

Guide to the Neil Thomas Proto papers, 1968-2006

MS2275

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SUMMARY INFORMATION

Repository

Special Collections Research Center, The George Washington University

Title

Neil Thomas Proto papers

ID

MS2275

Date [bulk]

Bulk, 1968-1973

Date [inclusive]

1968-2006

Extent

3.75 Linear feet 1 slim document box, 2 flat boxes, 1 map folder

General Physical Description note

Material is in good condition. Newspapers are brittle, and the photographs are in acidic matting.

Location note

Materials may be stored off-site, and may require additional retrieval time. Please contact the Special Collections Research Center for more information.

Language

English

Abstract

Neil Thomas Proto is an attorney, writer, and professor based in Washington, D.C. He earned his MA in International Affairs in 1969, and his JD in 1972, at the George Washington University. As a law student at the George Washington University, Proto served as a resident director for two residence halls on campus: Welling Hall and Crawford Hall. Mr. Proto has practiced law for thirty years, and he is currently counsel in the Washington, D.C. firm of Schnader Harrison Segal and Lewis. Since 1990, Mr. Proto has served as an Adjunct Professor at the Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute, and he is the author of the book *To A High Court: The Tumult and Choices that Led to United States of America v. SCRAP*. The Neil Thomas Proto papers consist of materials that document Proto's time as a residence hall director at GW. The collection dates from 1968 to 2006, with the bulk of the material dating between 1968 and 1972. It includes correspondence, memoranda, minutes, reports, notes, photographs, newspapers, memorabilia, posters, articles, and the original metal sign from Welling Hall. Most of the material pertains to the political unrest among students at GW, and throughout the country, during the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Preferred Citation note

Please cite unpublished materials in the following way:

Please provide the title and date of item, catalog number (if applicable it will be found written on the folder), name of the collection, name of the repository, and location of the repository.

Example: James Oglethorpe to the Trustees, 13 January 1876, RG0001 Series 1, Box 4, Folder 3. Records of the Board of Trustees, Special Collections Research Center, Gelman Library, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Neil Thomas Proto is an attorney, writer, and professor based in Washington, D.C. He earned his MA in International Affairs in 1969, and his JD in 1972, at the George Washington University. As a law student at the George Washington University, Proto served as a resident director for two residence halls on campus: Welling Hall and Crawford Hall. The basement game room in Crawford Hall was named in Proto's honor in 1973. Also during this time, Proto was chair of the organization Students Challenging Regulatory Agency Procedures (SCRAP), which fought for compliance by the nation's railroads and the Interstate Commerce Commission with the National Environmental Policy Act. The efforts of SCRAP resulted in the first test in the United States Supreme Court of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Mr. Proto has practiced law for thirty years as an appellate attorney with the United States Department of Justice (Environment and Natural Resources Division, 1972 to 1979), and in private practice. He is currently counsel in the Washington, D.C. firm of Schnader Harrison Segal and Lewis.

In 1988, Mr. Proto was a Visiting Lecturer at Yale University where he taught the history and law of commercial nuclear power. Since 1990, Mr. Proto has served as an Adjunct Professor at the Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute, focusing on environmental values, energy choices, and urban policy. He is the author of numerous articles, and lectures frequently. In 2006, his book about his experiences as a member of SCRAP – *To A High Court: The Tumult and Choices that Led to United States of America v. SCRAP* – was published by Hamilton Books.

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SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

The Neil Thomas Proto papers consist of materials that document Proto's work as a director for two residence halls on the George Washington University campus between 1970 and 1972, as well as the political unrest among students at GW and throughout the country during this time period. The collection dates from 1968 to 2006, with the bulk of the material dating between 1968 and 1972. It includes correspondence, memoranda, minutes, reports, notes, photographs, newspapers, memorabilia, posters, articles, and the original metal sign from Welling Hall.

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ARRANGEMENT NOTE

Organized into four series: Welling Hall and Crawford Hall, Newspapers, Memorabilia and Posters, and To A Hight Court.

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Publication Information

Special Collections Research Center, The George Washington University 2009
2130 H St. NW
Washington, District of Columbia, 20052
(202) 994-7549
speccoll@gelman.gwu.edu

Revision Description

2010

Conditions Governing Access note

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use note

Some material may be copyrighted or restricted. It is the patron's obligation to determine and satisfy copyright or other case restrictions when publishing or otherwise distributing materials found in the collections.

Immediate Source of Acquisition note

Gift of Neil Thomas Proto, 08/05/2009 (2009.044)

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CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS

Corporate Name(s)

- George Washington University--History.
- George Washington University. Crawford Hall.
- George Washington University. Welling Hall.
- George Washington University.

Personal Name(s)

- Proto, Neil Thomas

Subject(s)

- College students--America--Political activity
- Demonstrations
- Dormitories
- Dormitories--United States.
- Dormitory life
- George Washington University--Students
- Political activists
- Protest movements
- Resident assistants (Dormitories)--United States.
- Student movements
- Students--political activity
- Vietnam War, 1961-1975--Protest movements--United States

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COLLECTION INVENTORY

Series 1 Welling Hall and Crawford Hall 05/22/1969-1973 and undated (Bulk, 1969-1971) 1.25 Linear feet 1 slim document box, 2 flat box boxes

Scope and Contents note

This series contains material pertaining to Neil Thomas Proto's work as a resident director for Welling Hall and Crawford Hall, between 1970 and 1972. The series includes correspondence, memos, minutes, reports, and notes related to the management of each resident hall. Of particular interest are materials regarding demonstrations on the GW campus, student rights, and emerging university policies for handling protests and campus unrest. This series also contains photographs of the dedication of the Neil T. Proto Room in Crawford Hall, and the original metal sign from Welling Hall.

Series 1 Correspondence, Memos, Minutes, Reports, and Notes 05/22/1969-10/17/1971 (Bulk, 1969-1971)

	Box	Folder
Text	1	1

	FLAT_BOX
Series 1 Photographs--Neil T. Proto Room dedication, Crawford Hall 1973 (Bulk, 1973)	1
Series 1 Welling Hall sign undated	2

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Series 2 Newspapers 11/01/1968-05/04/1971 (Bulk, 1968-1971) 0.25

Linear feet 2 folders

Scope and Contents note

This series contains newspapers collected by Neil Thomas Proto that include articles about student demonstrations on the George Washington University campus and throughout the city, the demolition of Welling Hall, and the political and cultural views of young people in Washington, D.C. from 1968 to 1971. The series includes issues of GW's student newspaper, The Hatchet, and issues of the Washington Free Press.

Arrangement note

Arranged alphabetically by newspaper title, then chronologically.

Series 2 Hatchet 11/08/1968-05/04/1971 (Bulk, 1968-1971)

	Box	Folder
Text	1	2

Series 2 Washington Free Press 03/27/1968-11/1/1968 (Bulk, 1968)

	Box	Folder
Text	1	3

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Series 3 Memorabilia and Posters circa 1968-1970 (Bulk, 1968-1970) 2.0

Linear feet 1 map folder, 1 flat box, 1 folder

Scope and Contents note

This series contains memorabilia and posters collected by Neil Thomas Proto that reflect the political atmosphere of the United States between 1968 and 1970. Materials include Robert Kennedy election campaign bumper stickers and brochure, a button, and posters related to the Vietnam War and to student demonstrations and political events held on the George Washington University campus.

Arrangement note

Arranged by format.

Series 3 Memorabilia circa 1968-1970 (Bulk, 1968-1970)

Series 3 Button: "Stop the War Machine" undated

	Box	Folder	Item
Realia	1	4	1

Series 3 Robert Kennedy election campaign brochure circa 1968

	Box	Folder	Item
Realia	1	4	2

Series 3 Robert Kennedy election campaign bumper stickers (2) circa 1968

	Box	Folder	Item
Realia	1	4	3

Series 3 Posters circa 1968-1970 (Bulk, 1968-1970)

Series 3 Vietnam: The Movie circa 1968

1

FLAT_BOX

Series 3 Elect Yourself in the Streets! Strike! circa 1970

1

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**Series 4 To A High Court 2006 (Bulk, 2006) 0.25 Linear feet 1 folder
Scope and Contents note**

This series contains material related to the publication of Neil Thomas Proto's book, "To A High Court: The Tumult and Choices that Led to United States of America v. SCRAP," published in 2006 by Hamilton Books. Materials include articles and reviews of the book, and a glossy reproduction of the book's cover.

Separated Materials note

A signed copy of Neil Thomas Proto's book, "To A High Court: The Tumult and Choices that Led to United States of America v. SCRAP," was donated with this collection. It has been cataloged and is located in the Special Collections Research Center. The catalog record includes the phrase "Gift of Neil Thomas Proto."

Series 4 Book reviews and cover proof 2006

	Box	Folder
Mixed materials	1	5

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