

Inner Belt Scrapbook

Cambridge Historical Commission
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Provenance: From the Cambridge Planning Board

Collection ID: CHC021

Dates: ca. 1960-1969

Extent: 1 flat box

Finding aid by: Meta Partenheimer, October 2017

Access: Collection is available for research under the CHC rules of use

A selection of images from this collection have been digitized on CHC's Flickr:

<http://bit.ly/2xdcTvc>

Collection Description:

Scrapbook pages detailing the saga of the Inner Belt campaign. Pages contain maps and plans regarding the Inner Belt, as well as letters, news clippings, and ephemera recording opposition to the highway project. Clippings come from the Boston Globe, Cambridge Chronicle, Record American, and other area newspapers of the time. All pages have been scanned and are available in digital format.

Historical Note:

The Inner Belt was once a planned highway that would have been Interstate 695. The Inner Belt was proposed in the mid-1950s with plans moving along for the following decade. If built, this highway would have run a route through parts of Cambridge, Boston, Somerville, and Brookline. Many citizens protested the plan as it would have divided neighborhoods and displaced thousands of residents. The Inner Belt plan was abandoned in 1971.

Subjects:

Barton-Aschman Associates
Committees.
Editorials.
Housing.
Maps.
Protests (Negotiable instruments)
Public opinion.
Public works.
Roads.
Social conditions.

Box list:

246 scrapbook pages containing one or more news clippings per page.