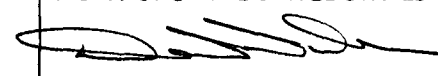
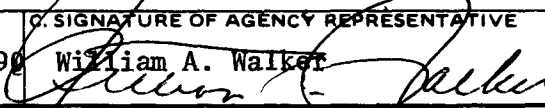


REQUEST FOR RECORDS DISPOSITION AUTHORITY <i>(See Instructions on reverse)</i>		LEAVE BLANK	
TO: GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC 20408		JOB NO. NI-77-89-1	DATE RECEIVED 3/2/89
1. FROM (Agency or establishment) U.S. Army		NOTIFICATION TO AGENCY	
2. MAJOR SUBDIVISION Corps of Engineers		In accordance with the provisions of 44 U.S.C 3303a the disposal request, including amendments, is approved except for items that may be marked "disposition not approved" or "withdrawn" in column 10. If no records are proposed for disposal, the signature of the Archivist is not required.	
3. MINOR SUBDIVISION New England Division			
4. NAME OF PERSON WITH WHOM TO CONFER Marvin H. Kabakoff	5. TELEPHONE EXT. 8-839-7110	DATE 11/85/90	ARCHIVIST OF THE UNITED STATES 
6. CERTIFICATE OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE			

I hereby certify that I am authorized to act for this agency in matters pertaining to the disposal of the agency's records, that the records proposed for disposal in this Request of _____ page(s) are not now needed for the business of this agency or will not be needed after the retention periods specified; and that written concurrence from the General Accounting Office, if required under the provisions of Title 8 of the GAO Manual for Guidance of Federal Agencies, is attached.

A. GAO concurrence: is attached; or is unnecessary.

B. DATE Jun 19, 1990	C. SIGNATURE OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE  William A. Walker	D. TITLE Archivist of the Army
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7. ITEM NO.	8. DESCRIPTION OF ITEM <i>(With Inclusive Dates or Retention Periods)</i>	9. GRS OR SUPERSEDED JOB CITATION	10. ACTION TAKEN <i>(NARS USE ONLY)</i>
1.	<p>This appraisal report covers certain unscheduled records retired to the Boston Federal Records Center by the New England Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.</p> <p><u>General Correspondence Files, ca. 1951-58, 18 cu.ft.</u> <i>(77-75-0638 A, B, E, H, J, K, N + S)</i></p> <p>Letters, reports, memorandums, work schedules, drawings, and other correspondence relating to the day-to-day activities of the New England Division of the Corps. of Engineers. Arranged by War Department Decimal Filing System, these records document the routine, housekeeping functions as well as important policies and procedures. The latter files not only provide evidence of the operations and functions of the New England Division but also contain historically valuable information on events and construction activities of the period.</p>		

Copies sent to agency, NNA, NN-W, NNTALCP

11/7/90

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8. DESCRIPTION OF ITEM
(With Inclusive Dates or Retention Periods)

9. GRS OR
SUPERSEDED
JOB
CITATION

10. ACTION
TAKEN
*(NARS USE
ONLY)*

The permanent and disposable records may be separated by War Department Decimal File Number. Those files recommended for destruction generally concern routine operations of the agency, in items such as budget estimates and justifications (111), accounting and claims (100-199); personnel-related information (200-299); procurement and motor vehicle data (451); correspondence on contractor security (230.741); and personal injury reports (729). These records have no archival value; they merely document housekeeping activities common to all agencies, or duplicate materials found either at higher levels or elsewhere in this series. For example, the budget estimates include program schedules and some detailed descriptions of projects; these same items are also included in files 600.1 or 800.112, depending on whether the project was military or civilian. In addition, much of the budget information consists of carbon copies of data sent to the Office of the Chief Engineer.

The records recommended for permanent retention document the important activities of the New England Division. Among the more interesting of these are storm studies and forecasts (0.91, 0.92); these files contain documentation of the hurricanes of 1954-55 which devastated southern New England. Other records show the organization of the Division (310); document important conferences (337); provide data on equipment, materials, and specifications (411-412); and contain detailed summaries of military (600) and civilian (800) construction projects. Other portions of the Decimal File provide data on water supplies (671); land acquisition (601); frost investigations (686); pollution violations (800.224); flood damage and prevention (800.5); beach erosion (824); and bridge data (823).

Both permanent and disposable records are generally grouped in large blocks of Decimal File numbers. The consistent oddities are the storm study files in 0.92, which is always at the beginning of an accession, and the disposable personal injury reports (729) which are generally lumped together at the end of the accession, after all the other decimal file numbers. In addition, there are two unusual files in the 1953 General Correspondence. These both consist of

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2.	<p>permanent records in a grouping of disposable material. The first is a small file in 230.44 relating to the suspension of the 8-hour law for the operation of the Cape Cod Canal as essential to National Defense during the Korean War. The other consists of New England Division pamphlets in 461, which document Division operations.</p> <p>a. Decimal File Numbers 0.91-0.92; 230.44 for 1953; 310-415; 461 for 1953; 560-829, except 729.</p> <p><u>Permanent.</u> Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p>b. Decimal File Numbers 04.0-290 (except 230.44 for 1953); 451-552 (except 461 for 1953); 729.</p> <p><u>Destroy</u> immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p><u>Harbor Line Data, Triangulation, and Coordinates, ca. 1895-1943, 6.8 cu.ft.</u></p> <p>(77-80-0039, bx.1-8)</p> <p>Records relating to the determination of harbor lines and geographic coordinates, generally for the New England coastline, but also for portions of rivers near the coast, and portions of states. The bulk of the series (5 cu.ft.) consists of books of coordinates, dated from 1921-1940, which contain triangulation points and computations used for harbor line surveys. These would indicate the demarcation lines between federal and state control and responsibility. Some of the books contain maps or drawings of harbors or sections of harbors with the harbor lines indicated. Related to these books are Corps of Engineers copies of Geodetic Bulletins published by the Massachusetts Geodetic Survey, a WPA project. Dating from 1938-41, these bulletins contain listings of the descriptions and coordinates of traverse and triangulation stations in Massachusetts.</p> <p>There is also a book on Geographic Coordinates describing several hundred coordinates in southeastern Massachusetts, giving latitude, longitude, and a description of each marker. The</p>		

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3.	<p>book appears to have been compiled in the early 1900's, but contains descriptions going back several decades which provide interesting data on small towns in the mid to late 19th century. In addition, there are several books and folders providing military triangulations for sites in New England and Long Island Sound for the years 1920 and 1943. The series also contains a copy of a published 1895 journal from the Coast and Geodetic Survey, titled <u>Geographic Positions in the State of Massachusetts, 1832-90</u>, which gives positions of trigonometric points and includes maps of portions of the state. A final folder covers triangulation of the Merrimac River, 1914 and prior, and shows benchmarks, bridges, jetties, profiles, ranges for channel limits, tides, town boundaries, and triangulation stations. Maps and drawings are also included.</p> <p>Related records include correspondence and transcripts of public hearings, 1919-41, on port development and proposed modification of harbor lines in Providence Harbor; harbor line computations and revisions, 1939-41, with textual descriptions of the revisions; maps of harbor lines at Bangor, ME, 1901-40; and correspondence and some maps from 1939-40 on Boston Harbor.</p> <p>All of these records provide important evidential data on a major function of the Corps of Engineers, calculating various types of boundaries, as well as historical information on New England towns and coastlines. While the value of the coordinates would diminish if a complete set of harbor line maps were discovered and accessioned, they do, at present, provide the only source of important information on the dividing lines between federal and state responsibility.</p> <p><u>Permanent.</u> Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p><u>Tidal Records and Benchmarks</u>, ca. 1874-1940, 1 cu.ft.</p> <p>(77-80-0039, bx.7-8)</p> <p>Records relating to tidal bench marks, including</p>		

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	<p>compilations of observations and descriptions dating back to 1852; 1921 survey data on the Cape Cod Canal and mean high and low water profiles for the Canal in 1938-39; tide gauge papers for southern New England, 1910-32; and a letter book, from 1874-1906, on tidal observations. In addition, there is a book containing bench marks for Boston Harbor and each island in the harbor, from 1894-1930; the book includes maps and drawings, as well as transcriptions of descriptions of marks going back to 1846. Another file on Massachusetts Bench Marks and Observations, covers high tide elevations, 1887-1929, and contains some maps and drawings. It provides a great deal of information on Provincetown, MA, in 1909, and some data on the Cape Cod Canal.</p> <p><u>Permanent.</u> Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p>4. <u>Navigation Files, ca. 1939-54, 4 in.</u> (77-80-0039, bx.7-8)</p> <p>Records relating to navigation, consisting of original and linen drawings of bridges in southern New England, 1939-40, with photographic negatives of some bridges; a 1954 clearance study of all New England bridges over navigable waters; and reprints of articles on canalization and navigation locks.</p> <p><u>Permanent.</u> Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p>5. <u>Maps and Drawings, ca. 1930-40, 3 in.</u> (77-80-0039, bx.7)</p> <p>Maps and drawings relating to Corps of Engineers civil works projects. The records consist of drawings, on linen, of various harbors, showing proposed dredging areas, breakwaters, soundings, and dumping grounds. There are also maps of anchorage areas around yacht clubs, some of which are on linen. This grouping, dating from 1930-40, includes excellent harbor maps of Boston.</p>		

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6.	<p>There are also drawings of various islands off the coasts of Rhode Island and Massachusetts.</p> <p><u>Permanent.</u> Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p><u>Dredging, Dumping, and Navigability Files, ca. 1932-80, 6 cu.ft.</u></p> <p>(77-80-0056, 77-83-0002)</p> <p>Files, arranged alphabetically in each accession by river or harbor, relating to various concerns, generally maintenance dredging, but also obstructions, navigability, shipping use, and the dumping of dredged material, called "spoil". Each files includes, variously, correspondence, annotated maps, environmental statements, photographs, laboratory results of tests of "spoil", studies, blueprints, reports of soundings, and related documents. These records document an important function of the Corps of Engineers: keeping shipping channels open for both commerce and recreation, as well as its role in the control of pollution and dumping sites, the construction of bridges, and the preservation of wetlands.</p> <p>These records are also an important source of historically valuable information on a variety of subjects: waterborne commerce in New England; waterfront development; the shellfish industry; location of cables; wetlands; and most importantly, pollution and dumping. The collection includes several files of special interest. Many of the files identify the exact location on land or in the ocean where dumping of "spoil" took place. Certain files, however, document problems with these sites. For example, records on the dredging of Falmouth Harbor document the high level of mercury in the "spoil", mercury contamination of shellfish, and problems with the dumping of this "spoil". The file on Portland Harbor contains data on polluted sediment and lobster mortality and on the controversy over a dumping site to be located near an important source of fish and lobster. One 1954 folder on Massachusetts Bay provides a summary of drums of chemicals and radioactive</p>		

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7.	<p>waste dumped in a disposal area off the coast of Marblehead, MA. Another file documents a major legal battle between Corps dredgers and oyster fishermen in New Haven Harbor in the early 1940's, and also contains harbor line maps of that harbor. While these specific files are of special note, all of the records in this collection contain data of evidential and historical value.</p> <p><u>Permanent.</u> Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p><u>Flood Control Correspondence Files, ca. 1960-71, 3 cu.ft.</u></p> <p>(77-80-0040)</p> <p>Letters, reports, budget data, project lists, requests for information, and other correspondence relating to Corps of Engineers activities in flood control, reservoirs, hydrology, and similar matters. The material is a mixture of mundane and important records. The former consists of several types of routine, housekeeping records. Foremost among these are Civil Works Programming Files consisting of budget data, transmittal cover sheets, TWX's, and copies of correspondence and memorandums sent forward. Other files consist of routine correspondence, such as requests for information or letters on housekeeping matters.</p> <p>The more important records in the collection concern the actual operations of the Corps relating to flood control. These consist of correspondence on stream gaging and equipment; project status reports; data on a cooperative stream gaging program with the Geological Survey; and hydrological data on flood control and flood levels. Related material includes a report on the operation of hurricane barriers in New England; correspondence on flood frequencies, with data on the possibility of flooding in various areas; maps showing flood profiles; and information on flood levels in the 1938 hurricane. The collection also contains reservoir control files with data on regulation of water levels in flood control reservoirs. The</p>		

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8.	<p>series contains data on individual Corps projects as well as more general information on Corps activities throughout the region.</p> <p>a. Project reports; records on stream gaging, flood control, reservoirs, hurricanes, and similar matters.</p> <p><u>Permanent.</u> Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p>b. Civil works programming files; requests for information; transmittal sheets; and correspondence on routine, housekeeping matters.</p> <p><u>Destroy</u> immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p><u>Flood Control Project Records, ca. 1924-67, 7 cu.ft.</u></p> <p>(77-80B0007, 77-80A0038, 77-81A0010)</p> <p>Studies, reports, maps, drawings, photographs, specifications, operations manuals, and correspondence pertaining to a variety of flood control and power projects, dams, and reservoirs undertaken by the Corps of Engineers in New England. The bulk of the series (5 cu.ft.) concerns the Androscoggin River Basin and plans for dams, reservoirs, and hydroelectric power. These records contain valuable information on manufacturing, flood damage, pollution, fish and wildlife, and recreation; much of this material is contained in individual project reports on particular dams or dam sites. Other records consist of flood control project reports on other river basins in New England, providing data on damages from past floods, especially from the hurricanes of 1938, 1954, and 1955. Some of these project reports relate to specific parts of of an overall flood control project, such as dams, pumping stations, or dikes; these reports sometimes include construction specifications as well as operation and maintenance manuals which provide technical details on the functioning of a dam or pumping station.</p>		

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9.	<p><u>Permanent.</u> Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p><u>Post Office Construction Project Files, ca. 1969-74, 6 cu.ft.</u></p> <p>(77-80-0058)</p> <p>Letters, memorandums, reports, specifications, drawings, and other correspondence relating to the design and construction of post office facilities in New England. Half the accession concerns the construction of a postal facility in Hartford, CT; the remaining records cover postal facilities in Woonsocket, RI, Manchester, NH, Waterville, ME, and Brockton, MA. The records consist of specifications and design submissions, for both the building itself and the mechanized systems for mail handling; blueprints; cost estimates; topographical surveys; environmental impact statements; monthly progress reports; soil engineering reports; design analysis and engineering review comments; energy studies; design memorandums; photographs; and a variety of correspondence and transmittals relating to all these topics. The records from Brockton concern modifications to an existing privately-owned building, and also contain material relating to claims.</p> <p>a. Final specifications; as-built drawings; design analyses; environmental impact statements; and photographs.</p> <p><u>Permanent.</u> Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p> <p>b. All other records.</p> <p><u>Destroy</u> immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p>		
10.	<p><u>Economic Data Files, ca. 1954-64, 1 cu.ft.</u></p> <p>(77-83-0005)</p> <p>Charts, financial data, and related</p>		

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	<p>correspondence concerning the costs, both estimated and actual, of various Corps of Engineers projects. Much of the material concerns cost allocation and apportionment, and analysis of cost benefits for a variety of projects, mostly relating to flood control. Some files contain drawings of the projects, tidal data, and information on financial damages from floods. In general, all of this material is handwritten, and duplicates records in those sections of General Correspondence Files which detail civil works projects.</p> <p><u>Destroy</u> immediately upon approval of this schedule.</p>		