

# Seattle City Light Skagit Youth Camp Records, 1991-1996

## Overview of the Collection

<b>Creator</b>	Seattle City Light
<b>Title</b>	Seattle City Light Skagit Youth Camp Records
<b>Dates</b>	1991-1996 (inclusive) 1991 1996
<b>Quantity</b>	1 cubic foot, (3 boxes)
<b>Collection Number</b>	1208-03
<b>Summary</b>	Records relating to the Skagit Youth Camp run by Seattle City Light, 1991-1996, including memoranda, reports, promotional materials, and meeting minutes. Camper recruitment, program proposals, finances, and staff are among the subjects covered.
<b>Repository</b>	<a href="#">Seattle Municipal Archives</a> Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 <a href="mailto:archives@seattle.gov">archives@seattle.gov</a>
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	Records are open to the public.
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Sponsor</b>	Funding for encoding this finding aid was provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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## Historical Note

Seattle City Light provides electricity and electrical and conservation services to its public and private customers. It is the largest public utility in the Pacific Northwest. Public responsibility for electrical energy dates to 1890 with creation of the Department of Lighting and Water Works. In 1902, Seattle voters passed a bond issue to develop hydroelectric power on the Cedar River under the administration of the Water Department. Electricity from this development began to serve Seattle in 1905. A City Charter amendment in 1910 created the Lighting Department. Under the leadership of Superintendent James D. Ross, the department developed the Skagit River hydroelectric project, which began supplying power in 1924. Both public and private power were supplied to Seattle until 1951 when the City purchased the private electrical power supply operations, making the Lighting Department the sole supplier. The Boundary Project in northeastern Washington began operations in 1967 and supplied over half of City Light's power generation. By the early 21st century, approximately ten percent of City Light's income came from the sale of surplus energy to customers in the Northwest and Southwest with

the remainder of City Light's financial support coming from customer revenue. The current name of the agency was adopted in 1978 when the Department was reorganized.

The Skagit Youth Camp was operated by Seattle City Light's Community Relations Division under Director Mary D. McKinney between 1991 and 1996. The program was a response to Mayor Norm Rice's directive to city departments to maximize resources on behalf of the city's youth. Each year, the program operated seven five-day summer camp sessions for economically disadvantaged, "at-risk" youth (ages eight to fourteen) from Seattle and the Skagit Valley.

The camp utilized City Light facilities at Newhalem and Diablo and aimed to contribute to the mental and physical well-being of the children by providing them with outdoor recreation and living experience, as well as educating them in environmental awareness. Activities included hiking, swimming, canoeing, sports, drama, and arts and crafts, as well as drug and alcohol awareness. The Skagit Youth Camp also participated in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Summer Food Service Program, serving breakfast, lunch, and a snack to qualifying children five days a week during the summer months.

The camp was headed by the Camp Director, who oversaw its operation through an On-Site Director, Program Leader, Health Services Coordinator, Administrative Specialist, and seven camp counselors. In 1997, operation of the Skagit Youth Camp was transferred to the Department of Parks and Recreation due to budget problems. The Parks Department ran the summer camp for one season; it was discontinued the following year.

## Content Description

The Seattle City Light Skagit Youth Camp records include administrative records, meeting minutes, correspondence, memoranda, end-of-season reports, and promotional materials. Camper and counselor evaluations, parent handbooks, and correspondence from parents and campers are also included. Issues covered include program proposals and development, enrollment, fundraising, camper qualifications and recruitment, staffing and organizational structure, budgeting, the Summer Food Service Program, and the transfer of the camp to the Parks Department.

The 1990 edition of the American Camping Association's *Standards Organizer for Day and Resident Camps* is also included; this publication serves as a tool for organizing the materials necessary to achieve camp accreditation. It covers standards for personnel, site and facilities, aquatics, health care, and various other aspects of camp administration. Skagit Youth Camp officials' responses to the standards, as well as relevant information such as correspondence and interview questions, are included.

## Use of the Collection

### Preferred Citation

[Item and date], Seattle City Light Skagit Youth Camp Records, Record Series 1208-03. Box [number], Folder [number]. Seattle Municipal Archives.

## Administrative Information

### Arrangement

Records are arranged alphabetically by subject.

## Detailed Description of the Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

### Seattle City Light Skagit Youth Camp Records, 1991-1996

Container(s)	Description	Dates
<b>Skagit Youth Camp Files</b>		
<b>Box/Folder</b>		
1/1	Skagit Youth Camp: Administration	1990
1/2	Skagit Youth Camp: Advisory Committee	n.d.
1/3	Skagit Youth Camp: Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes	1991
1/4	Skagit Youth Camp: Brochures	1996
1/5	Skagit Youth Camp: Budget	1991
1/6	Skagit Youth Camp: Budget	1995-1996
1/7	Skagit Youth Camp: Budget	1996
1/8	Skagit Youth Camp: Campership (Camp Scholarship) Program	1994-1996
1/9	Skagit Youth Camp: Correspondence	1989-1991
1/10	Skagit Youth Camp: Correspondence (Incoming)	1995
1/11	Skagit Youth Camp: Correspondence (Outgoing)	1995
1/12	Skagit Youth Camp: Correspondence (Incoming)	1996
1/13	Skagit Youth Camp: Correspondence (Outgoing)	1996
1/14	Skagit Youth Camp: End-of-Season Report	1996
1/15	Skagit Youth Camp: Evaluations	1994

<b>Container(s)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1/16	Skagit Youth Camp: Evaluations	1995
1/17	Skagit Youth Camp: Evaluations	1996
1/18	Skagit Youth Camp: Manuals	1991
1/19	Skagit Youth Camp: Meeting Notes and Memoranda	1990
2/1	Skagit Youth Camp: News	1991-1993
2/2	Skagit Youth Camp: Parent Handbook	n.d.
2/3	Skagit Youth Camp: Parks Transfer	1994
2/4	Skagit Youth Camp: Parks Transfer	1995
2/5	Skagit Youth Camp: Program Development	1989
2/6	Skagit Youth Camp: Program Proposals	1989-1991
2/7	Skagit Youth Camp: Promotional Materials	1991
2/8	Skagit Youth Camp: Recruitment	1995
2/9	Skagit Youth Camp: Recruitment	1996
2/10	Skagit Youth Camp: Registration (Whatcom County)	n.d.
2/11	Skagit Youth Camp: Site and Facilities	1991
2/12	Skagit Youth Camp: Staff	n.d.
2/13	Skagit Youth Camp: Staff Hiring	n.d.
2/14	Skagit Youth Camp: Staff Manual	1996
2/15	Skagit Youth Camp: Staff Training	1992-1996
2/16	Skagit Youth Camp: Transportation Procedures	1995
2/17	Skagit Youth Camp: Summer Food Service Program	1993

Container(s)	Description	Dates
2/18	Skagit Youth Camp: Summer Food Service Program	1994
2/19	Skagit Youth Camp: Summer Food Service Program	1995
2/20	Skagit Youth Camp: Summer Food Service Program	1996
<b>American Camping Association Standards Organizer</b>		
<b>Box/Folder</b>		
3/1	American Camping Association: Standards Organizer for Day and Resident Camps	1990
3/2	American Camping Association: Standards Organizer - Site and Facilities	1990
3/3	American Camping Association: Standards Organizer - Administration	1990
3/4	American Camping Association: Standards Organizer - Administration of Transportation	1990
3/5	American Camping Association: Standards Organizer - Personnel	1990
3/6	American Camping Association: Standards Organizer - Program	1990
3/7	American Camping Association: Standards Organizer - Health Care	1990
3/8	American Camping Association: Standards Organizer - Aquatics	1990
3/9	American Camping Association: Standards Organizer - Self-Assessment	1990

## Names and Subjects

### Subject Terms :

Campers (Persons)--Washington (State)

Camps--Washington (State)

Recreation--Washington (State)

Youth--Services for--Washington (State)

**Corporate Names :**

Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Parks and Recreation

Summer Food Service Program (U.S.)

**Geographical Names :**

Skagit River Valley (B.C. and Wash.)

**Form or Genre Terms :**

Correspondence

Memorandums

Minutes

**Occupations :**

Camp counselors

**Titles within the Collection :**

American Camping Association. Standards organizer for day and resident camps

**Other Creators :**

**Personal Names :**

McKinney, Mary D.

(creator)

Finding aid prepared by Seth Dalby and Shannon B. Lynch

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