement (1949) RE: Sanitary sewer E. side Men. River Pkwy	1	24
Easement - Wis. Electric Power Company - Correspondence, minutes, county board proceedings, agreement (1949) RE: Pole line over Pk. Comm. lands So. of State and East of N. 68th St.	1	25
Employees' Retirement System of Milwaukee County - Annual and biennial reports (1939-1954)	1	26
Federal Admissions Tax - Correspondence (1948-March 1949)	1	27
Federal Admissions Tax - Correspondence (April 1949-1950)	1	28
Federal Admissions Tax – Questionnaires, Correspondence and responses to questionnaire (1948-1949)	1	29
International Institute – Minutes and International Institute of Milwaukee County, Inc., Board of Directors Meetings (1961-1962)	1	30
International Institute - Misc. Pamphlet on immigration (1946); International Institute of Milwaukee County, Inc.: Annual Report (1954); and Correspondence, memos and reports (1940-1963); Newspaper clippings	1	31
Milwaukee Braves Contract - Memos, agreement, minutes, magazine article, (1962)	1	32
Milwaukee County Park & Planning Commission - Survey reports, analysis, organization plans & misc. items (1908-1956)	1	33
Milwaukee County War Memorial Center - Development plans, memo, letter, agreement (1963)	1	34
Milwaukee County Park Commission - Minutes, Reports, Etc. (1927-1940)	1	35
Milwaukee County Park Commission - Minutes, Reports, Etc. (1941-1953)	1	36
Misc. - History of Milwaukee Parks by Dretzka -Article by Charles B. Bennett, City Planner (1936); Constitution of the Sunday Morning Breakfast Club (n.d) - Magazine article: "Kohler Electricity Lights Shipwrecked Steamer" (Jan. 1937) -Magazine article: "Revolving Fund Cuts Cost of Wauwatosa Paving" (Nov.-Dec. 1937) - <u>The Wisconsin Taxpayer</u> , Vol. 5 No. 24 (Dec. 1937) - Program: Kiwanis Annual Convention (1941) - Pamphlet: "Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago" (1941) - Program: Civic Dinner for Conrad H. Mann (1941) - Program: War Memorial Dedication (1943) - Talk by Rev. Charles M. O'Hara, S.J. (1957)	2	37
Misc. Permits covering Public Utilities - Correspondence (1947-1950)	2	38
Misc. Permits covering Public Utilities - Correspondence (1947-1950)	2	39
Misc. Real Estate Material (1951-1962)	2	40
Mitchell Park Conservatory Project - Re: Request of Donald Grieb, Architect, for additional compensation: Agreement (1957); correspondence including minutes of meetings and financial data (1962); newspaper articles (1962)	2	41
Oak Creek Parkway - Resolution, memo, letters, misc. (1931-1939)	2	42

"Old Smoky" - Newspaper articles, letters, memos and minutes (1955-1957)	2	43
Plats - Memos re: stream pollution (n.d.); letters re: misc. matters (1939-1942); newspaper article re: Milwaukee Journal's "Radio City" project (1941)	2	44
Schlesinger Estate - Notes, letters and minutes, newspaper articles (1955-1956)	2	45
South Shore Park - Letters, legal description, newspaper article, plat (1938-1940)	2	46
Stadium Scoreboard - Correspondence including Circuit Court case (1961-1962)	2	47
Unfinished Business - No. 129 - RE: Jutton-Kelly Company: Correspondence, abstracts	2	48
Unfinished Business - No. 230 - RE: Cudahy Brothers: Correspondence, plat (1943)	2	49
Unfinished Business - No. 276 - RE: Sewer easements across Menomonee River Parkway at Swan Boulevard in the City of Wauwatosa: Correspondence, county board proceedings, agreements, plats, magazine article on soil depletion (1942-1945)	2	50
Unfinished Business - No. 444 - RE: Easement for driveway of Martin White: Letters (1945-1946)	2	51
Unfinished Business - No. 493 - RE: Easement for sanitary sewer - Milwaukee River Parkway: Letters, county board proceedings, agreement, plat (1946)	2	52
Wauwatosa, Town of - Zoning Change - Correspondence including county board proceedings and minutes of meetings and hearings, agreement (1950-1951)	2	53
Whitnall Park History - By Ruth V. Schmidt (n.d.)	2	54
AIPE – Year Books and Rosters (1954 – 1962) Not Inclusive	2	55a
American Institute of Park Executives (AIPE)--Conference Cities Selection Committee Correspondence, minutes and report (1953-1954)	2	55
AIPE--Conferences (1944-1953) - Report, rosters, address	2	56
AIPE--Conferences (1954-1960) -Agenda, minutes, address, roster, tour bulletins	2	57
AIPE--Correspondence (1952-1954) -Bulk of letters to and from Jerome Dretzka	2	58
AIPE--Correspondence (1955-1962) - Bulk of letters to and from Jerome Dretzka	2	59
AIPE--Education Committee--Correspondence (1953-1958)	2	60
AIPE--Education Committee--Misc.- Booklet on the Park Education Program; Education Committee Reports; Pamphlet on "In-service Training for Parks and Recreation"; Minutes; drafts, etc. (1953-1958)	2	61
AIPE--Executive Committee- Minutes and Agenda (1960-1962)	2	62
AIPE--Executive Secretaries Reports-1 - No. 35 - No. 42 (1960-1961)	2	63
AIPE--Executive Secretaries Reports-2 - No. 43 - No. 50 (1961-1962)	3	64
AIPE--Finance Committee - Correspondence (1953-1954)	3	65
AIPE--Membership Drive (1945-Aug. 1949) - Membership forms, magazine article, correspondence, membership list, reports.	3	66
AIPE--Membership Drive (Sept. 1949-1959) - Correspondence, bulletins	3	67
AIPE--Misc. - Pamphlets, proposal, membership survey and misc. correspondence (1952-1963)	3	68
AIPE—Newsletter - Conference Daily News, Special supplement (1958); Volume 6 No.1 - Volume 9 No. 12 (1960-1962)	3	69
AIPE--Park Commissioners Section - Notes, correspondence (1949-1961)	3	70
AIPE--Park Commissioners Section – Minutes (1949-1954)	3	71
AIPE--Relocating Central Office - Notes, correspondence, report (1953-1954)	3	72

AIPE--Resolution Committee - Correspondence; draft resolutions and report (1955-1956)		73
Milwaukee County Park Commission, Minutes, 1926-1936	3a	-
Milwaukee County Park Commission, Minutes, 1937-July 1949	4	-
Milwaukee County Park Commission, Minutes, August 1949-1956	5	-
-Milwaukee County Park Commission, Minutes, 1957-1962, Nov. 1963 -Buildings, Grounds & Real Estate Committee, Minutes, 1926-1959 -Music and Recreation Committee, Minutes, 1943-1952, 1955 -Finance, Judiciary & Purchases Committee, Minutes, 1927-1935	6	-
Personal Miscellaneous	7	1
Obituaries	7	2
Miscellaneous Milwaukee Businesses	7	3
Milwaukee Catholic Church	7	4
Marquette University and High School	7	5
Lawn Bowling Association	7	6
Kenneth Dretzka	7	7
Holiday Cards	7	8
Franklin Roosevelt Death	7	9
Curling In Milwaukee	7	10
Correspondence	7	11
Correspondence Continued	7	12
Wisconsin Parks and Recreation Society – Yearbooks and Meetings	7	13
Misc. Clippings	7	14
Misc. Smaller Items	7	15
Misc. Clippings Cont.	7	16
Zoo Misc.	8	17
New Zoo	8	18
Bradley Arena	8	19
Braves	8	20
Stadium	8	21
Stadium Parking	8	22
Stadium Cont.	8	23
Stadium- Football Goal Post	8	24
Stadium Misc.	8	25
Stadium Misc. Continued	8	26
Proposed New Stadium 1988	8	27
Stadium Seating Chart	8	28
Newspaper Clippings Milwaukee City Parks	9	29
Drezka Park – Ski Chalet	9	30
Music Under the Stars	9	31
Memorial Building	9	32
Grant Park	9	33
NIKE	9	34
25 Year Certificates	9	35
Maps	9	36

Awards and Citations	9	37a
Oak Creek Parkway – Mill Road Bridge Dam	9	37
Parks Misc.	9	38
Parks Misc. Continued	9	39
Parks and Parks Commission Misc. Clippings	9	40
Plot/Parks/Location Plans	9	41
Publications	9	42
Pulaski Park	9	43
Red Arrow Park	9	44
Wisconsin State Parks - 1970	9	45
Golf Courses Misc.	9	46
Special Committee on Policies – City and County Milwaukee	9	47
Kirkpatrick Agreement	9	48
Milwaukee County Parks Commission – Misc. Memos October 1955 – July 1962	9	49
Milwaukee County Parks Commission – Administrative Files and Policy 1947-62	9	50
Refreshment and Vending Services for Milwaukee County Parks	9	51
Misc. Employee’s Data	10	52
Speeches	10	53
Wisconsin History Articles and Cartoons from Milwaukee Journal 1972-73	10	54
Radio	10	55
Music Sheets	10	56
Prohibition	10	57
Applications For Change of Zoning – Milwaukee County Parks Commission	10	58
Bill 463 S	10	59
Buildings, Grounds, and Real Estate Committee	10	60
Sewerage Commission	10	61
Civil Defense	10	62
Civil Service	10	63
Condolences	10	64
Community Welfare Council	10	65
Wilsons Park Veterans Housing	10	66
Dutch Elm Disease	10	67
Chicago and North Western Railway – Milwaukee County Roads	10	68
Lincoln Memorial Drive Extensions – Harbor Tract – Maitland Field	10	69
Lincoln Memorial Drive Lake Front South Extension	10	70
Expressways	10	71
General Mitchell Field – General – Misc. – Clippings	10	72
Lincoln Memorial Bridge	10	73
Land Survey	10	74
Milwaukee County Historical Society	10	75
Museum Misc.	10	76
Safety Building and Jail Misc.	10	77
Science Museum at Lakefront	10	78
Oversize: Resolution of 11-15-1944, appointing Jerome Dreztko president of the AIPE		OS-LG “D”